

# Committee on Natural Resources

Rob Bishop Chairman  
Markup Memorandum

August 31, 2018

To: All Natural Resources Committee Members

From: Majority Committee Staff— Terry Camp  
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Mark-Up: **H. Res. 460 (Rep. Sean P. Duffy)**, Requesting the Secretary of the Interior to recognize the rich history of the logging industry and the importance of lumberjack sports by adding the Lumberjack Bowl to the National Register of Historic Places.

**September 5, 2018, 10:15 am; 1324 Longworth House Office Building**

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## Summary of the Bill

H. Res. 460, introduced by Representative Sean P. Duffy (R-WI-07), recognizes the importance of lumberjack sports to the culture and economy of Wisconsin, supports the growth of lumberjack sports around the United States, and requests that the Secretary of the Interior add the Lumberjack Bowl, the site of the Lumberjack World Championships, to the National Register of Historic Places.

## Background

Each July, Hayward, Wisconsin, hosts the Lumberjack World Championships. First held in 1960, the Championships showcase the rich history of American loggers. The skills perfected working in America's forests were turned into competitions and acts of physical prowess.<sup>1</sup> Today, the games are filled with over 100 skilled competitors and attended by thousands of devoted fans.<sup>2</sup> The Championships currently include 21 events ranging from men's and women's logrolling to chopping to the pole climb. Contestants compete for more than \$50,000 in cash prizes during the three-day event.<sup>3</sup>

Hayward, Wisconsin is rich in American history and culture. Hundreds of years ago when the land was first settled, logging, trapping and trade were the biggest economic activities in the area.<sup>4</sup> The local lumber industry has existed since the 1800s, and the local populace embraces the lumber games with enthusiasm, and consider them a key part of their heritage.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Brenda, Will. "Wisconsin's Famed Lumberjack World Championships." Adventure Tourism - Experiential Travel Guides. Accessed August 29, 2018. <https://www.iexplore.com/experiences/festivals-events/Wisconsin-lumberjack-world-championships>.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

The Lumberjack World Championships are held in Lumberjack Bowl. Once a giant holding pond for the North Wisconsin Lumber Company, the Bowl has been repurposed to be the world's one and only lumber-arena for hosting these events.

### **Cost**

A Congressional Budget Office cost estimate has not yet been completed for this bill.



(Photo credit: Timber West, Journal of Logging and Sawmills  
[http://forestnet.com/TWissues/2015\\_sept\\_oct/lumberjacks.php](http://forestnet.com/TWissues/2015_sept_oct/lumberjacks.php))



(Photo credit: Lumberjack World Championships  
<https://www.lumberjackworldchampionships.com/>)

### **Administration Position**

The Administration's position is currently unknown.

### **Effect on Current Law (Ramsever)**

None.