



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](mailto:Aniela@mail.house.gov)), Brandon Miller ([Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov)), Hannah Devereaux ([Hannah.Devereaux@mail.house.gov](mailto:Hannah.Devereaux@mail.house.gov)), and Will Rodriguez ([Will.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov](mailto:Will.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov)); x6-7736  
**Date:** Friday, February 6, 2026  
**Subject:** Legislative Hearing on 6 Bills

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The Subcommittee on Federal Lands will hold a legislative hearing on 6 bills: H.R. 34 (Rep. Gosar), “*LASSO Act*”; H.R. 1329 (Rep. Malliotakis), “*Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Act*”; H.R. 3553 (Rep. Min), “*BRUSH Fires Act*”; H.R. 5478 (Rep. Moore of UT), “*Fruit Heights Land Conveyance Act of 2025*”; H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd), “*Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act*”; and S. 282 (Sen. King), “*Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument Access Act*”.

The hearing will take place on **Tuesday, February 10, 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](mailto:Will.Rodriguez@mail.house.gov)) by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2026, if their Member intends to participate in the hearing.

## I. KEY MESSAGES

- H.R. 34, introduced by Representative Gosar, seeks to harness America’s vast wealth of natural resources to address the country’s staggering \$38 trillion debt.
- H.R. 1329, sponsored by Representative Malliotakis in celebration of America’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday, secures a prominent location on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., for the authorized American Women’s History Museum. The bill will ensure that the museum’s contents accurately and appropriately reflect women’s history in the United States (U.S.).
- H.R. 5478, introduced by Representative Moore, and H.R. 5911, introduced by Representative Hurd, convey federal parcels to local governments to reduce federal administrative burdens, improve local land management and recreation access, and support rural economies.

## II. WITNESSES

### Panel I (Members of Congress):

- *To Be Announced*

### Panel II (Administration Witnesses):

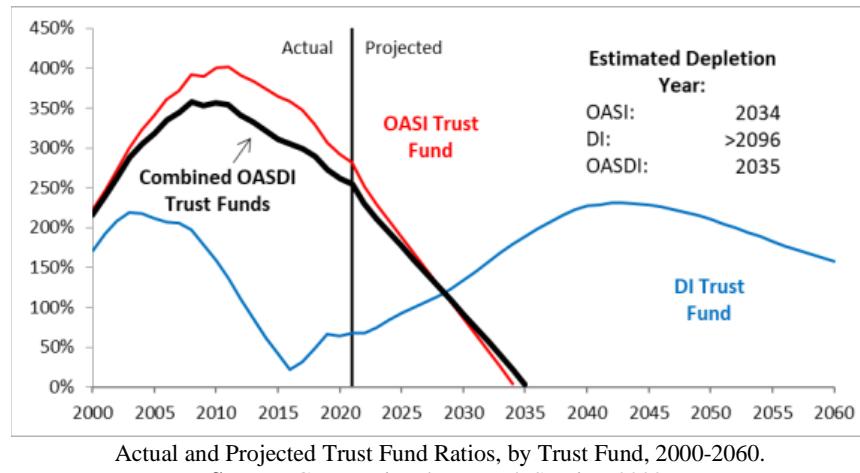
- **Mr. Dave Lytle**, Deputy Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C. [H.R. 34, H.R. 3553, H.R. 5478, and H.R. 5911]
- **Mr. Ronald Cortez**, Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. [H.R. 1329]

### Panel III (Outside Experts):

- **Ms. Michelle Metteer**, City Administrator, City of Ouray, Ouray, CO [H.R. 5911]
- **Mr. Darren Frandsen**, City Manager, City of Fruit Heights, Fruit Heights, UT [H.R. 5478]
- **Ms. Jane Abraham**, Former Chair, American Museum of Women's History Congressional Commission, Washington, DC [H.R. 1329]
- **Ms. Margaret Byfield**, Executive Director, American Stewards of Liberty, Georgetown, TX [H.R. 34]
- **Mr. Chris Hamm**, President, Orange County Firefighters IAFF Local 3631, Tustin, CA [H.R. 3553] [Minority Witness]

## III. BACKGROUND

### H.R. 34 (Rep. Gosar), “LASSO Act”



retirees, survivors, and dependents.<sup>2</sup> From 1983 to 2009, OASI ran cash-flow surpluses that were deposited into the U.S. Treasury (Treasury) in exchange for special-issue Treasury securities,

The U.S. currently has a national debt totaling \$38.52 trillion, driven largely by mandatory entitlement programs such as the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) trust fund.<sup>1</sup> Administered by the Social Security Administration, this program operates on a pay-as-you-go basis, with payroll taxes from current workers funding current

<sup>1</sup> “What is the national debt?” U.S. Department of the Treasury, <https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/americas-finance-guide/national-debt/>.

<sup>2</sup> Bill Heniff, “The Social Security Trust Funds and Budget”, Congressional Research Service, August 7, 2020, [https://www.congress.gov/crs\\_external\\_products/IF/PDF/IF11615/IF11615.1.pdf](https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/IF/PDF/IF11615/IF11615.1.pdf).

which are non-marketable IOUs that earn interest in the form of additional IOUs.<sup>3</sup> As a result, the OASI balance reflects past surpluses and credited interest, not cash set aside for future benefits.<sup>4</sup> When payroll taxes exceed benefits, Treasury issues these IOUs and uses the cash for other federal spending; when taxes fall short, as they do today, Treasury must redeem IOUs using general revenues or borrowing from the public.<sup>5</sup> Benefits are paid automatically outside of the annual appropriations process.<sup>6</sup>

OASI currently holds roughly \$2.5 trillion in special-issue Treasury securities.<sup>7</sup> Since 2010, persistent cash-flow deficits have required Treasury to redeem these IOUs, increasing publicly held debt.<sup>8</sup> According to the Trustees Report, Treasury borrowed \$1.25 trillion to cover Social Security cash-flow deficits between 2010 and 2024 and is projected to borrow an additional \$3.27 trillion through 2033.<sup>9</sup> These deficits are driven in part by demographics: the U.S. population aged 65 and older has grown far faster than the working-age population.<sup>10</sup> More than 60 million Americans receive OASI benefits, and nearly 78 percent of those recipients rely on the benefits to cover basic expenses.<sup>11</sup> As a result, under current law, OASI will be insolvent by 2033, triggering “substantial reductions in Social Security benefits, substantial increases in tax revenues, or some combination of the two.”<sup>12</sup>

To delay such insolvency, Representative Paul Gosar (R-AZ-09) introduced the “Land And Social Security Optimization (LASSO) Act,” which would deposit into OASI 10 percent of federal revenues generated on public lands and waters managed by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS). This reallocation would capture numerous revenue-generating activities, including energy development, mineral extraction, land sales, renewable energy leases, recreation fees, and grazing fees. Considering national park entrance fees, for example, illustrates how the LASSO Act would operate in practice. Under current law, revenues generated from entrance fees at national parks are split 80/20, with 80 percent retained at the unit of origin for reinvestment and 20 percent deposited into the Treasury for redistribution throughout the National Park System.<sup>13</sup> Under the LASSO Act, 10 percent of total revenues would first be transferred to OASI, with the remaining 90 percent distributed under the existing 80:20 framework. Informal Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates suggest that H.R. 34 would increase amounts credited to OASI by approximately \$15 billion over 2025-2035.<sup>14</sup> Under

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<sup>3</sup> Barry Huston, “Social Security: The Trust Funds”, Congressional Research Service, May 23, 2024, <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/RL33028>.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Bill Heniff, “The Social Security Trust Funds and Budget”, Congressional Research Service, August 7, 2020, [https://www.congress.gov/crs\\_external\\_products/IF/PDF/IF11615/IF11615.1.pdf](https://www.congress.gov/crs_external_products/IF/PDF/IF11615/IF11615.1.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> “The 2025 OASDI Trustees Report”, Social Security Administration, 2025, <https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/TR/2025/index.html>.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> Zoe Caplan, “U.S. Older Population Grew From 2010 to 2020 at Fastest Rate Since 1880 to 1890”, U.S. Census Bureau, May 25, 2023, <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2023/05/2020-census-united-states-older-population-grew.html>.

<sup>11</sup> “Social Security Beneficiary Statistics”, Social Security Administration, 2024, <https://www.ssa.gov/oact/STATS/OASDIbenies.html>.

<sup>12</sup> “The 2025 OASDI Trustees Report”, Social Security Administration, 2025, <https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/TR/2025/index.html>; Barry F. Huston, “Social Security: What Would Happen If the Trust Funds Ran Out?”, Congressional Research Service, September 28, 2022, RL33514, <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/RL33514>.

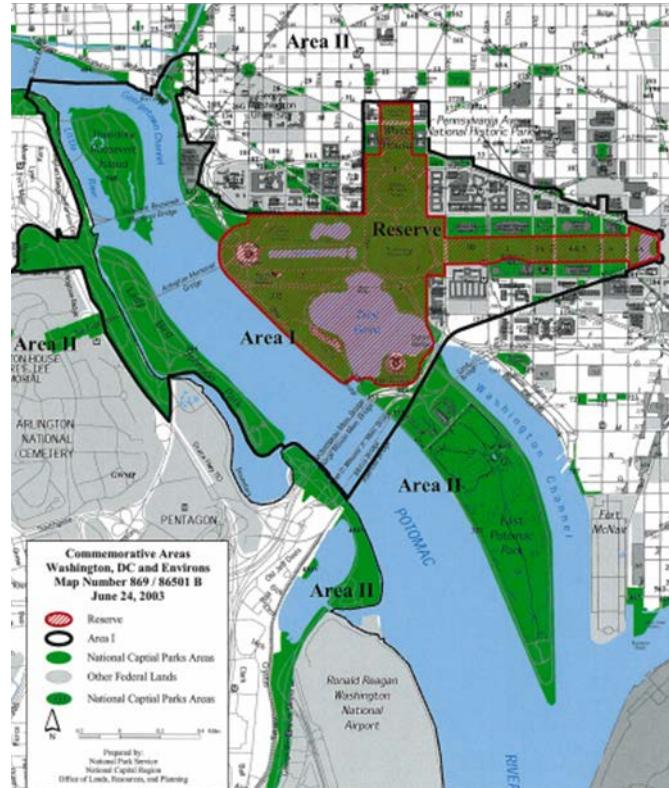
<sup>13</sup> Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act; 16 U.S.C. 6802.

<sup>14</sup> This estimate does not capture interest costs associated with a larger OASI balance, which would, in turn, increase Treasury borrowing and affect the federal debt. Information provided informally by CBO.

baseline rules, however, CBO assumes Social Security benefits are fully paid regardless of OASI balances, resulting in no change to outlays or net budgetary effects.

### H.R. 1329 (Rep. Malliotakis), “Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Act”

In 2020, President Trump signed into law the “Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Act,” creating the Smithsonian Institution’s (Smithsonian’s) 21<sup>st</sup> museum (Museum), which aims to recognize “women’s contributions to various fields and throughout different periods of history that have influenced the direction of the United States.”<sup>15</sup> Since this time, the Museum has been a formally established institution but lacks a permanent physical location.<sup>16</sup> In the authorizing legislation, Congress created a process for site selection and building design, led by the Smithsonian’s Board of Regents. Although the legislation stated that it was “the intent of Congress that the Museum be located on or near the National Mall,” a provision also expressly prohibited the Museum from being located in the Reserve under the Commemorative Works Act (CWA).<sup>17</sup>



Commemorative Areas in Washington, D.C.

Source: National Park Service, 2003.

Passed in 2000, the CWA established the “Reserve”, which broadly encompasses what is known as the National Mall.<sup>18</sup> The CWA found that the Reserve was “a substantially completed work of civic art” where the siting of new commemorative works should be prohibited.<sup>19</sup> This prohibition extends to all monuments, memorials, or structures (including museums) “designed to perpetuate in a permanent manner the memory of an individual, group, event or other significant element of American history.”<sup>20</sup> Therefore, placing a new commemorative work in the Reserve requires an additional Act of Congress. While such Acts are somewhat rare, Congress most recently authorized a location within the Reserve for the Global War on Terrorism Memorial in 2021 and the Women’s Suffrage Monument in 2025.<sup>21</sup> H.R. 1329, introduced by Representative Nicole Malliotakis (R-

<sup>15</sup> Pub. Law No. 116-260, December 26, 2020, <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/PLAW-116publ260/pdf/PLAW-116publ260.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> Linda St. Thomas, “Smithsonian Names Members of the American Women’s History Museum Advisory Council”, Smithsonian Institution, August 20, 2021, <https://www.si.edu/newsdesk/releases smithsonian-names-members-american-womens-history-museum-advisory-council>.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*; 40 U.S.C. 8901-8909.

<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> Sec. 6605, Pub. Law No: 117-81; Pub. Law No: 118-226.

NY-11), resolves the siting issue by authorizing the Smithsonian to locate the American Women's History Museum within the Reserve. President Trump has previously expressed general support for this effort, and the bill currently has 228 bipartisan cosponsors (102 Republicans; 126 Democrats).<sup>22</sup>

Recently, the Museum's proposed content has generated some controversy. On March 27, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order 14253, "Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History," which, in part, addressed the Museum's plans to celebrate the "exploits of male athletes participating in women's sports."<sup>23</sup> To address any potential politicization of the Museum's future content, H.R. 1329 amends the enabling statute to ensure that the "exhibits and programs of the Museum accurately and comprehensively represent the varied cultures, histories, events, and values held by women in the United States."<sup>24</sup> While the Museum's potential costs have prompted additional concerns, the bill does not authorize any new federal spending.

### **H.R. 3553 (Rep. Min), "BRUSH Fires Act"**

Wildfire risks facing communities across the country have surged in recent years, driven by development in the wildland-urban interface (WUI) and inadequate management of overgrown, fire-prone landscapes. Over the past two decades, more than 129,000 homes, businesses, and other structures have been destroyed in U.S. wildfires.<sup>25</sup> When ignited in shrubland and grassland ecosystems, wildfires can be particularly devastating to communities due to their fast-moving nature when conditions are dry, fuels have built up, and winds are strong.<sup>26</sup> For example, in 2021, the Marshall Fire destroyed 1,084 homes and seven commercial properties near Boulder, Colorado, after starting in overgrown brush.<sup>27</sup> In 2023, dry, overgrown brush served as the kindling for the Maui Fires, which ultimately destroyed the town of Lahaina and claimed the lives of 102 people, becoming the country's deadliest wildfire in a century.<sup>28</sup> In 2024, the brush-related Airport Fire, which ignited in Representative Young Kim's (R-CA-40) district, burned more than 23,500 acres and destroyed over 100 homes.<sup>29</sup> Finally, in 2025, the Eaton and Palisades Fires became the second- and fourth-most destructive wildfires of all time, after igniting in overgrown brush and moving into the built environment.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> President Trump's remarks can be watched here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6IRx-IXFLY>. Cosponsor number accessed on February 4, 2026.

<sup>23</sup> "Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History," The White House, March 27, 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/restoring-truth-and-sanity-to-american-history/>.

<sup>24</sup> Section 2(c) of H.R. 1329.

<sup>25</sup> Kimiko Barrett, "Wildfires destroy thousands of structures each year", Headwaters Economics, May 2025, <https://headwaterseconomics.org/natural%20hazards/structures-destroyed-by-wildfire/>.

<sup>26</sup> *Id.*

<sup>27</sup> "Looking back at Colorado's Marshall Fire", National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, January 8, 2024, <https://research.noaa.gov/looking-back-at-colorados-marshall-fire/>.

<sup>28</sup> "Maui Fire to release cause report on deadly U.S. wildfire," Associated Press, October 2, 2024, <https://spectrumlocalnews.com/hi/hawaii/news/2024/10/02/maui-fire-to-release-cause-report-on-deadly-u-s--wildfire>.

<sup>29</sup> Representative Kim is the Republican co-lead of the legislation. "115 homes destroyed by Airport Fire; 23,500 acres charred in Orange, Riverside counties", ABC 7, September 15, 2024, <https://abc7.com/post/airport-fire-more-100-homes-destroyed-crews-make-progress-orange-riverside-counties/15306326/>.

<sup>30</sup> Natalia Osuna, "Here is a timeline of the Eaton and Palisades fires in LA County", NBC Los Angeles, Updated October 8, 2025, <https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/california-wildfires/timeline-eaton-palisades-fires-la-county/3614940/>.

To counter the growing threat of wildfire in shrubland ecosystems, H.R. 3553 directs USFS to carry out a targeted study on 1) the effectiveness of wildfire mitigation methods in shrubland ecosystems and 2) the severity of damage from brush-related wildland fires to communities.

#### **H.R. 5478 (Rep. Moore of UT), “Fruit Heights Land Conveyance Act of 2025”**

The city of Fruit Heights is nestled on the western slopes of the Wasatch Mountain Range in Davis County, Utah.<sup>31</sup> USFS manages the foothills bordering Fruit Heights as part of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest.<sup>32</sup> This area has become a popular recreation spot for mountain bikers and hikers, particularly along the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.<sup>33</sup> That trail is the area’s longest, running nearly 173 miles north to south across the WUI that exists between cities like Fruit Heights and the Wasatch Mountains. Despite its popularity, the trail remains incomplete, with several gaps, including one near Fruit Heights.<sup>34</sup> Local elected officials and recreation enthusiasts have sought to maintain and expand the existing trail network, including by closing the Fruit Heights gap. However, USFS red tape has stymied these efforts, preventing collaboration on trail system maintenance and degrading public access.<sup>35</sup> As a result, various community events, races, and outdoor recreation opportunities have been cancelled because of the USFS’s bureaucratic delays.<sup>36</sup>

H.R. 5478, sponsored by Representative Blake Moore (R-UT-01), fixes this problem by conveying approximately 295 acres of USFS land to Fruit Heights to close the gap along the Bonneville Shoreline Trail. This conveyance would be made without consideration, contingent upon the parcel’s continued use for recreation and public purposes. This simple land conveyance would allow Fruit Heights to properly maintain and connect its section of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail, providing an enormous boon to Utah’s \$9.5 billion outdoor recreation economy.<sup>37</sup> The conveyance would also reduce agency maintenance expenditures by reducing the federal estate.

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<sup>31</sup> “Fruit Heights City General Plan”, Fruit Heights City Planning Commission, February 2005, <https://www.fruitheights.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2273/General-Plan-as-of-2005>.

<sup>32</sup> “Welcome to Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest”, U.S. Forest Service, March 2025, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/r04/uinta-wasatch-cache>.

<sup>33</sup> Carter Williams, “Utah reps seek nearly 300 acres of federal land to close Bonneville Shoreline Trail gap”, KSL.com, September 23, 2025, <https://www.ksl.com/article/51378966/utah-reps-seek-nearly-300-acres-of-federal-land-to-close-bonneville-shoreline-trail-gap>.

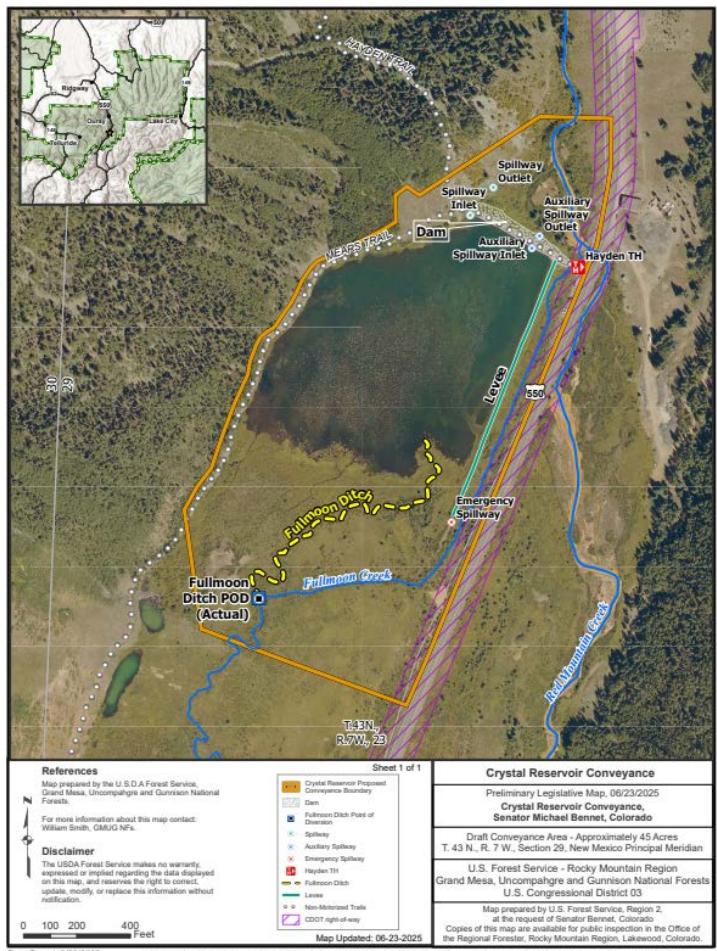
<sup>34</sup> *Id.*

<sup>35</sup> “Representatives Moore, Maloy Introduce Legislation to Convey Federal Land to the City of Fruit Heights”, The Office of Congressman Blake Moore, September 18, 2025, <https://blakemoore.house.gov/media/press-releases/representatives-moore-maloy-introduce-legislation-to-convey-federal-land-to-the-city-of-fruit-heights>.

<sup>36</sup> *Id.*

<sup>37</sup> “Utah’s Outdoor Recreation Economy Breaks Records, Reaching \$9.5 Billion,” Utah Department of Natural Resources, November 21, 2024, <https://naturalresources.utah.gov/dnr-newsfeed/utahs-outdoor-recreation-economy-breaks-records-reaching-9-5-billion/>.

## H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd), “Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act”



Map of Crystal Reservoir Conveyance. **Source:** USFS, 2025.

Known as the “Outdoor Recreation Capital of Colorado,” the City of Ouray, Colorado (City), is a premier destination for locals and tourists to hike, ski, fish, ride 4x4s, ice climb, and engage in other outdoor recreation activities.<sup>38</sup> Like many cities in the western U.S., Ouray is surrounded by federal land, including the nearly 1 million-acre Uncompahgre National Forest, managed by USFS.<sup>39</sup> USFS also administers one of the most popular recreation destinations in the area, the Crystal Reservoir, which is conveniently located just six miles south of Ouray.<sup>40</sup>

The Reservoir is critical for wildfire suppression and response activities, local agricultural operations, and providing water “for future population growth” and the city’s hot springs.<sup>41</sup> However, in 2024, USFS chose to drain the reservoir after finding “a concerning crack, signs of seepage and other issues at the aging” Full Moon Dam.<sup>42</sup> Given the Reservoir’s importance to Ouray’s economy, recreation opportunities, and

overall safety, the City has expressed interest in acquiring the Reservoir and surrounding land from USFS. In this way, the City will “make sure the dam is safe by repairing it, refilling the reservoir, and making sure it is maintained.”<sup>43</sup>

H.R. 5911, sponsored by Representative Jeff Hurd (R-CO-03), conveys to Ouray the Crystal Reservoir, Full Moon Dam and Ditch, and 45 acres of surrounding land necessary to the

<sup>38</sup> “City of Ouray”, City of Ouray, Colorado, <https://www.cityofouray.com/>; Louis Arevalo, “The Anti Ski-Town: Why Ouray, Colorado should be considered a skier’s paradise”, Backcountry Magazine, February 23, 2017, <https://backcountrymagazine.com/stories/anti-ski-town-ouray-colorado-considered-skiers-paradise/>.

<sup>39</sup> “Uncompahgre National Forest”, Uncover Colorado, <https://www.uncovercolorado.com/national-lands/uncompahgre-national-forest/>.

<sup>40</sup> Shannon Mullane, “A picturesque lake in southwestern Colorado disappeared. Locals want it back as fast as possible.”, The Colorado Sun, September 30, 2024, <https://coloradosun.com/2024/09/30/crystal-lake-drained-ouray-high-risk-dam/#:~:text=Tanya%20Ishikawa%2C%20executive%20director%20of,timing%20of%20draining%20the%20reservoir>.

<sup>41</sup> *Id.*

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

<sup>43</sup> Shannon Mullane, “Colorado’s US senators introduce bill to give a federal reservoir, Crystal Lake, to the city of Ouray,” The Colorado Sun, September 10, 2025, <https://coloradosun.com/2025/09/10/colorado-senators-federal-reservoir-crystal-lake-ouray/>.

Reservoir's operation and maintenance. H.R. 5911 also conveys to the City all water rights associated with the covered land and related infrastructure. This commonsense legislation would help provide certainty to Ouray by restoring a major economic engine for this small community and ensuring the City has enough water to sustain its growing population. H.R. 5911 would also save taxpayer money by reducing the federal estate and preventing USFS from having to undertake costly repairs to the Reservoir's infrastructure.

### **S. 282 (Sen. King), “Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument Access Act”**

In 2016, President Obama established in Maine’s north woods the 87,500-acre Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument (Monument), which is currently managed by the National Park Service (NPS).<sup>44</sup> Since its designation, the Monument has attracted approximately 40,000 annual visitors who enjoy camping, hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing activities, as well as limited hunting and snowmobiling opportunities.<sup>45</sup> Despite its popularity, the Monument suffers from a limited connection to access roads, particularly from the south.

To improve accessibility, S. 282 authorizes NPS to acquire, from willing sellers or donors, up to 2,465 acres of land “to provide road access to the [M]onument from the south.”<sup>46</sup> The bill also authorizes an additional 10 acres of land acquisition for administrative or visitor facilities outside the Monument’s boundary. Finally, the bill sets general management and administration guidelines for the Monument that, among other things, protect hunting and fishing access, allow for the collection of fiddlehead ferns, permit forest management activities, and require the production of public safety and educational materials to better inform visitors about the Monument. The Senate passed S. 282 unanimously on June 18, 2025.<sup>47</sup> No companion legislation has been introduced in the House.

## **IV. MAJOR PROVISIONS & SECTION-BY-SECTION**

### **H.R. 34 (Rep. Gosar), “LASSO Act”**

#### **Section 2. Public Land Revenue for Social Security Trust Fund.**

- Directs 10 percent of annual revenues collected by DOI and USFS on federal lands and waters to be deposited into the OASI Trust Fund.
- Clarifies that the bill does not authorize the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to raise fees or prices for revenue-generating activities.
- Further clarifies that the bill will not reduce revenue-sharing payments to states, Indian Tribes, territories, or local governments.

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<sup>44</sup> Proclamation No. 9476, 81 Fed. Reg. 59,121, Aug. 24, 2016, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/08/29/2016-20786/establishment-of-the-katahdin-woods-and-waters-national-monument>.

<sup>45</sup> Laurie Schreiber, “Congressional bill advances to expand Katahdin Woods and Water monument access,” Mainebiz, December 23, 2024, <https://mainebiz.biz/article/congressional-bill-advances-to-expand-katahdin-woods-and-water-monument-access/>.

<sup>46</sup> Laurie Schreiber, “Katahdin Woods and Water monument could get new entry with approval from Congress pending,” Mainebiz, November 26, 2024, <https://mainebiz.biz/article/katahdin-woods-and-water-monument-could-get-new-entry-with-approval-from-congress-pending/>.

<sup>47</sup> More information can be found here: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/282/all-actions>.

**H.R. 1329 (Rep. Malliotakis), “Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum Act”**

**Section 2. Site of Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum.**

- Authorizes the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum to be located in the Reserve of the National Mall and makes a conforming amendment to the 2021 authorizing statute to remove prior limitations on siting within the Reserve.
- Amends the authorizing statute to prevent the Board of Regents from designating a site for the Museum under the administrative jurisdiction of another federal agency without first notifying said agency and providing notice to Congress. Allows for the jurisdiction of such land to be administratively transferred to the Smithsonian.
- Amends exhibit requirements to mandate accurate and comprehensive representation of the varied cultures, histories, events, and values of women in the U.S. This includes a requirement for the Museum to seek guidance from a broad array of knowledgeable and respected sources reflecting diverse political viewpoints.
- Requires the Smithsonian to report to Congress within 120 days of the bill’s enactment, and every two years thereafter, confirming compliance with content requirements, including actions taken regarding substantial revisions to current exhibits and planning for future exhibits.
- Retroactively applies the amendments made by this bill to the 2020 authorizing statute.

**H.R. 3553 (Rep. Min), “BRUSH Fires Act”**

**Section 2. Shrubland Wildfire Mitigation Study.**

- Directs USFS to conduct, within one year of the bill’s enactment, a study evaluating the effectiveness of available wildfire mitigation methods in reducing risk in shrubland ecosystems and minimizing the severity of wildfire damage in communities within or adjacent to those ecosystems. The study must accomplish the following objectives:
  - Assess the effectiveness and longevity of hazardous fuels management activities.
  - Evaluate the effectiveness of USFS policies in preventing ignitions linked to human activity or infrastructure, including electrical systems.
  - Study the conditions under which each wildfire mitigation method is most and least effective at reducing wildfire risk.
  - Identify administrative, operational, and budgetary factors that hinder the implementation of wildfire mitigation efforts.
  - Evaluate the effectiveness of partnerships between USFS and non-federal entities in reducing wildfire risk to homes, roadways, and other high-risk structures.
- Permits USFS to coordinate with relevant federal entities to avoid duplication and consult with other non-federal entities with expertise in wildfire mitigation.
- Requires USFS to submit the study, as well as opportunities for further research and best practices, to Congress.

**H.R. 5478 (Rep. Moore of UT), “Fruit Heights Land Conveyance Act of 2025”**

**Section 3. Conveyance of Certain National Forest System Land to the City of Fruit Heights, Utah.**

- Directs USFS to convey all right, title, and interest in the 295.89-acre parcel of National Forest System land located in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest to the City of Fruit Heights, Utah.
- Requires a survey to determine the exact acreage and legal description of the land, to be paid by the city, along with all other administrative costs.
- Subjects the conveyance to all valid existing rights, made without consideration, made by quitclaim deed, and with an easement for the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.
- Specifies that the land will revert to USFS if the city does not use it for public purposes.

**H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd), “Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act”**

**Section 2. Conveyance of Federal Land to Ouray, Colorado.**

- Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey all right (including water rights), title, and interest in Crystal Reservoir and the surrounding 45 acres of land, including all associated infrastructure, from USFS to Ouray, Colorado.
- Stipulates that the conveyance will be made without consideration, subject to valid existing rights, and that the City must pay all costs associated with the conveyance.
- Sets various terms and conditions, including requiring the City to assume costs of repair, operation, and maintenance of the Reservoir dam and associated infrastructure; granting easements to USFS to access existing trails and roads; and prohibiting commercial development or an expansion of the Reservoir.
- Stipulates that if any terms and conditions are violated, the land will revert to USFS.
- Allows for the continued use of Red Mountain Ditch for diversion and delivery of water for storage in the Reservoir.
- Allows the City to use the Reservoir for storage of water, in accordance with state law.
- Allows the City to make payments to repair Full Moon Dam before the date of conveyance.
- Stipulates requirements for the map and legal description of the land to be conveyed.

**S. 282 (Sen. King), “Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument Access Act”**

**Section 3. Acquisition of Additional Land for National Monument.**

- Limits the Monument’s boundaries to those established in the 2016 Presidential Proclamation.
- Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to acquire land or interests in land within the authorized acquisition area by purchase from willing sellers, donation, or exchange. Prohibits the use of eminent domain.
- Provides that acquired land shall be incorporated into the Monument and that the Monument’s boundary shall be adjusted accordingly.

#### **Section 4. Administration of National Monument.**

- Directs NPS to administer the Monument in accordance with the bill, the 2016 Proclamation, and laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System.
- Allows hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation activities that existed prior to any acquisition of land to continue.
- Allows non-commercial, personal gathering of fiddlehead ferns within the Monument and authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to limit such gatherings if necessary.
- Directs NPS to collaborate with local communities and Tribal governments to educate the public on the Monument.
- Authorizes noncommercial timber harvests in the Monument and protects existing access rights for timber removal outside Monument boundaries.
- Requires the Secretary of the Interior to provide public safety information and develop procedures to ensure safe interactions between visitors and active logging and trucking operations on roads into, or adjacent to, the Monument.

#### **Section 5. Administrative Sites and Visitor Facilities.**

- Authorizes NPS to acquire up to 10 acres, by willing-seller purchase, donation, or exchange, for administrative purposes and visitor services in the vicinity of the Monument.
- Authorizes NPS to enter into agreements with the State of Maine, Tribal or local governments, and private entities to develop a cooperative information center for the Monument.

### **V. COST**

A formal cost estimate from CBO is not yet available for any of the bills.

### **VI. ADMINISTRATION POSITION**

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

### **VII. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW**

#### **H.R. 1329**