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(Original Signature of Member)

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To designate certain lands in the Wasatch Mountains of Salt Lake County,  
Utah, as wilderness, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. MATHESON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To designate certain lands in the Wasatch Mountains of  
Salt Lake County, Utah, as wilderness, and for other  
purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wasatch Wilderness  
5 and Watershed Protection Act of 2010”.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS, UINTA-WASATCH-**  
2 **CACHE NATIONAL FORESTS, UTAH.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION.—In furtherance of the purposes of  
4 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the following  
5 Federal lands within the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National  
6 Forests in Salt Lake County, Utah, are designated as wil-  
7 derness and as either a new component of the National  
8 Wilderness Preservation System or as an addition to an  
9 existing component of the National Wilderness Preserva-  
10 tion System:

11 (1) Certain lands in the vicinity of the Lone  
12 Peak Wilderness comprising approximately 4,627  
13 acres, as generally depicted on the map titled  
14 “Wasatch Mountains Wilderness and Watershed  
15 Protection” and dated January 29, 2010 (in this  
16 subsection referred to as the “map”), which shall be  
17 added to and administered as part of the Lone Peak  
18 Wilderness designated by section 2(I) of Public Law  
19 95–237 (92 Stat. 42).

20 (2) Certain lands in the vicinity of the Mount  
21 Olympus Wilderness comprising approximately 813  
22 acres, as generally depicted on the map, which shall  
23 be added to and administered as part of the Mount  
24 Olympus Wilderness designated by section 102(a)(3)  
25 of Public Law 98–428 (98 Stat. 1658).

1           (3) Certain lands comprising approximately  
2           2,342 acres, as generally depicted on the map, which  
3           shall be known as the “Bear Trap Wilderness”.

4           (4) Certain lands comprising approximately  
5           7,759 acres, as generally depicted on the map, which  
6           shall be known as the “Wayne Owens Grandeur  
7           Peak/Mount Aire Wilderness”.

8           (b) MAP AND DESCRIPTION.—

9           (1) FILING AND AVAILABILITY.—As soon as  
10          practicable after the date of the enactment of this  
11          Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the  
12          Chief of the Forest Service, shall file with the Com-  
13          mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-  
14          resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
15          ural Resources of the Senate a map and legal de-  
16          scription of each wilderness area designated or ex-  
17          panded by paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection  
18          (a). The maps and legal descriptions shall be on file  
19          and available for public inspection in the office of  
20          the Chief of the Forest Service.

21          (2) FORCE OF LAW.—The maps and legal de-  
22          scriptions filed under paragraph (1) and (2) shall  
23          have the same force and effect as if included in this  
24          Act, except that the Secretary of Agriculture may

1 correct clerical and typographical errors in the maps  
2 and legal descriptions.

3 **SEC. 3. HELISKIING SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA, UINTA-**  
4 **WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FORESTS, UTAH.**

5 (a) DESIGNATION.—Certain Federal lands contig-  
6 uous to the existing Mount Olympus, Twin Peaks, and  
7 Lone Peak Wilderness Areas, and the Wayne Owens  
8 Grandeur Peak/Mount Aire Wilderness Area enacted by  
9 this legislation in the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National For-  
10 est comprising approximately 10,479 acres, as generally  
11 depicted on a map titled “Wasatch Mountains Wilderness  
12 and Watershed Protection” and dated January 29, 2010,  
13 are hereby designated as the “Heliskiing Special Manage-  
14 ment Area”.

15 (b) MAPS AND DESCRIPTIONS.—

16 (1) FILING AND AVAILABILITY.—As soon as  
17 practicable after the date of the enactment of this  
18 Act, the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the  
19 Chief of the Forest Service, shall file with the Com-  
20 mittee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-  
21 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Nat-  
22 ural Resources of the Senate a map and legal de-  
23 scription of the Heliskiing Special Management  
24 Area. The map and legal description shall be on file

1 and available for public inspection in the office of  
2 the Chief of the Forest Service.

3 (2) FORCE OF LAW.—The maps and legal de-  
4 scriptions filed under paragraph (1) shall have the  
5 same force and effect as if included in this Act, ex-  
6 cept that the Secretary of Agriculture may correct  
7 typographical errors in the maps and legal descrip-  
8 tions.

9 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture  
11 shall manage activities within the Heliskiing Special  
12 Management Area to maintain the area's presently  
13 existing wilderness character and potential for inclu-  
14 sion in the National Wilderness Preservation Sys-  
15 tem.

16 (2) PROHIBITIONS.—

17 (A) PERMANENT ROADS.—Permanent  
18 roads may not be established in the Heliskiing  
19 Special Management Area.

20 (B) TEMPORARY ROADS AND VEHICLES.—

21 Except as necessary to meet the minimum re-  
22 quirements for the administration of the  
23 Heliskiing Special Management Area and to  
24 protect public health and safety—

1 (I) the use of motorized or mecha-  
2 nized vehicles, except as described in para-  
3 graph (3), is prohibited in the Heliskiing  
4 Special Management Area; and

5 (ii) the establishment of temporary  
6 roads is prohibited in the Heliskiing Spe-  
7 cial Management Area.

8 (3) ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary of  
9 Agriculture may allow Heliskiing, that have been au-  
10 thorized on the Federal lands included within the  
11 Heliskiing Special Management Area as of the date  
12 of the enactment of this Act to continue within the  
13 area designated as the Heliskiing Special Manage-  
14 ment Area. The designation of the Heliskiing Special  
15 Management Area shall not impact future permit  
16 processes relating to such activities.

17 (4) APPLICABLE LAW.—Any uses of the Fed-  
18 eral lands included within the Heliskiing Special  
19 Management Area, including activities described in  
20 paragraph (3), shall be carried out in accordance  
21 with applicable law.

22 (d) EVENTUAL DESIGNATION AS WASATCH MOUN-  
23 TAIN WILDERNESS.—

24 (1) DESIGNATION FOR WILDERNESS.—The  
25 Federal lands included within the Heliskiing Special

1 Management Area shall be designated as wilderness  
2 and as a new component of the National Wilderness  
3 Preservation System on the date on which the Sec-  
4 retary of Agriculture publishes in the Federal Reg-  
5 ister notice that all commercial helicopter-assisted  
6 skiing or snowboarding activities on the lands has  
7 been terminated.

8 (2) RENAMING.—Upon its designation as wil-  
9 derness under paragraph (1), the Heliskiing Special  
10 Management Area shall be known and redesignated  
11 as the “Wasatch Mountain Wilderness”.

12 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

13 (a) COVERED LAND DEFINED.—In this section, the  
14 term “covered land” means—

15 (1) the wilderness areas designated or expanded  
16 by sections 2 and 3; and

17 (2) the Heliskiing Special Management Area  
18 designated by section 3.

19 (b) ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY.—Subject to valid  
20 rights in existence on the date of the enactment of this  
21 Act, land designated as wilderness by section 2 or 3 shall  
22 be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accord-  
23 ance with—

24 (1) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et  
25 seq.); and

1           (2) this Act.

2           (c) TREATMENT OF EFFECTIVE DATE OF WILDER-  
3 WILDERNESS ACT.—

4           (1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to land des-  
5 igned as wilderness by section 2, any reference in  
6 the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) to the  
7 effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed  
8 to be a reference to the date of the enactment of this  
9 Act.

10          (2) WASATCH MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS .—With  
11 respect to the Wasatch Mountain Wilderness des-  
12 igned by section 3, any reference in the Wilderness  
13 Act to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall  
14 be deemed to be a reference to the date of the Fed-  
15 eral Register notice referred to in section 3(d)(1).

16          (d) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—Nothing in this Act shall  
17 affect the jurisdiction or responsibility of the State of  
18 Utah with respect to wildlife and fish.

19          (e) NO BUFFER ZONES.—

20          (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act shall  
21 create a protective perimeter or buffer zone around  
22 covered land.

23          (2) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WILDERNESS.—The  
24 fact that a nonwilderness activity or use can be seen  
25 or heard from within covered land shall not preclude



1 the conduct of the activity or use outside the bound-  
2 ary of the covered land.

3 (f) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid rights in exist-  
4 ence on the date of the enactment of this Act, covered  
5 land is withdrawn from all forms of—

6 (1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under pub-  
7 lic land laws;

8 (2) location, entry, and patent under mining  
9 laws; and

10 (3) disposition under all laws pertaining to min-  
11 eral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

12 (g) ACQUIRED LAND.—Any land or interest in land  
13 located inside the boundaries of covered land that is ac-  
14 quired by the United States after the date of the enact-  
15 ment of this Act shall become part of the relevant wilder-  
16 ness or special management area and shall be managed  
17 in accordance with this Act and other applicable law.

18 **SEC. 5. LAND EXCHANGE, UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NA-**  
19 **TIONAL FOREST.**

20 (a) DESCRIPTION OF LAND EXCHANGE.—The Sec-  
21 retary of Agriculture shall expedite a land exchange be-  
22 tween Snowbird Corp and the Secretary involving land  
23 owned by Snowbird Corp in the Flagstaff White Pine and  
24 Red Pine areas of Little and Big Cottonwood Canyons of  
25 the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and National

1 Forest System land located in the American Fork Twins.  
2 It is the intent of Congress that the land exchange be com-  
3 pleted not later than one year after the date of the enact-  
4 ment of this Act. It is the intent of Congress that the  
5 Secretary, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service  
6 and the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and in ac-  
7 cordance with applicable law, expeditiously facilitates the  
8 land exchange process contemplated in the subsection (a)  
9 and Snowbird's associated expansion process to ensure the  
10 continued outdoor recreational opportunities for the pub-  
11 lic.

12 (b) MANAGEMENT OF ACQUIRED LAND.—The land  
13 acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture in the land ex-  
14 change described in subsection (a) shall be included in the  
15 Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and managed by  
16 the Secretary so as to maintain the land's existing wilder-  
17 ness character and potential for inclusion in the National  
18 Wilderness Preservation System. The Red Pine/White  
19 Pine Area land acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture  
20 in the land exchange described in subsection (a) shall be  
21 included in the Uinta-Wasatch-National Forest and man-  
22 aged by the Secretary so as to maintain the land's existing  
23 wilderness character and for inclusion in the National Wil-  
24 derness Preservation System.

1           (c) PRIVATE PROPERTY.—The Lands acquired by  
2 Snowbird Corp in the land exchange described in sub-  
3 section (a) shall become Snowbird’s private property.  
4 These lands are adjacent to other areas currently used by  
5 Snowbird for ski resort operations, either owned or man-  
6 aged under a special use permit issued by the Uinta-  
7 Wasatch-Cache national Forest. It is anticipated that  
8 Snowbird will expand its ski resort operations into these  
9 acquired lands, to include chairlifts, tramway facilities, or  
10 both.

11           (d) PROHIBITIONS.—The following are prohibited on  
12 the land acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture in the  
13 land exchange described in subsection (a):

14                   (1) Permanent roads.

15                   (2) Except as necessary to meet the minimum  
16 requirements for the administration of the land and  
17 to protect public health and safety—

18                           (A) the use of motorized or mechanized ve-  
19 hicles, except as described in subsection (e); and

20                           (B) the establishment of temporary roads.

21                   (3) Ski resort expansion including chairlift con-  
22 struction and operation.

23           (e) AVALANCHE CONTROL DEVICES.—The Secretary  
24 of Agriculture may allow GAZEX, or similar avalanche  
25 control devices within the acquired Flagstaff Area land,

1 to facilitate avalanche control to be installed and main-  
2 tained on the land acquired by the Secretary of Agri-  
3 culture in the land exchange described in subsection (a)  
4 for the sole purpose of protecting public health and prop-  
5 erty.

6 (f) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,  
7 the land acquired by the Secretary of Agriculture in the  
8 land exchange described in subsection (a) is withdrawn  
9 from—

10 (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal  
11 under the public land laws;

12 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining  
13 laws; and

14 (3) disposition under all laws relating to min-  
15 eral and energy leasing.

16 **SEC. 6. WATERSHED MANAGEMENT.**

17 Subject to such reasonable regulations as are consid-  
18 ered by the Secretary of Agriculture, nothing in this Act  
19 shall be construed to limit motorized access, road mainte-  
20 nance, and “necessary vegetation management” by the  
21 “Forest Service and local government entities with water-  
22 shed management responsibilities” on the land designated  
23 as wilderness by section 2 or 3 and the Heliskiing Special  
24 Management Area designated by section 3 for those min-  
25 imum maintenance activities that may be necessary—

1           (1) to guarantee the continued viability of wa-  
2           tershed facilities currently in existence on the date  
3           of enactment of this Act;

4           (2) in the future to prevent the degradation of  
5           the water supply on such lands or special manage-  
6           ment area;

7           (3) to guarantee the continued viability of wa-  
8           tershed facilities and existing water infrastructure,  
9           especially the continued maintenance of White Pine  
10          Reservoir; or

11          (4) in the future to conduct vegetation manage-  
12          ment activities to prevent degradation of the water  
13          supply mainly due to widespread fire, disease, and  
14          insect infestations.