



H.R. 3299 – To provide for boundary adjustment and land conveyances involving Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, to correct the effects of an erroneous land survey that resulted in approximately 7 acres of the Crystal Lakes Subdivision, Ninth Filing, encroaching on National Forest System Land

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3299 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Marilyn Musgrave (R-CO) on August 1, 2007. The bill was reported, as amended, by voice vote on July 29, 2008.

H.R. 3299 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on September 22, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.R. 3299 adjusts the boundary of Roosevelt National Forest, Colorado, in order to exclude from the National Forest seven acres within the Crystal Lakes Subdivision. The seven acres are to be conveyed to the landowners whose property adjoins the excluded land at no cost to them.

BACKGROUND

In 2003, the Bureau of Land Management surveyed land within the Crystal Lakes subdivision adjacent to the Roosevelt National Forest in Colorado to ensure that no trees on private property were cleared while the United States Forest Service conducted a forest fire mitigation project. When they surveyed the land, the Bureau of Land Management determined that the original survey conducted in 1975 was inaccurate and that seven acres owned by residents of the Crystal Lakes subdivision were actually located on Federal land.

The Forest Service notified the residents of the Crystal Lake subdivision in 2006 that their homes were encroaching on the Roosevelt National Forest, and that if they wanted to continue living there they would have to purchase the land from the federal government. However, residents of the subdivision claim they relied on the 1975 survey boundary when they purchased and developed their land and should not have to pay to buy back their land.

COST

According to the Congressional Budget Office, "Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO expects that implementing the legislation would cost less than \$500,000. According to the Forest Service, the agency plans to sell the seven acres of land to the private landholders adjacent to the forest. Under current law, funds received from that sale (classified as offsetting receipts) would revert to the general fund of the Treasury, where they could not be spent without an appropriation. Conveying the land for no consideration would result in a loss of those offsetting receipts, thereby increasing net direct spending by an estimated \$200,000." ([CBO Cost Estimate](#))

STAFF CONTACT

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