

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 343

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Texas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2019

Mr. RATCLIFFE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to transfer certain National Forest System land in the State of Texas.

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 “Lake Fannin Convey-
5 ance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) COUNTY.—The term “County” means
9 Fannin County, Texas.

1 (2) MAP.—The term “map” means the map en-
 2 titled “Lake Fannin Conveyance” and dated Novem-
 3 ber 21, 2013.

4 (3) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LAND.—The
 5 term “National Forest System land” means the ap-
 6 proximately 2,025 acres of National Forest System
 7 land generally depicted on the map.

8 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 9 the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the
 10 Chief of the Forest Service.

11 **SEC. 3. LAND CONVEYANCE.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the terms and condi-
 13 tions described in subsection (b), if the County submits
 14 to the Secretary an offer to acquire the National Forest
 15 System land for the fair market value, as determined by
 16 the appraisal under subsection (c), the Secretary shall con-
 17 vey the National Forest System land to the County.

18 (b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The conveyance
 19 under subsection (a) shall be—

20 (1) subject to valid existing rights;

21 (2) made by quitclaim deed; and

22 (3) subject to any other terms and conditions
 23 as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the
 24 interests of the United States.

25 (c) APPRAISAL.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
3 retary shall complete an appraisal to determine the
4 fair market value of the National Forest System
5 land.

6 (2) STANDARDS.—The appraisal under para-
7 graph (1) shall be conducted in accordance with—

8 (A) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for
9 Federal Land Acquisitions; and

10 (B) the Uniform Standards of Professional
11 Appraisal Practice.

12 (d) MAP.—

13 (1) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be
14 kept on file and available for public inspection in the
15 appropriate office of the Forest Service.

16 (2) CORRECTION OF ERRORS.—The Secretary
17 may correct minor errors in the map.

18 (e) CONSIDERATION.—As consideration for the con-
19 veyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay to the
20 Secretary an amount equal to the fair market value of the
21 National Forest System land, as determined by the ap-
22 praisal under subsection (c).

23 (f) SURVEY.—The exact acreage and legal description
24 of the National Forest System land to be conveyed under

1 subsection (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory
2 to the Secretary and the County.

3 (g) USE.—As a condition of the conveyance under
4 subsection (a), the County shall agree to manage the land
5 conveyed under that subsection for public recreational
6 purposes.

7 (h) COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.—As a condition of the
8 conveyance under subsection (a), the County shall pay to
9 the Secretary all costs associated with the conveyance, in-
10 cluding the cost of—

- 11 (1) the appraisal under subsection (c); and
12 (2) the survey under subsection (f).

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