

**Congressional Activities Report  
118<sup>th</sup> Congress  
May 2023  
Submitted to the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council**

**118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS OVERVIEW**

The 118<sup>th</sup> Congress began on January 3, 2023.

All legislation from the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress must be introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to be considered.

The key committees for fisheries and oceans issues are the House Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

***New bills that have been introduced since the last report or were not included in previous reports.  
(Note: the text of the legislation may not yet available for some or all of the legislation listed below.)***

**H.R. 3614**, (Rep. Scott, D-Virginia) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on offshore wind development vessels, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 23, 2023, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, and the House Education and the Workforce Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H. Res. 430**, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia) [Prognosis: none available], a resolution expressing the need for protecting and conserving at least 50 percent of the land, freshwater, and ocean ecosystems in the United States and encouraging diplomatic community efforts to achieve this goal worldwide. Introduced on May 22, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 3494**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to create dedicated funds to conserve butterflies in North America, plants in the Pacific Islands, freshwater mussels in the United States, and desert fish in the Southwest United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 18, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. Res. 423**, (Rep. Dingell, D-Michigan) [Prognosis: none available] Supporting the designation of May 19, 2023, as "Endangered Species Day". Introduced on May 18, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3390**, (Rep. Velazquez, D-New York) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to require a study relating to the consolidation of certain grant programs currently available to insular areas and the suitability of such consolidation for Puerto Rico, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 16, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 1552**, (Sen. Coons, D-Delaware) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to establish the Coastal Management Fellowship and the Digital Coast Fellowship, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 11, 2023 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3256**, (Rep. Pfluger, R-Texas) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to provide that Executive Order 14096 shall have no force or effect. Introduced on May 11, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, and the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**S. 1508**, (Sen. Reed, D-Rhode Island) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 10, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3187**, (Rep. Magaziner, D-Rhode Island) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Introduced on May 10, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3119**, (Rep. Soto, D-Florida) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp. Introduced on May 5, 2023, and referred to the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**S. 1416, the “NWR Modernization Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Cantwell, D- Washington) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 3, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3026**, (Rep. Plaskett, D-Virgin Islands) [Prognosis: none available], a bill to provide for the adoption of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands as the constitution of the United States Virgin Islands. Introduced on April 28, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

### *Changes in bill status since the last report:*

**H.R. 676, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine) [Prognosis: 22%]- a bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes – passed the full House of Representatives on May 9, 2023 by a vote of 351-58.

**S.1416, the “NOAA Weather Radio Modernization Act”**, (Sen. Cantwell, D-Washington) [Prognosis: none available]- a bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards Network – passed the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee on Wednesday, May 10, 2023.

**H.R. 886, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon) [Prognosis: 27%]- a bill to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes – passed the House Natural Resources Committee (amended) on May 17, 2023.

## UPCOMING HEARINGS

On **Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 10:15 a.m.**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries will hold an oversight hearing titled “Examining the Impacts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s proposed changes to the North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strike Reduction Rule.”

Witnesses: The witness list has not yet been announced.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413367>

## MAGNUSON-STEVENSON REAUTHORIZATION – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress

No bills reauthorizing the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act have been introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress and no hearings on Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization issues have been announced.

Bills in both the House and the Senate have been introduced to add Rhode Island to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (H.R. 3187 and S. 1508).

## APPROPRIATIONS

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023**, the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing titled, “A Review of the President’s Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Request for the Department of Commerce”.

Witnesses:

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary, Department of Commerce

Link:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/a-review-of-the-presidents-fiscal-year-2024-funding-request-for-the-department-of-commerce>

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing titled, “Budget Hearing – Fiscal Year 2024 Request for the Department of Commerce”.

Witnesses:

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Link: <https://appropriations.house.gov/legislation/hearings/budget-hearing-fiscal-year-2024-request-department-commerce>

## PREVIOUS HEARINGS/MARKUPS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held an oversight budget hearing titled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Proposal for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Power Marketing Administrations”.

Witnesses:

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413262>

**Wednesday, May 17, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on a number of bills. There is only one bill of interest to the Councils:

- H.R. 886, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413238>

**Thursday, May 11, 2023**, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing titled “An Overview of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2024.”

*(Note: The House Science Committee has jurisdiction over the “dry” side of NOAA; however, the hearing may focus on all aspects of the NOAA budget request.)*

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Richard W. Spinrad, Ph.D., Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Link:

[https://science.house.gov/hearings?ContentRecord\\_id=325F413D-8F26-47AC-AB87-2CFE8E23056C](https://science.house.gov/hearings?ContentRecord_id=325F413D-8F26-47AC-AB87-2CFE8E23056C)

**Thursday, May 11, 2023**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing titled “Assessing the Shortage of United States Mariners and Recruitment and Retention in the United States Coast Guard”.

Witnesses:

- Vice Admiral Paul Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, United States Coast Guard;
- Rear Admiral Ann Phillips, USN (Ret.), Administrator, United States Maritime Administration;
- Ms. Heather MacLeod, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, United States Government Accountability Office; and
- Dr. Beth Asch, Ph.D., Senior Economist, RAND Corporation

Link:

<https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=406372>

**Wednesday, May 10, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held an executive session to consider a number of bills, one of which may be of interest to the Councils as well as Coast Guard promotions:

- S.1416, the “NOAA Weather Radio Modernization Act”, a bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards Network.

Link:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/5/executive-session>

**Tuesday, May 9, 2023**, the full House of Representatives considered H.R. 676, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2023”, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through

the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes. The legislation will be considered under the Suspension of the Rules procedure (a procedure used for non-controversial legislation) and passed by a vote of 351-58.

**Thursday, April 27, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up 9 bills of which the following are of possible interest to the Councils:

- H.J. Res. 46 (Bentz), Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat”.

The bill was ordered reported favorably by a roll call vote of 17 to 12 after an amendment by Rep. Huffman (D-California) was offered and withdrawn.

Link:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413102>

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023**, the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing titled, “A Review of the President’s Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Request for the Department of Commerce”.

Witnesses:

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary, Department of Commerce

Link:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/a-review-of-the-presidents-fiscal-year-2024-funding-request-for-the-department-of-commerce>

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing titled “Examining the President’s FY 2024 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior”.

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC;
- The Honorable Tommy Beaudreau, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC;
- Ms. Denise Flanagan, Director of Budget, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC.

Link:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413024>

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**, the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024 Request for the National Science Foundation.

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Sethuraman Panchanathan, Director, U.S. National Science Foundation.

Link:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/legislation/hearings/budget-hearing-fiscal-year-2024-request-national-science-foundation>

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held an oversight hearing titled: “Review of the Presidents Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request for the Coast Guard”.

Witnesses:

- Admiral Linda L. Fagan, Commandant, United States Coast Guard;
- Master Chief Heath B. Jones, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, United States Coast Guard.

Link:

<https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=406261>

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Fiscal Year 2024 Request for the Department of Commerce.

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Link:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/legislation/hearings/budget-hearing-fiscal-year-2024-request-department-commerce>

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023**, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee held a hearing on a Discussion Draft of legislation to establish NOAA as an independent agency (the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act of 2023”).

Witnesses:

- Dr. Conrad C. Lautenbacher, VADM USN Ret. (NOAA Administrator, 2001-2008);
- Dr. Tim Gallaudet, RDML USN Ret. (Acting NOAA Administrator, 2017-2019); and

- Dr. Neil Jacobs (Acting NOAA Administrator, 2019-2021).

Link: (Note: This link also provides a separate link to the text of the Discussion Draft.)

<https://science.house.gov/2023/4/establishing-an-independent-noaa>

**Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries will hold a legislative hearing on several bills including (**hearings of possible interest are in bold**):

- H.J. Res. 29 (Rep. Mann, R-Kansas), a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status With Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment";
- **H.J. Res. 46 (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon), a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat";**
- H.J. Res. 49 (Rep. Stauber, R-Minnesota), a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat"; and
- **H.R. 1213, the “Restoring Effective Science-based Conservation Under Environmental laws protecting Whales Act of 2023” or the “RESCUE Whales Act of 2023”, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona).**

Witnesses:

Panel I:

Member panel (TBD)

Panel II:

- Mr. Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Rick Horton, Executive Vice President, Minnesota Forest Industries, Grand Rapids, Minnesota (testifying on H.J. Res. 49);
- Mr. Fred Flippance, Board President, Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association, Hines, Oregon (testifying on H.J. Res. 46);
- Mr. Robert Fischman, Professor of Law, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, Indiana (testifying on H.J. Res. 29, H.J. Res. 46 and H.J. Res. 49);
- Mr. Don Hineman, Past President, Kansas Livestock Association, Dighton, Kansas (testifying on H.J. Res. 29);



Panel III:

- Mr. Sam Rauch III, Deputy Assistant Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, Silver Spring, Maryland (testifying on H.J. Res. 46 and H.R. 1213;
- Mr. Norman Semanko, Chief Counsel, Family Farm Alliance, Boise, Idaho (testifying on H.J. Res. 46;
- Dr. Michael J. Moore, Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, Massachusetts (testifying on H.R. 1213;
- Mr. Curt Brown, Marine Biologist, Ready Seafood, Cape Elizabeth, Maine (testifying on H.R. 1213);
- Ms. Ginny Olsen, Political Director, Maine Lobstering Union, Stonington, Maine

Link: (Note: The video of the hearing as well as background information can be found at the link below.):

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413055>

**Tuesday, April 11, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative field hearing at the World Ag Expo, 4500 S Laspina St # 214, Tulare, California on the following bills:

- H.R. 215 (Rep. Valadao) “Working to Advance Tangible and Effective Reforms for California Act” or the “WATER for California Act”; and
- H.R. 872 (Rep. Calvert) “Federally Integrated Species Health Act” or the “FISH Act”. (Note: this legislation would amend Section 3 of the Endangered Species Act by transferring all authority for the conservation of endangered or threatened anadromous and catadromous fish species from the Department of Commerce to the Department of the Interior.)

Witnesses:

- (Invited) The Honorable Debra Haaland, Secretary, Department of the Interior (or their designees from the Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), Washington, District of Columbia;
- (Invited) The Honorable Gina Raimondo, Secretary, Department of Commerce (or their designee from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration), Washington, District of Columbia;
- (Invited) Mr. Charlton Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sacramento, California;
- Mr. Tony DeGroot, Farmer, DG Bar Ranches, Hanford, California;
- Mr. Aaron Fukuda, General Manager, Tulare Irrigation District, Tulare, California;
- Mr. Jason Phillips, Chief Executive Officer, Friant Water Authority, Lindsay, California;
- Mr. Jeff Sutton, General Manager, Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, Willows, California;
- Mr. Chris White, Executive Director, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, Los Banos, California;
- Mr. William Bourdeau, Director, Westlands Water District, Fresno, California.

Link: For more information on the hearing (including a staff memo on the purpose of the hearing) and to watch the hearing:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413035>

**Wednesday, March 29, 2023**, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee met to mark up a number of bills including: **H.R. 676, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes; and **H.R. 1482, the “NOAA Weather Radio Modernization Act of 2023” or the “NWR Modernization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Bice, R-Oklahoma), a bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes.

The video of the markup can be viewed at: <https://science.house.gov/markups?ID=B8E393FD-90AA-415B-A0A2-3C01D1E7587E>

**Thursday, March 23, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the following bills (*bills of possible interest to the Councils are in bold*):

- H.R. 764 (Rep. Boebert), “Trust the Science Act”;
- **H.R. 886 (Rep. Bonamici), “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”;**
- H.R. 1245 (Rep. Hageman), To direct the Secretary of the Interior to reissue a final rule relating to removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the Federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife, and for other purposes; and
- H.R. 1419 (Rep. Rosendale), “Comprehensive Grizzly Bear Management Act of 2023”.

Witnesses:

Member Panel:

- Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.);
- Rep. Matt Rosendale (R-Mont.);
- Rep. Harriet Hageman (R-Wyo.);
- Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Oregon)

Federal Panel:

- Mr. Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC (Testifying on H.R. 764, H.R. 1245 and H.R. 1419);
- Ms. Nancy Wallace, Marine Debris Program Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Springs, MD (Testifying on H.R. 886);

Non-Federal Panel:

- Dr. Nathan Roberts, Associate Professor, College of the Ozarks, Branson, MO (Testifying on H.R. 746);
- Mr. Brian Nesvik, Director, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Cheyenne, WY (Testifying on H.R. 1245);
- Ms. Karli Johnson, Rancher, Sevens Livestock, Choteau, MT (Testifying on H.R. 1245);
- Dr. Christopher Servheen, Retired Grizzly Bear Recovery Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Missoula, MT (Testifying on H.R. 746, H.R. 1245 and H.R. 1419).

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412934>

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held an Executive Session to consider a number of bills (*bills of possible interest to the Councils are in bold*):

- S. 66, NOTAM Improvement Act of 2023;
- S. 90, Informing Consumers About Smart Devices Act;
- S. 127, Pharmacy Benefit Manager Transparency Act of 2023;
- **S. 318, Save our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act**;
- S. 467, CADETS Act; and the
- Nomination of Mr. Phillip A. Washington to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (PN9).

Link: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/3/executive-session>

**Thursday, March 9, 2023**, the full House Natural Resources Committee held a markup to consider H.R. 1335, the “Transparency, Accountability, Permitting, and Production of American Resources Act” or the “TAPP American Resources Act”, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas). An amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS) will be offered. The ANS can be viewed at the link below.

The bill deals with a number of natural resource use issues, but of interest to the Councils are offshore oil and gas permitting provisions, offshore wind provisions, and NEPA provisions.

The markup and more information on the legislation can be found at: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412857>

**Wednesday, March 8, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held an oversight hearing titled, "Benefits and Access: The Necessity for Multiple Use of Water Resources."

Witnesses:

- Mr. Scott Corwin, Executive Director, Northwest Public Power Association, Vancouver, Washington;
- Ms. Martha Guyas, Southeast Fisheries Policy Director, American Sportfishing Association, Tallahassee, Florida;

- Mr. Dan Keppen, Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance, Klamath Falls, Oregon;
- Ms. Amy Cordalis, Legal Counsel Yurok Tribe, Klamath, California and Co-Founder, Ridges to Riffles Indigenous Conservation Group, Sacramento, California.

The video of the hearing and a copy of the hearing memo can be found at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412848>

*Note: This hearing appears to cover a number of both ocean-related and inland water issues. The hearing memo notes the Magnuson-Stevens Act as well as the National Marine Sanctuary Act, the Antiquities Act, and NEPA. In addition, it appears the Subcommittee may touch on the right whale speed restriction issue as well as western water issues and hydropower.*

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**, the Senate Budget Committee held an oversight hearing titled, “Rising Seas, Rising Costs: Climate Change and the Economic Risks to Coastal Communities.”

Witnesses:

- Dr. Sean Beckett, Principal, Elliott Bay Analytics;
- Mr. Matthew, Eby Founder And Chief Executive Officer, First Street Foundation;
- Ms. Kate Michaud Town, Manager, Warren, Rhode Island;
- Dr. Jessica Weinkle, Associate Professor, University of North Carolina Wilmington; and
- Dr. Marlo Lewis, Jr., Senior Fellow, Competitive Enterprise Institute.

Link: <https://www.budget.senate.gov/hearings/rising-seas-rising-costs-climate-change-and-the-economic-risks-to-coastal-communities>

**Tuesday, February 28, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held a legislative hearing on H.R. \_\_\_\_ (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), the “Building United States Infrastructure through Limited Delays and Efficient Reviews (BUILDER) Act of 2023”.

According to the Committee website, the bill (which had not been introduced at the time of the hearing) “would reform and streamline permitting, reduce litigation, and focus environmental reviews – helping reduce costs for Americans by speeding the development of more energy resources and innovation here at home while helping to lower global emissions.”

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Brenda Mallory, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality, Washington, D.C. (invited);
- Mr. Brent Ridge, President and CEO, Dairyland Power Cooperative, La Crosse, Wisconsin;
- Mr. Brian Veerkamp, President – Board of Directors, El Dorado Irrigation District, Placerville, California;
- Mr. Keith Pugh, PE, PWLF, President, American Public Works Association, Asheville, North Carolina; and
- Mr. John Beard, Jr., Founder, President and Executive Director, Port Arthur Community Action Network [Minority Witness].

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412811>

**Thursday, February 9, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held an organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress.

The meeting can be viewed at: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/2/executive-session>

**Thursday, February 9, 2023**, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing to examine the state of the U.S. Territories.

The hearing can be viewed at: <https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings>

**Tuesday, February 7, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held a meeting to consider the Committee Authorization and Oversight Plan for the 118th Congress.

The Oversight Plan and a link to the meeting can be found at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412759>

**Thursday, February 2, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held an organizational business meeting to consider committee rules and an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee for the 118th Congress.

The meeting can be viewed at: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/2/executive-session>

**Wednesday, February 1, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held its organizational meeting. *(Note: The name of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over fishery issues in the 118th Congress will be the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries - in the previous Congress the name had been the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.)*

The meeting can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=412738>

### **LEGISLATION – 118<sup>th</sup> Congress**

*(Note: Legislation Is Grouped By Category – If the legislation addresses more than one category, it will be listed under each appropriate heading.)*

*(Note: Any action taken on legislation is highlighted in red.)*

### **Magnuson-Stevens Act Legislation (legislation that reauthorizes or amend the MSA):**

### **Other Fisheries Legislation (Sharks, Coral Reefs, Red Snapper, etc.):**

**S. 1227, the “Fighting Foreign Illegal Seafood Harvests Act of 2023” or the “FISH Act of 2023”,** (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources

globally. Introduced on April 20, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H. J. Res. 46**, (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon), a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat". Introduced on March 30, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 18, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On April 27, 2023, the bill was ordered reported by the House Natural Resources Committee favorably by a roll call vote of 17 to 12.**

**H.R. 2315**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for Department of State, International Commissions, International Fisheries Commissions for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1792, the "South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Radewagen, R-American Samoa), a bill to amend the South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 24, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

#### **Transferring Fisheries Authorities to U.S. FWS:**

**H.R. 872, the "Federally Integrated Species Health Act" or the "FISH Act"**, (Rep. Calvert, R-California), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh or estuarine waters, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 8, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 11, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative field hearing on the bill.**

#### **California Water/Fisheries:**

**H.R. 215, the "Working to Advance Tangible and Effective Reforms for California Act" or the "WATER for California Act"**, (Rep. Valadao, R-California), a bill to provide long-term water supply and regulatory reliability to drought-stricken California, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 11, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative field hearing on the bill. On April 28, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 22 – 17.**

**H.R. 872, the "Federally Integrated Species Health Act" or the "FISH Act"**, (Rep. Calvert, R-California), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh or estuarine waters, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 8, 2023, and referred to the House

Natural Resources Committee. **On April 11, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative field hearing on the bill.**

#### **Marine Mammal / Sea Turtles Legislation:**

**H.R. 2560, the "Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Keating, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 10, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1383, the "Marine Mammal Climate Change Protection Act"**, (Rep. Brownley, D-California), a bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a climate impact management plan for the conservation of certain marine mammal species, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1213, the "Restoring Effective Science-based Conservation Under Environmental laws protecting Whales Act of 2023" or the "RESCUE Whales Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 by repealing certain provisions relating to North Atlantic right whales. Introduced February 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 18, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation.**

**H.R. 131, the "Manatee Protection Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Buchanan, R-Florida), a bill to designate the West Indian manatee as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

#### **Aquaculture Legislation:**

**H.R. 1461, the "Coastal Seaweed Farm Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California) a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out a study on coastal seaweed farming, issue regulation relating to such farming, and establish an Indigenous seaweed farming fund, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 8, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, and the House Energy and Commerce Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

#### **Offshore Wind Legislation:**

**H.R. 2716, the "Offshore Wind for Northeastern Energy Revenue Act" or the "OWNER Act"**, (Rep. Malliotakis, R-New York), a bill to distribute revenue from offshore wind projects in the New York Bight Area to certain coastal States, and promote conservation and workforce development. Introduced on April 19, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Budget Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H. Res. 239**, (Rep. Van Drew, R-New Jersey), a bill expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that offshore wind projects along the Atlantic coast require more comprehensive investigations examining the impact to the environment, relevant maritime industries, and national defense before being leased or constructed. Introduced on March 21, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1056**, (Rep. Smith, R-New Jersey), a bill to require the Comptroller General to conduct a study to assess certain environmental review processes with regard to offshore wind projects, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 17, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 913, the “Reinvesting In Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act of 2023” or the “RISEE Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Fletcher, D-Texas), a bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; and in addition to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

#### **NEPA, ESA:**

**H. J. Res. 46**, (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon), a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat". Introduced on March 30, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 18, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On April 27, 2023, the bill was ordered reported by the House Natural Resources Committee favorably by a roll call vote of 17 to 12.**

**H.R. 2159**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for U.S. Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1577, the “Building United States Infrastructure through Limited Delays and Efficient Reviews Act of 2023”**, (Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify ambiguous provisions, reflect modern technologies, optimize interagency coordination, and facilitate a more efficient, effective, and timely environmental review process. Introduced on March 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. R. 1558, the “Saving America’s Vulnerable Endangered Species Act” or the “SAVES Act”**, (Rep. Moran, R-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that nonnative species in the United States shall not be treated as endangered species or threatened species for purposes of that Act. Introduced on March 10, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.



**H.R. 1430, the “Determination of NEPA Adequacy Streamlining Act”**, (Rep. Valadao, R-California), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to use certain previously completed environmental assessments and environmental impact statements to satisfy the review requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1142**, (Rep. Pfluger, R-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require consideration of economic impact in making a listing decision with respect to the list of threatened and endangered species, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 21, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 872, the “Federally Integrated Species Health Act” or the “FISH Act”**, (Rep. Calvert, R-California), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh or estuarine waters, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 8, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 520**, (Rep. McClintock, R-California), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that artificially propagated animals shall be treated the same under that Act as naturally propagated animals, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 518, the “Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act of 2023”**, (Rep. McClintock, R-California), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 495, the “Reducing Environmental Barriers to Unified Infrastructure and Land Development Act of 2023” or the “REBUILD Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Calvert, R-California), a bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to authorize assignment to States of Federal agency environmental review responsibilities, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 131, the “Manatee Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Buchanan, R-Florida), a bill to designate the West Indian manatee as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 99, the “Less Imprecision in Species Treatment Act of 2023” or the “LIST Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for improved precision in the listing, delisting, and downlisting of endangered species and potentially endangered species. Introduced on January 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

### Sanctuaries, MPAs:

**H.R. 897, the “Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act”**, (Rep. Carl, R-Alabama), a bill to provide for the establishment of the Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary, and for other purposes. Introduced February 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

### Other Ocean / Coastal Legislation:

**H.R. 2950, the “Coastal Habitat Conservation Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2735, the “Coastal State Climate Preparedness Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Carbajal, D-California), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation preparedness and response program, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 20, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1196, the “Don Young Restoration Grants for Coastlines and Fisheries Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Plaskett, D-Virgin Islands), a bill to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a grant program to benefit coastal habitats, resiliency, and the economy, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 24, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 886, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend the Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. **On March 23, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the legislation. On May 17, 2023, the bill passed the House Natural Resources Committee (amended).**

**S. 318, the “Save our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend to Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. Ordered to be reported with an

amendment in the nature of a substitute by the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee favorably on March 22, 2023.

**H.R. 676, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 31, 2023, and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. **On March 29, 2023, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee ordered the bill to be reported by the Yeas and Nays: 35 – 0. On May 9, 2023, the bill passed the full House of Representatives by a vote of 351-58.**

**H.R. 615, the “Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia) a bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture from prohibiting the use of lead ammunition or tackle on certain Federal land or water under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 583, the “American Shores Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Waltz, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to extend the moratorium on drilling off the coasts of the States of Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 26, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 565, the “Land Restoration and Resiliency Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Neguse, D-Colorado), a bill to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to enter into an agreement with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to establish the Community Resilience and Restoration Fund. Introduced on January 26, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 470, the “West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington. Introduced on January 24, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 356, the “Unleashing American Energy Act”**, (Rep. Carl, R-Alabama), a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a minimum number of oil and gas lease sales in certain areas, to prevent delays in oil and gas leasing, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 13, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 325, the “Harmful Algal Bloom Essential Forecasting Act”**, (Rep. Byron, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to clarify that during a lapse in appropriations certain services relating to the Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecasting System are excepted services under the Anti-Deficiency Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 12, 2023 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 210, the “Stamp Out Invasive Species Act”**, (Rep. Stefanik, R-New York), a bill to provide for the issuance of a semipostal to benefit programs that combat invasive species. Introduced on January 9, 2023, and referred to the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, and the House Agriculture Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 184**, (Rep. Mann, R-Kansas), a bill to promote accountability and transparency in future executive orders. Introduced on January 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

### Offshore Oil/Gas:

**H.R. 1, the “Lower Energy Costs Act”**, (Rep. Scalise, R-Louisiana), a bill to lower energy costs by increasing American energy production, exports, infrastructure, and critical minerals processing, by promoting transparency, accountability, permitting, and production of American resources, and by improving water quality certification and energy projects, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Budget Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. **On March 30, 2023, the full House of Representatives passed the legislation by the Yeas and Nays: 225 - 204.**

**H.R. 1559, the “More Energy More Jobs Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Moran, R-Texas), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue an oil and gas leasing program under section 18 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 10, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1443, the “Florida Coastal Protection Act”**, (Rep. Castor, D-Florida), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Florida, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 8, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1441, the “Offshore Pipeline Safety Act”**, (Rep. Brownley, D-California), a bill to require the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement to further develop, finalize, and implement updated regulations for offshore oil and gas pipelines to address long-standing limitations regarding its ability to ensure active pipeline integrity and address safety and environmental risks associated with decommissioning, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 8, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1362, the “Saving America’s Energy Future Act”**, (Rep. Pfluger, R-Texas), a bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture from issuing a moratorium on issuing new oil and gas leases and drill permits on certain Federal lands. Introduced on March 3, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1335, the “Transparency, Accountability, Permitting, and Production of American Resources Act” or the “TAPP American Resources Act”,** (Rep. Westerman, R- Arkansas), a bill to restart onshore and offshore oil, gas, and coal leasing, streamline permitting for energy infrastructure, ensure transparency in energy development on Federal lands, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 3, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, and the House Budget Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the of the committee concerned. **On March 9, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 24 – 19. On March 23, 2023, the report to accompany the legislation was filed. On March 23, 2023, the House Agriculture Committee was discharged from further consideration. On March 23, 2023, the House Budget Committee was discharged from further consideration. On March 23, 2023, the bill was placed on the Union Calendar.**

**H.R. 1327, the “Defend our Coast Act”,** (Rep. Ross, D-North Carolina), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to withdraw the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic planning area from disposition, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1320, the “Clean Ocean And Safe Tourism Anti-Drilling Act” or the “COAST Anti-Drilling Act”,** (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas. Introduced on March 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1172, the “California Clean Coast Act of 2023”,** (Rep. Carbajal, D-California), a bill to permanently prohibit oil and gas leasing off the coast of the State of California, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 24, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 1043,** (Rep. Rosendale Sr., R-Montana), a bill to restore onshore energy production. Introduced on February 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 970, the “Preserving the Gulf Test Range to Ensure Military Readiness Act”,** (Rep. Waltz, R-Florida), a bill to establish a moratorium on energy development in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Armed Services Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 956, the “No Drilling in the North Atlantic Act of 2023”,** (Rep. Smith, R-New Jersey), a bill to prohibit oil and gas exploration, development, and production in the North Atlantic Planning Area of the Outer Continental Shelf. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 913, the “Reinvesting In Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act of 2023” or the “RISEE Act of 2023”,** (Rep. Fletcher, D-Texas), a bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; and in addition to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, for a period to be

subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**Miscellaneous:**

**H.R. 2990, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 to address sexual harassment involving National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration personnel, and for other purposes. Introduced April 28, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 2811, the “Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Arrington, R-Texas), a bill to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 25, 2023, and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, and in addition to the House Budget Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, the House Education and the Workforce Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Rules Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. On April 26, 2023, the bill passed the House of Representatives.

**H.R. 2757, the “Puerto Rico Status Act”**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to enable the people of Puerto Rico to choose a permanent, nonterritorial, fully self-governing political status for Puerto Rico and to provide for a transition to and the implementation of that permanent, nonterritorial, fully self-governing political status, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 20, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2459, the “Hawaii Native Species Conservation and Recovery Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to establish a competitive grant program to support the conservation and recovery of native plant and animal species in the State of Hawaii, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 3, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2215**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for Related Agencies, Executive Office of the President: Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2179**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for U.S. Department of Interior, Insular Affairs, Compact of Free Association for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; and in addition to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 2178**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for U.S. Department of Interior, Insular Affairs, Assistance to Territories for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2163**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for U.S. Department of Interior, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Multinational Species Conservation Fund for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 2127**, (Rep. Biggs, R-Arizona), a bill to provide for a limitation on availability of funds for Independent Agencies, Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation, Environmental Dispute Resolution Fund for fiscal year 2024. Introduced on March 29, 2023, and referred to the House Education and the Workforce Committee; and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1786, the “Get Rewarding Outdoor Work for our Veterans Act” or the “GROW Act”**, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Warrior Training Advancement Course, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to administer a pilot program to employ veterans in positions that relate to conservation and resource management activities of the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 24, 2023, and referred to the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. **On April 18, 2023, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity met to mark up the legislation.**

**H.R. 1762, the “Northwest Energy Security Act”**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington), a bill to provide for operations of the Federal Columbia River Power System pursuant to a certain operation plan for a specified period of time, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 23, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1760**, (Rep. Moylan, R-Guam), a bill to extend the admission to Guam or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for certain nonimmigrant H-2B workers. Introduced on March 23, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Judiciary Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1705, the “A. Donald McEachin Environmental Justice For All Act”**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 22, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, and the House Education and the Workforce Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1673, the “Protection from Cumulative Emissions and Underenforcement of Environmental Law Act of 2023”**, (Rep. DeGette, D-Colorado), a bill to advance environmental justice by addressing cumulative impacts and underenforcement, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 21, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1560, the “Public Water Supply Invasive Species Compliance Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Moran, R-Texas), a bill to exempt from the Lacey Act and the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers between any of the States of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 10, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Judiciary Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**H.R. 1482, the “NOAA Weather Radio Modernization Act of 2023” or the “NWR Modernization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Bice, R-Oklahoma), a bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes. **On March 29, 2023, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee ordered the bill to be reported by the Yeas and Nays: 36 – 0.**

**H.R. 1400, the “Territories Statistics Collection Equity Act”**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to direct the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy to develop a plan to collect and publish statistics regarding the Territories of the United States in the same manner as statistics are collected and reported by Federal agencies for the several States, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.