

**AMENDMENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE PRINT  
OF H.R. 1947  
OFFERED BY MR. POLIS OF COLORADO**

Strike sections 8301 through 8303 (page 481, line  
20, through page 485, line 23) and insert the following:

**1 SEC. 8301. INSECT AND DISEASE INFESTATION.**

2 Title VI of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of  
3 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591 et seq.) is amended by adding at  
4 the end the following:

**5 “SEC. 602. DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.**

6 “(a) DEFINITION OF DECLINING FOREST  
7 HEALTH.—In this section, the term ‘declining forest  
8 health’ means a forest that is experiencing—

9 “(1) substantially increased tree mortality due  
10 to insect or disease infestation; or

11 “(2) dieback due to infestation or defoliation by  
12 insects or disease.

13 “(b) DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.—

14 “(1) INITIAL AREAS.—Not later than 60 days  
15 after the date of enactment of the Agriculture Re-  
16 form, Food, and Jobs Act of 2013, the Secretary  
17 shall, if requested by the Governor of the State, des-  
18 ignate as part of an insect and disease treatment

1 program 1 or more subwatersheds (sixth-level hydro-  
2 logic units, according to the System of Hydrologic  
3 Unit Codes of the United States Geological Survey)  
4 in at least 1 national forest in each State that is ex-  
5 perienceing an insect or disease epidemic.

6 “(2) ADDITIONAL AREAS.—After the end of the  
7 60-day period described in paragraph (1), the Sec-  
8 retary may designate additional subwatersheds  
9 under this section as needed to address insect or dis-  
10 ease threats.

11 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—To be designated a subwater-  
12 shed under subsection (b), the subwatershed shall be—

13 “(1) experiencing declining forest health, based  
14 on annual forest health surveys conducted by the  
15 Secretary;

16 “(2) at risk of experiencing substantially in-  
17 creased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to  
18 insect or disease infestation, based on the most re-  
19 cent National Insect and Disease Risk Map pub-  
20 lished by the Forest Service; or

21 “(3) in an area in which the risk of hazard  
22 trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastruc-  
23 ture, health, or safety.

24 “(d) TREATMENT OF AREAS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry  
2 out priority projects on Federal land in the sub-  
3 watersheds designated under subsection (b) to re-  
4 duce the risk or extent of, or increase the resilience  
5 to, insect or disease infestation in the subwater-  
6 sheds.

7           “(2) AUTHORITY.—Any project under para-  
8 graph (1) for which a public notice to initiate  
9 scoping is issued on or before September 30, 2018,  
10 may be carried out in accordance with subsections  
11 (b), (c), and (d) of section 102, and sections 104,  
12 105, and 106.

13           “(3) EFFECT.—Projects carried out under this  
14 subsection shall be considered authorized hazardous  
15 fuel reduction projects for purposes of the authori-  
16 ties described in paragraph (2).

17           “(4) REPORT.—Not later than September 30,  
18 2018, the Secretary shall issue a report on actions  
19 taken to carry out this subsection, including—

20                   “(A) an evaluation of the progress towards  
21 project goals; and

22                   “(B) recommendations for modifications to  
23 the projects and management treatments.

24           “(e) TREE RETENTION.—The Secretary shall carry  
25 out projects under subsection (d) in a manner that maxi-

1 mizes the retention of old-growth and large trees, as ap-  
2 propriate for the forest type, to the extent that the trees  
3 promote stands that are resilient to insects and disease.”.

Page 485, line 24, strike “**8304**” and insert “**8302**”.

