

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5911

[Report No. 119-]

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the City of Ouray, Colorado, certain land managed by the Forest Service, together with a reservoir.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

Mr. HURD of Colorado introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

MAY --, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on November 4, 2025]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to the City of Ouray, Colorado, certain land managed by the Forest Service, together with a reservoir.

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 “Crystal Reservoir Con-*
5 *veyance Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF FEDERAL LAND TO OURAY, COLO-**
7 **RADO.**

8 *(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

9 *(1) CITY.—The term “City” means the City of*
10 *Ouray, Colorado.*

11 *(2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land”*
12 *means—*

13 *(A) the site known as “Crystal Reservoir”*
14 *in Ouray County, Colorado, including—*

15 *(i) the lake associated with that res-*
16 *ervoir;*

17 *(ii) Full Moon Dam and associated fa-*
18 *cilities, including the spillway and outlet;*

19 *(iii) Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir*
20 *Number 10; and*

21 *(iv) all infrastructure associated with*
22 *the reservoir; and*

23 *(B) the parcel comprising approximately 45*
24 *acres of land underlying and surrounding Crys-*
25 *tal Reservoir, as depicted on the Map, managed*

1 *by the Forest Service as necessary for access for*
2 *repair, operation, and maintenance of Crystal*
3 *Reservoir and the features described in clauses*
4 *(i) through (iv) of subparagraph (A).*

5 (3) *MAP.*—*The term “Map” means the map pre-*
6 *pared by the Forest Service entitled “Crystal Res-*
7 *ervoir Conveyance” and dated June 23, 2025.*

8 (4) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
9 *the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief*
10 *of the Forest Service.*

11 (b) *CONVEYANCE.*—*As soon as practicable after the*
12 *date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall convey*
13 *to the City—*

14 (1) *except as otherwise provided in this Act, all*
15 *right, title, and interest of the United States in and*
16 *to the Federal land; and*

17 (2) *all right, title and interest of the United*
18 *States in and to any water rights held for use on, ap-*
19 *purtenant to, or otherwise associated with the Federal*
20 *land, including the Full Moon Ditch and Reservoir*
21 *Number 10 water rights described in the decree of the*
22 *State of Colorado in Civil Action No. 1959, dated*
23 *May 11, 1942.*

24 (c) *REQUIREMENTS.*—*The conveyance under sub-*
25 *section (b) shall—*

1 (1) convey fee simple title to the Federal land;

2 (2) be subject to—

3 (A) valid existing rights;

4 (B) the reservation to the United States, in
5 the deed conveying the Federal land, of easements
6 for each road, trail, and trailhead in existence
7 on the date of the conveyance, together with such
8 additional rights as are reasonably necessary for
9 access, administration, operation, maintenance,
10 repair, and replacement of those improvements;
11 and

12 (C) the reversionary interest described in
13 subsection (e)(3); and

14 (3) except as provided in subsection (d)(2), be
15 completed at no cost to the City.

16 (d) COSTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
18 graph (2), the Secretary shall pay all costs associated
19 with the conveyance under subsection (b).

20 (2) SURVEY.—The City shall pay all costs asso-
21 ciated with any surveys conducted for the purpose of
22 accomplishing the conveyance under subsection (b).

23 (e) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—As a condition of the convey-
2 ance of the Federal land under subsection (b), the
3 City shall agree—

4 (A) effective beginning on the date of the
5 conveyance, to assume responsibility for the costs
6 of all repairs, operations, maintenance, replace-
7 ment, rehabilitation, and regulatory compliance
8 relating to Full Moon Dam and related infra-
9 structure, including Full Moon Ditch and Res-
10 ervoir Number 10;

11 (B) to maintain the Federal land in per-
12 petuity as open space, to be held open—

13 (i) for public access for recreational ac-
14 tivities, including fishing, except as reason-
15 ably necessary for public safety, resource
16 protection, emergency response, or the oper-
17 ation, maintenance, repair, replacement, or
18 rehabilitation of Full Moon Dam, Crystal
19 Reservoir, or related infrastructure; and

20 (ii) not subject to any fee for rec-
21 reational access;

22 (C) not to conduct on the Federal land any
23 development, commercial operations, or construc-
24 tion, other than as needed for the operation,
25 maintenance, repair, replacement, rehabilitation,

1 *public safety, and regulatory compliance for dam*
2 *safety of Full Moon Dam, Crystal Reservoir, and*
3 *related infrastructure, including Full Moon*
4 *Ditch and Reservoir Number 10; and*

5 *(D) not to expand the surface footprint of*
6 *Crystal Reservoir at normal operating levels (as*
7 *depicted on the Map) in a manner that would*
8 *flood, impair, or harm any wetlands located up-*
9 *stream of the Federal land, subject to the condi-*
10 *tion that deepening Crystal Reservoir in a man-*
11 *ner consistent with the water rights of the City*
12 *shall otherwise be allowed.*

13 *(2) NECESSARY ACTION AGREEMENT.—The con-*
14 *veyance under subsection (b) shall be made subject to*
15 *terms agreed to by the Secretary and the City that*
16 *authorize the City to take such action on the ease-*
17 *ments described in subsection (c)(2)(B) as the City*
18 *determines is reasonable and necessary for—*

19 *(A) public safety;*

20 *(B) emergency response; or*

21 *(C) the operation, maintenance, repair, re-*
22 *placement, or rehabilitation by the City of Full*
23 *Moon Dam, Crystal Reservoir, or related infra-*
24 *structure.*

1 (3) *OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS.*—*The con-*
2 *veyance under subsection (b) shall be subject to such*
3 *other terms and conditions as the Secretary deter-*
4 *mines to be appropriate.*

5 (4) *REVERSIONARY INTEREST.*—

6 (A) *WRITTEN NOTICE.*—*If the Federal land*
7 *conveyed under subsection (b) ceases to be used*
8 *in accordance with the terms and conditions*
9 *under this subsection the Secretary shall submit*
10 *to the City written notice with respect to such*
11 *use.*

12 (B) *REVERSION.*—*After the 90-day period*
13 *beginning on the date written notice is submitted*
14 *to the City under subparagraph (A), if the Fed-*
15 *eral land conveyed under subsection (b) con-*
16 *tinues to be used in a manner not in accordance*
17 *with the terms and conditions under this sub-*
18 *section during such period, the Federal land*
19 *shall revert to the United States, at the discre-*
20 *tion of the Secretary, if the Secretary determines*
21 *that reversion is in the best interest of the United*
22 *States.*

23 (f) *EASEMENT.*—

24 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*After the conveyance under*
25 *subsection (b), the Secretary—*

1 (A) shall recognize a perpetual easement for
2 the Red Mountain Ditch for use by the City—

3 (i) for the purposes relating to the
4 Ditch specified in the decrees entitled “Case
5 No. 1751-B” and “Case No. 2013CW3040”
6 for the State of Colorado, including the di-
7 version and delivery of water (not to exceed
8 6 cubic feet per second) for storage in Crys-
9 tal Reservoir and subsequent beneficial use;
10 and

11 (ii) to access, operate, maintain, re-
12 pair, replace, or improve the Ditch and its
13 appurtenances for such purposes; and

14 (B) may require special use authorizations
15 for non-routine maintenance and repairs of Red
16 Mountain Ditch or for the replacement or im-
17 provement of the Ditch.

18 (2) *RED MOUNTAIN DITCH DEFINED.*—In this
19 subsection, the term “Red Mountain Ditch” means the
20 Ditch known as Red Mountain Ditch constructed in
21 or about 1945 located, as of the date of the enactment
22 of this Act, on lands administered by the San Juan
23 National Forest and the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre,
24 and Gunnison National Forest, in Section 14, Town-

1 *ship 42 North, Range 8 West, New Mexico Principal*
2 *Meridian.*

3 *(g) WATER RIGHTS.—After the conveyance under sub-*
4 *section (b), the City may use water in Crystal Reservoir*
5 *for any beneficial use, subject to applicable water laws of*
6 *the State of Colorado.*

7 *(h) MAP AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—*

8 *(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after*
9 *the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall*
10 *finalize the Map and a legal description of the Fed-*
11 *eral land to be conveyed under subsection (b).*

12 *(2) CORRECTIONS.—The Secretary and the City,*
13 *by mutual agreement, may correct any clerical or ty-*
14 *pographical errors in the Map or legal description*
15 *under paragraph (1).*

16 *(3) MAP ON FILE.—The Map and legal descrip-*
17 *tion under paragraph (1) shall be on file and avail-*
18 *able for public inspection in each appropriate office*
19 *of the Forest Service.*