

S 2290

Wildfire Management Technology Advancement Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 10, 2018

Current Status: By Senator Murkowski from Committee on Energy and Natural Resources filed written report. Report No.

Latest Action: By Senator Murkowski from Committee on Energy and Natural Resources filed written report. Report No. 115-441. (Dec 19, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2290>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		Jan 10, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 4, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Wildfire Management Technology Advancement Act of 2018

This bill authorizes federal and state wildland firefighting agencies to operate unmanned aircraft systems (i.e., drones) in managing wildland fires.

The Departments of Agriculture and of the Interior shall:

- jointly develop and operate a tracking system to remotely locate the positions of fire resources assigned to federal type 1 wildland fire incident management teams;
- establish the Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program to assign air resource advisors to such a team managing a wildland fire;
- establish the Rapid Response Erosion Database to provide for the automatic incorporation of spatial data related to vegetation, soils, and elevation into burn severity maps;
- establish the Fire Danger Assessment System for predicting the locations of future wildfires in fire-prone areas;
- and
- study the feasibility of operating aircraft at night to manage wildland fires.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency may make grants to states to provide funding to certain at-risk communities for the cost-shared installation of reverse-911 systems.

The bill amends the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to require the National Fire Data Center to gather and analyze additional information on fires, including all injuries sustained by firefighters that were treated by a doctor.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology to: (1) establish national teams to collect data following wildfires in the wildland-urban interface, and (2) implement a research plan for linking economic outcomes with wildfire mitigation.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 19, 2018:** By Senator Murkowski from Committee on Energy and Natural Resources filed written report. Report No. 115-441.
- **Dec 4, 2018:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Dec 4, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 712.
- **Oct 2, 2018:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jan 10, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 10, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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