

HR 1796

National Park and Wilderness Waters Protection Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Apr 15, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. (Apr 30, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/1796>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 30, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 2072	Related bill	May 26, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

National Park and Wilderness Waters Protection Act

Withdraws federal lands within the Rainy River Drainage Basin in Minnesota from all forms of: (1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws; (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and (3) operation under the mineral leasing and mineral material laws.

Deems the approval of any lease or permit in the Basin involving activities related to mineral production to be a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Requires an environmental impact statement conducted for such an action to include consideration of any potential impacts to units of the National Park System (NPS) or land in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) located in the Basin. Conditions the issuance or renewal of any such lease or permit on a requirement that the permittee or lessee seasonally monitor water quality throughout the Basin. Requires all mining activities to be suspended if any mining related contamination is detected in any NPS unit or NWPS land in the Basin until all contamination has been remediated.

Bars a federal agency from approving any mining related activities in the Basin until the entity holding a lease or permit for that activity has submitted: (1) an acceptable contamination remediation plan, and (2) a full reclamation and performance bond sufficient to return the affected area to its original condition and treat any potential contamination for 50 years following the conclusion of any mining activities.

Exempts existing sand, gravel, and granite operations in the Basin.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 30, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Apr 15, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 15, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.