

(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10136

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Crossett Experimental Forest to the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WESTERMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Crossett Experimental Forest to the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Crossett Experimental
5 Forest Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF THE CROSSETT EXPERIMENTAL**
7 **FOREST.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the
3 Chief of the Forest Service.

4 (2) STATE.—The terms “State” means the
5 State of Arkansas.

6 (3) FOREST.—The term “Forest” means the
7 Crossett Experimental Forest, the R.R. Reynolds
8 Research Natural Area, and associated facilities,
9 generally depicted as “USDA Forest Service” on the
10 map entitled “Crossett Experimental Forest”,
11 version 1, and dated May 1, 2026.

12 (b) CONVEYANCE REQUIRED.—Subject to this sec-
13 tion, if the State submits to the Secretary a written re-
14 quest for conveyance of the Forest not later than 180 days
15 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
16 shall convey to the State all right, title, and interest of
17 the United States in and to the Forest.

18 (c) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The conveyance
19 under subsection (b) shall be—

- 20 (1) subject to valid existing rights;
21 (2) made without consideration;
22 (3) made by quitclaim deed;
23 (4) subject to the requirements under sub-
24 section (f); and

1 (5) subject to such other terms and conditions
2 as the Secretary considers to be appropriate to pro-
3 tect the interests of the United States.

4 (d) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—Any costs relating to
5 the conveyance under subsection (b), including costs for
6 surveys and other administrative costs, shall be paid by
7 the State.

8 (e) MAP CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary and the
9 State may, by mutual agreement—

10 (1) make minor boundary adjustments to the
11 Forest to be conveyed under subsection (b); and

12 (2) correct any minor errors in the map, an
13 acreage estimate, or the description of the Forest.

14 (f) USE OF CONVEYED LAND.—

15 (1) STATE FOREST DESIGNATION.—As a condi-
16 tion of conveyance, the State, upon conveyance, shall
17 designate the Forest as the “Crossett State Forest”
18 and manage and maintain the Forest under such
19 designation and in accordance with all laws and reg-
20 ulations applicable to Arkansas State forests, to the
21 extent that such laws and regulations do not conflict
22 with the requirements of this section.

23 (2) USE.—The State shall use the conveyed
24 Forest—

1 (A) for forest research, education, and
2 demonstration purposes in a manner consistent
3 with the historic research mission of the Forest;
4 and

5 (B) in coordination with the University of
6 Arkansas at Monticello and the University of
7 Arkansas Division of Agriculture, including by
8 providing such entities with reasonable research
9 and education access to the Forest for research
10 and educational purposes.

11 (3) REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—If the Sec-
12 retary determines that the State has failed to man-
13 age and maintain the Forest in accordance with
14 paragraph (1) or use the Forest in accordance with
15 paragraph (2)—

16 (A) the Secretary shall issue to the State
17 written notice of the failure; and

18 (B) if the State does not correct the failure
19 within 180 days after receiving such written no-
20 tice, all right, title, and interest in and to the
21 Forest, or the portion of the Forest affected by
22 the failure, may, at the discretion of the Sec-
23 retary, revert to the United States.

24 (g) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—

1 (1) MAJOR FEDERAL ACTION.—A conveyance
2 under subsection (b) shall not be considered a major
3 Federal action for purposes of section 102(2)(C) of
4 the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
5 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C)).

6 (2) EFFECT OF UNDERTAKING ON HISTORIC
7 PROPERTY.—Section 306108 of title 54, United
8 States Code, shall not apply with respect to a con-
9 veyance under subsection (b).

