

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 972

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area
Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National
Conservation Area, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Sloan Canyon Con-
3 servation and Lateral Pipeline Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) CONSERVATION AREA.—The term “Con-
7 servation Area” means the Sloan Canyon National
8 Conservation Area.

9 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
11 rector of the Bureau of Land Management.

12 **SEC. 3. SLOAN CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**
13 **BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.**

14 (a) BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.—

15 (1) MAP.—Section 603(4) of the Sloan Canyon
16 National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-
17 1(4)) is amended by striking “map entitled ‘South-
18 ern Nevada Public Land Management Act’ and
19 dated October 1, 2002” and inserting “map entitled
20 ‘Proposed Sloan Canyon Expansion’ and dated May
21 20, 2024”.

22 (2) ACREAGE.—Section 604(b) of the Sloan
23 Canyon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C.
24 460qqq-2(b)) is amended by striking “48,438” and
25 inserting “57,728”.

1 (b) RIGHT-OF-WAY.—Section 605 of the Sloan Can-
2 yon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-
3 3) is amended by adding at the end the following:

4 “(h) HORIZON LATERAL PIPELINE RIGHT-OF-
5 WAY.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding sections
7 202 and 503 of the Federal Land Policy and Man-
8 agement Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712, 1763) and
9 subject to valid existing rights and paragraph (3),
10 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
11 rector of the Bureau of Land Management (referred
12 to in this subsection as the ‘Secretary’), shall, not
13 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this
14 subsection, grant to the Southern Nevada Water Au-
15 thority (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Author-
16 ity’), not subject to the payment of rents or other
17 charges, the temporary and permanent water pipe-
18 line infrastructure, and outside the boundaries of the
19 Conservation Area, powerline, facility, and access
20 road rights-of-way depicted on the map for the pur-
21 poses of—

22 “(A) performing geotechnical investigations
23 within the rights-of-way; and

24 “(B) constructing and operating water
25 transmission and related facilities.

1 “(2) EXCAVATION AND DISPOSAL.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Authority may,
3 without consideration, excavate and use or dis-
4 pose of sand, gravel, minerals, or other mate-
5 rials from the tunneling of the water pipeline
6 necessary to fulfill the purpose of the rights-of-
7 way granted under paragraph (1).

8 “(B) MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-
9 STANDING.—Not later than 30 days after the
10 date on which the rights-of-way are granted
11 under paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Au-
12 thority shall enter into a memorandum of un-
13 derstanding identifying Federal land on which
14 the Authority may dispose of materials under
15 subparagraph (A) to further the interests of the
16 Bureau of Land Management.

17 “(3) REQUIREMENTS.—A right-of-way issued
18 under this subsection shall be subject to the fol-
19 lowing requirements:

20 “(A) The Secretary may include reasonable
21 terms and conditions, consistent with section
22 505 of the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
23 ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1765), as are nec-
24 essary to protect Conservation Area resources.

1 “(B) Construction of the water pipeline
2 shall not permanently adversely affect conserva-
3 tion area surface resources.

4 “(C) The right-of-way shall not be located
5 through or under any area designated as wilder-
6 ness.”.

7 (c) PRESERVATION OF TRANSMISSION AND UTILITY
8 CORRIDORS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY.—The expansion of the
9 Conservation Area boundary under the amendment made
10 by subsection (a)—

11 (1) shall be subject to valid existing rights, in-
12 cluding land within a designated utility transmission
13 corridor or a transmission line right-of-way grant
14 approved by the Secretary in a record of decision
15 issued before the date of the enactment of this Act;

16 (2) shall not preclude—

17 (A) any activity authorized in accordance
18 with a designated corridor or right-of-way re-
19 ferred to in paragraph (1), including the oper-
20 ation, maintenance, repair, or replacement of
21 any authorized utility facility within the cor-
22 ridor or right-of-way; or

23 (B) the Secretary from authorizing the es-
24 tablishment of a new utility facility right-of-way
25 within an existing designated transportation

(i) in accordance with the National
Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42
U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other applicable
laws; and

(ii) subject to such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(d) MANAGEMENT OF THE CONSERVATION AREA.—

Except as provided in the amendment made by subsection (b), nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall modify the management of the Conservation Area pursuant to section 605 of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act (16 U.S.C. 460qqq-3).

Passed the House of Representatives December 15,
2025.

Attest: **KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,**
Clerk.