

113<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 3017

To provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 12, 2014

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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## A BILL

To provide a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to allow the Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Chief of the Forest Service to remove Pinyon-Juniper trees to conserve and restore the habitat of the greater sage-grouse.

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 “Sage-Grouse Habitat  
5 Conservation and Restoration Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION FOR PINYON-JUNIPER**  
2 **TREE REMOVAL.**

3       Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a vegeta-  
4 tion management project by the Director of the Bureau  
5 of Land Management or the Chief of the Forest Service  
6 involving removal or treatment of any Pinyon or Juniper  
7 tree for the purpose of conserving or restoring the habitat  
8 of the greater sage-grouse shall be eligible to be a categor-  
9 ical exclusion (as defined in section 1508.4 of title 40,  
10 Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation))  
11 for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act of  
12 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

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