

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3433

To amend the Wilderness Act to allow certain entities to use unmanned aircraft systems within wilderness areas, potential wilderness areas, and wilderness study areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2025

Mr. DONALDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Wilderness Act to allow certain entities to use unmanned aircraft systems within wilderness areas, potential wilderness areas, and wilderness study areas.

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 “Wilderness Inclusion
5 for Limited-use Drones Act of 2025” or the “WILD Act
6 of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS WITHIN**
2 **WILDERNESS.**

3 Section 4(d) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
4 1133(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(8)(A) A Federal, State, local, or Tribal agency may
6 use and operate an unmanned aircraft system within a
7 wilderness area designated by this Act, potential wilder-
8 ness area, or wilderness study area identified pursuant to
9 section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management
10 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782) to—

11 “(i) carry out environmental monitoring and re-
12 search activities, including with respect to harmful
13 algal blooms and invasive species;

14 “(ii) carry out law enforcement and search and
15 rescue activities, including such activities carried out
16 by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and

17 “(iii) monitor the effects of a natural disaster.

18 “(B) In this paragraph:

19 “(i) The term ‘natural disaster’ has the mean-
20 ing given the term in section 602(a) of the Robert
21 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
22 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5195a(a)).

23 “(ii) The term ‘unmanned aircraft system’ has
24 the meaning given the term in section 44801(12) of
25 title 49, United States Code.”.