

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4247

To direct the Secretary of the Army to establish a task force on the California snowpack and flood mitigation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2023

Mr. HARDER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Army to establish a task force on the California snowpack and flood mitigation, 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 “Flood Prevention and
5 Snowpack Management Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TASK FORCE ON CALIFORNIA SNOWPACK AND**
7 **FLOOD MITIGATION.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Army,
9 acting through the Chief of Engineers, shall establish a
10 task force to be known as the “Task Force on the Cali-

1 fornia Snowpack and Flood Mitigation” (in this section
2 referred to as the “Task Force”).

3 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall con-
5 sist of 17 members, to be appointed by the Chief of
6 Engineers, as follows:

7 (A) 1 member of the Senate representing
8 the State of California.

9 (B) 5 members of the House of Represent-
10 atives, including—

11 (i) 1 member who represents North-
12 ern California;

13 (ii) 1 member who represents North-
14 ern San Joaquin Valley;

15 (iii) 1 member who represents Central
16 San Joaquin Valley;

17 (iv) 1 member who represents South-
18 ern San Joaquin Valley; and

19 (v) 1 member who represents South-
20 ern California.

21 (C) A representative of the Corps of Engi-
22 neers.

23 (D) A representative of the Federal Emer-
24 gency Management Agency.

1 (E) A representative of the Bureau of Rec-
2 lamation.

3 (F) A representative of the National Oce-
4 anic and Atmospheric Administration.

5 (G) A representative of the California Of-
6 fice of Emergency Services.

7 (H) A representative of the California De-
8 partment of Water Resources.

9 (I) 4 members from local community orga-
10 nizations that are impacted by, or provide re-
11 sources or relief to individuals impacted by,
12 flooding in California.

13 (J) A representative of Tribal communities
14 in California.

15 (2) CHAIRPERSON; VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The
16 Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Task Force
17 shall be elected by the members of the Task Force.

18 (c) MEETINGS.—

19 (1) INITIAL MEETING.—The Task Force shall
20 meet on the day after any day on which the Cali-
21 fornia Department of Resources determines that any
22 portion of the snowpack in California is 150 percent
23 above the average snowpack in California.

24 (2) SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS.—After conducting
25 the initial meeting described under paragraph (1),

1 the Task Force shall meet on a periodic basis until
2 the plan of action required under subsection (d) is
3 complete.

4 (d) DUTIES.—The duties of the Task Force shall be
5 to—

6 (1) examine and assess the risks posed by the
7 snowpack in California;

8 (2) assess what local, State, and Federal ac-
9 tions may be taken to mitigate such risks; and

10 (3) not later than 90 days after conducting an
11 initial meeting under subsection (c)(1), develop a
12 plan of action for snowpack melt, flood mitigation
13 and recovery, and expediting water storage projects
14 to capture water from the snowpack and alleviate fu-
15 ture drought conditions.

16 (e) REPORT.—Upon completion of a plan of action
17 under subsection (d), the Task Force shall submit each
18 such plan of action to—

19 (1) the Governor of California;

20 (2) the California Office of Emergency Services;

21 (3) the California Department of Water Re-
22 sources;

23 (4) the Administrator of the Federal Emer-
24 gency Management Agency;

25 (5) the Chief of Engineers;

1 (6) the Committee on Natural Resources of the
2 House of Representatives; and

3 (7) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
4 sources of the Senate.

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