

# HR 4516

## PROTECT Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Jul 19, 2021

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Aug 11, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4516>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Garcia, Mike [R-CA-25]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bentz, Cliff [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Johnson, Dusty [R-SD-At Large]	R · SD		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Nunes, Devin [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Rosendale Sr., Matthew M. [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Jul 19, 2021
Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-21]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Jul 26, 2021
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jul 26, 2021
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Jul 26, 2021
Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Oct 27, 2021

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 11, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 19, 2021

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 4623	Related bill	<b>Aug 13, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4302	Related bill	<b>Aug 11, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4573	Related bill	<b>Aug 11, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4574	Related bill	<b>Aug 11, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4584	Related bill	<b>Aug 11, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4614	Related bill	<b>Aug 11, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 4518	Related bill	<b>Jul 19, 2021:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

## Summary (as of Jul 19, 2021)

### Protecting and Restoring Our Trees by Enhancing Conservation and Treatments Act or the PROTECT Act

This bill categorically excludes forest management activities carried out on specified public lands from requirements to conduct environmental assessments and environmental impact statements. In order to be excluded from environmental review, the primary purposes of such activities must be to

- address insect or disease infestations,
- reduce hazardous fuel loads,
- protect municipal water sources,
- protect critical habitats from catastrophic disturbances,
- increase water yield,
- remove dead or dying trees or trees at high risk of dying, or
- facilitate native species restoration.

The bill limits the categorical exclusion to activities that manage up to 10,000 acres of land. However, activities that manage up to 30,000 acres of land may be categorically excluded from environmental review if the activities are developed through a collaborative process, proposed by certain resource advisory committees, or covered by community wildfire protection plans.

## Actions Timeline

- **Aug 11, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Jul 19, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 19, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.