

STAFF SUMMARY OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION IN THE 114TH U.S. CONGRESS

A summary of recent Federal legislation is attached. This summary is intended as a general overview for discussion purposes. Full text of these bills, with background information and current status, can be found at the Library of Congress website (<http://thomas.gov>) or at <http://govtrack.us>. These summaries are primarily from the GovTrack.us website, further summarized by Council staff. See the attached report for a summary of other bills in the current Congress.

Progress of Bills Discussed in June

Of the bills discussed in June, the **Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act** (HR 774, Bordallo) passed the House on July 27.

A companion bill to HR 1987, the **Coast Guard Reauthorization Act**, was introduced by John Thune. S 1611 was introduced on June 18 and reported by committee on June 25. It is given a 38% chance of passage.

There has been no major movement on the **Vessel Incidental Discharge Act** (S 373, Rubio); **Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act** (HR 1060; regarding Sites Reservoir); on the **Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act** (HR 564; regarding Columbia predator control); or on the **West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act** (HR 2168 and S 1143).

The **Federal Water Quality Protection Act** (S. 1140, which changes the definition of “waters of the United States” under the EPA) was reported by committee on June 10.

An amendment to HR 2028 (the **Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act**) prohibiting the use of funds to deliver water to the Trinity River above the minimum requirements of the Trinity Record of Decision, or to supplement flows in the Klamath River, was dropped.

MSA Reauthorization

The **Florida Fisheries Improvement Act** (S 1403; Marco Rubio) was reported by committee on June 25 and is given a 45% chance of passage by GovTrack.

The **Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act** (HR 1335; Don Young) has not moved. The chance of passage has remained the same at 15%.

None of the other MSA reauthorization bills listed in the June 2015 staff summary of Federal legislation (HR 1825, 1207, 2012) have moved forward.

New Bills Addressing Drought Issues

Several bills addressing drought in the West have been introduced. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has said that she plans to hold a hearing on drought legislation in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in September, and has signaled that she intends to bring drought legislation to the floor later this year. Several of the drought bills that have been submitted are aiming to be included, at least in part, in that legislation. It should be noted that there are many other bills not included here that deal indirectly with drought through water recycling, reservoir operations, grants for water conservation, etc.

HR 2898: Western Water and American Food Security Act

- **Introduced by** David Valadao (R-CA) on June 25, 2015.
- **Status:** Passed the House on July 16.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 15%

At 174 pages, this House bill is a longer and more detailed version of previous Republican drought bills (such as HR 5781, 113th Congress) that the Council has opposed in the past, but its substance is similar. A detailed Congressional Research Service summary of HR 2898 is included in the briefing book materials. Among many other actions, the bill would:

- Repeal the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act. This could result in the San Joaquin River running completely dry, destroying reintroduced salmon runs.
- Establish that the safety of fish required by state laws would be deemed satisfied by the existence of a warm water fishery in the San Joaquin River.
- Reduce legal protections for wild salmon runs in favor of hatchery fish.
- Override protections for salmon and other native fisheries required under the Endangered Species Act.
- Limit or waive environmental review of new dams and other water projects. Exempts some projects from NEPA review; establishes unrealistic review timelines. Gives BOR unprecedented control over environmental review process.
- Preempt the ability of the State of California to enforce its own water management and wildlife preservation laws, forcing the state to weaken its protections.
- Override California's authority to ensure Shasta Dam is operated to protect fish, wildlife, and other users.
- Make it more difficult for state and Federal water managers to restrict water transfers.
- Elevate and prioritize certain water rights holders within the California water rights system, thereby creating different classes of water users, which further limits operational flexibility, and intrudes upon State administration of water rights
- Require BOR to increase water pumping.
- Reduce water deliveries to national wildlife refuges and state wildlife management areas; make it more difficult for refuges to receive water during dry years; threaten funding for the refuge water supply system.
- Constrain the Administration's ability to protect the commercial and tribal fishery on the Trinity and Klamath Rivers.
- Perpetuate historical Federal subsidies for water storage projects which are now deemed inappropriate.

The bill passed the House without a public hearing. According to a July 10, 2015 *Los Angeles Times* editorial, Valadao has acknowledged that his ultimate goal is to repeal the Endangered Species Act.

Notably, Reps. Huffman (CA-02), McNerney (CA-09), and DeFazio (OR-04), offered a pair of amendments that would require the legislation to take economic impact into consideration. Those amendments were rejected without a vote. One of the Huffman/DeFazio amendments would have prevented any provision of H.R. 2898 from being implemented if the Pacific Fishery Management Council certified that it would reduce employment or recreational opportunities for commercial or sport fishermen.

“HR 2898 will create another costly ecological disaster—this time with America’s fisheries—that American taxpayers will have to foot the bill for, just as they did in 2007, when the federal government spent millions in response to the catastrophic salmon disaster,” said Rep. DeFazio.

Many state and Federal agencies, NGOs, and the Administration itself have voiced opposition to the bill. In an OMB Statement of Administration Policy¹, the Administration writes that it “strongly opposes H.R. 2898... because it will, if enacted, impede an effective and timely response to the continuing drought while providing no additional water to hard hit communities. Like similar legislation in the last Congress, H.R. 2898 was developed with little input from the public, the Administration, or key stakeholders affected by the drought... If the President were presented with H.R. 2898, his senior advisors would recommend that he veto the bill.” However, it is unlikely that the current bill would pass the Senate; the expectation is that elements of this bill and the Boxer/Feinstein and Huffman bills could eventually be folded into a compromise bill.

S 1894: California Emergency Drought Relief Act

- **Introduced by** Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein (CA) on July 29, 2015.
- **Status:** Introduced.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 2%

This bill (which also is not expected to advance as a stand-alone bill, but to be included in future drought legislation) takes a more ESA-friendly approach to the drought. Parts of this bill are similar to a 2014 Feinstein/Boxer bill that was unanimously approved by the Senate. Additional environmental protections have been added to this version. According to Feinstein’s fact sheet on the bill, “Provisions in the bill to help move water efficiently to those areas where it is most needed were carefully drafted to remain consistent with environmental laws including the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, as well as all biological opinions.” A summary of the key provisions follows:

Fisheries provisions:

¹ The Office of Management and Budget issues Statements of Administrative Policy to Congress to register the administration’s support or opposition to legislation at various stages of floor and conference committee consideration. OMB officials stress that no threatening communication is ever released without the White House’s explicit approval. (Samuel Kernell, Professor of Political Science, University of San Diego).

- Authorizes \$20 million to begin implementation of NMFS' Endangered Species Act recovery plan, a tool to provide habitat and flow restoration throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin basins.
- Authorizes \$3 million to trap and barge fish to reduce mortality rates on migration through the Delta.
- Addresses key stressors on fish populations including limiting invasive species like striped bass and removing predator habitat, to be paid for by participating water districts.
- Authorizes \$4 million to create additional spawning habitat.
- Authorizes \$11.5 million for federal agencies to manage the water system more precisely using updated science and tools, including smelt distribution studies and refined temperature models
- Authorizes \$2 million annually for five years for improved conveyance of water to refuges to help restore and protect critical wetland habitat for wildlife refuges.

Water Conservation and Recycling:

- Creates programs to stabilize water supplies for small communities.
- Encourages research into desalination technology and projects.
- Promotes the building of new reservoirs or increasing the capacity of existing reservoirs.
- Encourages and authorizes funds for water recycling, water reclamation, water-saving technology, and water reuse projects.
- Facilitates increased agricultural conservation and groundwater recharge.
- Authorizes a Department of the Interior program to establish an open system with data on water quality, climate and weather effects and erosion.

Water Transfers:

- Includes a provision to allow limited Delta water transfers in April and May so communities and farms can make up for reduced deliveries. National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in providing technical assistance on the bill, have stated that these safeguards ensure the provision is in compliance with environmental laws and biological opinions. (From the Feinstein fact sheet)
- Any time more water is pumped from the Delta, that pumping must remain consistent with the Endangered Species Act and biological opinions.
- When water turbidity is high and smelt are likely to move near pumps, scientists must daily monitor for the presence of the fish. Pumps may only run at high levels when smelt are not present. (This language is similar to language in the Valadao bill.)
- Environmental reviews of water transfers and the installation and removal of temporary barriers will be expedited. These reviews will ensure these actions are consistent with environmental laws. (This language is similar to language in the Valadao bill.)
- Delta Cross-Channel Gates may only be opened for additional time if doing so remains consistent with water quality-related orders issued by the State Water Resources Control Board. (This language is similar to language in the Valadao bill.)

HR 2983/S 1837: Drought Recovery and Resilience Act of 2015

- **Introduced by** HR 2983 introduced by Jared Huffman (D-CA) on July 8, 2015; S 1837 introduced by Barbara Boxer (D-CA) on July 22.
- **Status:** Introduced.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 1% (both bills)

These two bills are essentially identical, except the Boxer bill includes provisions to establish an open system with data on water quality, climate and weather effects.

Both bills focus on efficient use of current water supplies. They would provide emergency funding to improve water supply and reliability, help out-of-work farmworkers, and combat upstream water theft on federal lands. They also contain provisions to help homeowners reduce their water use by providing a tax credit for the installation of water-capture and harvesting systems; provide emergency funding to stretch existing water supplies; support existing water infrastructure programs; and fund investments to improve desalination technology and expand water recycling. One of the more unusual ideas is to use solar panels to cover canals and reservoirs to reduce evaporation loss. Royalties from the solar-power generation would go to local governments and a new fund for fish and wildlife.

The legislation would draw on a \$9 billion fund accumulated by the Bureau of Reclamation over decades that has not been used for water projects.

HR 1668: Save Our Water Act

- **Introduced by** Tom McClintock (R-CA) on March 26, 2015.
- **Status:** Introduced; stalled.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 10%

Amends the Endangered Species Act to allow the Act to be suspended in regard to water releases by Federal and State agencies in river basins that are affected by drought.

Specifically, Amends Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act to add that “The application of this Act with respect to water releases from water storage facilities by Federal and State agencies in a navigable river basin in a State is suspended during each period in which there is in effect a drought in that basin.” States may not enforce the ESA when a suspension applies.

Other New and Noteworthy Bills

HR 2220: Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act

- **Introduced by** Theodore Deutch (D-FL) on May 1.
- **Status:** Introduced.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 2%

Amends the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to create a program to research, develop, and accelerate commercial production of marine renewable energy.

HR 3282: Protecting Honest Fishermen Act

- **Introduced by** Blake Farenthold (R-TX) on July 29.
- **Status:** Introduced.
- **GovTrack chance of passage:** 2%

Calls for NOAA to coordinate the Administration's seafood inspection activities with the national sea grant college program to provide outreach to the States, local health agencies, consumers, and the seafood industry on seafood safety. Calls for Commerce and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to ensure that inspections and tests for seafood safety also collect information for seafood fraud detection and prevention. Creates a list under HHS and Commerce that identifies countries and exporters selling seafood in the U.S. and tracks any violations related to seafood safety.

Calls for labeling of where fish was caught (UN FAO fishing area), market name, scientific name, whether wild or farmed, method of harvest (including gear type), date of catch, and weight or number of fish, as appropriate; also would identify if seafood has been frozen, treated with any substance affecting its weight, processed in another country, etc. If farm-raised, must include the country of cultivation, location of production, and method of production.

Retailers may make all of this information available upon request rather than being included on a label.

Seafood not labeled may be refused admission; penalties apply. Creates list of offenders. Increases number of inspections. States may bring civil actions against seafood fraud.

Fishery Bills in the 114th Congress (and Selected State Bills)

Tracked for their relevance to MSA reauthorization, precedent-setting potential, or indirect impact on Council-managed fisheries.

Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
California state bill				
AB 226	Pacific to Plate	Makes it easier for commercial fishermen to sell fish at farmers' markets. Allows fishermen's markets to operate as food facilities; allows fresh fish to be cleaned for direct sale; streamlines permitting process.	Toni Atkins (Cal Assembly)	
Introduced	2/3/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Amended in Senate 6/29		Priority	C
House				
HR 291	Water in the 21st Century Act (W21) (see also S 176)	Sets up \$1.95 billion in loans and grants over 5 years for water recycling, storm water capture and treatment, ground water management and water infrastructure projects. Sets aside \$6 million to study the feasibility of desalination.	Grace Napolitano (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	1/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	C
HR 330	Marine Access and State Transparency (see also HR 900, S 437, S 228)	Requires congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for declaration of marine national monuments.	Don Young (R-AK)	10%
Introduced	1/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Referred to House Natural Resources Committee		Priority	C
HR 337	Maritime Lien Reform Act (included in HR 1987)	Limits maritime liens on fishing permits. (Included in Coast Guard Reauthorization Act).	Don Young (R-AK)	2%
Introduced	1/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced (HR 1147, 113th)		Priority	A

*According to Govtrack.us. Note re priority ratings: A, B, C = immediately relevant (in decreasing importance) to Pacific Council fisheries or having to do with major changes to the Magnuson-Stevens Act. D, F = Interesting for other reasons, such as setting a precedent or indirectly affecting Council-managed fisheries.

Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
HR 393	Untitled (Labeling of GMO fish)	Amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labeling of genetically engineered fish.	Don Young (R-AK)	2%
Introduced	1/14/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	D
HR 394	Prevention of Escapement of Genetically Altered Salmon in the United States Act	Resubmittal of HR 1667, discussed in June 2013. Adds DeFazio as a co-sponsor.	Don Young (R-AK)	9%
Introduced	1/14/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	C
HR 528	Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act	Directs Federal public land management officials to exercise their authority under existing law to facilitate use of and access to Federal public lands for fishing, sport hunting, and recreational shooting.	Dan Benishek (R-MI)	12%
Introduced	1/26/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	D
HR 564	Endangered Salmon and Fisheries Predation Prevention Act	Amends the MMPA to reduce predation on endangered Columbia River salmon and other nonlisted species, and for other purposes. Identical to Hastings bill submitted in 113th Congress.	Kurt Schraeder (D-OR) & Jaime Herrera-Beutler (R-WA)	9%
Introduced	1/27/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced (formerly HR 1308, Hastings)		Priority	A
HR 774	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015 (see instead S 1334)	Enhances authority to regulate illegal fishing. Increases capacity for inspection, ID, and monitoring of illegal foreign vessels. Directs Commerce to enforce High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act. Implements Antigua Convention.	Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam)	24%
Introduced	2/5/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Passed House 7/27/15 (NEW)		Priority	A

Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
HR 900	National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act (see also HR 330, S 228, S 437)	Requires congressional and State approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments.	Raul Labrador (R-ID)	21%
Introduced	2/11/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Referred to House Natural Resources Committee		Priority	C
HR 980	Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (see instead S 373)	Makes vessel discharge exception permanent. See S 373 instead.	Duncan Hunter (R-CA)	5%
Introduced	2/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 2/26/15.		Priority	A
HR 981	Red Snapper Regulatory Reform Act	Amends the MSA in regard to Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper management.	Bradley Byrne (R-AK)	12%
Introduced	2/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	F
HR 1060	Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act of 2015	Directs Interior to support non-Federal investments in water infrastructure improvements in the Sacramento Valley, specifically the Sites Reservoir.	Doug LaMalfa (R-CA)	3%
Introduced	2/25/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
HR 1140	San Francisco Bay Restoration Act	To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a grant program to support the restoration of San Francisco Bay.	Jackie Speier (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	2/26/2016		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
HR 1207	Healthy Fisheries Through Better Science Act (see S 1403)	Amends the MSA to require Commerce to develop a plan to conduct stock assessments for all stocks of fish for which a fishery management plan is in effect.	Robert Wittman (R-VA)	4%
Introduced	3/2/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	New		Priority	B
HR 1276	Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act	Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation planning and response program.	Lois Capps (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	3/4/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
HR 1277	Ocean Acidification Research Partnerships Act	Provides for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities.	Lois Capps (D-CA)	2%
Introduced	3/4/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
HR 1335	Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act	Amends the MSA with the purpose of providing flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen.	Don Young (R-AK)	15%
Introduced	3/4/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Passed House on 6/1/2015		Priority	A
HR 1668	Save Our Water Act	To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for suspension of application of the Act to water releases by Federal and State agencies in river basins that are affected by drought, and for other purposes.	Tom McClintock (R-CA)	10%
Introduced	3/26/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
HR 1826	Fishing Economy Improvement Act	Reauthorizes the MSA.	Gregorio Sablan (Guam - Ind)	4%
Introduced	4/15/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced; superceded; "dead"		Priority	A
HR 1869	Environmental Compliance Cost Transparency Act	Provides for transparency and reporting related to costs incurred by the Bonneville Power Administration and other power authorities related to compliance with Federal environmental laws impacting the conservation of fish and wildlife.	Paul Gosar (R-AZ)	3%
Introduced	4/16/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
HR 1987	Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015	Authorizes appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Funds Newport helicopter. Incorporates HR 337 on maritime liens.	Duncan Hunter (R-CA)	24%
Introduced	4/23/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Passed House 5/18/2015		Priority	C
HR 2040	Striped Bass American Heritage Act	Designates the Atlantic striped bass as the National Fish of the United States.	Tom MacArthur (R-NJ)	3%
Introduced	4/28/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
HR 2106	Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act of 2015	Provides funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management. Amends S-K Act.	Frank Guinta (R-NH)	6%
Introduced	4/29/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A
HR 2168	West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act (see also S 1143)	Makes the current Dungeness crab fishery management regime permanent.	Jaime Herrera Beutler (D-WA)	19%
Introduced	4/30/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A

Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
HR 2220	Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act	To promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies	Theodore Deutch (D-FL)	2%
Introduced	5/1/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
HR 2541	Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act (see also S 1414)	Amends the MSA to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.	Jim Langevin (D-RI)	2%
Introduced	5/21/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
HR 2898	Western Water and American Food Security Act of 2015	To provide drought relief in the State of California, and for other purposes.	David Valadeo (R-CA)	15%
Introduced	6/25/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Passed House 7/16 (NEW)		Priority	A
HR 2983	Drought Recovery and Resilience Act of 2015	To provide drought assistance and improved water supply reliability to the State of California, other western States, and the Nation	Jared Huffman (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	7/8/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A
HR 3094	Gulf States Red Snapper Management Authority Act	To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to transfer to States the authority to manage red snapper fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico	Garrett Graves (R-LA)	8%
Introduced	7/16/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
HR 3282	Protecting Honest Fishermen Act	To strengthen Federal consumer protection and product traceability with respect to commercially marketed seafood.	Blake Farenthold (R-TX)	2%
Introduced	7/29/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	B

Senate

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
S 132	Oregon and California Land Grant Act	A bill to improve timber management on O&C grant land, and for other purposes. Increases some harvest, protects other forests.	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	21%
Introduced	1/8/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	D
S 133	Klamath Basin Water Recovery and Economic Restoration Act	A bill to approve and implement the Klamath Basin agreements, to improve natural resource management, support economic development, and sustain agricultural production in the Klamath River Basin, etc. Discussed by LC in June 2014.	Ron Wyden (D-OR)	21%
Introduced	1/8/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced (formerly S 2727)		Priority	B
S 176	Water in the 21st Century Act (W21) (see also HR 291)	A bill to advance integrated water management and development through innovation, resiliency, conservation, and efficiency in the 21st century.	Barbara Boxer (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	1/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	C
S 190	Imported Seafood Safety Standards Act	Prohibits imports of seafood from a foreign country unless certified compliant with U.S. standards. Yearly inspection of foreign export facilities and 20% of all imported seafood. Foreign seafood could only be imported at ports with trained personnel.	David Vitter (R-LA)	15%
Introduced	1/20/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	B
S 225	Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act (see also S 405)	Amends the Toxic Substances Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the EPA with respect to lead bullets and fishing tackle. Exempts those articles from a definition under that Act.	John Thune (R-SD)	1%
Introduced	1/21/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced		Priority	D

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
S 228	National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act (see also S 556, HR 900, S 437, HR 330)	Requires congressional and State approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments.	Michael Crapo (R-ID)	20%
Introduced	1/21/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Referred to Senate Energy & Natural Resources		Priority	C
S 373	Vessel Incidental Discharge Act (see also HR 980)	Establishes nationally uniform and environmentally sound standards governing discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel. (Makes current NPDES exemption permanent).	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	38%
Introduced	2/4/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced (formerly S 3570, Rubio). Reported by committee 2/26/15		Priority	A
S 405	Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015 (see instead S 659, HR 556)	A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	38%
Introduced	2/5/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced. Formerly S 1335, Murkowski. Reported by committee 2/9		Priority	D
S 437	Improved National Monument Designation Process Act (see also HR 900, S 228, HR 330)	Requires congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, and establishes requirements for the declaration of marine national monuments.	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	16%
Introduced	2/10/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced.		Priority	C

Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
S 556	Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015 (see also HR 225, S 405)	A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	30%
Introduced	2/25/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reintroduced (formerly S 1335, Murkowski)		Priority	D
S 659	Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2015	A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes	Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	5%
Introduced	3/4/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
S 738	Genetically Engineered Salmon Risk Reduction Act	To reduce the risks associated with genetically altered salmon in the United States	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	8%
Introduced	3/12/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
S 1140	Federal Water Quality Protection Act	Revises the definition of the term "waters of the United States." Halts an ongoing COE/EPA rulemaking to clarify and restore Clean Water Act protections for certain water bodies.	John Barrasso (R-WY)	15%
Introduced	4/30/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 6/10		Priority	C
S 1143	West Coast Dungeness Crab Management Act (see also HR 2168)	Makes the authority of States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage the Dungeness crab fishery permanent.	Maria Cantwell (D-WA)	11%
Introduced	4/30/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A
S 1236	Hydropower Improvement Act of 2015	Amends the Federal Power Act to modify certain requirements relating to license applications before FERC. Aimed at streamlining process for small projects.	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	30%
Introduced	5/6/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	B

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
S 1334	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2015 (see also HR 774)	Strengthens enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and amends the Tuna Conventions Act of 1950 to implement the Antigua Convention. The Council has commented on this and similar legislation.	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	26%
Introduced	5/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 5/20/15		Priority	A
S 1335	North Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act	Implements the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the North Pacific Ocean.	Dan Sullivan (R-AK)	39%
Introduced	5/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 5/20/15		Priority	C
S 1336	South Pacific Fisheries Convention Implementation Act	Implements the Convention on the Conservation and Management of the High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean.	Brian Schatz (D-HI)	39%
Introduced	5/13/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 5/20/15.		Priority	C
S 1338	Small Hydro Act of 2015	Amends the Federal Power Act to provide licensing procedures for certain types of hydro projects under 5 megawatts.	Angus King (Ind-ME)	7%
Introduced	4/14/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
S 1403	Florida Fisheries Improvement Act (amended)	Amends the MSA to promote sustainable conservation and management for the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic fisheries and the communities that rely on them.	Marco Rubio (R-FL)	45%
Introduced	5/20/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 6/25/15		Priority	A

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Bill No	Title	Summary or Title	Introduced by	Chance*
S 1414	Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act (see also HR 2541)	Amends the MSA to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.	Jack Reed (D-RI)	2%
Introduced	5/21/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	D
S 1611	Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 2015	A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal years 2016 and 2017 (Compare with HR 1987. Not sure if identical)	John Thune (R-SD)	38%
Introduced	6/18/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Reported by committee 6/25		Priority	A
S 1780	Restoring America's Watersheds Act	A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to promote watershed health, and for other purposes.	Martin Heinrich (D-NM)	2%
Introduced	7/15/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	C
S 1837	Drought Recovery and Resilience Act	A bill to provide drought assistance and improved water supply reliability to the State of California, other western States, and the Nation.	Barbara Boxer (D-CA)	1%
Introduced	7/22/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A
S 1894	California Emergency Drought Relief Act		Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)	2%
Introduced	7/29/2015		Last updated	8/12/2015
Status	Introduced		Priority	A

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