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Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013

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Author: : jbomb

Date: : 2013/3/13 21:48:28

URL:

Hey all.

I'm sure many of you received the email from TU regarding the legislation referenced in the topic heading.

For those of you who didn't I've included the email below...

Quote:

We have a great opportunity to see a bipartisan bill passed in Congress that would create new conservation funding without adding to the federal deficit, but we need your help. A recently introduced bill would use a portion of the royalties from wind and solar energy development to fund conservation work. Such funding would enable TU and our partners to do much-needed habitat protection and restoration work in areas affected by renewable energy development on public lands. Hunters and anglers have seen what happens when poorly managed energy development is allowed to impact their fishing and hunting. Now, as we see more wind and solar energy built out on public lands, we need this legislation to help ensure the impacts of new development are adequately addressed.

You can read the senate bill [here](#) and the house bill [here](#)

I'm not sure what to make of it. I'm not a big fan of simply clicking a link in an email asking me to send a carbon copy email to my reps.

To me it sounds like a good deal in the TU email, but when I look at the bill it reads like this thing gives the national forest service the ability to establish/lease out "public land" to energy companies to develop solar or wind fields, and I'm not sure how I feel about that even if it means a couple extra dollars for rehab projects in those areas (would they be required without the new "energy plants?")

What are your thoughts?