

**AMENDMENT RULES COMMITTEE PRINT**

**119–33**

**OFFERED BY MR. WHITESIDES OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of subtitle G of title XXVIII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 28** \_\_\_\_. **IMPROVEMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO INTE-**  
2 **GRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGE-**  
3 **MENT PLANS FOR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.**

4 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 101 of the Sikes Act (16  
5 U.S.C. 670a) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the  
7 following new paragraphs:

8 “(5) **STANDARDIZED METRICS.**—The Secretary  
9 of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of the  
10 Interior, the Administrator of the National Oceanic  
11 and Atmospheric Administration, and appropriate  
12 State agencies, shall develop and maintain installa-  
13 tion-specific goals and metrics for using technologies  
14 and artificial intelligence for the assessment of nat-  
15 ural resources and ecosystem services as relevant to  
16 mission readiness, climate resilience, or community  
17 safety on military installations. Such metrics shall,  
18 at a minimum, be consistent with the purposes and

1 elements of the integrated natural resources man-  
2 agement plans to allow for comparison of conditions  
3 and trends on specific military installations and shall  
4 address—

5 “(A) biodiversity, including populations  
6 and habitat condition for threatened and endan-  
7 gered species and other species of concern;

8 “(B) habitat extent, quality, and  
9 connectivity;

10 “(C) water quality and quantity;

11 “(D) wildfire risk and fuels conditions;

12 “(E) ecosystem condition, including soil  
13 health and vegetation condition;

14 “(F) flood risk and watershed condition,  
15 including on adjacent lands measurably affected  
16 by watersheds originating or passing through  
17 military lands; and

18 “(G) other ecosystem services identified by  
19 the Secretary of Defense—

20 “(i) as relevant to mission readiness,  
21 climate resilience, or community safety;  
22 and

23 “(ii) consistent with the military in-  
24 stallation resilience elements in sections

1                   2801, 2802, 2815, 2815a, 2866, and  
2                   2866a of title 10, United States Code.

3                   “(6) TECHNOLOGY AND METHODOLOGIES.—

4                   The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secre-  
5                   taries of the military departments, shall, to the max-  
6                   imum extent practicable and consistent with national  
7                   security, evaluate, test and, where the Secretary de-  
8                   termines doing so would improve existing ap-  
9                   proaches, use technologies and methodologies to im-  
10                  prove the management and implementation of nat-  
11                  ural resources programs on military installations, in-  
12                  cluding—

13                   “(A) remote sensing;

14                   “(B) automated environmental monitoring  
15                  networks;

16                   “(C) geographic information systems;

17                   “(D) artificial intelligence; and

18                   “(E) other advanced data analytics tools,  
19                  to collect, process, and analyze data on natural  
20                  resources and ecosystem services on military in-  
21                  stallations.

22                  “(7) UPDATES TO COLLECTED DATA.—The  
23                  Secretary of Defense shall ensure that—

24                   “(A) to the extent practicable, data col-  
25                  lected pursuant to paragraphs (5) and (6) are

1 updated on a consistent and regular basis ap-  
2 propriate for use in integrated natural resource  
3 management plans; and

4 “(B) such data is used for the appropriate  
5 installation-level and enterprise-level decision-  
6 making for natural resources management, in-  
7 frastructure resilience, and mission  
8 sustainment.

9 “(8) USE OF METRICS AND DATA.—To the ex-  
10 tent practicable and consistent with military mission  
11 requirements, the Secretary concerned shall, during  
12 the review required under subsection (b)(2), prepare,  
13 review, and implement each integrated natural re-  
14 sources management plan under this subsection in  
15 accordance with the following:

16 “(A) ASSESS AND PROJECT CONDITIONS.—  
17 The Secretary concerned shall use the metrics  
18 established under paragraph (5) and the data  
19 generated by the monitoring technologies de-  
20 scribed in paragraph (6) to assess baseline con-  
21 ditions, trends, and projected future conditions  
22 of key natural resources and ecosystem services  
23 on the installation.

24 “(B) IDENTIFY NET CONDITION OBJEC-  
25 TIVES.—The Secretary concerned shall establish

1 quantitative or otherwise measurable net condi-  
2 tion objectives, as appropriate, for maintaining  
3 or improving the condition of such resources  
4 and services, including such resources and serv-  
5 ices specified in paragraph (5).”;

6 (2) in subsection (b)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and”;

8 (B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
9 paragraph (4); and

10 (C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the  
11 following new paragraph:

12 “(3) shall, at the same frequency as the review  
13 of the operation and effect of the plan under para-  
14 graph (2) and to the extent practicable, use the  
15 metrics, technology, and methodologies under para-  
16 graphs (5) and (6) of subsection (a) to—

17 “(A) assess trends in key natural resources  
18 and ecosystem services, including biodiversity,  
19 habitat condition, wildfire risk, watershed con-  
20 dition, and other relevant ecosystem services, on  
21 each military installation covered by the plan;

22 “(B) evaluate whether the plan is contrib-  
23 uting to the maintenance or improvement of the  
24 net condition of such resources and services at  
25 the military installation; and

1           “(C) inform any revisions to the plan, in-  
2           cluding adjustments to management actions de-  
3           signed to improve conditions in some areas to  
4           offset or compensate for degradation related to  
5           mission-essential activities in other areas; and”;  
6           and

7           (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
8           section:

9           (b) IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE.—Not later than  
10          two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and  
11          five years thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall, as  
12          part of the report required under section 2711 of title 10,  
13          United States Code, submit to the congressional defense  
14          committees supplemental materials with respect to the ad-  
15          ministration of section 101 of the Sikes Act (as amended  
16          by subsection (a)) that includes a summary of—

17                 (1) progress made toward—

18                         (A) the use of the metrics, technology,  
19                         methodologies, and collected data under para-  
20                         graphs (5), (6), and (7) of subsection (a) of  
21                         such section (as added by subsection (a)); and

22                         (B) deploying such metrics to compare  
23                         natural resource trends across military installa-  
24                         tions;

1           (2) the benefits of such paragraphs (5), (6),  
2           and (7) in accelerating, simplifying and otherwise  
3           streamlining environmental permitting, environ-  
4           mental review and other similar interagency proc-  
5           esses; and

6           (3) recommendations of the Secretary with re-  
7           spect to opportunities to improve the efficiency, co-  
8           ordination, and timeliness of interagency environ-  
9           mental review and permitting processes applicable to  
10          individual military installations.

11          “(h) ECOSYSTEM SERVICES DEFINED.—In this sec-  
12          tion, the term ‘ecosystem services’ means the direct and  
13          indirect benefits that natural systems provide to people  
14          and communities.”.

