

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4821, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. MCCLINTOCK OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

1 SEC. _____. (a) IN GENERAL.—With respect to cov-
2 ered National Forest System lands, the Secretary of Agri-
3 culture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service—

4 (1) shall—

5 (A) use all available resources to carry out
6 wildfire suppression with the purpose of extin-
7 guishing wildfires detected on such lands not
8 later than 24 hours after such a wildfire is de-
9 tected; and

10 (B) immediately suppress any prescribed
11 fire that exceeds prescription;

12 (2) shall not inhibit the suppression efforts of
13 State or local firefighting agencies that are author-
14 ized to respond to wildfire on such lands;

15 (3) may only use fire as a resource manage-
16 ment tool if the fire is a prescribed fire that com-
17 plies with applicable law and regulations;

18 (4) may only initiate a backfire or burnout dur-
19 ing a wildfire—

1 (A) by order of the responsible incident
2 commander; or

3 (B) in instances that are necessary to pro-
4 tect the health and safety of firefighting per-
5 sonnel; and

6 (5) shall use all available resources to control
7 any such initiated backfire or burnout until extin-
8 guished.

9 (b) COVERED NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM LANDS
10 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered National
11 Forest System lands” means any area—

12 (1) located within National Forest System
13 lands; and

14 (2) that—

15 (A) the U.S. Drought Monitor has rated as
16 having a D2 (severe drought) intensity, D3 (ex-
17 treme drought) intensity, or D4 (exceptional
18 drought) intensity;

19 (B) the National Interagency Fire Center
20 declares has a National Wildland Fire Pre-
21 paredness level of 5; or

22 (C) the Forest Service has identified as
23 being located in a fireshed ranked in the top 10
24 percent of wildfire exposure (as determined
25 using the most recently published models of

1 fireshed risk exposure published by the Forest
2 Service).

