



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN BRUCE WESTERMAN

To: Subcommittee on Federal Lands Republican Members
From: Subcommittee on Federal Lands Staff: Aniela Butler (Aniela@mail.house.gov),
Brandon Miller (Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov), Hannah Devereaux
(Hannah.Devereaux@mail.house.gov), and Will Rodriguez
(Will.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov); x6-7736
Date: Monday, January 12, 2026
Subject: Legislative Hearing on 5 Bills

The Subcommittee on Federal Lands will hold a legislative hearing on 5 bills: H.R. 926 (Rep. Cohen), “*Fort Pillow National Battlefield Park Study Act*”; H.R. 3922 (Rep. Neguse), “*Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act*”; H.R. 4038 (Rep. Kim), “*Wildfire Response and Preparedness Act of 2025*”; H.R. 4684 (Rep. Kennedy of UT), “*Star-Spangled Summit Act of 2025*”; and H.R. 6300 (Rep. Hageman), “*Grasslands Grazing Act of 2025*”.

The hearing will take place on **Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.** in room 1324 Longworth House Office Building.

Member offices are requested to notify Will Rodriguez (Will.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, if their Member intends to participate in the hearing.

I. KEY MESSAGES

- Congresswoman Kim’s “Wildfire Response and Preparedness Act of 2025” addresses the escalating forest health and wildfire crisis by creating standardized, measurable response times to wildfires, which will protect communities and advance President Trump’s Executive Order on “Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response.”
- Representative Hageman’s “Grasslands Grazing Act of 2025” creates parity among federal grazing permittees, supporting rangeland health and rural economies.
- The “Star-Spangled Summit Act of 2025,” introduced by Representative Kennedy, restores a local patriotic tradition, in time for celebrating America’s 250th anniversary, by allowing for the long-term placement of an American flag at a prominent summit in Utah.

II. WITNESSES

Panel I (Members of Congress):

- *To Be Announced*

Panel II (Administration Witnesses):

- **Mr. Gordon Blum**, Acting Associate Deputy Chief, Eastern Region, U.S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C. [H.R. 3922; H.R. 4038; H.R. 4684; H.R. 6300]

Panel III (Outside Experts):

- **The Honorable Tyler Clancy**, Representative, Utah House of Representatives, Salt Lake City, UT [H.R. 4684]
- **Mr. Pat Russell**, Fire Chief, Anaheim Fire & Rescue, Anaheim, CA [H.R. 4038]
- **Mr. Ty Checketts**, President, Association of National Grasslands, Newcastle, WY [H.R. 6300]
- **Mr. Matthew M. McCombs**, State Forester & Director, Colorado State Forest Service, Fort Collins, CO [H.R. 3922] [Minority Witness]

III. BACKGROUND

H.R. 926 (Rep. Cohen), “Fort Pillow National Battlefield Park Study Act”

Located in Tennessee, Fort Pillow served as a strategically important supply depot for both the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War.¹ Fort Pillow is also the site of one of the Civil War’s “most controversial” moments, when Confederate troops overran the Union garrison on April 12, 1864.² Following the fall of Fort Pillow, Confederate troops killed a large number of Union soldiers, a significant majority of whom were African American, despite evidence that many of the latter had ceased resistance or attempted to surrender.³ Though the exact number of casualties remains a point of debate among historians, a disproportionate number of African American Union soldiers were massacred, with only 58 captured alive.⁴ The event, commonly referred to as the Fort Pillow Massacre, intensified Northern outrage against the Confederacy and inspired the battle cry of “Remember Fort Pillow” among African American Union soldiers for the remainder of the War.⁵

Today, the State of Tennessee manages Fort Pillow as Fort Pillow Historic State Park.⁶ The site is also designated as a National Historic Landmark and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.⁷ H.R. 926, the “Fort Pillow National Battlefield Park Study Act,” would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate Fort Pillow’s national historical significance and to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating the site as a unit of the National Park System. Special resource studies consider a site’s history as well as any

¹ National Park Service, “The Hard Reality of Fort Pillow: Interpreting the Massacre of US of Colored Troops in 1864,” <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/hard-reality-of-fort-pillow.htm>.

² History.com, “Fort Pillow Massacre”, May 28, 2025, <https://www.history.com/articles/fort-pillow-massacre>; Tennessee State Parks, “History at Fort Pillow,” <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/history/fort-pillow>.

³ National Park Service, “The Hard Reality of Fort Pillow: Interpreting the Massacre of US of Colored Troops in 1864,” <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/hard-reality-of-fort-pillow.htm>.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Tennessee State Parks, “History at Fort Pillow,” <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/history/fort-pillow>; John Cimprich & Robert C. Mainfort, Jr., “The Fort Pillow Massacre: A Statistical Note,” *The Journal of American History* 76(3):830-837, 1989, https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/environment/archaeology/documents/staffpubs/arch_Cimprich%20and%20Mainfort%201989.pdf.

⁶ Tennessee State Parks, “Fort Pillow State Historic Park,” <https://tnstateparks.com/parks/fort-pillow>.

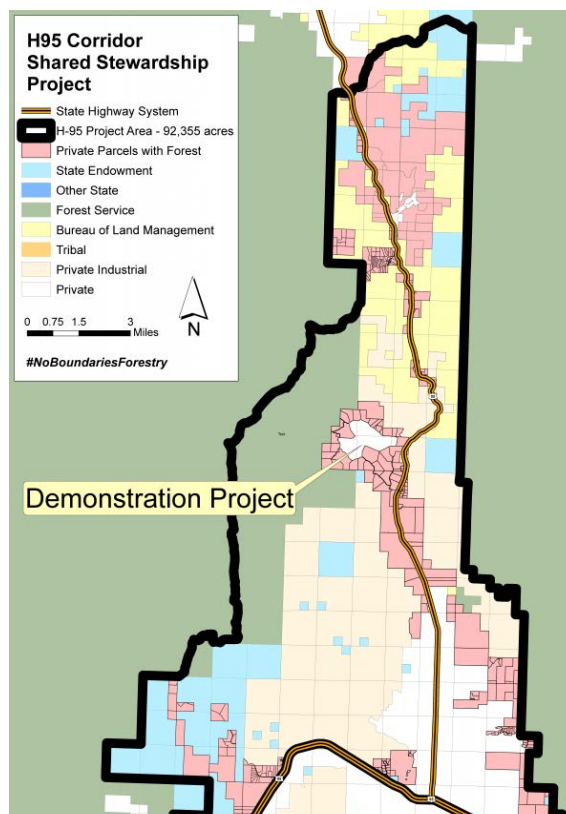
⁷ *Id.*

practical management challenges that may arise if such a site is added to the National Park System.

This legislation helps advance the interpretation of a crucial part of American history ahead of the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026, in line with President Trump's Executive Order (EO) 14189, "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday."⁸

H.R. 3922 (Rep. Neguse), "Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act"

Over the past 25 years, wildfires have grown in frequency, intensity, and cost.⁹ Wildfires do not respect political or jurisdictional boundaries, and often burn through a patchwork of federal, state, Tribal, local, and private lands governed by different agencies, rules, and programs.¹⁰ For example, the 2017 Carr Fire in California burned nearly 230,000 acres of federal and private land; in 2020, three major wildfires in Colorado burned more than 665,000 acres of federal and non-federal land; and the 2021 Dixie Fire in California burned more than 1 million acres of federal, state, and private land.¹¹ To minimize wildfire risk across all jurisdictions, cross-boundary collaboration and cooperation are essential. Tools such as Good Neighbor Authority have been highly successful in allowing states, tribes, and counties to conduct cross-boundary treatments that restore ecosystem health and reduce the likelihood and severity of catastrophic wildfires.¹² However, more can be done to identify federal barriers to cross-boundary forest management, improve coordination with non-federal entities, and address federal fragmentation or duplication in cross-boundary wildfire mitigation efforts.¹³



A proposed cross-boundary forest management project in Idaho that will reduce wildfire risk on approximately 92,355 acres of federal, state, and private land.

Source: Idaho Department of Lands, no date.

⁸ Executive Order 14189, "Celebrating America's 250th Birthday," <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500197>.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ National League of Cities, "Federal Response to Escalating Wildfires," July 5, 2023, <https://www.nlc.org/article/2023/07/05/federal-response-to-escalating-wildfires/>.

¹¹ Damon Arthur, "Trump blames California for wildfires, but many of the worst have been on federal land," Record Searchlight, January 9, 2019, <https://www.redding.com/story/news/2018/11/11/trump-blames-state-fires-but-many-worst-federal-land/1971196002>; Emily Hansen, "Staff Budget Briefing FY 2021-22, Department of Budget Safety," Joint Budget Committee, https://content.leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/fy2021-22_pubsafbrf.pdf; The Office of Governor Gavin Newsom, "California Secures Federal Assistance to Support Response to Monument Fire in Trinity County and Dixie Fire in Lassen County," <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2021/08/17/california-secures-federal-assistance-to-support-response-to-monument-fire-in-trinity-county-and-dixie-fire-in-lassen-county/>.

¹² 16 U.S.C. 2113a.

¹³ Chris Currie, "Testimony Before the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate: Wildfire Disasters: Opportunities to Improve Federal Response, Recovery, and Mitigation," U.S. Government Accountability Office, March 14, 2024, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/870/868633.pdf>; William M. Downing, et al., "Human ignitions on private lands

H.R. 3922 addresses this gap by directing the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study of wildfire mitigation efforts across federal and non-federal lands. GAO has already conducted similar studies in the past, releasing a report entitled “Wildland Fire Risk Reduction: Multiple Factors Affect Federal-Nonfederal Collaboration, but Action Could Be Taken to Better Measure Progress” in 2017.¹⁴ H.R. 3922 builds on this progress by requiring an examination of federal programs, rules, and authorities that either facilitate or hinder wildfire mitigation across jurisdictional and ownership boundaries. The study will assess whether policy changes to such programs could expand capacity for more active forest management. GAO must report its findings and recommendations from the study to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources within two years of the bill’s enactment.

By facilitating greater federal and local coordination on wildfire prevention, this legislation also directly advances the goals of President Trump’s EO 14308, “Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response.”¹⁵

H.R. 4038 (Rep. Kim), “Wildfire Response and Preparedness Act of 2025”

The Department of the Interior (DOI) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) carry out wildfire response and management activities across their combined 593 million acres of land.¹⁶ When a wildfire occurs on federal land, DOI and USFS choose from a range of response activities, including immediate and aggressive measures to suppress a wildfire as well as less intense measures, such as monitoring while allowing the fire to burn (this is commonly referred to as “managing a fire for resource benefits”).¹⁷ The immediate response strategy (known as “initial attack”) is determined subjectively based on “risks to firefighter and public safety and welfare—and to natural, ecological, and cultural values to be protected.”¹⁸

Aggressive initial attacks are a crucial step in effective wildland firefighting strategies and “can greatly reduce the likelihood of the fire becoming larger and causing substantial damage.”¹⁹ Just a 1.5-percent difference in the success rate of initial attacks equates to approximately 150

drive USFS cross-boundary wildfire transmission and community impacts in the western US,” Scientific Reports, February 15, 2022, <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-022-06002-3>.

¹⁴ U.S. Government Accountability Office, “Wildland Fire Knows No Boundaries...,” August 22, 2017, <https://www.gao.gov/blog/2017/08/22/wildland-fire-knows-no-boundaries>.

¹⁵ Executive Office of the President, “Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response,” June 12, 2025, EO 14308, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/06/18/2025-11358/empowering-commonsense-wildfire-prevention-and-response>.

¹⁶ Anne Riddle, “Federal Assistance for Wildfire Response and Recovery,” Congressional Research Service, December 2, 2022, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF10732>; Anne Riddle, “Federal Interagency Wildfire Response Framework,” Congressional Research Service, April 21, 2023, <https://www.crs.gov/Reports/IF12384>.

¹⁷ Carrie Berger, et al., “Fire FAQs—Managing Wildfire for Resource Benefit: What is it and is it beneficial?,” Oregon State University Extension Service, 2022, <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/em-9193-fire-faqs-managing-wildfire-resource-benefit-what-it-it-beneficial>.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Jeremy Fried & Paul Meznerich, “Efficient initial attacks: analysis of capacity and funding provides insights to wildfire protection planning,” U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, 2014, <https://research.fs.usda.gov/treearch/46249>.

additional fires escaping containment, at a cost of \$300 to \$450 million.²⁰ USFS currently boasts an initial attack success rate of 98 percent, meaning that a mere 2 percent of all fires in 2024 were responsible for the vast majority of the 8.9 million acres burned.²¹ However, USFS research has found that deploying firefighting resources to a wildfire within 30 to 60 minutes would reduce the number of escaped fires by 25 percent.²²

Federal agencies' failure to conduct aggressive initial attacks can produce devastating consequences. In 2017, the Chetco Bar Fire in Oregon rapidly expanded from 8,500 acres to more than 90,000 acres as strong, hot winds overtook containment efforts.²³ A 2020 report later found that USFS officials and stakeholders believed a more aggressive early response might have prevented such extensive spread.²⁴ In 2021, the Caldor Fire in California grew to roughly 781 acres within 29 hours before exploding to over 55,000 acres in the next 44 hours.²⁵ Critics noted that USFS pulled all crews off the fire just seven hours after ignition and later dismissed some CAL FIRE (California state wildfire-fighting agency) personnel, thereby weakening interagency coordination during critical early-phase suppression.²⁶ Most recently, the Dragon Bravo Fire at Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona became 2025's largest wildfire due to a delayed response strategy.²⁷ Initially managed under a "confine and contain" strategy, the fire escalated rapidly under extreme weather conditions and ultimately burned more than 145,000 acres and destroyed more than 100 structures, including the historic Grand Canyon Lodge.²⁸

To ensure a clear, measurable metric for initial attacks, H.R. 4038 would direct the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior, in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), to establish a standard response time to any wildland fire on federal land. Specifically, this standard response time would require agencies to respond to a wildfire within 30 minutes and deploy fire suppression assets within three hours of an ignition. By setting a uniform metric across federal agencies, the bill seeks to improve accountability, speed interagency coordination, and secure the nationwide, year-round, and timely availability of federal firefighting resources.

The legislation's encouragement of more aggressive initial attacks also directly advances the goals of President Trump's EO 14308, "Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response."

²⁰ Brett L'Esperance, "How optimized initial attack strategies are winning a new wildfire war," International Fire Fighter, October 9, 2018, <https://iffmag.com/how-optimized-initial-attack-strategies-are-winning-a-new-wildfire-war/>.

²¹ The most recent year for which data is available. National Interagency Coordination Center, "Wildland Fire Summary and Statistics Annual Report," 2024, https://www.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/NICC/2-Predictive%20Services/Intelligence/Annual%20Reports/2024/annual_report_2024.pdf.

²² *Id.*

²³ U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Wildfire: Information on Forest Service Response, Key Concerns, and Effects of the Chetco Bar Fire," April 2020, <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-20-424.pdf>.

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ Bill Gabbert, "60 Minutes Investigates the Initial Attack on Caldor Fire," Wildfire Today, October 3, 2022, <https://wildfiretoday.com/60-minutes-investigates-the-initial-attack-on-caldor-fire/>.

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ Adrianna Nine, "New report suggests National Park Service mismanaged Dragon Bravo Fire", SFGate, August 21, 2025, <https://www.sfgate.com/national-parks/article/national-park-overlooked-warning-dragon-bravo-fire-20833481.php>.

²⁸ *Id.*; Sam Hill, "Western wildfire damage mounts, senators demand Congress fund repairs," November 26, 2026, SF Gate, <https://www.sfgate.com/national-parks/article/national-parks-wildfire-damage-relief-funding-2025-21207965.php>.

H.R. 4684 (Rep. Kennedy of UT), “Star-Spanpled Summit Act of 2025”

In 2000, Scoutmaster Robert Collins led his troop on a hike to Kyhv Peak, near Provo, Utah, and proudly raised an American flag at its summit.²⁹ Located in the Wasatch Mountain Range, Kyhv Peak is renowned for providing scenic views of Rock Canyon, the Utah Valley, and the City of Provo.³⁰ What began as an impromptu gesture by the scouts evolved into an annual tradition. Each year, Mr. Collins, joined by relatives, friends, and community members, would hike the summit in late May or early June to raise the American flag, then return before winter to lower it for the season.³¹ For more than two decades, this yearly climb became a cherished community event, and the flag grew into a symbol of local pride and a recognizable landmark in the Provo area.³²



Two men plant the American Flag on Kyhv Peak, Utah.

Source: Robert Collins, no date.

In 2022, however, conflict arose when USFS personnel confronted Mr. Collins regarding the flag, citing agency policies that prohibit the construction or placement of any structures, including flagpoles, on National Forest System (NFS) lands without a permit.³³ After USFS removed the flag from the site, this local patriotic tradition was halted. H.R. 4684 would resolve this impasse by requiring USFS to issue a special use permit for the placement and maintenance of a flagpole displaying the American flag at Kyhv Peak. Specifically, the bill directs USFS to issue a 10-year special use permit to Mr. Collins or a qualified individual, non-profit organization, or volunteer group based in Utah County, Utah, if Mr. Collins declines such a permit. The bill further mandates that USFS renew or reissue the permit every 10 years and prohibits the agency from charging land-use fees associated with the permit. Companion legislation, S. 2417, has been introduced in the Senate by

Senators Curtis (R-UT) and Lee (R-UT).³⁴

²⁹ Jacob Nielson, “Persistent patriotism: Congress members introduce bill that would allow American flag to fly again at Kyhv Peak,” Daily Herald, July 30, 2025, <https://www.heraldextra.com/news/2025/jul/30/persistent-patriotism-congress-members-introduce-bill-that-would-allow-american-flag-to-fly-again-at-kyhv-peak/>.

³⁰ AllTrails, “Kyhv Peak Trail”, <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/utah/kyhv-peak-trail>.

³¹ *Id.*

³² *Id.*

³³ *Id.*

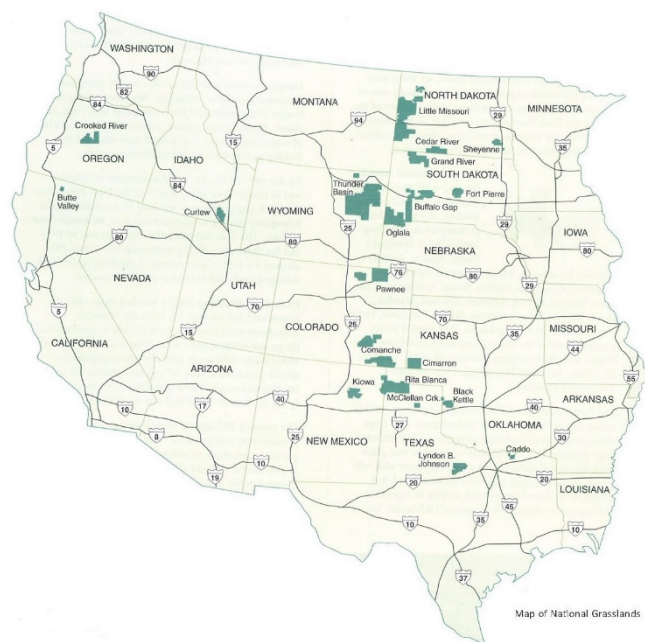
³⁴ S. 2417, 119th Congress, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/2417>.

This commonsense, straightforward legislation prevents the federal bureaucracy from standing in the way of a local act of patriotism and directly advances the goals of EO 14189, “Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday.”³⁵

H.R. 6300 (Rep. Hageman), “Grasslands Grazing Act of 2025”

Across the country, USFS manages 193 million acres of land, including nearly 4 million acres of national grasslands.³⁶ National grasslands are expressly defined by Congress as part of the NFS under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.³⁷ USFS acquired these 20 national grasslands under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937,³⁸ which also authorized grazing on these lands as part of the agency’s overall multiple-use and sustained yield mission.³⁹

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)⁴⁰ provides the statutory framework for federal grazing permits. FLPMA generally authorizes permits for 10-year terms, with renewal eligibility subject to continued compliance.⁴¹ USFS issues grazing permits under FLPMA that allow livestock producers to graze animals (mostly sheep and cattle) on designated NFS allotments, subject to compliance with federal law, land and resource management plans, and site-specific operating instructions.⁴² However, Section 402(a) of FLPMA authorizes grazing permits on “lands within National Forests” without explicitly referencing the broader NFS.⁴³ As a result, grazing permittees operating on national grasslands lack statutory clarity regarding permit renewal eligibility, unlike permittees grazing on other NFS lands. Representative Hageman’s (R-WY-At Large) “Grasslands Grazing Act of 2025” removes this inconsistency by making a technical edit to conform FLPMA’s grazing eligibility language to Congress’s existing definition



Map of USFS National Grasslands. **Source:** USFS, 2025.

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ Anne Riddle, “National Forest System Management: Overview and Issues for Congress,” Congressional Research Service, May 18, 2023, <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R43872>.

³⁷ 16 U.S.C. 1609(a), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/16/1609>.

³⁸ P.L. 75-210.

³⁹ *Id.*; 36 CFR Part 213, <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-36/chapter-II/part-213>.

⁴⁰ P.L. 94-579.

⁴¹ Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, Section 402, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/COMPS-1719/pdf/COMPS-1719.pdf>.

⁴² “Why does the Forest Service permit livestock grazing on National Forest System lands?,” U.S. Forest Service, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rangeland-management/grazing/allowgrazing.shtml>.

⁴³ *Id.*

of the NFS. This fix will ensure greater transparency and parity among all grazing permittees across the entire NFS, ultimately bolstering rangeland health and rural economies.

IV. MAJOR PROVISIONS & SECTION-BY-SECTION

H.R. 926 (Rep. Cohen), “Fort Pillow National Battlefield Park Study Act”

Section 3. Fort Pillow Special Resource Study.

- Directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of Fort Pillow Historic State Park in Henning, Tennessee.
- Requires the study to evaluate the site’s national significance and determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the site as a unit of the “National Historic Park System.”⁴⁴

H.R. 3922 (Rep. Neguse), “Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act”

Section 2. Study on Wildfire Mitigation Across Land Ownership Boundaries.

- Directs the Comptroller General to conduct a study examining:
 - Whether existing federal programs, rules, and authorities enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across federal and non-federal land boundaries;
 - Any potential changes to programs or authorities that would improve funding or capacity to mitigate wildfires among federal agencies, states, Tribes, and local governments; and
 - The effectiveness of cross-boundary hazardous fuels reduction projects carried out under Section 103 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003.⁴⁵
- Requires the Comptroller General to report to Congress, no later than two years after the enactment of the bill, the results of the study and its recommendations to simplify cross-boundary wildfire mitigation.

H.R. 4038 (Rep. Kim), “Wildfire Response and Preparedness Act of 2025”

Section 2. Standards for Response Time to Wildfire Incidents.

- Requires USFS, DOI, and USFA to establish, within 90 days of the bill’s enactment, a standard for wildfire response times on federal land. The standard must, to the extent practicable, be no more than 30 minutes and include the deployment of fire suppression assets within three hours of a wildfire ignition.
- Requires a report to Congress that identifies a single point of contact for federal wildfire response at DOI; a unified wildland fire budget request; key performance indicators for each federal agency involved in wildland fire response; estimates of the aviation and ground wildland firefighting fleet; necessary changes to the federal ordering and dispatch system for wildland fire; contracting mechanisms for wildland fire that can be streamlined; and authorities needed to ensure firefighting assets are available year-round and nationwide.

⁴⁴ This is likely meant to be a reference to the National Park System.

⁴⁵ 16 U.S.C. 6513.

H.R. 4684 (Rep. Kennedy of UT), “Star-Spangled Summit Act of 2025”

Section 2. Special Use Permit for Maintenance of Covered Flagpole at Kyhv Peak Lookout Point.

- Requires the Chief of the Forest Service to issue a special use permit within 180 days of the bill’s enactment to Robert S. Collins of Provo, Utah, for a period of 10 years for placing and maintaining a flagpole bearing the flag of the United States at Kyhv Peak Lookout Point, Utah.
- Requires, in the event Mr. Collins declines the permit, USFS to issue the permit to a qualified person, non-profit, or volunteer organization located in Utah County, Utah.
- Stipulates application requirements and selection preferences for potential permittees if Mr. Collins declines the permit.
- Allows USFS to impose necessary terms and conditions on the permit holder to ensure the proper care and maintenance of the flagpole.
- Prohibits USFS from assessing any land use fees for the special use permit.
- Requires USFS to publish notice of the availability of any special use permit on a USFS website and a local newspaper.
- Require USFS to renew or issue a new 10-year permit after the earliest of the following: 10 years after the Chief issued the preceding permit; the date on which the permit holder requests a termination; or the date on which a special use permit is terminated early.
- Allows the Secretary of Agriculture to terminate a permit early if a permittee is not in compliance with the terms of the permit.
- Prohibits permittees from accepting anything of value in exchange for transferring the permit.
- Exempts the issuance, renewal, and administration of the permit (including placement, maintenance, and removal of the flagpole) from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.⁴⁶
- Allows USFS to authorize reasonable access for the permit holder to exercise special permit rights, subject to public safety and resource protection conditions.

H.R. 6300 (Rep. Hageman), “Grasslands Grazing Act of 2025”

Section 2. Eligibility of National Grasslands for Grazing Leases and Permits.

- Amends Section 402(a) of FLPMA to change the current definition of “lands within National Forests” (which excludes national grasslands) to the more inclusive definition of “National Forest System,” as such term is defined in the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974.⁴⁷
- Clarifies that the bill does not affect any other provision of FLPMA, Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, or Section 11 of the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978.⁴⁸

⁴⁶ 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.

⁴⁷ 43 U.S.C. 1752(a). 16 U.S.C. 1609(a).

⁴⁸ *Id.* 7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq. 43 U.S.C. 1907

V. COST

A formal cost estimate from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) is not yet available for any of the bills.

VI. ADMINISTRATION POSITION

The Trump administration testified before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources that it “supports the intent” of the Senate companion to H.R. 3922, the “Cross-Boundary Wildfire Solutions Act.”⁴⁹ The administration also testified on the Senate companion to H.R. 4038, the “Wildfire Response and Preparedness Act of 2025,” although it did not take a formal position.⁵⁰

The Trump administration’s position on the remaining bills is unknown at this time.

VII. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW

H.R. 6300

⁴⁹ Statement of Christopher French, Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources legislative hearing on December 2, 2025, <https://www.energy.senate.gov/services/files/526DBF6E-5DE2-4033-86C2-0F85650E185A>.

⁵⁰ Statement of Jon Raby, Nevada State Director, Bureau of Land Management Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources legislative hearing on December 2, 2025, <https://www.energy.senate.gov/services/files/CB6C0599-F1F8-4BEB-BA36-B93B523609C3>.