

## HR 4579

Forest Litigation Reform Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Public Lands and Natural Resources

**Introduced:** Jul 20, 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/4579>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Rosendale Sr., Matthew M. [R-MT-At Large]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bentz, Cliff [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Jul 20, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 11, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 20, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 4, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **Forest Litigation Reform Act of 2021**

This bill sets forth provisions regarding legal challenges to federal forest management activities on land suitable for timber production.

The bill revises the standard of review for a court considering a request for injunctive relief applicable to an agency's qualified forest management activity. Specifically, a court must balance the impact to the ecosystem of undertaking the agency action against not undertaking the agency action.

The bill also limits the length of preliminary injunctive relief and stays pending appeal in such cases to 60 days.

Additionally, the bill directs the Department of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System lands, and the Department of the Interior, with respect to public lands, to each establish a discretionary arbitration pilot program as an alternative dispute resolution process for challenges to qualified forest management activities.

The bill prohibits amounts from being obligated or expended from the Claims and Judgment Fund and awards to pay any fees or other expenses to any plaintiff related to an action challenging a qualified forest management activity.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Aug 11, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Aug 4, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and the Judiciary, 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.