

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 972

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 4, 2025

Ms. TITUS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, 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 “Sloan Canyon Con-
5 servation and Lateral Pipeline Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) CONSERVATION AREA.—The term “Con-
2 servation Area” means the Sloan Canyon National
3 Conservation Area.

4 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
5 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
6 rector of the Bureau of Land Management.

7 **SEC. 3. SLOAN CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**
8 **BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**

9 (a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—

10 (1) MAP.—Section 603(4) of the Sloan Canyon
11 National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-
12 1(4)) is amended by striking “map entitled ‘South-
13 ern Nevada Public Land Management Act’ and
14 dated October 1, 2002” and inserting “map entitled
15 ‘Proposed Sloan Canyon Expansion’ and dated May
16 20, 2024”.

17 (2) ACREAGE.—Section 604(b) of the Sloan
18 Canyon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C.
19 460qqq-2(b)) is amended by striking “48,438” and
20 inserting “57,728”.

21 (b) RIGHT-OF-WAY.—Section 605 of the Sloan Can-
22 yon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-
23 3) is amended by adding at the end the following:

24 “(h) HORIZON LATERAL PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-
25 WAY.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections
2 202 and 503 of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
3 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1763) and
4 subject to valid existing rights and paragraph (3),
5 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
6 rector of the Bureau of Land Management (referred
7 to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary’), shall, not
8 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this
9 subsection, grant to the Southern Nevada Water Au-
10 thority (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Author-
11 ity’), not subject to the payment of rents or other
12 charges, the temporary and permanent water pipe-
13 line infrastructure, and outside the boundaries of the
14 Conservation Area, powerline, facility, and access
15 road rights-of-way depicted on the map for the pur-
16 poses of—

17 “(A) performing geotechnical investigations
18 within the rights-of-way; and

19 “(B) constructing and operating water
20 transmission and related facilities.

21 “(2) EXCAVATION AND DISPOSAL.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may,
23 without consideration, excavate and use or dis-
24 pose of sand, gravel, minerals, or other mate-
25 rials from the tunneling of the water pipeline

1 necessary to fulfill the purpose of the rights-of-
2 way granted under paragraph (1).

3 “(B) MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-
4 STANDING.—Not later than 30 days after the
5 date on which the rights-of-way are granted
6 under paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Au-
7 thority shall enter into a memorandum of un-
8 derstanding identifying Federal land on which
9 the Authority may dispose of materials under
10 subparagraph (A) to further the interests of the
11 Bureau of Land Management.

12 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—A right-of-way issued
13 under this subsection shall be subject to the fol-
14 lowing requirements:

15 “(A) The Secretary may include reasonable
16 terms and conditions, consistent with section
17 505 of the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
18 ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1765), as are nec-
19 essary to protect Conservation Area resources.

20 “(B) Construction of the water pipeline
21 shall not permanently adversely affect conserva-
22 tion area surface resources.

23 “(C) The right-of-way shall not be located
24 through or under any area designated as wilder-
25 ness.”.

1 (c) PRESERVATION OF TRANSMISSION AND UTILITY
2 CORRIDORS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The expansion of the
3 Conservation Area boundary under the amendment made
4 by subsection (a)—

5 (1) shall be subject to valid existing rights, in-
6 cluding land within a designated utility transmission
7 corridor or a transmission line right-of-way grant
8 approved by the Secretary in a record of decision
9 issued before the date of the enactment of this Act;

10 (2) shall not preclude—

11 (A) any activity authorized in accordance
12 with a designated corridor or right-of-way re-
13 ferred to in paragraph (1), including the oper-
14 ation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of
15 any authorized utility facility within the cor-
16 ridor or right-of-way; or

17 (B) the Secretary from authorizing the es-
18 tablishment of a new utility facility right-of-way
19 within an existing designated transportation
20 and utility corridor referred to in paragraph
21 (1)—

22 (i) in accordance with the National
23 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
24 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other applicable
25 laws; and

1 (ii) subject to such terms and condi-
2 tions as the Secretary determines to be ap-
3 propriate.

4 (d) MANAGEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION AREA.—
5 Except as provided in the amendment made by subsection
6 (b), nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this
7 Act shall modify the management of the Conservation
8 Area pursuant to section 605 of the Sloan Canyon Na-
9 tional Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-3).

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