

## HR 168

TORCH Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jan 3, 2025

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

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry and Horticulture. (Apr 4, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/168>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 4, 2025
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 3, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 1110	Related bill	<b>Jan 8, 2026:</b> Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 119-433, Part I.
119 HR 598	Related bill	<b>Feb 28, 2025:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry and Horticulture.

## **Targeted Operations to Remove Catastrophic Hazards Act or the TORCH Act**

This bill establishes requirements concerning forest management on federal land, including provisions to expedite the approval of forest management activities.

Specifically, it expands exclusions from environmental review requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for certain forest management activities, including by directing the Forest Service to develop a categorical exclusion for forest management activities that mitigate the risks associated with high-priority hazard trees. A categorical exclusion is a class of actions that a federal agency has determined do not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and, thus, do not require an environmental assessment nor an environmental impact statement.

The bill also exempts the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management from the requirement to reinstate consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 on an approved, amended, or revised land management plan when (1) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated, or (2) new information reveals that the land management plan may affect a listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered.

It also creates and modifies requirements related to vegetation management practices and forest management activities, such as activities to reduce wildfire risks. For example, the bill modifies the treatment of certain revenue under good neighbor agreements, which allow federal agencies to partner with state and local governments to carry out certain restoration services.



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