

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6869

To withdraw certain land within the San Bernardino National Forest in California from location, entry, and patent under mining laws, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2023

Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself and Mr. AGUILAR) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To withdraw certain land within the San Bernardino National Forest in California from location, entry, and patent under mining laws, 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. WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN LAND WITHIN SAN**
4 **BERNARDINO NATIONAL FOREST.**

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

6 (1) The Department of Agriculture, acting
7 through the Forest Service, has implemented a
8 strategy known as the Carbonate Habitat Manage-
9 ment Strategy to conserve listed threatened and en-

1 dangered species where minerals co-occur with those
2 species' habitats to allow for species conservation
3 and efficient administration of mining activities on
4 the San Bernardino National Forest.

5 (2) The withdrawal of certain land in the San
6 Bernardino National Forest will help preserve habi-
7 tat to protect 4 listed threatened and endangered
8 plant species from the effects of mineral develop-
9 ment and other forms of entry, appropriation, and
10 disposal under the public land laws.

11 (b) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,
12 the Proposed Withdrawal is withdrawn from all forms
13 of—

14 (1) entry, appropriation, and disposal under the
15 public land laws;

16 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining
17 laws; and

18 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mineral
19 materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

20 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The withdrawal under sub-
21 section (b) shall take effect—

22 (1) on the date of the enactment of this section,
23 with respect to Federal land; and

24 (2) on the date the land is acquired by the
25 United States, with respect to non-Federal land.

1 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land”
3 means the approximately 2,775 acres of land gen-
4 erally depicted on the Map as “National Forest
5 Land” within the Proposed Withdrawal.

6 (2) MAP.—The term “Map” means the map ti-
7 tled “Proposed Mineral Withdrawal, San Bernardino
8 National Forest, Mountaintop Ranger District” and
9 dated October 19, 2020.

10 (3) NON-FEDERAL LAND.—The term “non-Fed-
11 eral land” means the approximately 280 acres of
12 land generally depicted on the Map as “Non-Na-
13 tional Forest Land” within the Proposed With-
14 drawal.

15 (4) PROPOSED WITHDRAWAL.—The term “Pro-
16 posed Withdrawal” means the approximately 3,055
17 acres of land generally depicted on the Map as “Pro-
18 posed Withdrawal”.

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