

**SELECTED FEDERAL LEGISLATION RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS
IN THE 113TH CONGRESS**

Revised and Updated—January 2014

Conveyance

H.R. 433 – Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [NV] (introduced 1/29/13) and
S. 342 – Sen. Reid, Harry [NV] (introduced 2/14/13)

Designates specified federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Humboldt County, Nevada, and to be known as the Pine Forest Range Wilderness, as wilderness and as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to take necessary measures in such wilderness to control fire, insects, and diseases. Releases BLM land in any part of the Blue Lakes and Alder Creek wilderness study areas not designated as wilderness by this Act from further study for wilderness designation. Authorizes land exchanges involving identified federal and non-federal lands in Humboldt County. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heck, Horsford, Titus; Heller)

H.R. 1167 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 3/14/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM to convey to Storey County, Nevada, all surface rights of the United States in specified federal land, including any improvements. Makes the BLM responsible for all costs associated with such conveyance. (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

H.R. 1168 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 3/14/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior, if an offer is received from the city of Carlin, Nevada, to purchase certain federal land within the city, through the BLM, to convey to the city all interest of the U.S. in such land in exchange for consideration equal to the fair market value of the land. Permits the city to pay or reimburse the Secretary, as appropriate, for reasonable transaction and administrative personnel costs associated with such conveyance. (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

H.R. 1170 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 3/14/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior, if the Secretary receives an offer from the city of Fernley, Nevada, to purchase identified federal land within the city, through the BLM and the Bureau of Reclamation, to convey to the city all interest of the U.S. in such land in exchange for consideration in an amount equal to the fair market value of the land. Permits the city and the Bureau of Reclamation to retain easements or rights-of-way on the federal land to be conveyed, including easements or rights-of-way that are necessary

to carry out the operation and maintenance of the Truckee Canal or the Newlands Project. (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

H.R. 1633 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 4/18/13)

Requires the Director of the BLM for a state (respecting certain public lands) or the Regional Forester (respecting certain National Forest System lands) to select an eligible federal lands parcel for conveyance: (1) in response to a request by an adjacent landholder (any holder of non-federal land that shares one or more boundaries with such a parcel and who requests to purchase such a parcel), or (2) upon the recommendation of the BLM District Office or System unit that exercises administration over such parcel. Requires the proceeds collected from such conveyances to be deposited into a special fund established and distributed annually to each state in which the federal government owns more than 33% of the land area of such state. Requires, from amounts collected and deposited: (1) 50% of the amount collected from a conveyance to be distributed to the state in which the conveyance took place, and (2) the remaining 50% to be distributed equally between the remaining states identified pursuant to the preceding paragraph. Requires states receiving such funds to use them only for: (1) purchasing additional eligible parcels consistent with land use management under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976; and (2) being in compliance with federal requirements under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, Federal Water Pollution Control Act (known as the Clean Water Act [CWA]) of 1972, and National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). (Nevada co-sponsors: Horsford)

H.R. 2455 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 6/20/13) and
S. 1167 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 6/13/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey to Elko County, without consideration, all right, title, and interest in and to approximately 275 acres of land managed by the BLM, Elko District, to be used only as a motocross, bicycle, off-highway vehicle (OHV), or stock car racing area, or for any other public purpose consistent with the Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1954. Holds 373 acres of land administered by the BLM in trust for the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada, makes such land part of the Tribe's reservation, and limits the use of the land to traditional and customary uses, conservation, and residential or recreational development, not including gaming. (Nevada co-sponsors: Titus; Reid)

H.R. 697 – Rep. Heck, Joseph J. [NV] (introduced 2/14/13) and
S. 343 – Sen. Reid, Harry [NV] (introduced 2/14/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Henderson Redevelopment Agency of the city of Henderson, Nevada, all right, title, and interest of the U.S. of the approximately 948 identified acres of Bureau of Reclamation and BLM land within the Three Kids Mine Project Site (the federal land). Requires the Henderson Redevelopment Agency to pay the fair market value, if any, for the federal land.

Directs the Secretary to determine the fair market value of the federal land based on an appraisal that does not take into account any existing contamination. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Horsford, Titus; Heller)

H.R. 696 – Rep. Horsford, Steven A. [NV] (introduced 2/14/13) and
S. 159 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 1/28/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the city of Yerington, Nevada, identified federal land in Lyon and Mineral Counties. Designates identified federal land in Nevada managed by the Forest Service, to be known as the Wovoka Wilderness, as wilderness and as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Heck, Titus; Reid)

H.R. 1169 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 3/14/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to transfer to the Secretary of the Navy, without consideration, approximately 400 acres of federal land that is adjacent to Naval Air Station Fallon in Churchill County, Nevada, and that was withdrawn under a specified public land order. Prohibits anything in this Act from being construed as: (1) establishing a reservation that favors the U.S. respecting any water or water right on lands transferred by this Act, or (2) authorizing the appropriation of water on such lands except in accordance with applicable state law. Withdraws the federal land to be transferred under this Act from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws and geothermal leasing laws, so long as such land remains under the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Navy. (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

S. 368 – Sen. Heinrich, Martin [NM] (introduced 2/14/13)

Amends the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) of 2000 to reauthorize and make permanent the program for the completion of appraisals and satisfaction of other legal requirements for the sale or exchange of public land identified for disposal under approved land use plans under FLPMA. Revises the FLTFA definition of “federally designated area” to include all the lands within specified boundaries. (Current law is limited to lands which, as of July 25, 2000, were within such specified boundaries.) Makes permanent the Federal Land Disposal Account. Makes the FLTFA inapplicable to land eligible for sale under specified public land laws. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heller)

H.R. 2657 – Rep. Chaffetz, Jason [UT] (introduced 7/11/13)

Directs the Secretary of the Interior to offer for disposal by competitive sale certain federal lands in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Wyoming, previously identified as suitable for disposal in the report submitted to Congress on May 27, 1997, pursuant to the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996. (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

Endangered Species

H.R. 3533 – Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [NV] (introduced 11/19/13) and
S. 1731 – Sen. Paul, Rand [KY] (introduced 11/19/13)

Amends the ESA to require the consent of the governor of a state in which a species is present for: (1) a determination of endangered or threatened species status by regulation, and (2) listing of the species as endangered or threatened by the Secretary of the Interior upon a determination by the Secretary of Commerce. Subjects determinations by the Secretaries of the Interior and of Commerce to list species as endangered or threatened to congressional approval by joint resolution. Requires removal of each species listed on an approved list five years after the joint resolution is enacted. Provides a procedure for resubmission by the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the governor of each state in which the endangered or threatened species is present, of a list including a species so removed and subjects that list to approval by joint resolution. Establishes a process for exclusive state regulation of endangered or threatened species determined by a state governor to be present only within that state. Precludes judicial review of any such action. Allows an owner or lessee of any real property to submit to the Secretary of the Interior an application that includes any proposed use of the real property for a determination of whether the use will violate ESA. Deems the use to be compliant if the Secretary fails to respond within 90 days. Allows the owner or lessee to seek compensation (150% of the property's fair market value) if the use is determined to violate ESA and an action of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service diminishes the fair market value of any real property by at least 50% with respect to the intended use. Eliminates the award of attorney fees in citizen suits under ESA. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heller)

Energy

H.R. 596 – Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [AZ] (introduced 2/8/13)
S. 279 – Sen. Tester, Jon [MT] (introduced 2/11/13)

Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require amounts received through Fiscal Year 2020 (currently, through FY2010) from leases under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to be available to the Secretary of the Interior to spend in such amounts as are provided in advance appropriations acts for implementing such Acts. Requires the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to each establish a wind and solar leasing pilot program under which lease sales are conducted on covered public lands administered by the Secretary concerned to carry out wind and solar energy projects. Requires the Secretaries to jointly determine as to whether to expand the pilot program to apply to certain public lands. Establishes in the Treasury the Renewable Energy Resource Conservation Fund (Fund) to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior for use in regions impacted by the development of wind or solar energy on public lands.

Requires Fund amounts to be used in those regions for: (1) the protection and restoration of important fish and wildlife habitat; and (2) the assurance and improvement of access to federal lands and waters for hunting, fishing, and other forms of outdoor recreation. Requires the Secretaries to determine the feasibility of carrying out a mitigation banking program on federal lands administered by the Secretaries to fully offset the impacts of wind or solar energy on such lands. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Heck, Horsford, Titus; Heller)

H.R. 1363 – Rep. Labrador, Raul. R [ID] (introduced 3/21/13)

Exempts projects determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be geothermal exploration test projects from environmental impact statement requirements under NEPA. Defines a “geothermal exploration test project” as the drilling of a well to test or explore for geothermal resources on lands leased by the Department of the Interior for the development and production of geothermal resources, that is completed in less than 45 days, that causes less than five acres of soil or vegetation disruption at the location of each well and no more than five additional acres of soil or vegetation disruption during access or egress to the test site, and that is developed: (1) no deeper than 2,500 feet, (2) less than eight inches in diameter, (3) in a manner that does not require off-road motorized access other than to and from the well site along an identified off-road route, (4) without construction of new roads other than upgrading of existing drainage crossings for safety purposes, and (5) with the use of rubber-tired digging or drilling equipment vehicles. Requires the restoration of the project site within three years to approximately the condition that existed at the time the project began, unless the site is subsequently used as part of energy development on the lease. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 17 – Rep. Bishop, Rob [UT] (introduced 6/14/13) and
S. 1 – Sen. Vitter, David [LA] (introduced 2/27/13)

Grants the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia exclusive jurisdiction to hear all causes and claims arising from any covered project of federal land leasing for exploitation of oil, natural gas, or any other source or form of energy. Prohibits the award or federal payment of legal fees to an environmental nongovernmental organization in connection with any action: (1) preventing, terminating, or reducing access to production of energy, mineral resources, water by agricultural producers, a resource by commercial or recreational fishermen, or grazing or timber production on federal land; (2) diminishing a property owner's private property value; or (3) eliminating or preventing one or more jobs. Prohibits the Secretary, acting through the BLM, from establishing a master leasing plan as part of any guidance issued by the Secretary. Amends the Antiquities Act of 1906 to repeal the authority of the President to declare national monuments on federal lands in his or her own discretion. Subjects such authority to the approval of Congress. Amends the ESA to require the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce, as appropriate, upon a state governor's declaration of an emergency, to exempt from the prohibition against taking, and against adverse modification of critical habitat, any action reasonably necessary to avoid or

ameliorate the impact of the emergency, including fighting or preventing forest fires and building, rebuilding, or operating any water supply or flood control project by a federal agency. The bill includes many additional provisions unrelated to public land in Nevada. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heller)

Grazing

S. 258 – Sen. Barrasso, John [WY] (introduced 2/7/13) and
H.R. 657 – Rep. Labrador, Raul [ID] (introduced 2/13/13)

Amends FLPMA to increase from 10 to 20 years the term of grazing permits and leases for domestic livestock grazing on public lands or lands within national forests. Authorizes the issuance of permits and leases for a period shorter than 20 years. Directs the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture to renew or reissue grazing permits or leases that expire, are transferred, or are waived after enactment of the bill. Excludes the renewal, reissuance, or transfer of a grazing permit or lease from the requirement under NEPA to prepare an environmental analysis if the action continues current grazing management of the allotment. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei; Heller)

Habitat

H.R. 1744 – Rep. Horsford, Steven A. [NV] (introduced 4/25/13) and
S. 757 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 4/17/13)

Amends the Mesquite Lands Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-548) to require proceeds from sales in the fourth area to be used for the implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River in Clark County, including any associated groundwater monitoring plan. Amends the Lincoln County Land Act of 2000 to require implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan in Lincoln County, Nevada. Extends withdrawal and purchase authority for the fifth and sixth areas to November 29, 2021. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Heck)

Lake Tahoe

H.R. 3390 – Rep. Amodei, Mark A. [NV] (introduced 10/30/13) and
S. 1451 – Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [CA] (introduced 8/1/13)

Amends the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act of 2013 to require the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), to: (1) conduct forest management activities in the Lake Tahoe Basin in a manner that helps achieve and maintain the environmental threshold carrying capacities established by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and attains multiple ecosystem benefits, unless the attainment of such benefits would excessively increase the project's cost in relation to

the additional benefits gained; (2) establish post-project ground condition criteria for ground disturbance caused by forest management activities; and (3) provide for monitoring to ascertain the attainment of such conditions. Many other provisions are included. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heck, Horsford, Titus; Heller, Reid)

Mining

H.R. 1063 – Rep. Lamborn, Doug [CO] (introduced 3/21/13)

Declares it is the policy of the U.S. to promote an adequate and stable supply of minerals to maintain the nation's economic wellbeing, security, and energy, industrial, manufacturing, and technological capabilities. Directs the Secretary of the Interior to report to Congress on mineral potential; restricted lands; application processing times; pending applications; litigation impacts; and the federal workforce. Requires progress reports to the Congress. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 2467 – Rep. Markey, Edward [MA] (introduced 6/20/13)

Addresses hard rock mining, location and withdrawal, mine reclamation and cleanup, mineral exploration and development, mining royalties, and other subjects. (Nevada co-sponsors: none)

H.R. 761 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 2/15/13)

Requires the Secretary of Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to develop domestic sources of critical and strategic minerals more efficiently. Makes Congressional findings. Provides that domestic mines that will provide critical and strategic minerals are deemed infrastructure projects for purposes of federal permitting. Specifies responsibilities of lead agencies. Bars civil actions regarding an agency action unless filed within 60 days of the agency action. Makes other changes. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heck)

Recreation

H.R. 1825 – Rep. Benishek, Dan [MI] (introduced 5/3/13) and

S. 170 – Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [AK] (introduced 1/29/13)

Requires federal public land management officials to facilitate the use of, and access to, federal public lands and waters for fishing, sport hunting, and recreational shooting, with certain exceptions. Requires that BLM and USFS lands, excluding the Outer Continental Shelf, be open to recreational fishing, hunting, and shooting unless the managing agency acts to close lands to such activity. Makes many other changes. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Heck)

Revenue

H.R. 3879 – Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [AZ] (introduced 1/15/14) and
S. 1913 – Sen. Udall, Mark [CO] (introduced 1/13/14)

Makes permanent the Payment in Lieu of Taxes program. (Nevada co-sponsors: Horsford; Heller)

H.R. 3886 – Rep. De Fazio, Peter A. [OR] (introduced 1/15/14)

Amends the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 to exempt payments made to states and counties from any reduction pursuant to a sequestration order and to reimburse those states and counties that returned a portion of their January 2013 payment because of sequestration, and for other purposes. (Nevada co-sponsors: none)

Special Designations

H.R. 432 – Rep. Amodei, Mark [NV] (introduced 11/29/13) and
S. 472 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 3/6/13)

Prohibits the further extension or establishment of national monuments in Nevada, except by authorization of Congress. (Nevada co-sponsors: Heck)

H.R. 638 – Rep. Flemming, John [LA] (introduced 2/13/13)

Amends the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from establishing any new national wildlife refuges, except as expressly authorized by Congress (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 1459 – Rep. Bishop, Rob [UT] (introduced 4/10/13)

Amends the Antiquities Act of 1906 to subject national monument declarations by the President to NEPA. Prohibits: (1) the President from making more than one such declaration in a state during any presidential four-year term of office without an express Act of Congress, or (2) such a declaration from including private property without the informed written consent of the affected private property owner. Requires such a declaration: (1) to be considered a major federal action under NEPA if it affects more than 5,000 acres; (2) to be categorically excluded under NEPA and to expire three years after the date of the declaration (unless specifically designated as a monument by federal law) if it affects 5,000 acres or less; and (3) to be followed by a feasibility study that includes an estimate of the costs associated with managing the monument in perpetuity, including any loss of federal and state revenue. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 2015 – Rep. Horsford, Steven A. [NV] (introduced 5/16/13) and
S. 974 – Sen. Reid [NV] (introduced 5/16/13)

Establishes the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument in Nevada. Directs the Secretary of the Interior to provide for interpretation of, and education and scientific research on the Monument's paleontological resources. Instructs the Secretary to issue rights-of-way for utility and buried water facilities. Establishes the Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument Advisory Council. Adds specified land to Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Requires conveyance of land (including the interests in such land) managed by the BLM identified as the North Las Vegas Job Creation Zone to the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada. Amends the Clark County Conservation of Public Land and Natural Resources Act of 2002 to convey additional land to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Excepts certain lands in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area from withdrawal from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws; location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws. Permits the county to convey to a unit of local government or regional governmental entity land within the Airport Environs Overlay District if such land is used for a water or wastewater treatment facility or any other public purpose. Requires specified federal lands to be conveyed for the Nevada System of Higher Education and the Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport. Releases the Sunrise Mountain Instant Study Area from further study for designation as wilderness. Designates: (1) an Economic Support Area in North Las Vegas, and (2) the Nellis Dunes Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area. Transfers administrative jurisdiction over specified BLM land to the Air Force for inclusion in Nellis Air Force Base. Prohibits this Act from restricting military overflights, new units of special airspace, or military flight training routes. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei, Heck, Titus; Heller)

S. 1263 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 6/27/13)

Designates specified federal land managed by the BLM, to be known as the Burbank Canyons Wilderness, as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Releases BLM land in any part of the Burbank Canyon Wilderness not designated as wilderness by this Act from further study for designation as wilderness. Transfers all interest of the U.S. in certain land which shall be held in trust for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, and which shall become part of the Tribe's reservation. Directs the Secretary of Agriculture to implement a cooperative management agreement for the land identified as the Cooperative Management Area in order to: (1) preserve cultural resources, (2) ensure regular access by members of the Tribe and the community across National Forest System land for cultural and religious purposes, and (3) protect recreational uses. Requires the Secretary concerned to convey certain Forest Service land (Lake Tahoe-Nevada State Park) to the state of Nevada, to be used for the conservation of wildlife or natural resources or for a public park. Directs the Secretary concerned to conduct one or more sales of specified BLM and county lands to qualified bidders. Amends SNPLMA to specify the use of funds for federal land in Douglas County. (Nevada co-sponsors: Reid)

S. 1054 – Sen. Reid [NV] (introduced 5/23/13) and
 H.R. 2276 – Rep. Horsford, Steven A. [NV] (introduced 6/6/13)

Establishes the Gold Butte National Conservation Area in Nevada and Advisory Council. Designates specified wilderness areas administered by the National Park Service or the BLM in Clark County, Nevada, as wilderness and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Authorizes the Secretary, through the BLM, to establish a visitor center and field office in Mesquite, Nevada, to assist in fulfilling the purposes of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, and the Conservation Area. States that the withdrawal of specified parcels of BLM lands for use by the Bureau of Reclamation is terminated. Requires the Conservation Area and the wilderness areas designated by this Act to be administered as components of the National Landscape Conservation System.

H.R. 2276 Requires completion of a study regarding local renewable energy development. Amends the Mesquite Lands Act of 1986 to require proceeds from sales of parcels of public lands in Mesquite, Nevada, to be used for implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River in Clark County, Nevada, including any associated groundwater monitoring plan. Directs the Secretary to establish the Virgin Valley Tourism and Economic Advisory Council. Directs the Secretary to credit specified multiple use lands toward the development of additional non-federal land within Clark County. (Nevada co-sponsors: Titus)

H.R. 3415 – Rep. Horsford, Steven A. [NV] (introduced 10/30/13)
 S. 1640 – Sen. Heller, Dean [NV] (introduced 11/4/13)

Amends the Lincoln County Land Act of 2000 (the Act) to require implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan in Lincoln County, Nevada. Amends the Act and the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act of 2004 to make certain amounts available for: (1) pinyon-juniper dominated landscape restoration projects within the county consistent with the Ely Resource Management Plan; and (2) completing specified plans and activities. Declares that establishment and funding of cooperative agreements between the BLM and Lincoln County shall be required for certain county-provided law enforcement and planning related activities. Requires the use of a portion of proceeds from land sales under both Acts for economic development in Lincoln County. Excludes specified public land within certain utility corridors in Lincoln and Clark Counties, Nevada, from being withdrawn from public land, mining, and mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 3440 – Rep. Titus, Dina [NV] (introduced 10/30/13)

Designates the peak of Frenchman Mountain in Nevada as the “Maude Frazier Mountain.” (Nevada co-sponsors: None)

Water Resources

H.R. 3189 – Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [CO] (introduced 9/26/13 and
S. 1630 – Sen. Barrasso, John [WY] (introduced 10/31/13)

Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture from: (1) conditioning the issuance, renewal, amendment, or extension of any permit, approval, license, lease, allotment, easement, right-of-way, or other land use or occupancy agreement on the transfer or relinquishment of any water right directly to the U.S., in whole or in part, granted under state law, by federal or state adjudication, decree, or other judgment, or pursuant to any interstate water compact and such Secretaries; and (2) requiring any water user to apply for a water right in the name of the U.S. under state law as a condition of such a land use or occupancy agreement. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei; Heller)

S. 1508 – Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [MD] (introduced 9/17/13)

Requires the Administrator of the EPA to: (1) establish the Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Program to provide grants to owners or operators of water systems for programs or projects to increase the resiliency or adaptability of the systems to any ongoing or forecasted changes to the hydrologic conditions of a U.S. region, and (2) give priority to owners or operators of water systems that are at the greatest and most immediate risk of facing significant negative impacts due to changing hydrologic conditions. (Nevada co-sponsors: Reid)

Wild Land Fires

H.R. 1345 – Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [AZ] (introduced 3/21/13)

Extends through FY2023 the authority for the USFS and the BLM to enter into stewardship end result contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for national forests and public lands that meet local and rural community needs. Prohibits a multiyear stewardship contract from exceeding a 20-year period (under current law, a 10-year period). Bars the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior (the Secretaries) from being required to obligate funds for covering the costs of the cancellation or termination of multiyear stewardship contracts or agreements until they are cancelled or terminated. Amends the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 to make FLAME funds available to cover the costs of burn area responses, including flood prevention. Authorizes the Secretaries to implement eligible wildfire prevention projects in at-risk forests and threatened and endangered species in a manner that focuses on surface, ladder, and canopy fuels reduction activities. Requires projects carried out on threatened and endangered species habitat to provide enhanced protection from wildfire, including unnatural wildfire, for

the endangered species, threatened species, or their habitat. Permits use in a project of: (1) domestic livestock grazing to reduce surface fuel loads and to recover burned areas, and (2) timber harvesting and thinning to reduce ladder and canopy fuel loads for the prevention of unnatural fire. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

H.R. 818 – Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [CO] (introduced 2/25/13)

Declares that the bark beetle epidemic, drought, and deteriorating forest health conditions on National Forest System land and public lands, with the resulting imminent risk of devastating wildfires, is an imminent threat within the meaning of roadless area management regulations applicable to a state. Allows a state governor or the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect the National Forest System, or of the Interior, with respect to public lands, to designate high-risk areas of the national forests and public lands in the state for purposes of addressing: (1) deteriorating forest health conditions due to the bark beetle epidemic or drought, with the resulting imminent risk of devastating wildfires; and (2) the future risk of insect infestations or disease outbreaks through preventative treatments to improve forest health conditions. Allows a governor or the Secretary, upon designation of a high-risk area, to provide for the development of proposed emergency hazardous fuels reduction projects for the area. Authorizes the Secretary concerned to enter into cooperative agreements and contracts with state foresters to provide forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services that include: (1) activities to treat insect infected trees; (2) activities to reduce hazardous fuels; and (3) any other activities to restore or improve forest, rangeland, and watershed health, including fish and wildlife habitat. (Nevada co-sponsors: Amodei)

Prepared by:
Legislative Counsel Bureau
Research Division
Jan. 29, 2014
W140762