

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5148

To release certain wilderness study areas in the State of Montana.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 1, 2018

Mr. GIANFORTE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To release certain wilderness study areas in the State of  
Montana.

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 “Protect Public Use  
5 of Public Lands Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. RELEASE OF CERTAIN WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS**  
7 **IN THE STATE OF MONTANA.**

8 (a) FINDING.—Congress finds that, for the purposes  
9 of section 3(a) of the Montana Wilderness Study Act of  
10 1977 (Public Law 95–150; 91 Stat. 1244), the land in

1 the State of Montana described in subsection (c) has been  
2 adequately studied for wilderness designation.

3 (b) RELEASE.—The land described in subsection (c)  
4 is no longer subject to section 3(a) of the Montana Wilder-  
5 ness Study Act of 1977 (Public Law 95–150; 91 Stat.  
6 1244).

7 (c) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The land referred to in  
8 subsections (a) and (b) is—

9 (1) the approximately 151,000 acres of land  
10 comprising the West Pioneer Wilderness Study Area;

11 (2) the approximately 32,500 acres of land  
12 within the Blue Joint Wilderness Study Area not  
13 recommended for wilderness classification in the  
14 record of decision prepared by the Forest Service en-  
15 titled “Bitterroot National Forest Plan” and dated  
16 September 1987;

17 (3) the approximately 94,000 acres of land  
18 comprising the Sapphire Wilderness Study Area;

19 (4) the approximately 81,000 acres of land  
20 comprising the Middle Fork Judith Wilderness  
21 Study Area; and

22 (5) the approximately 91,000 acres of land  
23 comprising the Big Snowies Wilderness Study Area.

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