

S 1169

Limestone Hills Training Area Withdrawal Act of 2014

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jun 13, 2013

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 377.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 377. (May 14, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/senate-bill/1169>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Jun 13, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jul 30, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 HR 1960	Related bill	Jul 8, 2013: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 126.
113 HR 1672	Related bill	Jun 24, 2013: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 86.

Limestone Hills Training Area Withdrawal Act of 2014 - (Sec. 2) Withdraws 18,644 acres of public lands and interests in Broadwater County, Montana.

Reserves the withdrawn land for the Army for: (1) training for active and reserve forces; (2) construction and operation of support and maintenance facilities for those forces; (3) training by the Montana Department of Military Affairs; (4) training by state and local law enforcement agencies, civil defense organizations, and public education institutions; and (5) other defense-related purposes.

Prohibits anything in this Act from being construed as altering any rights reserved for an Indian tribe for tribal use of land within the military land withdrawal area by treaty or federal law. Requires the Army to consult with any Indian tribes in the vicinity of the withdrawal area before taking action affecting tribal rights or cultural resources protected by treaty or federal law.

(Sec. 4) Subjects the withdrawn federal land to regulations related to locatable mineral activities and mining.

Prohibits the Army from restricting mining on the land.

Directs the Army to remove unexploded ordnance on land subject to mining. Requires the Army and the Department of the Interior to enter into an agreement regarding coordination of defense-related uses and mining and the ongoing removal of unexploded ordnance.

(Sec. 5) Gives Interior authority to issue grazing permits and leases on this land.

(Sec. 6) Terminates this withdrawal and reservation on March 31, 2039.

(Sec. 7) Permits hunting, fishing, and trapping on the withdrawn land.

(Sec. 8) Declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to: (1) establish a reservation in favor of the United States with respect to any water or water right on withdrawn land, or (2) authorize the appropriation of water on such land except in accordance with applicable state law.

(Sec. 9) Requires the Army to take necessary precautions to prevent, and actions to, suppress brush and range fires occurring as a result of military activities on the land.

Requires Interior, at the Army's request, to assist in the suppression of such fires, and be reimbursed by the Army.

(Sec. 10) Instructs the Secretary of the Army to maintain a program of decontamination on the land for defense-related contamination.

(Sec. 11) Prescribes a procedure for extending the withdrawal after its termination date.

(Sec. 12) Declares that, upon termination of the withdrawal under this Act, the previously withdrawn land shall not be open to any form of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws and the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, until Interior publishes an appropriate order specifying when such land will be restored to the public domain and opened for such purposes.

(Sec. 13) Prescribes a procedure for the Army to relinquish any or all of the lands.

Requires the Army to decontaminate the relinquished land if practicable and economically feasible.

Absolves Interior of any obligation to accept contaminated land or any land determined not suitable for return to the public domain.

Actions Timeline

- **May 14, 2014:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Landrieu with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 113-160.
- **May 14, 2014:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 377.
- **Nov 14, 2013:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Jul 30, 2013:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 113-85.
- **Jun 13, 2013:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 13, 2013:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.