

Union Calendar No. 375

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 725

[Report No. 119–436]

To take certain mineral interests into trust for the benefit of the Crow
Tribe of Montana, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2025

Mr. DOWNING (for himself and Mr. ZINKE) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

JANUARY 12, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 24, 2025]

A BILL

To take certain mineral interests into trust for the benefit
of the Crow Tribe of Montana, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Crow Revenue Act”.*

5 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

6 *In this Act:*

7 (1) *BULL MOUNTAINS LEASE.—The term “Bull*
8 *Mountains Lease” means the Bureau of Land Man-*
9 *agement Lease MTM–97988 dated June 1, 2012.*

10 (2) *BULL MOUNTAINS MINERAL TRACTS.—The*
11 *term “Bull Mountains Mineral Tracts” means the*
12 *mineral interests that—*

13 (A) *are located in Musselshell County, Mon-*
14 *tana;*

15 (B) *comprise approximately 4,530 acres of*
16 *subsurface interests owned by the United States*
17 *located in—*

18 (i) *T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 2;*

19 (ii) *T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 24;*

20 (iii) *T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 4;*

21 (iv) *T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 8;*

22 (v) *T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 10;*

23 (vi) *T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 14;*

24 (vii) *T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 22;*

25 (viii) *T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 24;*

1 (ix) T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 26;

2 (x) T. 7 N., R. 26 E., sec. 34;

3 (xi) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 20; and

4 (xii) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 22; and

5 (C) are generally depicted on the map enti-
6 tled “Bull Mountains Tracts” and dated March
7 19, 2025.

8 (3) BULL MOUNTAINS SURFACE TRACTS.—The
9 term “Bull Mountains Surface Tracts” means the ag-
10 gregate surface interests that—

11 (A) are located in Musselshell County, Mon-
12 tana;

13 (B) comprise approximately 940 acres of
14 surface interests owned by the United States lo-
15 cated in—

16 (i) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 2;

17 (ii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 8;

18 (iii) T. 6 N., R. 27 E., sec. 10;

19 (iv) T. 6 N., R. 28 E., sec. 8; and

20 (v) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., sec. 34; and

21 (C) are generally depicted on the map enti-
22 tled “Bull Mountains Tracts” and dated March
23 19, 2025.

1 (4) *HOPE FAMILY TRACTS.*—The term “*Hope*
2 *Family Tracts*” means the aggregate mineral interests
3 *that—*

4 (A) *are located in Big Horn County, Mon-*
5 *tana, within the boundaries of the Crow Reserva-*
6 *tion;*

7 (B) *comprise approximately 4,660 acres of*
8 *subsurface interests owned by the Hope Family*
9 *Trust located in—*

10 (i) *T. 4 S., R. 37 E., sec. 33;*

11 (ii) *T. 4 S., R. 37 E., sec. 34;*

12 (iii) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 1;*

13 (iv) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 2;*

14 (v) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 3;*

15 (vi) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 10;*

16 (vii) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 11;*

17 (viii) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 12;*

18 (ix) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 13;*

19 (x) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 14;*

20 (xi) *T. 5 S., R. 37 E., sec. 15;*

21 (xii) *T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 5;*

22 (xiii) *T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 8;*

23 (xiv) *T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 9;*

24 (xv) *T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 16; and*

25 (xvi) *T. 5 S., R. 38 E., sec. 17; and*

1 (C) are generally depicted on the map enti-
2 tled “Hope Family Tracts” and dated January
3 30, 2024.

4 (5) HOPE FAMILY TRUST.—The term “Hope
5 Family Trust” means the Joe and Barbara Hope
6 Mineral Trust.

7 (6) LESSEE.—The term “Lessee” means the les-
8 see for the Bull Mountains Lease.

9 (7) MUSSELHELL RESOURCES LLC.—The term
10 “Musselshell Resources LLC” means the Musselshell
11 Resources Limited Liability Company, which is reg-
12 istered to do business in the State.

13 (8) MUSSELHELL RESOURCES TRACTS.—The
14 term “Musselshell Resources Tracts” means the aggre-
15 gate surface interests that—

16 (A) are located in Musselshell County, Mon-
17 tana;

18 (B) comprise approximately 959 acres of
19 surface interests owned by Musselshell Resources
20 LLC located in—

21 (i) T. 7 N., R. 27 E., $N^{1/2}NW^{1/4}$, $NE^{1/4}$,
22 and $E^{1/2}SE^{1/4}$ of sec. 35;

23 (ii) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., $NE^{1/4}$ of sec. 22
24 lying south and west of Old Divide Road;
25 and

1 (iii) T. 6 N., R. 26 E., sec. 25; and
2 (C) are generally depicted on the map enti-
3 tled “Bull Mountains Tracts” and dated March
4 19, 2025.

5 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of the Interior.

7 (10) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
8 of Montana.

9 (11) TRIBE.—The term “Tribe” means the Crow
10 Tribe of Montana.

11 **SEC. 3. MINERAL RIGHTS TO BE TAKEN INTO TRUST.**

12 (a) COMPLETION OF MINERAL CONVEYANCES.—Not
13 later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act,
14 in a single transaction—

15 (1) notwithstanding any other provision of law,
16 including sections 3480.0–6(d)(8) and 3452.1 through
17 3452.1–3 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations (or
18 successor regulations), if the Lessee offers to relinquish
19 the Bull Mountains Lease, the Secretary shall accept
20 the relinquishment;

21 (2) the Hope Family Trust shall convey to the
22 Tribe all right, title, and interest in and to the min-
23 eral interests in the Hope Family Tracts; and

24 (3) subject to valid existing rights, and on relin-
25 quishment of the Bull Mountains Lease, the Secretary

1 *shall convey to the Hope Family Trust all right, title,*
2 *and interest of the United States in and to the min-*
3 *eral interests in the Bull Mountains Mineral Tracts.*

4 **(b) TRUST STATUS.**—*On the request of the Tribe, the*
5 *mineral interests conveyed to the Tribe under subsection*
6 *(a)(2) shall be held in trust by the United States for the*
7 *benefit of the Tribe.*

8 **(c) NO STATE TAXATION.**—*The mineral interests con-*
9 *veyed to the Tribe under subsection (a)(2) shall not be sub-*
10 *ject to taxation by the State (including any political sub-*
11 *division of the State).*

12 **(d) REVENUE SHARING AGREEMENT.**—*Before the con-*
13 *veyances under subsection (a), the Tribe shall notify the*
14 *Secretary, in writing, that the Tribe and the Hope Family*
15 *Trust have agreed on a formula for sharing revenue from*
16 *development of the mineral interests described in subsection*
17 *(a)(3) if those mineral interests are developed at a later*
18 *date.*

19 **(e) WITHDRAWAL PRIOR TO EXCHANGE.**—*Subject to*
20 *valid existing rights, pending the conveyances under para-*
21 *graphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a), the tracts conveyed*
22 *under those paragraphs shall be withdrawn from—*

23 **(1)** *all forms of entry, appropriation, and dis-*
24 *posal under the public land laws;*

1 (2) *location, entry, and patent under the mining*
2 *laws; and*

3 (3) *operation of the mineral leasing, mineral*
4 *materials, and geothermal leasing laws.*

5 **SEC. 4. UNLOCKING PUBLIC ACCESS.**

6 *Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of*
7 *this Act, in a single transaction—*

8 (1) *Musselshell Resources LLC shall convey to*
9 *the United States all right, title, and interest in and*
10 *to the surface interests in the Musselshell Resources*
11 *Tracts; and*

12 (2) *subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary*
13 *shall convey to Musselshell Resources LLC all right,*
14 *title, and interest of the United States in and to the*
15 *surface interests in the Bull Mountains Surface*
16 *Tracts.*

17 **SEC. 5. ELIGIBILITY FOR OTHER FEDERAL BENEFITS.**

18 *No amounts or other benefits provided to the Tribe*
19 *under this Act shall result in the reduction or denial of any*
20 *Federal services, benefits, or programs to the Tribe or any*
21 *member of the Tribe to which the Tribe or member of the*
22 *Tribe is entitled or eligible because of—*

23 (1) *the status of the Tribe as a federally recog-*
24 *nized Indian Tribe; or*

- 1 (2) *the status of the member as a member of the*
- 2 *Tribe.*

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