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Western Wildfire Support Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 14, 2025

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably. (Feb 4, 2026)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/91>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Sheehy, Tim [R-MT]	R · MT		Jan 14, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 14, 2025
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Dec 2, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 5782	Related bill	Dec 1, 2025: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

Western Wildfire Support Act of 2025

This bill addresses wildfires by authorizing post-fire recovery activities, supporting adoption of technology, and requiring additional federal coordination.

The bill authorizes federal wildfire response and recovery activities by

- providing statutory authority for Burned Area Emergency Response Teams to coordinate emergency stabilization and erosion planning, and
- establishing an account to fund federal rehabilitation projects in areas impacted by a wildfire (e.g., ecosystem restoration, replacing infrastructure critical for land management).

Additionally, for all hazard types, the bill includes post-disaster assistance in the federal disaster preparedness program and authorizes assistance to states for operating websites to provide information on post-disaster recovery resources.

The bill requires federal agencies to develop and utilize technologies for managing wildfires by

- expediting the permitting and use of wildfire detection equipment (e.g., sensors, cameras);
- providing funding to Indian tribes for slip-on tanker units that convert vehicles into fire engines;
- performing research and development on wildfire response applications of unmanned aircraft systems (e.g., drones);
- studying radio communications systems, situational awareness tools, and wildland fire predictive modeling; and
- administering a prize competition for technological innovation for managing wildfire-related invasive species.

The bill directs federal agencies to plan and coordinate on wildfire management by

- incorporating the best available science and planning tools into spatial fire management policies for federal lands,
- collaborating with state agencies for mutual aid in fire suppression (including reimbursing states for suppressing fires caused by military operations), and
- studying training gaps for integrating structural (e.g., local) firefighters into wildfire response.

- Jan 14, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 14, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
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