

**Congressional Activities Report**  
**118<sup>th</sup> Congress**  
**April 2024**  
**Submitted to the Caribbean Fishery Management Council**

**Appropriations Update – Fiscal Year 2024**

The Federal government is now fully funded through the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2024). Two public laws were passed by Congress and signed by the President to fund various agencies – P.L. 118-42 (signed on March 9, 2024) included funding for six of the twelve normal appropriations bill (including funding for the Department of Commerce) and P.L. 118-47 (signed on March 23, 2024) included funding for the remaining six appropriations bills.

**Appropriations Update – Fiscal Year 2025**

At this point, no hearings have been scheduled for the NOAA or Department of Commerce budget request in either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees.

**NEW LEGISLATION**

**H.R. 8169**, (Rep. Dean, D-Pennsylvania) [Prognosis: 1%], a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit the use of lead ammunition on all lands and waters under the jurisdiction and control of the Forest Service, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 30, 2024, and referred to the House Agriculture 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. 8156**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress an updated report on the roles, responsibilities, and practices of the Council on Environmental Quality. Introduced on April 29, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 8155**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to develop fish and wildlife program funding alternatives to mitigate the cost to Bonneville Power Administration ratepayers, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 29, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. Res. 1176**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington) [Prognosis: 26%], a resolution expressing disapproval of the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative entered into by the Biden

administration. Sponsor: Newhouse, Dan [Rep.-R-WA-4] Introduced on April 29, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7973**, (Rep. Gimenez, R-Florida) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to support the restoration of coral reefs in South Florida. Introduced on April 12, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7938, the “Klamath Basin Water Agreement Support Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon) [Prognosis: 4%], a bill to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 11, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 4117, the “Climate Change Education Act”**, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts) [Prognosis: 0%], a bill to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Climate Change Education Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 11, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 4113, the “State Boating Act”**, (Sen. Shaheen, D-New Hampshire) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to allow States to require payment of State fees related to boating as a condition for issuance of a vessel number and to collect such fees in conjunction with other fees related to vessel numbering. Introduced on April 11, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 7932**, (Rep. Nehls, R-Texas) [Prognosis: 4%], a bill to prohibit Federal funds from being made available to international financial institutions for the purposes of financing foreign shrimp farms, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 10, 2024, and referred to the House Financial Services Committee.

**H.R. 7925, the “Modernizing Access to Our Public Oceans Act”**, (Rep. D'Esposito, R-New York) [Prognosis: 9%], a bill to provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 10, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7897**, (Rep. Crane, R-Arizona) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to finalize a proposed rule to remove the Apache trout from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife. Introduced on April 09, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7872, the “Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act”**, (Rep. Curtis, R-Utah) [Prognosis: 12%], a bill to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to modify certain requirements applicable to salinity control units, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 05, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7859, the “Tribal Environmental Resiliency Resources Act” or the “TERRA Act”**, (Rep. Kilmer, D-Washington) [Prognosis: 8%], a bill to authorize the integration and administrative streamlining of Federal funding for Indian Tribes that have reservations, other Tribal lands, or ways of life at risk due to environmental impacts and natural disasters, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 02, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 3795, the “Remote Seafood Employee Meals Tax Parity Act”**, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska) [Prognosis: 0%], a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the 50 percent limitation on the deduction for meal expenses does not apply to meals provided on certain fishing boats or at certain fish processing facilities. Introduced on February 9, 2024 and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**S. 3791, the “America’s Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024”**, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware) [Prognosis: 60%], a bill to reauthorize the America’s Conservation Enhancement Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 8, 2024, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. (*Note: this legislation would amend the National Fish Habitat Board to add a second representative of the regional fishery management councils to the Board.*)

**H.R. 6295, the “Remote Seafood Employee Meals Tax Parity Act”**, a bill to (Rep. DelBene, D-Washington) [Prognosis: 1%], a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the 50 percent limitation on the deduction for meal expenses does not apply to meals provided on certain fishing boats or at certain fish processing facilities. Introduced on November 8, 2023, and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

**H.R. 5087, the “Supporting Equity for Aquaculture and Seafood Act” or the “SEAS Act”**, (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to submit a report to Congress on Department of Agriculture spending related to seafood purchases and grants, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 28, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

**S. 2211, the “Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act”**, (Sen. Whitehouse, D-Rhode Island) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish the Office of Aquaculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 22, 2023, and referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

**S. 2208, the “National Seafood Supply Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska) [Prognosis: 0%], a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide support for domestically harvested seafood, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 22, 2023, and referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

**H.R. 3951, the “Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon) [Prognosis: 2%], a bill to establish in the Department of

Agriculture an Office of Aquaculture, and for other purposes. Introduced June 9, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

**H.R. 2734, the “Ocean Acidification Research Partnerships Act”**, (Rep. Carbajal, D-California) [Prognosis: 3%], a bill to provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities. Introduced on April 20, 2023, and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

**S. 618, the “United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Coons, D-Delaware) [Prognosis: 26%], a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 1, 2023, and referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

**H.R. 614, the “Commercial Fishing and Seafood Business Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia) [Prognosis: 6%], a bill to amend the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 to provide for the inclusion of certain workers in the exemption from numerical limitations on H-2B workers, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 27, 2023, and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

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

On April 30, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed **H.R. 615, the “Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia) [Prognosis: 52%], 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.

On April 16, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered to be reported (amended): **H.R. 7408, the “America’s Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act”**, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas) [Prognosis: 21%], a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

On April 16, 2024, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee ordered to be reported (amended): **S. 618, the “United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Coons, D-Delaware) [Prognosis: 26%] a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes.

On April 11, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed **H.R. 2560, the "Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance and Rehabilitation Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Keating, D-Massachusetts) [Prognosis: 30%], a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes.

On April 9, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed **H.R. 1792, the "South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023"**, (as amended by the House Natural Resources Committee), (Rep. Radewagen, R-American Samoa) [Prognosis: 41%], a bill to amend the South Pacific Tuna Act of 1988, and for other purposes.

On April 9, 2024, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee filed the report to accompany **S. 2247, the "Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023"**, (Sen. Hickenlooper, D-) [Prognosis: 45%], a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins, and placed the bill on the Senate Legislative Calendar.

On April 2, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee filed the report to accompany **H.R. 4770, the "Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023"**, (Rep. Sarbanes, D-Maryland) [Prognosis: 23%], a bill to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar.

### **UPCOMING HEARINGS**

On **Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**, the full House Natural Resources Committee will hold an oversight hearing titled "*Examining the President's FY 2025 Budget Request for the Department of the Interior.*"

#### Witnesses:

- The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary, Department of the Interior.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415809>

On **Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.**, the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Homeland Security will hold a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2025 Request for the United States Coast Guard.

#### Witnesses:

- Admiral Linda L. Fagan, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard.

Link: <https://appropriations.house.gov/events/hearings/budget-hearing-fiscal-year-2025-request-united-states-coast-guard>

**On Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation will hold an Executive Session to consider 11 bills (*bills of possible interest are listed below*) and Executive Branch appointments. Note: The agenda is subject to change.

- S. 2086, the “Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023”, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program;
- S. 3277, the “Marine Debris Program Reauthorization”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the Marine Debris Act to reauthorize the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
- S. 3879, the “Illegal Red Snapper Enforcement Act”, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of red snapper imported into the United States, and for other purposes.

Link: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2024/5/executive-session>

**On Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.**, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold an oversight hearing to examine the President’s budget request for the U.S. Department of the Interior for Fiscal Year 2025.

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Deb Haaland, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Link: <https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2024/5/full-committee-hearing-to-examine-the-president-s-budget-request-for-the-u-s-department-of-the-interior-for-fiscal-year-2025>

**On Friday, May 3, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. (CT)**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries will hold an oversight field hearing titled “How Many Wolves Are Enough? Examining the Need to Delist the Gray Wolf.” This hearing will be focused on the impacts of an unmanaged gray wolf population on local communities. Specifically, the subcommittee will hear from impacted stakeholders from the agriculture community, sportsman, local elected officials, and wildlife biologists.

Witnesses: The witness list has not yet been released.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415934>

**On Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.,** the House Natural Resources Committee will hold an oversight hearing titled "Examining the Council on Environmental Quality Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request and Related Policy Matters."

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Brenda Mallory, Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415917>

### **HEARINGS OF INTEREST IN APRIL**

**April 30, 2024,** the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held an oversight hearing titled "Examining the Influence of Extreme Environmental Activist Groups in the Department of the Interior."

Witnesses:

- Mr. Scott Walter, President, Capital Research Center, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Tyler O'Neil, Author, "Making Hate Pay: The Corruption of the Southern Poverty Law Center," Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Richard Painter, S. Walter Richey Professor of Corporate Law, University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415927>

**April 18, 2024,** the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing titled "Assessing Solutions to Secure America's Offshore Energy Future".

Witnesses:

- Mr. Andy McConn, Director, Head of Commercial Intelligence, Enverus, Houston, Texas;
- Ms. Nikki Martin, President & CEO, EnerGeo Alliance, Houston, Texas;
- Mr. Eric Zimmermann, Chief Operating Officer, LLOG Exploration, Covington, Louisiana; and
- Mr. Tyson Slocum, Director, Energy Program, Public Citizen, Washington, DC.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415851>

**April 11, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held an oversight hearing titled “Energizing the Territories: Promoting Affordable and Reliable Energy Sources for the U.S. Insular Areas.”

Witnesses:

- Mr. John Brewer, Director, Office of Insular and International Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Kyle Fleming, Chairman, U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands;
- Mr. Kenny Stein, Vice President of Policy, Institute for Energy Research, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Travis Fisher, Director of Energy and Environmental Policy Studies, CATO Institute, Washington, D.C.;
- Dr. Gregory Guannel, Director, Caribbean Green Technology Center, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415818>

**April 5, 2024**, the House Transportation Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation and the House Homeland Security Committee’s Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a joint field hearing entitled, “Port Safety, Security, and Infrastructure Investment”, at Terminal E of the Port of Miami located at 1265 North Cruise Boulevard, Miami, Florida.

Witnesses:

PANEL I:

- Rear Admiral John C. Vann, Commander, Coast Guard Cyber Command, United States Coast Guard;
- Rear Admiral Wayne Arguin, Assistant Commandant for Prevention Policy, United States Coast Guard;
- Mr. Gregory “Jack” Kammerer, MPA, MMAS, Executive Director, Maritime Administration;

PANEL II:

- James Fowler, Senior VP & General Manager, Crowley Shipping;
- Frederick Wong Jr., Deputy Port Director, PortMiami;
- Brent Sadler, Senior Research Fellow, Heritage Foundation;
- Ed McCarthy, Chief Operating Officer, Georgia Ports Authority;
- Dave Morgan, President and CEO, Cooper/Ports America.



Link: <https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=407343>

### **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).

### **NOAA APPROPRIATIONS (Fiscal Year 2024)**

*(Committee actions taken prior to Continuing Resolutions)*

**July 14, 2023**, the House Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies marked up H. R. \_\_\_\_\_, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The text of the bill (prior to being marked up) can be found at: <https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP19/20230714/116251/BILLS-118--AP--CJS-FY24CJSSubcommitteeMark.pdf>

**July 13, 2023**, at 11:00 a.m., the Senate Appropriations Committee held a full committee markup of three appropriation bills for Fiscal Year 2024:

- “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024”;
- **S. 2321, the “Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”**; and
- “Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2024”.

*Note: The text of the bills to be marked up are not yet available.*

Link: <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup-of-fiscal-year-2024-legislative-branch-commerce-justice-science-and-related-agencies-and-financial-services-and-general-government-appropriations-acts>

**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>

**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**

**March 21, 2024**, the Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the following bills:

- **H.R. 1395, the “Delaware River Basin Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Fitzpatrick, R-Pennsylvania), a bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 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. 5487, the “Help Our Kelp Act”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish and carry out a grant program to conserve, restore, and manage kelp forest ecosystems, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee;
- **H.R. 6814, the “Marine Fisheries Habitat Protection Act”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to assess certain offshore oil and gas platforms and pipelines for potential use as artificial reefs, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; and
- **H.R. 7020, the “Great Lakes Mapping Act”**, (Rep. McClain, R-Michigan), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct high-resolution mapping of the lakebeds of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 17, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Witnesses:

Panel I

- Members of Congress TBD

Panel II

- Mr. Clay Porph, Director, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Miami, Florida [*Testifying on all bills*];
- Ms. Jennifer Boehme, Chief Executive Officer, Great Lakes Observing System, Ann Arbor, Michigan [*Testifying on H.R. 7020*];
- Mr. Chris Horton, Senior Director, Fisheries Policy, Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation, Bismarck, Arkansas [*Testifying on H.R. 6814*];
- Mr. Kelly Knutson, Director, Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed, Princeton, New Jersey [*Testifying on H.R. 1395*]; and
- Ms. Deb Self, Senior Director of Restoration and Partnerships, Greater Farallones Association, San Francisco, California [*Testifying on H.R. 5487*]

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415730>

**March 20, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a legislative hearing on several bills (only one of which is of potential interest to the Councils):

- H.R. 5499, the “Congressional Oversight of the Antiquities Act”, (Rep. Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa), bill to amend the Antiquities Act to increase congressional oversight with respect to the designation of national monuments, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Witnesses:

Panel I (Members of Congress):

- To Be Announced

Panel II (Administration Officials):

- Ms. Nada Wolff Culver, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C. [*Testifying on H.R. 5499, H.R. 6085, H.R. 6209, H.R. 6547, and H.R. 7006*];
- Mr. Chris French, Deputy Chief for the National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Washington, DC [*Testifying on H.R. 5015, H.R. 5499, and H.R. 7006*];

Panel III (Outside Experts):

- Ms. Michelle McConkie, Director, State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), Salt Lake City, Utah [*Testifying on H.R. 5499*];
- Mr. Eric Bingham, Land Use Director, Sweetwater County, Green River, Wyoming [*Testifying on H.R. 6085*];
- Ms. Kathleen Sgamma, President, Western Energy Alliance, Denver, Colorado [*Testifying on H.R. 5499, H.R. 6085, H.R. 6547, and H.R. 7006*];
- Mr. Wade Garrett, Vice President for Advocacy and Strategic Relations, Utah Farm Bureau Federation, Sandy, Utah [*Testifying on H.R. 5499 and H.R. 7006*];
- The Hon. Greg Poschman, Commissioner, Board of County Commissioners, Pitkin County, Aspen, Colorado [*Testifying on H.R. 6547*]; and
- Dr. Jay M. Lillywhite, Assist Dean – Economic and Rural Development, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico [*Testifying on H.R. 5015*]

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415719>

**March 12, 2024**, the full Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on twelve bills (one of which may be of interest to the Councils):

- **H.R. 6235, the “Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415685>

**March 6, 2024**, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on global food security.

Witnesses:

- Ms. Dina Esposito, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Resilience, Environment, and Food Security, United States Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C.; and
- Dr. Cary Fowler, Special Envoy for Global Food Security, United States Department of State, Washington, D.C.

Link: <https://www.foreign.senate.gov/hearings/global-food-security>

**March 6, 2024**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing titled “Implementation of the Recommendations of the Accountability and Transparency Review and Efforts to Ease Coast Guard Manpower Shortages”.

Witnesses:

- Vice Admiral Paul F. Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, United States Coast Guard; and
- Ms. Heather MacLeod, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, United States Government Accountability Office

Link: <https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=407236>

**March 6, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the following bill:

- H.R. 7408 (Rep. Westerman), “America’s Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act”.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Matthew Strickler, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Austin Booth, Director, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas;
- Mr. Ryan Bronson, Director of Government Affairs, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Missoula, Montana;
- Mr. David P. Tenny, President and CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners, Washington, D.C.; and
- Mr. Glenn Olson, Donal O’Brien Chair in Bird Conservation and Public Policy National Audubon Society, National Audubon Society, New York, New York.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415604>

**February 14, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the following bills (*bills of possible interest are in bold*):

- **H.R. 3119, (Rep. Soto, D-Florida), a bill to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp;**
- **H.R. 6784, the “ESA Flexibility Act” (Rep. Stauber, R-Minnesota), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for protective regulations when a species is listed as an endangered species;**
- H.R. 6854, the "Habitat Enhancement Now Act", (Rep. Fischbach, R-Minnesota), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish 2 grant programs to sustain populations of species of migratory waterfowl through the deployment of tools and practices that complement habitat conservation; and
- H.R. 7157, the “Strengthen Wood Product Supply Chains Act”, (Rep. Duarte, R-California), a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to ensure fair enforcement of such Act.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Steve Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management and Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. (*testifying on all bills*);
- Mr. Frank Rohwer, President and Chief Scientist, Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Bismarck, North Dakota (*testifying on H.R. 6854*);
- Mr. Jordan McIlvain, Vice President, Alan McIlvain Company, Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania (*testifying on H.R. 7157*);
- Mr. Ray Higgins, Executive Vice President, Minnesota Timber Producers Association, Duluth, Minnesota (*testifying on H.R. 6784*); and
- Mr. Alexander von Bismarck, Executive Director, Environmental Investigation Agency, Washington, D.C.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415529>

**January 30, 2024**, the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a hearing titled “Exposing President Biden’s Plan to Dismantle the Snake River Dams and the Negative Impacts to the United States.”

Witnesses:

Panel I

- Brenda Mallory, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality;
- John Hairston, Administrator and CEO, Bonneville Power Administration;
- Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), U.S. Army;
- Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and,
- Jeremiah Baumann, Senior Advisor, Director of Policy and Implementation, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy.

Panel II

- Jim Matheson, CEO, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA);
  - Casey Chumrau, CEO, Washington Grain Commission;
  - Neil Maunu, Executive Director, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association (PNWA);
- and,

- Jeremy Takala, Member, Yakama Nation’s Tribal Council.

Link: <https://energycommerce.house.gov/events/energy-climate-and-grid-security-subcommittee-hearing-exposing-president-biden-s-plan-to-dismantle-the-snake-river-dams-and-the-negative-impacts-to-the-united-states>

**January 20, 2024**, Rep. Harris, R-Maryland, held a public event on the effects offshore wind industrialization is having on our environment, marine life, and economy. According to the Congressman’s website, the purpose of this event “is to hear public testimony from experts in industries affected by offshore wind followed by questions from three Members of Congress whose districts are directly impacted by its harmful effects.” The event was scheduled to be held at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center: 4001 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, Maryland. [*This “event” was technically not a Congressional hearing. This is the second “event” held by east coast Congressmen on the offshore wind issue.*]

Panelists:

- Expert in the fishing industry.
- Expert in environmental and energy policy.
- Expert in the economic impacts of offshore wind.
- Expert in the local impacts of offshore wind.

Invited Panelists:

- US Wind
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t4ycVEcuEa4>

**January 18, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on the following bills:

- H.R. 897 Rep. Carl Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act;
- H.R. 3925 Rep. Salazar Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act of 2023;
- H.R. 5441 Rep. LaLota Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Reauthorization Act of 2023; and
- H.R. 6235 Rep. Bonamici Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2023.

Witnesses:

Panel I

- Members of Congress TBD

Panel II

- Mr. Paul M. Scholz, Deputy Assistant Administrator of the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Silver Spring, Maryland [testifying on H.R. 897, H.R. 3925, and H.R. 6235];
- Mr. Mike Lum, Fundraising and Event Coordinator, Captain Rollo’s Kids at Sea, San Diego, California [testifying on H.R. 3925];
- Mr. Chris Pickerell, Marine Program Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, Riverhead, New York [testifying on H.R. 5441];
- Mr. Ben Raines, Environmental Fellow, Writer and Filmmaker in Residence, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama [testifying on H.R. 897]; and
- Dr. Donald Anderson, Senior Scientist and Director, U.S. National Office for Harmful Algal Blooms, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Woods Hole, Massachusetts [testifying on H.R. 6235]

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415370>

**January 18, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a legislative hearing on the following bills:

- H.R. 6062 Rep. Radewagen - To restore the ability of the people of American Samoa to approve amendments to the territorial constitution based on majority rule in a democratic act of self-determination as authorized pursuant to an Act of Congress delegating administration of Federal territorial law in the territory to the President and to the Secretary of the Interior under Executive Order 10264 dated June 29 1951 under which the Constitution of American Samoa was approved and may be amended without requirement for further congressional action, subject to the authority of Congress under the Territorial Clause in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution; and
- H.R. 6273 (Rep. Moylan), “Guam Host Community Compensation Act”.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Keone Nakoa, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Insular and International Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- The Hon. Talauega Eleasalo Vaalele Ale, Lieutenant Governor, American Samoa, Pago Pago, American Samoa;
- The Hon. Alexander Eli Jennings, Swains Island Delegate, American Samoa House of Representatives, Pago Pago, American Samoa;
- The Hon. Jesse Alig, Mayor, Piti, Guam; and
- The Hon. Lordes Aflague “Lou” Leon Guerrero, Governor, Hagåtña, Guam [*Minority Witness*]

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415368>

**January 17, 2024**, the full House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on the following bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):



- H.R. 1246 (Rep. Hageman, R-Wyoming), a bill to authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian tribes;
- **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;**
- H.R. 5482, the “Energy Poverty Prevention and Accountability Act of 2023”, (Rep. Hageman, R-Wyoming), a bill to prevent energy poverty and ensure that at-risk communities have access to affordable energy;
- H.R. 5770, the “Water Data Improvement Act”, (Rep. Neguse, D- Colorado), a bill to reauthorize certain United States Geological Survey water data enhancement programs;
- H.R. 5874, the “Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program Act” or the “TAAP Act”, (Rep. Ciscomani, R-Arizona), a bill to amend the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act to reauthorize the United States-Mexico transboundary aquifer assessment program;
- H.R. 6443, the “Jamul Indian Village Land Transfer Act”, (Rep. Issa, R- California), a bill to take certain land in the State of California into trust for the benefit of the Jamul Indian Village of California Tribe, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 6474 (Rep. Steel, R-California), a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas; and
- H.R. 6492, “Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences Act” or the “EXPLORE Act”, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas), a bill to improve recreation opportunities on, and facilitate greater access to, Federal public land, and for other purposes.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415394>

**January 11, 2024**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing titled “Examining the Biden Administration’s Limits on Access to the OCS: Impacts on Consumers, States, and Operators.”

Witnesses:

- Mr. Chris Blankenship, Commissioner, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Montgomery, Alabama;
- Mr. David Holt, President, Consumer Energy Alliance, Houston, Texas;
- Mr. Mark Heavens, Chief Clerk, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas;
- Ms. Erandi Treviño, Organizer, Public Citizen, Houston, Texas; and
- Dr. Walter Cruickshank, Deputy Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415354>

**December 12, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held an oversight hearing titled “Left in the Dark: Examining the Biden Administration’s Efforts to Eliminate the Pacific Northwest’s Clean Energy Production.”

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Richard Spinrad, Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere & NOAA Administrator, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC [*Invited*];
- the Honorable Brenda Mallory, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality, Washington, DC [*Invited*];
- Mr. John Hairston, Administrator & CEO, Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, Oregon [*Invited*];
- Mr. Scott Simms, CEO & Executive Director, Public Power Council, Portland, Oregon;
- Mr. Neil Maunu, Executive Director, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, Portland, Oregon;
- Ms. Humaira Falkenberg, Power Resources Manager, Pacific County PUD, Raymond, Washington; and
- Mr. Lindsay Slater, VP of Government Relations, Trout Unlimited, Arlington, Virginia.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415287>

**December 12, 2023**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held an oversight hearing titled “Guardians of the Sea: National Security Missions of the United States Coast Guard.”

Witnesses:

- Vice Admiral Peter Gautier, Deputy Commandant for Operations, United States Coast Guard.

Link: <https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=407008>

\*\*\* POSTPONED \*\*\* On Wednesday, November 29, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries and the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources was scheduled to hold a joint oversight hearing titled “Examining the Biden Administration’s Offshore Wind Development Policy.” The hearing has been postponed and no date has been set for the hearing.

**November 14, 2023**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing titled “Guardians of the Sea: Examining Coast Guard Efforts in Drug Enforcement Illegal Migration and IUU Fishing”.

Witnesses:

- Rear Admiral Jo-Ann Burdian, Assistant Commandant for Response Policy (CG-5R), United States Coast Guard;
- Heather MacLeod, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, United States Government Accountability Office;
- Aaron Davenport, Associate Director; Infrastructure, Immigration, and Security Operations Program; RAND Corporation; and
- Dr. Caitlin Keating-Bitonti, Natural Resources Policy Analyst, Congressional Research Service.

Link: More information on the hearing and a link to watch the hearing will be available later at this link: <https://transportation.house.gov/calendar/>

**November 10, 2023**, the Senate Indian Affairs Committee held a field hearing and listening session titled, “The Impact of the Historic Salmon Declines on the Health and Well-Being of Alaska Native Communities Along Arctic, Yukon, and Kuskokwim Rivers” in Bethel, Alaska.

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Thaddeus Tikiun, Jr., Chairperson, Association of Village Council Presidents, Bethel, Alaska;
- The Honorable Brian Ridley, Chief/Chairman, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska;
- Mr. Jonathan Samuelson, Chair, Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Bethel, Alaska;
- Mr. Dan Winkelman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Bethel, Alaska;
- Ms. Nicole Borromeo, Executive Vice President, Alaska Federation of Natives, Anchorage, Alaska;
- Ms. Tisha Neviq'aq Kuhns, Vice President of Land and Natural Resources, Calista Corporation, Anchorage, Alaska; and
- Mr. Charles Menadelook, Subsistence Director, Kawerak, Inc., Nome, Alaska.

Link: <https://www.indian.senate.gov/hearings/field-hearing-titled-the-impact-of-the-historic-salmon-declines-on-the-health-and-well-being-of-alaska-native-communities-along-the-yukon-and-kuskokwim-rivers/>

**November 8, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on the following bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):

- H.R. 1121, the “Protecting American Energy Production Act” (Rep. Duncan, R-South Carolina), a bill to prohibit a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing;

- H.R. 4385, the “Drought Preparedness Act”, (Rep. Neguse, D-Colorado), a bill to extend authorization of the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991;
- **H.R. 6008, the “Requiring Integrity in Conservation Efforts Act” or as the “R.I.C.E.’s Whale Act”, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice’s whale; and**
- **H.J. Res. 96, the “Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023”, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas), a bill to approve the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact, and related agreements, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact, and certain related agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau, to appropriate funds to carry out the agreements, and for other purposes.**

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415101>

**November 8, 2023**, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee marked up **H.R. 6093, the “Weather Act Reauthorization”**, (Rep. Lucas, R-Oklahoma), a bill to improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s weather research, support improvements in weather forecasting and prediction, expand commercial opportunities for the provision of weather data, and for other purposes.

Link: <https://science.house.gov/2023/11/full-committee-markup-of-h-r-6093>

**October 26, 2023**, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing to examine federal offshore energy strategy and policies.

Witnesses:

- Ms. Elizabeth Klein, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, U.S. Department of the Interior; and
- The Honorable Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Link: <https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2023/10/full-committee-hearing-to-examine-federal-offshore-energy-strategy-and-policies>

**October 25, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on a number of bills (bills of possible interest to the Councils are in bold):

- **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;**
- **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;**
- **H.R. 5103, the “Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation Act” or the “FISHES Act”, (Rep. Donalds, R-Florida), a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve or deny spend plans within a certain amount of time, and for other purposes;**
- **H.R. 5504, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington), a bill to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to withdraw proposed rules relating to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes;**
- H.R. 5509, the “Electronic Permitting Modernization Act”, (Rep. Porter, D-California), a bill to modernize permitting systems at the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 5874, the “Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program Act” or the “TAAP Act”, (Rep. Ciscomani, R-Arizona), a bill to amend the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act to reauthorize the United States-Mexico transboundary aquifer assessment program; and
- **Discussion Draft of H.R. \_\_\_ (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice’s whale.**

Witnesses:

Panel I

- Members of Congress (TBD)

Panel II

- Mr. Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Dr. Richard Spinrad, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere & NOAA Administrator, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. [invited];
- Ms. Shalanda Young, Director, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, D.C. [invited];
- Mr. Jonathan Wood, Vice President of Law and Policy, Property and Environment Research Center, Bozeman, Montana;
- Dr. Alex Loureiro, Scientific Director, EnerGeo Alliance, Houston, Texas;
- Dr. Sharon B. Megdal, Director, Water Resources Research Center, The University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona;

- Mr. Robert E. Beal, Executive Director, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Arlington, Virginia;
- Mr. Tom Birmingham, Water Policy Expert, Sacramento California;
- Dr. Barbara Taylor, Red List Coordinator for the Cetacean Specialist Group, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, San Diego, California; and
- Mr. Stephen Roady, Senior Lecturing Fellow, Duke University School of Law, Professor of the Practice, Duke School of the Environment, Washington, D.C.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415000>

**October 24, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up a number of bills including (bills of possible interest to the Councils are in **bold**):

- **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;**
- **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;**
- H.R. 3415, the “Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act”, (Rep. Hageman, R-Wyoming), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Midvale Irrigation District the Pilot Butte Power Plant in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes;
- **H.R. 4587, the “Red Snapper Act”, (Rep. Rutherford, R-Florida), a bill to provide that the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall not issue an interim or final rule that includes an area closure in the South Atlantic for species managed under the Snapper-Grouper Fishery Management Plan until the South Atlantic Great Red Snapper Count study is complete and the data related to that study is integrated into the stock assessment;**
- **H.R. 4770, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”, (Rep. Sarbanes, D-Maryland), a bill to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes;**
- **H.R. 5009, the “Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver reauthorization Act” or the “WILD Act” (Rep. Joyce, R-Ohio), a bill to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes;**
- H.R. 5283, the “Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023”, (Rep. Malliotakis, R-New York), a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to provide housing to specified aliens on any land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Federal land management agencies; and
- H.R. 5616, the “Bringing Reliable Investment into Domestic Gulf Energy Production Act of 2023” or the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain offshore lease sales.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=415030>

**October 24, 2023**, the Congressional-Executive Commission on China held a hearing titled “From Bait to Plate—How Forced Labor in China Taints America’s Seafood Supply Chain”.

According to the Commission’s website,

“Forced labor in China taints the world’s seafood supply chain. PRC-based companies that use the forced labor of Uyghurs and North Koreans process a large amount of seafood for the U.S. market. From fish sticks to calamari—these products end up in the supply chains of major restaurants and wholesalers and in the lunches served at American schools and military bases. Recently published reports by The Outlaw Ocean Project detail how forced labor is rampant in China’s seafood industry, including modern slavery on China’s illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing fleet, and in processing plants located in Shandong province of China—where Uyghurs are employed in labor transfer projects. There is also emerging evidence that North Koreans are also working in the fish processing industry in Liaoning province. Squid, pollack, baby clams, and crab are just some of the imports that make it onto the plates of American consumers.

“U.S. imports of seafood caught or processed with forced labor may be prohibited under the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (Public Law 117-78), the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115-44), and other laws. Nevertheless, the U.S. Government, major grocery chains, and restaurants continue to purchase seafood caught and processed using forced labor in China.

“This hearing will continue the CECC’s efforts to ensure that PRC goods and products made with forced labor do not enter U.S. markets. Witnesses will provide testimony about the human rights abuses on board China’s IUU fishing fleet, the seafood supply chains tainted by forced labor in China, and the exposure of the U.S. Government and American consumers to these supply chains. Witnesses will also provide recommendations for U.S. action.”

Witnesses:

- Ian Urbina, Director and Founder of The Outlaw Ocean Project;
- Robert K. Stumberg, Professor of Law at Georgetown University;
- Greg Scarlatou, Executive Director of the Committee for Human Rights in North Korea; and
- Sally Yozell, Director of the Environmental Security Program at the Stimson Center.

Submitted Testimony:

- Judy Gearhart, Research Professor at the Accountability Research Center at American University;
- Badri Jimale, Director of Horn of African Institute;
- Stephanie Madsen, Executive Director of At-Sea Processors Association; and
- Michael Sinclair, former Federal Executive Fellow at The Brookings Institute.

Link to Commission website regarding the hearing: <https://www.cecc.gov/events/hearings/from-bait-to-plate-how-forced-labor-in-china-taints-the-american-seafood-industry>

Link to the hearing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jYHqJvLrQNU>

**September 28, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a legislative hearing on the following bills:

- H.R. 1121, the “Protecting American Energy Production Act”, (Rep. Duncan, R-South Carolina), a bill to prohibit a moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing; and
- H.R. 5616, the “Bringing Reliable Investment into Domestic Gulf Energy Production Act of 2023” or the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain offshore lease sales.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Tim Tarpley, President, Energy Workforce and Technology Council, Houston, Texas;
- Mr. Greg Upton, Executive Director and Associate Professor of Research at LSU Center for Energy Studies, Baton Rouge, Louisiana;
- Mr. Chett Chiasson, Executive Director Port Fourchon, Fourchon, Louisiana; and
- Ms. Breon Robinson, Organizer, Healthy Gulf, Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414890>

**September 20, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held a mark-up on a number of bills (only the bills of possible interest are listed below):

- H.R. 4051, the “Supporting the Health of Aquatic systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue Act” or “SHARKED Act”, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force regarding shark depredation, and for other purposes; and
- H.R. 4596, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”, (Rep. Boebert, R-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414845>

**September 19, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held an oversight hearing titled “Examining Barriers to Access in Federal Waters: A Closer Look at the Marine Sanctuary and Monument System”



Witnesses:

Panel I:

- Ms. Jainey Bavishi, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Washington, DC

Panel II:

- Ms. Florence Kargi, Regional Affairs Manager, Coastal Villages Region Fund, Anchorage, Alaska;
- Mr. Bill Gibbons-Fly, Executive Director, American Tunaboat Association, Annapolis, Maryland;
- Mr. Eric Reid, Chair, New England Fishery Management Council, North Kingstown, Rhode Island;
- Mr. William Johnson Aila, Native Hawaiian Fisherman, Waianae, Hawaii.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414811>

**September 14, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held an oversight hearing titled “Examining Systemic Government Overreach at CEQ”.

Witnesses:

- Ms. Brenda Mallory, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality, Washington, DC (Invited);
- Mr. Mario Loyola, Director, Environmental Finance & Risk Management Program, Research Assistant Professor, Florida International University—Institute of Environment, Miami, FL;
- Ms. Jill Witkowski Heaps, Senior Attorney, Earthjustice, New York, NY;
- Mr. Scott Simms, CEO & Executive Director, Public Power Council, Portland, OR; and
- Mr. Marlo Lewis, Senior Fellow, Competitive Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414801>

*(Note: At the link above there is more information on the hearing including a "hearing memo" that republican staff has prepared for Members of the Committee. According to the memo, CEQ was invited to testify, but will not be in attendance.)*

**September 13, 2023**, the House Oversight and Accountability Committee held an oversight hearing titled “Unsuitable Litigation: Oversight of Third-Party Litigation Funding”.

Witnesses:

- Maya Steinitz, Professor of Law, Boston University School of Law;
- Erik Milito, President, National Ocean Industries Association;
- Julie Lucas, Executive Director, MiningMinnesota; and
- Aviva Wein, Assistant General Counsel, Johnson & Johnson.

Link: <https://oversight.house.gov/hearing/unsuitable-litigation-oversight-of-third-party-litigation-funding/>

**August 24, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight field hearing titled “Peace Through Strength: The Strategic Importance of the Pacific Islands to U.S.-led Global Security.” According to the committee website, the “hearing will examine the importance of the U.S. Territories and the Freely Associated States to the United States’ ability to counter the People’s Republic of China’s malign influence and maintain our nation’s strategic interests in the region.” The hearing was held at the Hilton Hotel, Tamuning, Guam.

Witnesses:

Panel I:

- The Hon. Lourdes “Lou” Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam, Hagåtña, GU;
- The Hon. Arnold I. Palacios, Governor of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, Saipan, MP;
- The Hon. Kaleb Udoi, Jr., Minister of Finance, Republic of Palau, Koror, Palau;
- The Hon. Ricky Cantero, Acting Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs, Federated States of Micronesia Pohnpei State, FM;
- The Hon. Jack Ading, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of the Marshall Islands Majuro, MH;

Panel II:

- Brigadier General Michael W. Cruz, Adjutant General, Guam National Guard, Barrigada, GU;
- Brigadier General Roderick R. Leon Guerrero, United States Army (Retired), Mangilao, GU;
- The Hon. Tina Barnes, Vice Speaker, Guam Legislature, Hagåtña, GU; and
- Ms. Irene Sgambelluri, World War II Survivor, Talofofu, GU.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414736>

**July 27, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a legislative hearing on a number of bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):

- H.R. 1437, the “Black Vulture Relief Act of 2023”, (Rep. Rose, R-Tennessee), a bill to authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures in order to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock, and for other purposes;
- **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;**
- **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;**
- H.R. 2982, the “New Jersey Watershed Protection Act”, (Rep. Tonko, D-New York), a bill to establish the New York-New Jersey Watershed Restoration Program, and for other purposes;
- **H.R. 4051, the “Supporting the Health of Aquatic Systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue Act” or “SHARKED Act”, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force regarding shark depredation, and for other purposes;**
- H.R. 4094 Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act, (Rep. Curtis, R-Utah), a bill to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to authorize expenditures for the conduct of certain water conservation measures in the Great Salt Lake basin, and for other purposes;
- **H.R. 4587, the “Red Snapper Act”, (Rep. Rutherford, R-Florida), a bill to provide that the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall not issue an interim or final rule that includes an area closure in the South Atlantic for species managed under the Snapper-Grouper Fishery Management Plan until the South Atlantic Great Red Snapper Count study is complete and the data related to that study is integrated into the stock assessment;**
- H.R. 4596, the “Upper Clifton Opportunities Now for Vibrant Economic Yields Act” or “CONVEY Act”, (Rep. Boebert, R-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins; and
- H.R. 3049, the “Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration Exchange Act”, (Rep. Curtis, R-Utah), a bill to provide for the exchange of certain Federal land and State land in the State of Utah.

Witnesses:

Panel I:

- The Honorable Rob Wittman, Representative from the First District of Virginia;
- The Honorable Amata Radewagen, Representative from American Samoa;
- The Honorable John Curtis, Representative from the Third District of Utah;
- The Honorable Lauren Boebert, Representative from the Third District of Colorado;
- The Honorable John Rutherford, Representative from the Fifth District of Florida;
- The Honorable Paul Tonko, Representative from the Twentieth District of New York;
- The Honorable John Rose, Representative from the Sixth District of Tennessee;
- The Honorable Jared Huffman, Representative from the Second District of California;

Panel II:

- Dr. Kelly Kryc, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, DC;
- Mr. Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Program Management and Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC;

Panel III:

- Mr. William Gibbons-Fly, Executive Director, American Tunaboat Association, San Diego, CA (testifying on H.R.1792);
- Mr. Jack Graham, Captain, Afishianado Charters, Nags Head, NC (testifying on H.R. 4051);
- Ms. Jessica McCawley, Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries Management, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL (testifying on H.R. 4587);
- Mr. Gene Shawcroft, General Manager of the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, Orem, UT (testifying on H.R.4094);
- Mr. Steve Wolff, General Manager, Southwestern Water Conservation District, Durango, CO (testifying on H.R. 4596);
- Mr. Charlie Beshar, Property Rights and Environmental Management Committee, Chair, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, Patton, MO (testifying on H.R. 1437);
- Ms. Genevieve Genest, Donor Relations Manager, Galveston Bay Foundation, Kemah, TX (testifying on H.R. 2950); and
- Mr. Seth Atkinson, Quillback Consulting, Santa Cruz, CA (testifying on H.R. 4587).

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414642>

**July 27, 2023**, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing titled “Review of the Recapitalization of the United States Coast Guard Surface Air IT and Shoreside Assets”.

Witnesses:

- Vice Admiral Paul Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, United States Coast Guard;
- Ms. Marie Mak, Director, Contracting and National Security, United States Government Accountability Office

Link: <https://transportation.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=406784>

**July 27, 2023**, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee held a markup to consider the following bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):

- H.R. 4755, the “Privacy Enhancing Technology Research Act”, (Rep. Stevens, D-Michigan), a bill to support research on privacy enhancing technologies and promote responsible data use, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 4824, the “Carbon Sequestration Collaboration Act”, (Rep. Baird, R-Indiana), a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out terrestrial carbon sequestration research and development activities, and for other purposes;
- H.R. \_\_\_\_, the Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research, development, and demonstration program with respect to abandoned wells, and for other purposes
- H.R. 1069, the “Clean Energy Demonstration Transparency Act of 2023”, (Rep. Carey, R-Ohio), a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to require reporting regarding clean energy demonstration projects, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 3915, the Aviation Weather Improvement Act, (Rep. McCormick, R-Georgia), a bill to improve the National Weather Service's forecasting of turbulence and acquisition of aviation weather data, and for other purposes
- **H.R. 4866, the Fire Weather Development Act of 2023, (Rep. Garcia, R-California), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a program to improve fire weather and fire environment forecasting, detection, and local collaboration, and for other purposes.**

Link: <https://science.house.gov/2023/7/full-committee-markup-of-h-r-4755-h-r-4824-h-r-1069-h-r-3915>

**July 27, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing titled “Safeguarding American Jobs and Economic Growth: Examining the Future of the Offshore Leasing Program”.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Archie Chiasson, III, President, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana;
- Mr. Paul Danos, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Danos, Gray, Louisiana;
- Mr. Mike Minarovic, Chief Executive Officer, Arena Offshore, The Woodlands, Texas; and
- Mr. Justin Solet, Gulf South Advocate, Dulac, Louisiana.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414637>

**July 27, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a business meeting to consider a number of bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):

- S.447, the “Orbital Sustainability Act of 2023” or the “ORBITS Act of 2023”, (Sen. Hickenlooper, D-Colorado), a bill to establish a demonstration program for the active remediation of orbital debris and to require the development of uniform orbital debris standard practices in order to support a safe and sustainable orbital environment;
- S.484, the “Combating Human Rights Abuses Act of 2023”, (Sen. Peters, D-Michigan), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China;
- S.1153, the “National Manufacturing Advisory Council for the 21st Century Act”, (Sen. Peters, D-Michigan), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce; S.1303, to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees;
- S.1409, the “Kids Online Safety Act”, (Sen. Blumenthal, D-Connecticut), a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet;
- S.1418, the “Children and Teens’ Online Privacy Protection Act”, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens;
- **S.1421, the “Country Of Origin Labeling Online Act” or the “COOL Online Act”, (Sen. Baldwin, D-Wisconsin), a bill to require origin and location disclosure for new products of foreign origin offered for sale on the internet;**

- S.1648, the “Launch Communications Act”, (Sen. Schmitt, R-Missouri) a bill to facilitate access to the electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries;
- S.1669, the “AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act of 2023”, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles;
- **S.2086, the “Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023”, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program;**
- S.2116, the “Strengthening Support for American Manufacturing Act”, (Sen. Peters, D-Michigan), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to produce a report that provides recommendations to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of Department of Commerce programs related to supply chain resilience and manufacturing and industrial innovation; and
- S. 2201, (Sen. Klobuchar, D-Minnesota), a bill to increase knowledge and awareness of best practices to reduce cybersecurity risks in the United States.

Link: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/7/executive-session>

**July 26, 2023**, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a business meeting to consider a number of bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):

- S. 2195, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware), a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program;
- **S.2395, the “Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization Act” or the “WILD Act”, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware) a bill to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs;**
- **S.1381, the “Coastal Habitat Conservation Act of 2023”, (Sen. Cardin, D-Maryland), 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;**
- S.1278, (Sen. Stabenow, D-Michigan), a bill to designate the Federal building located at 985 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the "Rosa Parks Federal Building"; and
- GSA Resolutions; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine improving capacity for critical mineral recovery through electronic waste recycling and reuse.

Link: <https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=3759E7E6-7AFC-4796-A777-256FF4864DBC>

**July 19, 2023**, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water and Power held a hearing on a number of bills that may be of interest to the Councils including:

- S. \_\_\_, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to continue to implement endangered fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins, and for other purposes (Hickenlooper/Romney);
- S. 482, to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes (Wyden);
- S. 1215, to require assessments of opportunities to install and maintain floating photovoltaic solar panels at Bureau of Reclamation and Corps of Engineers projects, and for other purposes (King); and
- S. 1521, to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize and improve the licensing of non-Federal hydropower projects, and for other purposes (Daines/Cantwell);

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Camille C. Touton, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior;
- The Honorable Alex Padilla, United States Senator (D-CA).

Link: <https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2023/7/water-and-power-subcommittee-hearing-to-receive-testimony-on-pending-legislation>

**July 18, 2023**, the Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held an oversight hearing titled “ESA at 50: The Destructive Cost of the ESA.”

Witnesses:

- Ms. Janet Coit, Deputy Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.;
- The Honorable Martha Williams, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Justin Jahnz, Chief Executive Officer, East Central Energy, Braham, Minnesota;
- Mr. Sean Vibbert, Owner, Obsidian Seed Company, Madras, Oregon;
- Mr. Jonathan Wood, Vice President of Law and Policy, Property and Environment Research Center, Bozeman, Montana;



- Mr. Dan Ashe, President and CEO, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Silver Spring, Maryland.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414552>

**July 18, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Indo-Pacific Task Force held an oversight hearing titled “The Biden’s Administration’s Proposed Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023”.

Witnesses:

Panel 1:

- The Honorable Joseph Y. Yun, Special Presidential Envoy for Compact Negotiations, United States of America, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Keone Nakoa, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Dr. Siddharth Mohandas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia, U.S. Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.;

Panel 2:

- His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr., President, Republic of Palau;
- The Hon. Kenneth Kedi, Speaker, The Parliament of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of the Marshall Islands;
- Mr. Leo A. Falcam, Jr., Chief Compact Negotiator, Federated States of Micronesia.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=414550>

**July 13, 2023**, the Senate Appropriations Committee held a full committee markup of three appropriation bills for Fiscal Year 2024:

- “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024”;
- **“Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”**; and
- “Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2024”.

Link: <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup-of-fiscal-year-2024-legislative-branch-commerce-justice-science-and-related-agencies-and-financial-services-and-general-government-appropriations-acts>

**July 13, 2023**, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee’s Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change and Manufacturing held a hearing titled “Budget Oversight of the United States Coast Guard”.

Witnesses:

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

Link: <https://www.commerce.senate.gov/2023/7/budget-oversight-of-the-united-states-coast-guard>

**July 13, 2023**, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to examine the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023, a joint resolution proposed by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Interior, to approve agreements concluded with the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Palau (and an agreement with the Republic of the Marshall Islands upon its conclusion) to amend the Compacts of Free Association with the Freely Associated States.

Witnesses:

- Mr. Leo A. Falcam, Jr., Chief Compact Negotiator, Federated States of Micronesia:

Panel 1:

- The Honorable Joseph Y. Yun, Special Presidential Envoy for Compact Negotiations, United States of America;
- The Honorable Carmen G. Cantor, Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior;
- Dr. Siddharth Mohandas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia, Office of the Secretary of Defense, U.S. Department of Defense;

Panel 2:

- His Excellency Surangel S. Whipps, Jr., President, Republic of Palau;
- Mr. Leo A. Falcam, Jr., Chief Compact Negotiator, Federated States of Micronesia; and
- Mr. Phillip H. Muller, Chief Compact Negotiator, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Link: <https://www.energy.senate.gov/hearings/2023/7/hearing-to-receive-testimony-regarding-the-compact-of-free-association-amendments-act-of-2023>

**June 26, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held an oversight field hearing titled “The Northwest at risk: the environmentalist’s effort to destroy navigation, transportation, and access to reliable power.” This hearing will be held in the auditorium of Richland High School, located at 930 Long Avenue in Richland, Washington. According to the Committee’s website, the hearing is expected to focus on the multipurpose benefits of the Columbia and Snake Rivers and the Federal Columbia River Power System, in particular the lower Snake River dams.

Witnesses:

- Ms. Jennifer Quan, West Coast Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Seattle, Washington;
- Mr. John Hairston, Administrator and CEO, Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, Oregon;
- Ms. Beth Coffey, Director of Programs, Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland, Oregon;
- Mr. Scott Corbitt, General Manager, Port of Lewiston, Lewiston, Idaho;
- Mr. Rick Dunn, General Manager, Benton Public Utility District, Kennewick, Washington;
- Ms. Michelle Hennings, Executive Director, Washington Association of Wheat Growers, Ritzville, Washington;
- Mr. Alex McGregor, Chairman of the Board of Directors, The McGregor Company, Colfax, Washington;
- Mr. Todd Myers, Environmental Director, Washington Policy Center, Cle Elum, Washington;
- Dr. David Welch, President & Founder, Kintama Research Services Ltd., Nanaimo, BC, Canada

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413489>

**June 22, 2023**, the Committee on Natural Resources held an oversight hearing titled "Examining the Council on Environmental Quality Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request and Related Policy Matters."

Witnesses:

- The Honorable Brenda Mallory, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality, Washington, DC.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413469>

**June 21, 2023**, the Committee on Natural Resources held a mark-up six bills (two of which may be of interest to the Councils):

- H.R. 615 (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), “Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act of 2023”. H.R. 615, as amended, was ordered reported favorably by a roll call vote of 21 to 15.;
- H.R. 2872 (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow States to issue electronic stamps under such Act, and for other purposes. H.R. 2872, as amended, was ordered favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.

Link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=413487>

**June 6, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held 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 Honorable Janet Coit, Deputy Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Clayton L. Diamond, Executive Director, American Pilots’ Association, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. Fred Gamboa, Captain, Andreas’ Toy Charters, Princeton, New Jersey;
- Mr. Frank Hugelmeyer, President and CEO, National Marine Manufacturers Association, Washington, D.C.;
- Dr. Jessica Redfern, Associate Vice President of Ocean Conservation Science, Anderson Cabout Center for Ocean Life at New England Aquarium, Boston, Massachusetts.

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

**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:

Panel I:

- The Honorable Camille Touton, Commissioner, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- Mr. John Hairston, Administrator and CEO, Bonneville Power Administration, Department of Energy, Portland, Oregon;
- Ms. Tracey LeBeau, Administrator and CEO, Western Area Power Administration, Lakewood, Colorado;
- Mr. Mike Wech, Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration, Department of Energy, Tulsa, Oklahoma;
- Mr. Virgil Hobbs, Administrator and CEO, Southeastern Power Administration, Elberton, Georgia;

Panel II:

- The Honorable Martha Williams, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.;
- The Honorable Jainey Bavishi, Deputy Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, D.C.

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

**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>

**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)

**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>

**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>

**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.

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>



**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>

**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>

**April 18, 2023**, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held 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

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

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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>

**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):

**S. 3672, the “Supporting Healthy Interstate Fisheries in Transition Act” or the “SHIFT Act”** (Sen. Blumenthal, D-Connecticut), a bill to support healthy fisheries in dynamic ocean conditions, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 5103, the “Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation Act” or the “FISHES Act”**, (Rep. Donalds, R-Florida), a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve or deny spend plans within a certain amount of time, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On October 25, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill.**

**H.R. 4051, the “Supporting the Health of Aquatic systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue Act” or the “SHARKED Act”**, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force regarding shark depredation, and for other purposes. Introduced June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, the bill (amended) was ordered to be favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent by the House Natural Resources Committee. On February 5, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed the bill by voice vote.**

**S. 1508**, (Sen. Reed, D-Rhode Island), 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), 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. 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. **On October 25, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill.**

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

**S. 3879, the “Illegal Red Snapper Enforcement Act”**, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of red snapper imported into the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 6, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3672, the “Supporting Healthy Interstate Fisheries in Transition Act” or the “SHIFT Act”** (Sen. Blumenthal, D-Connecticut), a bill to support healthy fisheries in dynamic ocean conditions, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3389, the “Fishing Industry Safety, Health, and Wellness Improvement Act of 2023” or the “FISH Wellness Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to authorize safety and prevention training programs for fishing vessel operators and crewmembers, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 4, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 2182, the “Wild USA Seafood Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish a label designating fish harvested in the United States exclusive economic zone or navigable waters as wild USA seafood, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 22, 2023, and referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

**H.R. 6447, the “Saving Natural Ecosystems and Marine Organisms Act” or the “Saving NEMO Act”**, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to prohibit certain actions with respect to certain marine reef species, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 17, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Ways and Means Committee, and 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. 4596, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Boebert, R-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River

Basins, **On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, the bill was ordered to be favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent by the House Natural Resources Committee.**

**H.R. 4587, the “Red Snapper Act”**, (Rep. Rutherford, R-Florida), a bill to provide that the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall not issue an interim or final rule that includes an area closure in the South Atlantic for species managed under the Snapper-Grouper Fishery Management Plan until the South Atlantic Great Red Snapper Count study is complete and the data related to that study is integrated into the stock assessment. Introduced on July 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the legislation.**

**H.R. 4051, the “Supporting the Health of Aquatic systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue Act” or the “SHARKED Act”**, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force regarding shark depredation, and for other purposes. Introduced June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, the bill (amended) was ordered to be favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent by the House Natural Resources Committee. On February 5, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed the bill by voice vote.**

**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. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and**

Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the legislation. On March 21, 2024, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On April 9, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed the legislation (amended).

### **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.

**H.R. 3980, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Lucas, R-Oklahoma), a bill to formally establish within statute an independent scientific research and development agency known as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 9, 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.

### **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. 7145**, (Rep. Schiff, D-California), a bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the taking, importation, exportation, and breeding of certain cetaceans for public display, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 30, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Agriculture Committee. *(Note: The text of the legislation is not yet available so it is unclear whether this bill will affect fisheries or ocean resources management.)*

**S. 3694**, (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the taking, importation, exportation, and breeding of certain cetaceans for public display, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 30, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. *(Note: The text of the legislation is not yet available so it is unclear whether this bill will affect fisheries or ocean resources management.)*

**S. 2986, the “Warding off Hostile Administrative Leasing Efforts Act” or the “WHALE Act”**, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule, and to prohibit the inclusion in certain oil and gas leases, exploration or development plans, or well permits requirements or recommendations, that establish a vessel speed or operational restriction in the Central or Western Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico of the outer Continental Shelf until the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce complete a study demonstrating that proposed mitigation efforts would have no negative impact on supply chains, United States offshore energy production and generation, military activities, including readiness, and United States commercial and recreational fishing maritime commerce, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 28, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 6008, the “Requiring Integrity in Conservation Efforts Act” or as the “R.I.C.E.’s Whale Act”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice's whale. Introduced on October 20, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On November 8, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the legislation to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute by the Yeas and Nays: 22 – 17.**

**H.R. 5239, the “Gulf of Mexico Commerce Protection Act”**, (Rep. Higgins, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that establishes a vessel slowdown zone in the Gulf of Mexico until the Secretary of Commerce completes a study demonstrating that proposed mitigation efforts would have no negative impact on supply chains, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 18, 2023, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

**S. 2395, the “Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization Act” or the “WILD Act”,** (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware), a bill to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 19, 2023, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. **On July 26, 2023, the bill was ordered to be reported by Senator Carper without amendment and without written report. The bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.** (Note: This legislation includes a reauthorization of the *Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004*.)

**S. 2086, the “Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023”,** (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program. Introduced on June 21, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H. Res. 506,** (Rep. Mace, R-South Carolina), a resolution commending the South Carolina Aquarium in Charleston for its outstanding Sea Turtle Care Center and its dedicated efforts in rehabilitating and releasing injured and sick sea turtles, ensuring their return to their natural environment. Introduced on June 13, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 1833, the “Protecting Whales, Human Safety, and the Economy Act of 2023”,** (Sen. Manchin, D-West Virginia), a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule until mitigation protocols are fully developed and deployed. Introduced on June 6, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3119,** (Rep. Soto, D-Florida), 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.

**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. **On October 24, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the legislation. On April 11, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed the legislation.**

**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.

### **Seafood Trade Bills:**

**S. 3879, the “Illegal Red Snapper Enforcement Act”**, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and the Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to develop a standard methodology for identifying the country of origin of red snapper imported into the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 6, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3533**, (Sen. Kennedy, R-Louisiana), a bill to appropriate, with an offset, \$36,000,000 for the Seafood Import Monitoring Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to increase audits of imported shrimp and red snapper. Introduced December 14, 2023, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**S. 3417, the “Ban C-FOOD Act”**, (Sen. Cotton, R-Arkansas), a bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and aquaculture products from the People's Republic of China. Introduced on December 6, 2023, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**S. 2979, the “India Shrimp Tariff Act”**, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to increase the rate of duty on shrimp originating from India, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 28, 2023, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee. *(Note: this legislation also amends the Country-of-Origin Labeling provisions to add “whole cooked shrimp and crawfish and cooked shrimp and crawfish sections” to the list of seafood requiring COOL labeling.)*

**S. 2847, the “Protecting American Food Producers from Russia’s Market Distortions Act of 2023”** (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to prohibit the importation of agricultural products, raw materials, and food from the Russian Federation if the Russian Federation prohibits the importation of such products, materials, and food from the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 19, 2023, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**H.R. 4547, the “Laws Ensuring Safe Shrimp Act”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to establish a fund to promote the inspection and consumption of shrimp and products containing shrimp or shrimp parts. Introduced on July 11, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and

Commerce 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.

**S. 2011, the “United States-Russian Federation Seafood Reciprocity Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. Introduced June 15, 2023, and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

**H.R. 4165, the “United States-Russian Federation Seafood Reciprocity Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 15, 2023, and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

**H.R. 1057, the “Imported Seafood Safety Standards Act”**, (Rep. Higgins, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety of imported seafood. Introduced on February 17, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

### **Aquaculture Legislation:**

**H.R. 6546**, (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to allow certain activities to be carried out with regard to certain fish held in captivity or a controlled environment. Introduced on December 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6393, the “Sturgeon Conservation and Sustainability Act”**, (Rep. Waltz, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to allow certain activities to be conducted with respect to sturgeon held in captivity or in a controlled environment in the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 13, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5944, the “Science-based Equitable Aquaculture Food Act” or the “SEAfood Act”**, (Rep. Mace, R-South Carolina), a bill to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an assessment program for offshore aquaculture, to establish Aquaculture Centers of Excellence, to require a study and report, and for other purposes. Introduced on October 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to 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. 5087, the “Supporting Equity for Aquaculture and Seafood Act” or the “SEAS Act”**, (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to submit a report to Congress on Department of Agriculture spending related to seafood purchases and grants, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 28, 2024, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

**S. 2619, the “Promoting American Competition in Aquaculture Research Act”**, (Sen. Hirono, D-Hawaii), a bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to eliminate the prohibition on indirect costs with respect to aquaculture assistance, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 27, 2023, and referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

**S. 2211, the “Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act”**, (Sen. Whitehouse, D-Rhode Island), a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish the Office of Aquaculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 22, 2023, and referred to the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

**H.R. 4013, “Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture Act” or the “AQUAA Act”**, (Rep. Cammack, R-Florida), a bill to establish a regulatory system for sustainable offshore aquaculture in the United States exclusive economic zone, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Agriculture Committee, and 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. 3951, the “Sustaining Healthy Ecosystems, Livelihoods, and Local Seafood Act”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to establish in the Department of Agriculture an Office of Aquaculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 9, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

**H.R. 3542, the “Promoting American Competition in Aquaculture Research Act”**, (Rep. Tokuda, D-Hawaii), a bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to eliminate the prohibition on indirect costs with respect to aquaculture assistance, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 18, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

**S. 1861, the “Advancing the Quality and Understanding of American Aquaculture Act” or the “AQUAA Act”**, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to establish a regulatory system for sustainable offshore aquaculture in the United States exclusive economic zone, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 7, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**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.

**H.R. 1020, the “Bringing Aquaculture Indemnities To Speed Act” or the “BAITS Act”**, (Rep. Moore, R-Alabama), a bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to include certain farm-raised fish losses under the livestock indemnity payment program, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee.

### **Offshore Wind Legislation:**

**H.R. 4936**, (Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York), a bill to amend the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 to repeal restrictions on offshore wind leasing. Introduced on July 26, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4284, the “Northeast Fisheries Heritage Protection Act”**, (Rep. Golden, D-Maine), a bill to prohibit commercial offshore wind energy development in Lobster Management Area 1 in the Gulf of Maine, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 22, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3614, the “American Offshore Wind Opportunity Act”**, (Rep. Scott, D-Virginia), 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.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.R. 7840**, (Rep. Jackson Lee, D-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the taking for a trophy of any endangered or threatened species of fish or wildlife in the United States and the importation of endangered and threatened species trophies into the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 29, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7817**, (Rep. Bergman, R-Michigan) a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to exclude certain populations of the lake sturgeon from the authority of such Act. Introduced on March 26, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7795**, (Rep. Jackson Lee, D-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to prohibit the taking for a trophy of any endangered or threatened species of fish or wildlife in the United States and the importation of endangered and threatened species trophies into the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 22, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7037**, (Rep. Gallagher, R-Wisconsin), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to exclude certain populations of the lake sturgeon from the authority of such Act. Introduced on January 18, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6784, the “ESA Flexibility Act”**, (Rep. Stauber, R-Minnesota), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide for protective regulations when a species is listed as an endangered species. Introduced on December 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6546**, (Rep. Bentz, R-Oregon), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to allow certain activities to be carried out with regard to certain fish held in captivity or a controlled environment. Introduced on December 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. Res. 881**, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia), a resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Introduced on November 21, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6393, the “Sturgeon Conservation and Sustainability Act”**, (Rep. Waltz, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to allow certain activities to be conducted with respect to sturgeon held in captivity or in a controlled environment in the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 13, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. R. 6129, the “Studying NEPA’s Impact on Projects Act”**, (Rep. Yakym, R-Indiana), a bill to require the Council on Environmental Quality to publish an annual report on environmental reviews and causes of action based on compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5504**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington), a bill to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to withdraw proposed rules relating to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4629, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Neguse, D-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Introduced on July 13, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4596, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Boebert, R-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Introduced on July 13, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On September 20, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be favorably reported to the House of Representatives by unanimous consent.**

**S. 2247, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Hickenlooper, D-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Introduced on July 11, 2023, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. **On December 14, 2023, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported with amendments favorably. On April 9, 2024, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee filed the report to accompany the legislation and the legislation was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.**

**H.R. 3767**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Council on Environmental Quality to submit to Congress a report on the potential for online and digital technologies to address delays in reviews and improve public accessibility and transparency under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 31, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. Res. 423**, (Rep. Dingell, D-Michigan) 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. 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. **On October 25, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill.**

**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. Res. 802**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a resolution to support the designation of October 23, 2023, as "National Marine Sanctuary Day". Introduced on October 20, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5499, the “Congressional Oversight of the Antiquities Act”**, (Rep. Miller-Meeks, R-Iowa), a bill to amend the Antiquities Act to increase congressional oversight with respect to the designation of national monuments, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On March 20, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on the legislation.**

**H. Res. 430**, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia), 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. 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:**

**S. 3889, the “Modernizing Access to Our Public Oceans Act”**, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 6, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3786, the “Modernizing Access to Our Public Oceans Act”**, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 8, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H. R. 7203, the “Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2024” or the “BEACH Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Joyce, R-Ohio), a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act relating to grants for beach monitoring, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 1, 2024, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

**H.R. 6841**, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the Secretary of Commerce to establish a Coastal and Estuarine Resilience and Restoration Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 15, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6814, the “Marine Fisheries Habitat Protection Act”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to assess certain offshore oil and gas platforms and pipelines for potential use as artificial reefs, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On March 21, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation.**

**H.R. 6781**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Marine Debris Act to reauthorize the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Introduced on December 14, 2023, and referred 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.

**H.R. 6641, the “Keep America’s Waterfronts Working Act”**, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to establish a working waterfronts Task Force and working waterfronts grant and loan programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6677, the “Seawall Expansion Act”**, (Rep. Lynch, D- Massachusetts), a bill to amend the National Levee Safety Act of 2007 to include in the definition of levee hard or manmade structures, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 7, 2023, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

**S. 3348, the “Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska) a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 27, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3277**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the Marine Debris Act to reauthorize the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Introduced November 9, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 6235, the “Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 6, 2023, and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology, 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 12, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported with an amendment.**

**H.R. 4031, the “Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4030, the “North Pacific Ocean Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4018, the “Headwaters Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Costa, D-California), a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to reauthorize and improve the Water Source Protection Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Agriculture 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. 3978, the “Southern California Coast and Ocean Protection Act”**, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in the Southern California planning area. Introduced on June 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3976**, (Rep. Kilmer, D-Washington), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to authorize grants to Indian Tribes to further achievement of Tribal coastal zone objectives, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 1808, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), 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 June 6, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 1806, the “Ocean Regional Opportunity and Innovation Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to establish Ocean Innovation Clusters to strengthen the coastal communities and ocean economy of the United States through technological research and development, job training, and cross-sector partnerships, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 6, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3873, the “Ocean Regional Opportunity and Innovation Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to establish Ocean Innovation Clusters to strengthen the coastal communities and ocean economy of the United States through technological research and development, job training, and cross-sector partnerships, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 6, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and the House Financial 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. 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. **On July 27, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On January 17, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.**

**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). On March 11, 2024, the House of Representatives passed the legislation (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. On December 5, 2023, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. On December 13, 2023, the bill passed the full Senate by unanimous consent.

**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. On June 21, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 21 – 15. On September 20, 2023, the report to accompany the bill was filed, the House Agriculture Committee was discharged from further consideration, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On April 30, 2024, the full House of Representatives passed the legislation.

**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. 6814, the “Marine Fisheries Habitat Protection Act”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to assess certain offshore oil and gas platforms and pipelines for potential use as artificial reefs, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6212, the “Preserving Recreation, Oceans, Tourism, Environment, and Coastal Towns in Florida Act” or the “PROTECT Florida Act”**, (Rep. Rutherford, R-Florida), a bill to provide for a moratorium on oil and gas leasing and exploration on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of Florida until 2032, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 3, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 2986, the “Warding off Hostile Administrative Leasing Efforts Act” or the “WHALE Act”**, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule, and to prohibit the inclusion in certain oil and gas leases, exploration or development plans, or well permits requirements or recommendations, that establish a vessel speed or

operational restriction in the Central or Western Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico of the outer Continental Shelf until the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce complete a study demonstrating that proposed mitigation efforts would have no negative impact on supply chains, United States offshore energy production and generation, military activities, including readiness, and United States commercial and recreational fishing maritime commerce, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 28, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 5616, the “Bringing Reliable Investment into Domestic Gulf Energy Production Act of 2023” or the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Graves, R-Louisiana), a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain offshore lease sales. Introduced on September 21, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On September 28, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a legislative hearing on the bill. On March 5, 2024, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar.**

**H.R. 4031, the “Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4030, the “North Pacific Ocean Protection Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Outer Continental Shelf. Introduced on June 12, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3978, the “Southern California Coast and Ocean Protection Act”**, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil and gas leasing in the Southern California planning area. Introduced on June 9, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**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:**

**S. 3996**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to enhance the work of the North Pacific Research Board. Introduced on March 20, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H. Res. 1082**, (Rep. Hunt, R-Texas) a resolution calling upon the International Seabed Authority to adopt regulations allowing the collection of critical minerals from the international seabed area, which will enable America to regain reliable and responsible supply chains, provide high-wage jobs for United States citizens, secure supply chains away from the People's Republic of China's dominance of the critical mineral supply chain, and for other purposes. Introduced on

March 15, 2024, 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. 7636, the “Responsible Use of Seafloor Resources Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Miller, R-Wyoming), a bill to support international governance of seafloor resource exploration and responsible polymetallic nodule collection by allied partners, strengthen domestic processing and refining capabilities, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 12, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Ways and Means Committee, and 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. 7587**, (Rep. Peltola, D-Alaska), a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking with respect to categorical exclusions of the Maritime Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2024, and referred 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.

**S. 3888, the “Transformational Artificial intelligence to Modernize the Economy against Extreme Weather Act” or the “TAME Extreme Weather Act”**, (Sen. Schatz, D-Hawaii), a bill to mandate the use of artificial intelligence by Federal agencies to adapt to extreme weather, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 6, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 7544, the “Water Rights Protection Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Maloy, R-Utah) a bill to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 5, 2024, 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. 7529, the “Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Reauthorization Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Sarbanes, D-Maryland), a bill to amend the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network. Introduced on March 5, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7522**, (Rep. Scott, D-Virginia), a bill to amend the America's Conservation Enhancement Act to reauthorize the Chesapeake WILD program. Introduced on March 5, 2024, and referred to 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. 7476**, (Rep. Hern, R-Oklahoma), a bill to counter the malign influence and theft perpetuated by the People's Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party. Introduced on February 29, 2024, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and in addition to the House Financial Services Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Rules Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Intelligence Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Education and the Workforce Committee, the House Armed Services Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Veterans' 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. 7459, the “Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act District of Columbia Equality Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Norton, D-DC), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to treat the District of Columbia the same as a State for purposes of such Acts, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 26, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. R. 7408, the “America’s Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act”**, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 20, 2024, 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. **On March 4, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation. On April 16, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).**

**H. R. 7289, the “Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative Act” or the “MRRRI Act”**, (Rep. McCollum, D-Minnesota), a bill to establish the Mississippi River Restoration and Resilience Initiative to carry out projects for the protection and restoration of the Mississippi River Corridor, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 7, 2024, and referred 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.

**H. R. 7209, the “Caribbean and Latin America Maritime Security Initiative Act of 2024”**, (Rep. Peters, D-California), a bill to provide for the establishment of a Caribbean and Latin America Maritime Security Initiative to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the Caribbean and Latin America, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 1, 2024, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and in addition to the House Armed Services Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Financial Services 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.



**H.R. 7159, the “Pacific Partnership Act”**, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to bolster United States engagement with the Pacific Islands region, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 31, 2024, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee. **On February 6, 2024, the bill was ordered to be reported.**

**H.R. 7166**, (Rep. Dingell, D-Michigan), a bill to establish the Great Lakes Mass Marking Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 31, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. *(Note: The text of the legislation is not yet available so it is unclear whether this bill will affect fisheries or ocean resources management.)*

**H.R. 7157**, (Rep. Duarte, R-California), a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to ensure fair enforcement of such Act. Introduced on January 31, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. *(Note: The text of the legislation is not yet available so it is unclear whether this bill will affect fisheries or ocean resources management.)*

**H.R. 7106**, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia), a bill to amend the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 29, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. *(Note: The text of the legislation is not yet available so it is unclear whether this bill will affect fisheries or ocean resources management.)*

**S. 3665**, (Sen. Lee, R- Utah), a bill to establish a process for waiver of coastwise endorsement requirements. Introduced on January 25, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3662**, (Sen. Lee, R-Utah), a bill to repeal the Jones Act restrictions on coastwise trade, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 25, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3642**, (Sen. Lujan, D-New Mexico), a bill to direct the Secretary of Energy and the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct collaborative research to advance weather models in the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 23, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 3633**, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 22, 2024, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 7067**, (Rep. Norton, D-DC-At Large), a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 22, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7066**, (Rep. Newhouse, R-Washington), a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to allow or study the breach or alteration of the Lower Snake River dams or implement the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 22, 2024, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 7020**, (Rep. McClain, R-Michigan), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct high-resolution mapping of the lakebeds of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 17, 2024, and referred to the House Natural

Resources Committee. **On March 21, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation.**

**H. R. 6854, the “Habitat Enhancement Now Act”**, (Rep. Fischbach, R-Minnesota), a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish 2 grant programs to sustain populations of species of migratory waterfowl through the deployment of tools and practices that complement habitat conservation. Introduced on December 19, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 6730**, (Rep. Roy, R-Texas), a bill to rescind amounts made available for the Department of Commerce Nonrecurring Expenses Fund by the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 12, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the House Budget Committee, the House Financial Services Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Oversight and Accountability Committee, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and 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. 6727, the “United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2023”**, (Rep. McCaul, R-Texas), a bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes. Introduced on December 12, 2023, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

**H.R. 6567, the “Strengthening Capacity for Disaster Resilient Territories Act”**, (Rep. Velazquez, D-New York), a bill to require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to establish a Territorial Disaster Recovery Program to continuously identify, monitor, and address factors and capability gaps that hinder the execution and completion of recovery activities relating to major disasters by eligible entities located in the territories of the United States. Introduced on December 1, 2023 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

**H. R. 6215, the “No American Climate Corps Act”**, (Rep. Good, R-Virginia), a bill to prohibit Federal funds from being made available for the Justice40 Initiative or for the American Climate Corps. Introduced on November 3, 2023, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Education and the Workforce Committee, and 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.

**H. J. Res. 96, the “Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Westerman, R-Arkansas), a resolution to approve the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-FSM Compact, and related agreements, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, the 2023 Agreement to Amend the U.S.-RMI Compact, and certain related agreements between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the 2023 U.S.-Palau Compact Review Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Palau, to appropriate funds to carry out the agreements, and for other purposes. Introduced on November 2, 2023 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee; the House Foreign Affairs Committee; the House Education and the Workforce Committee; the House Veterans' Affairs Committee; the House Oversight and

Accountability Committee; the House Agriculture Committee; the House Ways and Means Committee. On November 8, 2023, the bill was ordered to be reported by the House Natural Resources Committee by Unanimous Consent.

**H.R. 6062**, (Rep. Radewagen, R-American Samoa), a bill to restore the ability of the people of American Samoa to approve amendments to the territorial constitution based on majority rule in a democratic act of self-determination, as authorized pursuant to an Act of Congress delegating administration of Federal territorial law in the territory to the President, and to the Secretary of the Interior under Executive Order 10264, dated June 29, 1951, under which the Constitution of American Samoa was approved and may be amended without requirement for further congressional action, subject to the authority of Congress under the Territorial Clause in article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the United States Constitution. Introduced on October 25, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H. Res. 809**, (Rep. Weber, R-Texas) a resolution to recognize Rett Reef off the coast of San Leon, Texas, in Galveston Bay, and all those associated with bringing the project to fruition. Introduced on October 24, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5760**, (Rep. Jayapal, D-Washington), a bill to establish a climate resilience workforce, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 27, 2023, and referred to the House Education and the Workforce Committee; the House Energy and Commerce Committee; the House Oversight and Accountability Committee; the House Judiciary Committee; the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; the House Ways and Means Committee; the House Agriculture Committee; the House Natural Resources Committee; and the House Financial 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. 5487, the “Help Our Kelp Act”**, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish and carry out a grant program to conserve, restore, and manage kelp forest ecosystems, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On March 21, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a hearing on the legislation.**

**S. 2807, the “Help Our Kelp Act”**, (Sen. Merkley, D-Oregon), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish and carry out a grant program to conserve, restore, and manage kelp forest ecosystems, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H. Res. 688**, (Rep. Posey, R-Florida) A Resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 16 through September 23, 2023, as "National Estuaries Week". Introduced on September 14, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5441 the “Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. LaLota, R-New York), a bill to reauthorize Long Island Sound programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 13, 2023, and referred to 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.

**H.R. 5281, the “Lead Endangers Animals Daily Act of 2023” or the “LEAD Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Lieu, D-California), a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to prohibit the use of lead ammunition on United States Fish and Wildlife Service lands, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 25, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S.2248, the “Vessel Tracking for Sanctions Enforcement Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Hassan, D-New Hampshire), a bill to require a pilot program on the use of big data analytics to identify vessels evading sanctions and export controls and to require a report on the availability in the United States of emerging and foundational technologies subject to export controls. Introduced on July 11, 2023 and referred to the Senate Homeland Security Committee and the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee.

**H.R. 5216, the “Connecticut River Watershed Partnership Act”**, (Rep. McGovern, D-Connecticut), a bill to direct restoration and protection efforts of the 5-State Connecticut River Watershed region, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 15, 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. 5205, the “Coastal Fellowship Act”**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to establish the Coastal Management Fellowship and the Digital Coast Fellowship, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 15, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 5103, the “Fishery Improvement to Streamline untimely regulatory Hurdles post Emergency Situation Act” or the “FISHES Act”**, (Rep. Donalds, R-Florida), a bill to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to approve or deny spend plans within a certain amount of time, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 1, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On October 25, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill.**

**H.R. 5009, the “Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization Act” or the “WILD Act”**, (Rep. Joyce, R-Ohio), a bill to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the legislation.**

**H.R. 5001, the “Special Advisors for Insular Areas Act”**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to establish a position of Special Advisor for Insular Areas in each Executive department, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**S. 2645, the “Preventing Health Emergencies And Temperature-related Illness and Deaths Act of 2023” or the “Preventing HEAT Illness and Deaths Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to reduce the health risks of heat by establishing the National Integrated Heat Health Information System within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Interagency Committee to improve extreme heat preparedness, planning, and response, requiring a study, and establishing financial assistance programs to address heat effects, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 27, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 2534, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Warner, D-Virginia), a bill to amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992 to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 26, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 2395, the “Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization Act” or the “WILD Act”**, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware), a bill to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 19, 2023, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. **On July 26, 2023, the bill was ordered to be reported by Senator Carper without amendment and without written report. The bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.** *(Note: This legislation includes a reauthorization of the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004.)*

**H.R. 4922, the “Lacey Act Amendments of 2023”**, (Rep. Luna, R-Florida), a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections against the importation, and transport between States, of injurious species, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 26, 2023, a referred to the House Judiciary 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. 4916, the “Comprehensive Legislation for Expanding and Advancing Nonrestrictive Energy Act” or the “CLEAN Energy Act”**, (Rep. Kamlager-Dove, D-California), a bill to amend the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 to repeal restrictions on onshore wind and solar. Introduced on July 26, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 4866, the “Fire Weather Development Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Garcia, R-California), a bill to direct the Administrator of NOAA to establish a program to improve fire weather and fire environment forecasting, detection, and local collaboration, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2023, and referred to the House Science, Space and Technology Committee. **On July 27, 2023, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee ordered the bill to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 33 - 2.**

**H.R. 4770, the “Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Sarbanes, D-Maryland), a bill to reauthorize the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 20, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the legislation. On April 2, 2024, the House Natural Resources Committee filed the report to accompany the legislation.**

**H.R. 4538, the “Boosting Long-term U.S. Engagement in the Pacific Act” or the “BLUE Pacific Act”**, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to establish a comprehensive, long-term United States strategy and policy for the Pacific Islands, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 11, 2023, and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee; and in addition, to the House Natural Resources Committee; and the House Ways and Means 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. 4537, the “American Seabed Protection Act”**, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to prohibit certain mining activities on the deep seabed and Outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 11, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources.

**S. 2247, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Hickenlooper, D-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins. Introduced on July 11, 2023, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. **On December 14, 2023, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported with amendments favorably. On April 9, 2024, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee filed the report to accompany the legislation and the legislation was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.**

**H.R. 4389, the “Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Salazar, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 27, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3980, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Lucas, R-Oklahoma), a bill to formally establish within statute an independent scientific research and development agency known as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 9, 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. Res. 486**, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a resolution recognizing World Oceans Day and the necessity to protect, conserve, maintain, and rebuild our ocean and its resources. Introduced on June 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.

**S. 1918, the “Don Young Veterans Advancing Conservation Act”**, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to facilitate the training and employment of veterans for certain conservation activities, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 8, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**S. 1860, the “Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a grant program to fund youth fishing projects. Introduced on June 7, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

**H.R. 3925, the “Youth Coastal Fishing Program Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Salazar, R-Florida), a bill to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a grant program to fund youth fishing projects. Introduced on June 7, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3918, the “Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Neguse, D-Colorado), a bill to reauthorize the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin endangered fish and threatened fish recovery implementation programs. Introduced on June 7, 2023, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

**H.R. 3746, the “Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023”**, (Rep. McHenry, R-North Carolina), a bill to provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling. Introduced on May 29, 2023, and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, and in addition to the House Budget Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, the House Rules Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the House Education and the Workforce Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Financial Services Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Small Business Committee, and the House Homeland Security 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. **The legislation passed the House of Representatives on May 31, 2023 by a vote of 314 - 117. The bill then passed the Senate on June 1, 2023 by a vote of 63 – 36. The bill was signed by the President on June 3, 2023 and became Public Law 118-5.**

**H.R. 3494, the “Extinction Prevention Act of 2023”**, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), 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.R. 3390, the “Report on Grant Consolidation Authority for Puerto Rico Act”**, (Rep. Velazquez, D-New York), 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, the “Coastal Fellowships Act”**, (Sen. Coons, D-Delaware), 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, the “Preventing Executive Climate Overreach Act”**, (Rep. Pfluger, R-Texas), 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.1421, the “Country Of Origin Labeling Online Act” or the “COOL Online Act”**, (Sen. Baldwin, D-Wisconsin), a bill to require origin and location disclosure for new products of foreign origin offered for sale on the internet. Introduced on May 3, 2023, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On Thursday, July 27, 2023, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee ordered the bill to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. On December 13, 2023, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee reported the bill with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and without written report. On December 13, 2023, the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.**

**S. 1416, the “NWR Modernization Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Cantwell, D- Washington), 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), 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.

**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. **On October 25, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries held a hearing on the bill.**

**S. 1381, the “Coastal Habitat Conservation Act of 2023”**, (Sen. Cardin, D-Maryland), 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 Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. **On July 26, 2023, the bill was ordered to be reported by Senator Carper without amendment and without written report. The bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.**

**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 marked the legislation. On July 20, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a hearing on the legislation. On September 20, 2023, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported by unanimous consent.**

**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. On May 16, 2023, the report to accompany the legislation was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar.**

**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.