

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION**H. R.** _____

To recognize tribal cooperation in the environmental review of proposed actions affecting the revised Yurok Reservation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

A BILL

To recognize tribal cooperation in the environmental review of proposed actions affecting the revised Yurok Reservation, 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 “Yurok Lands Act of
5 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 For the purposes of this Act:

1 (1) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term “Federal
2 agency” has the same meaning given that term in
3 section 1508.12 of title 40, Code of Federal Regula-
4 tions, except that such term shall not include States,
5 units of general local government, and Indian
6 Tribes.

7 (2) NEPA.—The term “NEPA” means the Na-
8 tional Environmental Policy Act, as amended (42
9 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

10 (3) REVISED YUROK RESERVATION.—The term
11 “revised Yurok Reservation” means the land within
12 the exterior boundary of the Yurok Reservation as
13 revised in section 4(a), except land owned in fee by
14 or held in trust by the United States for the benefit
15 of a federally recognized Indian Tribe other than the
16 Yurok Tribe.

17 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agri-
19 culture, or the Secretary of Transportation, as ap-
20 propriate.

21 (5) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the
22 Yurok Tribe, a federally recognized Indian Tribe.

23 **SEC. 3. LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TRIBE.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to any valid existing
25 rights, the Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer to the

1 Secretary of the Interior administrative jurisdiction over
2 approximately 1,229 acres in the Yurok Experimental
3 Forest and Six Rivers National Forest, as generally de-
4 picted on the map entitled “Experimental Forest” and
5 dated October 4, 2016. The map shall be on file and avail-
6 able for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the
7 Forest Service.

8 (b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary of the Interior
9 shall hold the land transferred under subsection (a) in
10 trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

11 (c) TRIBAL LAND USE MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The
12 Tribe shall develop a Tribal Land Use Management Plan
13 in accordance with NEPA requirements for the land held
14 in trust pursuant to subsection (b).

15 (d) GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT AGREE-
16 MENTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the
17 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture and
18 the Tribe—

19 (1) shall enter into government-to-government
20 consultations;

21 (2) shall develop protocols to ensure that re-
22 search activities of the Forest Service on lands taken
23 into trust pursuant to subsection (b) shall continue
24 in perpetuity; and

1 (3) may enter into cooperative agreements be-
2 tween the Secretary of Agriculture and the Tribe for
3 the purpose of implementing this section.

4 (e) SURVEY.—Not later than one year after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior
6 shall complete a survey to establish the exterior bound-
7 aries of the land taken into trust pursuant to subsection
8 (b).

9 (f) USE OF TRUST LAND.—Land taken into trust
10 pursuant to subsection (b) shall—

11 (1) be managed by the Tribe for conservation
12 and research purposes;

13 (2) not be eligible, or considered to have been
14 taken into trust, for any gaming activity under the
15 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et
16 seq.); and

17 (3) not be subject to old growth logging.

18 **SEC. 4. YUROK RESERVATION BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall revise the
20 boundary of the Yurok Reservation as depicted on the map
21 entitled “Proposed Yurok Reservation Boundary” and
22 dated March 30, 2022. The map shall be on file and avail-
23 able for public inspection at the Office of the Regional
24 Forester, Pacific Southwest Region, Vallejo, California,
25 and other appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

1 (b) LAND MANAGEMENT.—Subject to the require-
2 ments of sections 3—

3 (1) all National Forest System land within the
4 revised Yurok Reservation shall continue to be ad-
5 ministered by the Forest Service in accordance with
6 applicable laws and regulations; and

7 (2) all National Park System land within the
8 revised Yurok Reservation shall continue to be ad-
9 ministered by the National Park Service in accord-
10 ance with applicable laws and regulations.

11 **SEC. 5. YUROK SCENIC BYWAY DESIGNATION.**

12 (a) DESIGNATION OF THE YUROK SCENIC BYWAY.—
13 Bald Hills Road from its junction with U.S. Highway 101
14 to its terminus on the Klamath River shall be designated
15 as the “Yurok Scenic Byway”, an Indian Tribe scenic
16 byway, and the Tribe shall be eligible for appropriate
17 grants and technical assistance as authorized in section
18 162(b) of title 23, United States Code.

19 (b) CONTINUED ACCESS AND USE RETAINED.—The
20 Tribe shall not prohibit or limit, and the Secretary of the
21 Interior shall allow, continued access and use of the Bald
22 Hills Road in accordance with section 3(b)(1) of the Act
23 entitled “An Act to establish a Redwood National Park
24 in the State of California, and for other purposes”, ap-
25 proved October 2, 1968 (16 U.S.C. 79e).