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Smith River National Recreation Area Expansion Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 31, 2023

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 121.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 121. (Jul 11, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/162>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 11, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 6595	Related bill	Dec 5, 2023: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Smith River National Recreation Area Expansion Act

This bill expands the Smith River National Recreation Area in California into Oregon and designates specified segments of the North Fork Smith River as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS).

The management emphasis for any portion of the recreation area in Oregon shall be on roadless backcountry and white-water recreation.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall study the additions to the recreation area, including inventories and assessments of water features (e.g., streams and lakes). USDA shall modify any applicable management plan to protect the resources inventoried.

USDA shall seek to enter into a memorandum of understanding with applicable Indian tribes to (1) provide them with access to the portions of the recreation area in Oregon to conduct historical and cultural activities; and (2) develop interpretive information to be provided to the public on the history of, and use of the area by, those tribes.

On the adoption of a resolution by the State Land Board of Oregon, USDA shall acquire the 555 acres of land known as the Cedar Creek Parcel in Oregon.

A streamside protection zone in which timber harvesting is prohibited (with exceptions) shall be established for each of the designated North Fork Smith River segments.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 11, 2023:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Manchin without amendment. With written report No. 118-49.
- **Jul 11, 2023:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 121.
- **May 17, 2023:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jan 31, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 31, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.