

Congressional Activities Report for the Council Coordination Committee

Submitted to the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

September 30, 2019

MAGNUSON-STEVENS ACT REAUTHORIZATION UPDATE

On July 10, 2019, Congressman Huffman (D-California), Chair of the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee, announced that he “will hold a series of roundtable discussions throughout the United States to engage diverse perspectives, interests, and needs of individuals who have a stake in management of our ocean and fisheries resources.” The press release announcing these roundtable discussions noted that the Chairman “is committed to holding at least one public forum in each of the regions managed by Fishery Management Councils under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and to introducing a draft Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization bill, informed by this public process, by next Spring...Specific dates and locations will be announced soon so that stakeholders around the country can determine how best to participate in shaping next year’s Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization bill.”

On July 11, 2019, Congressman Young (R-Alaska) introduced H.R. 3697, a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes. The bill is similar to the bill that passed the House of Representatives in the 115th Congress.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE

On September 19, 2019, the House of Representatives passed H. R. 4378, the “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019”, (Rep. Lowey, D-New York), a bill making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. On September 26, 2019, the Senate also passed H.R. 4378 and the bill was signed into law on September 27, 2019. This bill continues appropriations for all federal agencies through November 21, 2019.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE – House Action

On June 25, 2019, the full House of Representatives passed H.R. 3055, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2020. This bill was amended and is now an omnibus appropriations bill and is the vehicle for five appropriations bills and one other piece of legislation. The bill now includes:

- (1) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (H.R. 3055);
- (2) Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies (H.R. 3164);

- (3) Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (H.R. 3052);
- (4) Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies (H.R. 2745); and
- (5) Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (H.R. 3163); and the

Fair Compensation for Low-Wage Contractor Employees Act of 2019.

The House of Representatives has also passed another Omnibus Appropriations bill (H.R. 2740) which includes four appropriations bills:

- (1) Labor-HHS-Education (H.R. 2740);
- (2) Defense (H.R. 2968);
- (3) State-Foreign Operations (H.R. 2839); and
- (4) Energy and Water (H.R. 2960).

Note: While the House of Representatives has now passed the appropriations for the Department of Commerce, the Senate must act before the appropriation becomes law so amounts included in the House bill and report language included in the House report do not yet have the force of law.

FISCAL YEAR 2020 APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE – Senate Action

On September 26, 2019, the Senate Appropriations Committee marked up and ordered S. 2584, “an original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes” to be reported and the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.

The legislative language can be found at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FY2020%20CJS%20Appropriations%20Act,%20S.2584.pdf>

The report to accompany S. 2584 (Senate Report 116-127) can be found at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/FY2020%20CJS%20Appropriations%20Act,%20Report%20116-127.pdf>

Note: While the Senate Appropriations Committee has now passed the appropriations bill for the Department of Commerce, the full Senate must act and the differences between the House and Senate bills must be reconciled before the appropriation becomes law so amounts included in the Senate bill and language included in the Senate report do not yet have the force of law and can change.

PREVIOUS HEARINGS, MARKUPS, EXECUTIVE SESSIONS, AND MEETINGS

- On Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 10:30 a.m., the Senate Appropriations Committee will mark up the following appropriations bills for Fiscal Year 2020:
 - Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020;
 - Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2020;
 - Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2020; and
 - Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2020.

NOTE: The markup webcast will be audio-only. A link to the audio of the markup may be accessed at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup-of-fy2020-interior-cjs-homeland-and-leg-branch-bills>

- On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., the House Natural Resources Committee is scheduled to hold a markup and consider the following bills (including two bills – H.R. 925 and H.R. 1747 - from the hearing on September 24, 2019). (Bills of possible interest are in **bold**):
 - **H.R. 729 (Rep. Kilmer, D-Washington), the “Tribal Coastal Resiliency Act”, 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;**
 - H.R. 925 (Rep. Mike Thompson, D-California), the “North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act”, a bill to extend the authorization of appropriations for allocation to carry out approved wetlands conservation projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024;
 - H.R. 1472 (Rep. Adrian Smith, R-Nebraska), a bill to rename the Homestead National Monument of America near Beatrice, Nebraska, as the Homestead National Historical Park;
 - H.R. 1487 (Rep. Lieu, D-California), the “Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Study Act”, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of portions of the Los Angeles coastal area in the State of California to evaluate alternatives for protecting the resources of the coastal area, and for other purposes;
 - H.R. 1492 (Rep. Tipton, R-Colorado), the “Yucca House National Monument Boundary Revision Act”, a bill to update the map of, and modify the maximum acreage available for inclusion in, the Yucca House National Monument;
 - **H.R. 1747 (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), the “National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act”, a bill to encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested persons to promote fish conservation;**
 - H.R. 2185 (Rep. Norton, D-Washington, D.C.), the “District of Columbia Flood Prevention Act of 2019”, 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;

- **H.R. 3115 (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), the “Living Shorelines Act of 2019”, a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes;**
- **H.R. 3541 (Rep. Carbajal, D-California), the “Coastal State Climate Preparedness Act of 2019”, 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; and**
- **H.R. 3596 (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), the “Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act”, a bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to establish a Working Waterfront Task Force and a working waterfronts grant program, and for other purposes.**

The markup can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup4>

- On September 25, 2019, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a “business meeting” to consider the following items (items of possible interest are in **bold**):
 - **Nomination of Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;**
 - Nomination of Katherine Lemos, of California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board; Nomination of Katherine Lemos, of California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board;
 - **Substitute amendment to S. 2260, Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure to Prevent Marine Debris Act;**
 - S. 2099, White Horse Hill National Game Preserve Designation Act;
 - 8 General Services Administration resolutions.

The mark up can be viewed at:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=84812343-2E0E-4869-9CC8-FC1CE1C171F1>

- On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee’s Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing titled, “Coast Guard and Port Infrastructure: Built to Last?”.

The witness list has not yet been announced.

More information on the hearing and a link to view the hearing can be found at:

<https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/the-subcommittee-on-coast-guard-and-maritime-transportation-hearing-on--coast-guard-and-port-infrastructure-built-to-last>

- On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held a hearing titled, “Fishery Failures: Improving the Disaster Declaration and Relief Process”. According to the Committee’s website, the hearing will “examine federal and stakeholder perspectives on the fishery disaster process and how those disasters impact local communities. The hearing will also examine recent and pending disaster declarations and how the process for both declaration and relief could be improved.”

Witnesses will include:

- Brigadier General (Retired) Joe Spraggins, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources;
- Ms. Rachel Baker, Deputy Commissioner, Alaska Department of Fish and Game;
- Mr. Chris Oliver, Assistant Administrator for the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration;
- Mr. Robert Spottswood, Chairman, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and
- Mr. Ron Warren, Director of Fish Policy, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

More information on the hearing and a link to view the hearing can be found at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=C1D0B60F-7BAF-4FBE-9065-F16E4230D0A0>

- On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a legislative hearing on the following bills (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):
 - H.R. 925 (Rep. Mike Thompson, D-CA), the “North American Wetlands Conservation Extension Act” or “NAWCA”, a bill to extend the authorization of appropriations for allocation to carry out approved wetlands conservation projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act through fiscal year 2024;

- **H.R. 1747 (Rep. Rob Wittman, R-VA), the “National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act”, a bill to encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested persons to promote fish conservation;**
- H.R. 2748 (Rep. Matt Cartwright, D-PA), the “Safeguarding America's Future and Environment Act”, a bill to establish an integrated national approach to respond to ongoing and expected effects of extreme weather and climate change by protecting, managing, and conserving the fish, wildlife, and plants of the United States, and to maximize Government efficiency and reduce costs, in cooperation with State, local, and Tribal Governments and other entities;
- H.R. 2854 (Rep. Nydia Velazquez, D-NY), the “Protect Our Refuges Act of 2019”, a bill to amend the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 to prohibit the use of neonicotinoids in a National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes;
- **H.R. 2918 (Rep. Raúl Grijalva, D-AZ), the “Extinction Prevention Act”, 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;**
- H.R. 2956 (Rep. Ken Calvert, R-CA), a bill to provide for the establishment of the Western Riverside County Wildlife Refuge;
- H.R. 3399 (Rep. Josh Harder, D-CA), a bill to amend the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 to include California in the program, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 4340 (Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-NY), the “Supporting Activities & Leadership Abroad to Move Amphibians Nearing Decline or Extinction to Recovery Act of 2019” or the “SALAMANDER Act of 2019”, a bill to assist in the conservation of highly endangered amphibians in foreign countries and territories of the United States;
- H.R. 4341 (Rep. Jared Huffman, D-CA), the “Critically Endangered Animals Act of 2019”, a bill to assist in the conservation of critically endangered species in foreign countries, and for other purposes; and
- **H.R. 4348 (Rep. Raúl Grijalva, D-AZ), the “Protect America’s Wildlife and Fish in Need of Conservation Act of 2019” or “PAW and FIN Conservation Act of 2019”, a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes.”**

Witness List

Panel I: Congressional Panel

- Representative Mike Thompson (H.R. 925);
- Representative Rob Wittman (H.R. 1747);
- Representative Josh Harder (H.R. 3399);
- Representative Nydia Velazquez (H.R. 2854);
- Other Members of Congress to be confirmed

Panel II: Administration Panel

- Mr. Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC;

Panel III: Wildlife Panel

- Mr. David G. Smith (H.R. 2918), Administrator, State of Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Honolulu, Hawaii;
- Ms. Marjorie Mulhall (H.R. 4348), Legislative Director, Lands, Wildlife, Oceans, Earthjustice, Washington, DC;
- Ms. Aimee Delach (H.R. 2748), Senior Policy Analyst, Climate Adaptation, Defenders of Wildlife, Athens, Ohio; and
- Mr. Brian Seasholes (H.R. 4341, H.R. 4348), Executive Director, Southwest Communities Coalition, Benson, Arizona.

More information on the hearing and a link to view the hearing can be found at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/wow-legislative-hearing->

- On Tuesday, Sep 24, 2019, the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a “business meeting” to mark up an original bill making appropriations for the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

More information about the business meeting and the legislation being considered can be found at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings>

- On Wednesday, September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee held a markup of 16 bills (only bills of possible interest are listed below):
 - H.R. 737 (Rep. Sablan), the “Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2019”, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes;
 - H.R. 1023 (Rep. Quigley), the “Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act of 2019”, a bill to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to conduct monitoring, assessment, science, and research, in support of the binational fisheries within the Great Lakes Basin, and for other purposes;
 - H.R. 1218 (Rep. Young), the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act”, a bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes;
 - H.R. 1314 (Rep. Young), the “Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act Amendments of 2019”, a bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, and for other purposes;

- H.R. 2189 (Rep. Ruppertsberger), the “Digital Coast Act”, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 2405 (Rep. Huffman), the “National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2019”, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 2406 (Rep. Case), the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments Act of 2019”, a bill to amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 to make certain changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s commissioned officer corps, and for other purposes;

More information on the markup and a link to the video may be found at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup-9/18/2019>

- On Wednesday, July 31, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee met in an executive session on consider the following legislative measures (bills of possible interest are in **bold**):
 - **S. 2297, Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 2019**, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska); and
 - S. 2299, Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2019, Sen. Fischer, R-Nebraska.
- On Thursday, July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife (WOW) held a legislative hearing on the following bills (only bills of possible interest are noted):
 - H.R. 335, the “South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019”, (Rep. Mast, R-Florida), a bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes;
 - H.R. 729, the “Tribal Coastal Resiliency Act”, (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;

- H.R. 3115, the “Living Shorelines Act of 2019”, (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 3237, the “Platte River Recovery Implementation Program Extension Act”, (Rep. Neguse, D-Colorado), a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the implementation of the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program First Increment Extension for threatened and endangered species in the Central and Lower Platte River Basin, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 3541, the “Coastal State Climate Preparedness Act”, (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;
- H.R. 3596, 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 Waterfront Task Force and a working waterfronts grant program, and for other purposes; and
- H.R. 3723, the “Desalination Development Act”, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to promote desalination project development and drought resilience, and for other purposes.

Witnesses included:

Panel I – Congressional Panel

- Representative Mike Levin (D-California) - (testifying on H.R. 3723);
- Representative Joe Neguse (D-Colorado) - (testifying on H.R. 3237);
- Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) - (testifying on H.R. 2185);
- Representative Brian Mast (R-Florida) - (testifying on H.R. 335);
- Representative Kilmer (D-Washington) - (testifying on H.R. 729);
- Representative Salud Carbajal (D-California) - (testifying on H.R.3541);
- Representative Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) - (testifying on H.R. 3596)

Panel II - Administration

- RDML Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Deputy NOAA Administrator, Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C. - (testifying on H.R. 729, H.R. 2185, H.R. 3115, H.R. 3541, H.R. 3596);
- Mr. Karl Stock, Acting Director of Policy and Administration, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. - (testifying on H.R.3237, H.R. 3723)

Panel III – Expert Witnesses

- Ms. Fawn Sharp, JD, President, Quinault Indian Nation, Taholah, WA - (testifying on H.R. 729);
- Ms. Emily E. Steinhilber, JD, Research Assistant Professor, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA - (testifying on H.R. 3115, H.R. 3541, H.R. 3596);
- Mr. Jon Paul (J.P.) Brooker, JD, Senior Manager and Policy Counsel for Florida Conservation, Ocean Conservancy, St. Petersburg, FL - (testifying on H.R.335, H.R.3115, H.R.3541, H.R.3596);
- Mr. Rich Walters, Director of Conservation, The Nature Conservancy (Nebraska), Omaha, NE - (testifying on H.R. 3237); and
- Mr. Rick Shintaku, General Manager, South Coast Water District, Laguna Beach, CA - (testifying on H.R. 3723).

The hearing can be viewed at: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/water-oceans-and-wildlife-legislative-hearing>

- On Thursday, July 25, 2019, the full Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing titled, “When Science Gets Trumped: Scientific Integrity at the Department of the Interior”.

Witnesses included:

- Maria Caffrey, PhD, Former Partner, National Park Service;
- Joel Clement, Senior Fellow, Arctic Initiative, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University;
- Andrew Rosenberg, PhD, Director, Center for Science and Democracy, Union of Concerned Scientists; and
- Daren Bakst, Senior Research Fellow, Roe Institute for Economic Policy Studies, Heritage Foundation.

The hearing can be viewed at: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/when-science-gets-trumped-scientific-integrity-at-the-department-of-the-interior>

- On Wednesday, July 24, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held an Executive Session to consider the following legislative measures and nominations (only bills of possible interest are noted):
 - S. 496, Young Fishermen’s Development Act, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska);
 - S. 2166, Regional Ocean Partnership Act, (Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss.); and

The Executive Session can be viewed at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=68D5194C-457E-4BB5-A3A4-A9763E86D82A>

- On Tuesday, July 23, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee's Subcommittee on Science, Oceans, Fisheries, and Weather, held a hearing titled, "America's Waterfronts: Addressing Economic, Recreational, and Environmental Challenges".

According to the Committee website, the hearing was intended to "focus on the current state of our working waterfronts, how we can balance stakeholder needs, and maximize the benefits from our water and coastal resources. Witnesses will also discuss the current challenges, highlight management and development successes, and provide suggestions on how our waterfronts could be further improved."

Witnesses (Note, the witness list is subject to change):

- Mr. Mike Friis, Executive Committee Member, National Working Waterfront Network;
- Mr. Eric Genrich, Mayor of Green Bay, Wisconsin; and
- Dr. Monty Graham, Director, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, University of Southern Mississippi.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=7A88990B-C1D6-4687-B1AB-BFC3471CB85F>

- On Wednesday, June 19, 2019, the Committee on Natural Resources held a markup and consider eleven bills (only bills of possible interest are listed below):
 - H.R. 205, the "Protecting and Securing Florida's Coastline Act of 2019", (Rep. Rooney, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to permanently extend the moratorium on leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico;
 - H.R. 1305, the "Albatross and Petrel Conservation Act", (Rep. Lowenthal, D-California), a bill to implement the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and for other purposes; and
 - H.R. 1941, the "Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act", (Rep. Cunningham, D-South Carolina), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior including in any leasing program certain planning areas, and for other purposes.

More information on possible amendments and a link to watch the markup can be found at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup>

- On Wednesday, June 5, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee' Subcommittee on the Environment held a hearing titled "Ocean Exploration: Diving to New Depths and Discoveries".

Witnesses have not yet been announced.

More information on the hearing can be found at:

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/ocean-exploration-diving-to-new-depths-and-discoveries>

- On Tuesday, June 4, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee held a hearing titled "Nature in Crisis: Biodiversity Loss and its Causes".

Witnesses:

- Sir Robert Watson, Past Chair, Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);
- Dr. Kate Brauman, Coordinating Lead Author, IPBES Global Assessment; Lead Scientist, Global Water Initiative, University of Minnesota, Institute on the Environment;
- Dr. Steven Monfort, Director of the Smithsonian National Zoo and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute; Mr. Jeff Goodwin, Conservation Stewardship Lead & Agricultural Consultant, Noble Research Institute; and
- Dr. James Porter, Josiah Meigs Professor of Ecology, Emeritus, Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia

More information on the hearing can be found at:

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/nature-in-crisis-biodiversity-loss-and-its-causes>

- On Wednesday, May 22, 2019, the full House Appropriations Committee marked up the Fiscal Year 2020 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations bill and the Fiscal Year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

More information on the legislation and a video of the markup can be viewed at:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/events/markups/fy2020-commerce-justice-and-science-and-interior-and-the-environment-appropriations>

- On Wednesday, May 21, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held an oversight hearing titled "Examining the President's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service".

Witnesses:

RDML Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret., National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Deputy NOAA Administrator; and

Ms. Margaret Everson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Principle Deputy Director (Exercising the Authority of the Director)

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-presidents-fiscal-year-2020-budget-proposal-for-the-national-oceanic-and-atmospheric-administration-and-us-fish-and-wildlife-service>

- On Friday, May 17, 2019, the House Appropriations Committee's Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee marked up the Fiscal Year 2020 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

The markup video and the bill being marked up can be found at:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/events/markups/fy20-commerce-justice-science-and-related-agencies-subcommittee-markup>

- On Wednesday, May 8, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a legislative hearing on a number of bills:
 - H.R. 417 (Rep. Soto, D-Florida), a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish measures to combat invasive lionfish, and for other purposes;

- H.R. 1023, the “Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act of 2019”, (Rep. Quigley, D-Illinois), a bill to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to conduct monitoring, assessment, science, and research, in support of the binational fisheries within the Great Lakes Basin, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 1218, the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 1240, the “Young Fishermen’s Development Act of 2019” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to preserve United States fishing heritage through a national program dedicated to training and assisting the next generation of commercial fishermen;
- H.R. 1314, the “Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act Amendments of 2019”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 1979, the “Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act” (Rep. Lieu, D-California), a bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing;
- H.R. 2189, the “Digital Coast Act”, (Rep. Ruppertsberger, D-Maryland), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 2405, “National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2019”, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes;
- H.R. 2406, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments Act of 2019”, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

Witnesses:

Panel I: Administration Witness

- RDML Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., USN Ret., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, Deputy NOAA Administrator, Washington, D.C. (*Testifying on all bills except H.R. 1023*)

Panel II

- Dr. Seth Moore, Director of Biology and Environment, Grand Portage Band of Chippewa, Grand Portage, Minnesota (*Testifying on H.R. 1023*);
- Ms. Molly McCammon, Executive Director, Alaska Ocean Observing System, Anchorage, Alaska (*Testifying on H.R. 1314 and H.R. 2405*);

- Mr. Bill Shedd, President, American Fishing Tackle Company, (*Testifying on behalf of: American Sportfishing Association, Coastal Conservation Association, and International Game Fish Association*), Santa Ana, California (*Testifying on H.R. 1979*);
- Mr. Gary Burke, Board of Directors, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California (*Testifying on H.R. 1979*);
- Ms. Sarah Newkirk, Director of Disaster Resilience, The Nature Conservancy, Santa Cruz, California (*Testifying on H.R. 2189*);
- Dr. Zachary L. Penney, Fishery Science Department Manager, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Portland, Oregon (*Testifying on H.R. 2405*);
- Mr. Steve Ellis, Vice President, Taxpayers for Common Sense, Washington, D.C. (*Testifying on H.R. 2406*).

The hearing can be viewed at the following link:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/wow-legislative-hearing2>

- On Wednesday, May 1, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee held a markup on eleven bills (*only legislation of possible interest is listed below*):
 - **H.R. 1014 (Rep. González-Colón), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation, and for other purposes;**
 - **H.R. 1568 (Rep. Moulton), a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes;**
 - **H.R. 1809 (Rep. Sablan), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, to provide parity for United States territories and the District of Columbia, to make technical corrections to such Acts and related laws, and for other purposes;**

The markup can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup2>

- On Wednesday, May 1, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held an oversight hearing on “The State of Fisheries.”

Witnesses:

Panel I: Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing

- Ms. Judy Gearhart, Executive Director, International Labor Rights Forum, Washington, D.C.;
- Ms. Kitty Simonds, Executive Director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, Honolulu, HI;
- Ms. Beth Lowell, Deputy Vice President, U.S. Campaigns, Oceana, Washington, D.C.;
- Ms. Jennifer Dianto Kemmerly, Director of Global Fisheries and Aquaculture, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Monterey, CA;

Panel II: The State of U.S. Fisheries

- Mr. Bob Dooley, Associate Member, Seafood Harvesters of America, Half Moon Bay, CA;
- Captain John McMurray, President, American Saltwater Guides Association, Oceanside, NY;
- Mr. Nick Cicero, Board of Directors, Recreational Fishing Alliance, Oceanside, NJ;
- Dr. Rebecca Selden, Postdoctoral Associate, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/the-state-of-fisheries>

- On Tuesday, April 30, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Environment held a hearing titled "A Review of the NOAA Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request". *(Note: while the House Science Committee has jurisdiction over only the "dry" portions of NOAA, Committee Members may ask questions on a variety of NOAA-related issues.)*

Witness:

Dr. Neil Jacobs, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction, performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://science.house.gov/hearings/a-review-of-the-noaa-fiscal-year-2020-budget-request>

- On Wednesday, April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held an Executive Session to consider a number of bills and nominations. Bills and nominations of interest include *(Note: Bills without bill numbers had not yet been introduced at the time of the markup or had been recently introduced and had not yet been assigned a number.)*:

S. 494, American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act, Sponsors: Sens. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska);

S. ____, Fluke Fairness Act of 2018, Sponsors: Sens. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.);

S. ____, Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act, Sponsors: Sens. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.);

S. ____, Shark Fin Trade Elimination Act of 2017, Sponsors: Sens. Cory Booker (D-N.J.);

S. ____, Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act, Sponsors: Sens. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.);

S. ____, National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act, Sponsors: Sens. Roger Wicker (R-Miss.); and

The nomination of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.

The Executive Session can be viewed at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=2089132A-3A1C-45EB-93C0-E0AE3392C174>

- On Tuesday, April 2, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a legislative hearing titled, "Protecting Coastal Communities from Offshore Drilling". The hearing will focus on the following bills (*Note: Bills without bill numbers had not yet been introduced at the time of the markup or had been recently introduced and had not yet been assigned a number.*):

H.R. ____ (Rep. Cunningham): To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior including in any leasing program certain planning areas, and for other purposes. "Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act"

H.R. 205 (Rep. Rooney): To amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to permanently extend the moratorium on leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico. "Protecting and Securing Florida's Coastline Act"

H.R. 1149 (Rep. Van Drew): To prohibit the Department of the Interior from issuing certain geological and geophysical exploration permits under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and for other purposes. "Atlantic Coastal Economies Protection Act"

Witnesses Included:

Panel I

- Representative Joe Cunningham, South Carolina, 1st District;
- Representative Jeff Van Drew, New Jersey, 2nd District;
- Representative Francis Rooney, Florida, 19th District;

Panel II

- Mr. Jimmy Carroll, Mayor, Isle of Palms, SC;
- Mr. Vipe Desai, Founding Member, Business Alliance for Protecting the Pacific Coast, Owner, HDX Mix, Huntington Beach, CA;
- Mr. David Yates, Executive Director & CEO, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, Clearwater, FL;
- Ms. Sharon Hewitt, Senator, Louisiana State Senate, District – 1, Baton Rouge, LA.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/emr-legislative-hearing>

- On Thursday, March 28, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held an oversight hearing titled “The Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan.”

Witnesses included:

- Brenda Burman, Commissioner, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation;
- Tom Buschatzke, Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources;
- John D’Antonio, New Mexico State Engineer;
- James Eklund, Colorado Commissioner, Upper Colorado River Commission;
- John Entsminger, General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority;
- Eric Millis, Director, Utah Division of Water Resources;
- Peter Nelson, Chairman, Colorado River Board of California; and
- Pat Tyrrell, Wyoming State Engineer

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/the-colorado-river-drought-contingency-plan>

- On Wednesday, March 27, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee held an oversight hearing titled “Examining the Department of the Interior’s Spending Priorities and the President’s Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal.”

Witnesses included:

- Scott Cameron, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management, and Budget;
- Denise Flanagan, Director, Office of Budget, U.S. Department of the Interior

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-department-of-the-interiors-spending-priorities-and-the-presidents-fiscal-year-2020-budget-proposal>

- On Wednesday, March 27, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held an oversight hearing titled, “Our Blue Economy: Successes and Opportunities”. According to the Committee, the hearing “will examine stakeholder perspectives on marine economic development and the need for federal investments in ocean technologies and fisheries.”

Witnesses included:

- The Honorable Phil Bryant, Governor, State of Mississippi;
- Mr. Michael Conathan, Executive Director, Aspen Institute, Aspen High Seas Initiative;
- Mr. Scott Deal, President and Chief Executive Officer, Maverick Boats

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=E8BE0833-8219-47E0-8891-DC96FE2F9AF2>

- On Wednesday, March 27, 2019, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water and Power held an oversight hearing to examine the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan.

Witnesses included:

- The Honorable Brenda Burman, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior;
- Mr. Tom Buschatzke, Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources;
- Mr. John Entsminger, General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority;
- Mr. Patrick Tyrrell, State Engineer, State of Wyoming

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://www.energy.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2019/3/subcommittee-on>

- On Tuesday, March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a legislative hearing on the following bills (bills of potential interest to Councils are in **bold**):

H.R. 1326 (Rep. Mike Thompson), a bill to provide for the preservation of America’s outdoor heritage and enhance recreation opportunities on Federal land, and for other purposes. “ACCESS Act.”

H.R. 877 (Rep. Austin Scott), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to modernize the funding of wildlife conservation, and for other purposes. “Modernizing the Pittman-Robertson Fund for Tomorrow's Needs Act.”

H.R. 1809 (Rep. Gregorio Sablan), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, to provide parity for United States territories and the District of Columbia, to make technical corrections to such Acts and related laws, and for other purposes.

H.R. 737 (Rep. Gregorio Sablan), a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes. “Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2019.”

H.R. 1305 (Rep. Alan Lowenthal), a bill to implement the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and for other purposes. “Albatross and Petrel Conservation Act.”

H.R. 1380 (Rep. Mike Quigley), a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes. “Big Cat Public Safety Act.”

H.R. 1568 (Rep. Seth Moulton), a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right conservation programs and projects of person with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes. “SAVE Right Whales Act.”

Witnesses included:

Panel I - Congressional Panel

Representative Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, Northern Mariana Islands (testifying on H.R. 1809 and H.R. 737);

Representative Mike Thompson, California, 5th District (testifying on H.R. 1326); and

Representative Austin Scott, Georgia, 8th District (testifying on H.R. 877).

Panel II

Mr. Nick Pinizzotto, President and Chief Executive Officer, National Deer Alliance, Indiana, PA (testifying on H.R. 1326, H.R. 877, and H.R. 1809)

Mrs. Linda Mays McCaul, Board of Directors, EarthEcho International, Washington, DC (testifying on H.R. 737)

Mr. Ed Melvin, Marine Fisheries Senior Scientist, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (testifying on H.R.1305)

Ms. Carson Barylak, Campaigns Manager, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Washington, DC (testifying on H.R. 1380 and H.R. 1568);

Mr. Grover Norquist, President, Americans for Tax Reform, Washington, DC (testifying on H.R. 1326); and

Mr. Shaun Gehan, Lawyer, Sustainable Shark Alliance, Washington, DC (testifying on H.R. 737).

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/wow-legislative-hearing>

- On Thursday, March 7, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held an oversight hearing titled “Examining the Threats to the North Atlantic Right Whale.”

Witnesses included:

- Mr. Chris Oliver, Assistant Administrator, NOAA Fisheries, Silver Spring, MD;
- Dr. Scott Kraus, Vice President and Senior Science Advisor, Chief Scientist, Marine Mammal Conservation, Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at the New England Aquarium, Boston, MA;
- Dr. Chris Clark, Senior Scientist, Research Professor, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY;
- Dr. H. Sterling Burnett, Senior Fellow and Managing Editor, Environment & Climate News, The Heartland Institute, Rowlett, TX.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-threats-to-the-north-atlantic-right-whale>

- On Wednesday, March 6, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee held an oversight hearing titled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the U.S. Geological Survey”.

Witnesses included: Dr. Walter Cruickshank, Acting Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Washington, DC; Mr. Doug Morris, Chief, Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Washington, DC; The Honorable James Reilly, Director, United States Geological Survey, Reston, VA.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/examining-the-policies-and-priorities-of-the-bureau-of-ocean-energy-management-the-bureau-of-safety-and-environmental-enforcement-and-the-us-geological-survey>

- On Wednesday, February 27, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Environment Subcommittee held a hearing titled "Sea Change: Impacts of Climate Change on Our Oceans and Coasts."

Witnesses included: Dr. Sarah Cooley, Director, Ocean Acidification Program, Ocean Conservancy; Dr. Radley Horton, Lamont Associate Research Professor, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University Earth Institute; Dr. Thomas K. Frazer, Professor and Director, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Florida; Ms. Margaret A. Pilaro, Executive Director, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://science.house.gov/legislation/hearings/sea-change-impacts-climate-change-our-oceans-and-coasts>

- On Thursday, February 7, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing titled "Healthy Oceans and Healthy Economies: The State of Our Oceans In the 21st Century."

Witnesses included: Dr. Deborah Bronk, President and CEO, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, East Boothbay, Maine; Carol Browner, Former Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.; Beth Casoni, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association, Scituate, Massachusetts; Angela Chalk, Executive Director of Healthy Community Services, New Orleans, Louisiana; Queen Quet Marquette L. Goodwine, Chieftess and Head-of-State of the Gullah/Geechee Nation, St. Helena Island, South Carolina; Dr. David R. Legates, Professor of Climatology, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware; Dr. Kevin Dayaratna, Senior Statistician and Research Programmer, Institute for Economic Freedom, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/healthy-oceans-and-healthy-economies-the-state-of-our-oceans-in-the-21st-century>

- On Wednesday, February 6, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing titled: “Climate Change: Impacts and the Need to Act”.

Witnesses included: The Honorable Roy Cooper, Governor of North Carolina; The Honorable Charlie Baker, Governor of Massachusetts; Dr. Kim Cobb, Professor, School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology; Ms. Nadia Nazar, Co-Founder, Associate Director, and Art Director, Zero Hour Movement, Co-organizer of the Youth Climate March; Ms. Elizabeth Yeampierre, Executive Director, UPROSE, Steering Committee Co-Chair of the Climate Justice Alliance; Rev. Lennox Yearwood, Jr., President, Hip Hop Caucus, Member of the Advisory Board of The Climate Mobilization; Ms. Paula DiPerna, Special Advisor, CDP North America.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/climate-change-impacts-and-the-need-to-act>

- On Wednesday, January 16, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee held an Executive Session to consider and approve the rules for the committee and to ratify Subcommittees and Subcommittee assignments for the 116th Congress.

The video of the Executive Session can be viewed at:

<https://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=E66EECAF-8BE5-4FB6-9B54-88E46231805C>

- On Wednesday, January 30, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee held their organizational meeting to approve the rules for the committee and to approve the hiring of staff for the committee.

The archive of this meeting is not available.

APPROPRIATIONS:

Fiscal Year 2020 – House

- As noted above, on June 25, 2019, the full House of Representatives passed H.R. 3055, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2020. This bill was amended and is now an omnibus appropriations bill and is the vehicle for five appropriations bills and one other piece of legislation.
- On Wednesday, May 22, 2019, the full House Appropriations Committee marked up the Fiscal Year 2020 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations legislation (as well as the Fiscal Year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations legislation).

The markup can be viewed at:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/events/markups/fy2020-commerce-justice-and-science-and-interior-and-the-environment-appropriations>

- On Friday, May 17, 2019, the House Appropriation Committee's Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee marked up the Fiscal Year 2020 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations legislation.

The markup can be viewed at:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/events/markups/fy20-commerce-justice-science-and-related-agencies-subcommittee-markup>

- On Wednesday, March 27, 2019, the House Appropriations Committee's Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee held a hearing on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020.

Witnesses:

Dr. Neil Jacobs, Acting Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The video of the hearing and testimony can be found at:

<https://appropriations.house.gov/legislation/hearings/the-national-oceanic-and-atmospheric-administration-s-budget-request-for-fiscal>

Fiscal Year 2020 – Senate

- On September 26, 2019, the Senate Appropriations Committee marked up and ordered S. 2584, "an original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes" to be reported and the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.

The audio of the markup can be found at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/full-committee-markup-of-fy2020-interior-cjs-homeland-and-leg-branch-bills>

- On Tuesday, April 02, 2019, the Senate Appropriations Committee’s Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing to examine the proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of Commerce. Witnesses included:
 - The Honorable Steven Dillingham, Director, U.S. Census Bureau;
 - The Honorable David J. Redl, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration;
 - The Honorable Neil Jacobs, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction, Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere;
 - The Honorable John Fleming, M.D., Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development;
 - Mr. Henry Childs, National Director, Minority Business Development Administration;
 - The Honorable Gil Kaplan, Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade;
 - Mr. Matthew Borman, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration;
 - The Honorable Andrei Iancu, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property, Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office;
 - The Honorable Walter Copan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology, Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology; and
 - The Honorable Mike Platt, Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.

A link to the hearing can be found at:

<https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/>

Fiscal Year 2019

On February 15, 2019, the President signed H.J.RES. 31, a bill to fund seven departments of the federal government (including the Department of Commerce) through September 30, 2019. Below are the provisions that relate to fisheries management. *(Note: a more comprehensive review of provisions within the appropriations bill and reports was sent out earlier.)*

The Conference Report document is the statutory language and includes a number of provisions relevant to the management of fisheries and marine mammals. The Conference Report can be found at:

https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20190211/CRPT-116hrpt9_u2-.pdf

(Note: the NOAA section begins on page 209.)

The Joint Explanatory Text document explains the intent of the statutory language in the Conference Report. (Note: the Explanatory Text document acts as report language for the Conference Report. This document does not carry the weight of law, but indicates how Congress intends the agencies to use the funds provided by the appropriation bills). The Explanatory Text can be found at:

<https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20190211/116hrpt9-JointExplanatoryStatement.pdf>

(Note: The Department of Commerce section begins on page 162 and the NOAA section begins on page 169.)

The Conference Report noted that "Report language included in House Report 115-704 ("the House report") or Senate Report 115-275 ("the Senate report") that is not changed by this explanatory statement or the Act is approved. The explanatory statement, while repeating some language for emphasis, is not intended to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where both the House report and the Senate report address a particular issue not specifically addressed in the explanatory statement, the House report and the Senate report should be read as consistent and are to be interpreted accordingly. In cases where the House report or the Senate report directs the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations ("the Committees")."

The House Report can be found at:

<https://www.congress.gov/115/crpt/hrpt704/CRPT-115hrpt704.pdf>

The Senate Report can be found at:

<https://www.congress.gov/115/crpt/srpt275/CRPT-115srpt275.pdf>

LEGISLATION:

(Note: Legislation introduced since the last Congressional Activities Report is highlighted in red. Any action on legislation is also highlighted in red.)

House - Fisheries Related Legislation:

H.R. 417 (Rep. Soto, R-Florida), a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish measures to combat invasive lionfish, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2019, and 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. **On May 8, 2019 a hearing on the legislation was held by the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee.**

H.R. 548 (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 waters. Introduced on January 15, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 614 (Rep. Lieu, D-California), a bill to prohibit the sale of shark parts, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 16, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 632 (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to direct the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel Safari Voyager. Introduced on January 16, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 633 (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to direct the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to issue a certificate of documentation with a coastwise endorsement for the vessel Pacific Provider. Introduced on January 16, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 737 (Re. Sablan, D-CNMI), a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 23, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported.**

H.R. 788 (Rep. Webster, R-Florida), a bill to amend and enhance the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act to improve the conservation of sharks. Introduced on January 24, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee.

H.R. 992, the "Southwestern Oregon Watershed and Salmon Protection Act", (Rep. DeFazio, D-Oregon), a bill to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 6, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 993, the "Frank Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act", (Rep. DeFazio, D-Oregon), a bill to designate the Frank Moore Wild Steelhead Sanctuary in the State of Oregon. Introduced on February 6, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1014, the "Offshore Wind for Territories Act", (Rep. González-Colón, R-Puerto Rico), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 6, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On May 1, 2019, the legislation was ordered to be reported by Unanimous Consent.**

H.R. 1023, the "Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act of 2019", (Rep. Quigley, D-Illinois), a bill to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to conduct monitoring, assessment, science, and research, in support of the binational fisheries within the Great Lakes Basin, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 6, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On May 8, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife**

Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 1056, the “Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act”, (Rep. DeFazio, D-Oregon), a bill to designate the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area in the State of Oregon. Introduced on February 7, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1103, the “Genetically Engineered Salmon Labeling Act”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the market name of genetically altered salmon in the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 7, 2019 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

H.R. 1104, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labeling of genetically engineered fish (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on February 7, 2019 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

H.R. 1105, a bill to prevent the escapement of genetically altered salmon in the United States, and for other purposes (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on February 7, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1218, the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 13, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. On May 8, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 1240, the “Young Fishermen’s Development Act of 2019”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to preserve United States fishing heritage through a national program dedicated to training and assisting the next generation of commercial fishermen. Introduced on February 14, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. On May 8, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation.

H.R. 1747, the “National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act”, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), a bill to encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested persons to promote fish conservation. Introduced on March 13, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. On September 24, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the bill. On September 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 1809, (Rep. Sablan, D- CNMI), a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, to provide parity for United States territories and the District of Columbia, to make technical corrections to such Acts and related laws, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 18, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. On March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On May 1, 2019, the legislation was ordered to be reported by Unanimous Consent. On July 10, 2019, the report to accompany the legislation was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar.

H.R. 1979, the “Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act”, (Rep. Lieu, D- California), a bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing. Introduced on March 28, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. [A hearing was held by the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee on May 8, 2019.](#)

H.R. 2236, the “Forage Fish Conservation Act”, (Rep. Dingell, D-Michigan), a bill to improve the management of forage fish. Introduced on April 10, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 2425, the “Shellfish Aquaculture Improvement Act of 2019”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to limit recovery for certain injuries incurred in shellfish aquaculture activities if a remedy is available. Introduced on April 30, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. 2467, the “Keep Finfish Free Act of 2019”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce from authorizing commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone except in accordance with a law authorizing such action. Introduced on May 1, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 2587, the “Reef Safe Act of 2019”, (Rep. Gabbard, D-Hawaii), a bill to require the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to develop standards for a “Reef Safe” label for sunscreen. Introduced on May 8, 2019, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

H.R. 2658, the “Commercial Fishing and Seafood Business Act of 2019”, (Rep. Wittman, R-Virginia), 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 May 9, 2019, and referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

H.R. 3140, the “Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Clarification Act”, (Rep. Pappas, D-New Hampshire), a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to set standards for the operation of uninspected commercial fishing vessels, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 5, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 3384, the “Coral Reef Sustainability Through Innovation Act of 2019”, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to coral reef ecosystems, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 20, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. 3514, (Rep. Moulton, D- Massachusetts), a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide fisheries disaster relief for commercial fishery failures that are due to certain duties, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 26, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 3697, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 11, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Senate - Fisheries Related Legislation:

S. 82, the “Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act”, (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon), a bill to designate the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area in the State of Oregon. Introduced on January 10, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 282, the “Genetically Engineered Salmon Labeling Act”, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to amend the market name of genetically altered salmon in the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 30, 2019, and referred to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

S. 446, the “Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act”, (Sen. Peters, D-Michigan), a bill to authorize the Director of the United States Geological Survey to conduct monitoring, assessment, science, and research, in support of the binational fisheries within the Great Lakes Basin. Introduced on February 12, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 494, the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation to be reported without amendment. On August 16, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee reported the bill without amendment and the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.**

S. 496, the “Young Fishermen’s Development Act”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska) a bill to preserve United States fishing heritage through a national program dedicated to training and assisting the next generation of commercial fishermen, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On July 24, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the bill to be reported without amendment.**

S. 754, the “National Fish Habitat Conservation Act of 2019”, (Sen. Crapo, R-Idaho), a bill to encourage partnerships among public agencies and other interested parties to promote fish conservation, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 12, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 877, the “Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2019”, (Sen. Booker, D-New Jersey), a bill to prohibit sale of shark fins, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 26, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation to be reported without amendment.**

S. 906, the “Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act”, (Sen. Feinstein, D-California), a bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing. Introduced on March 27, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation (amended) to be reported.**

S. 908, the “Fluke Fairness Act of 2019”, (Sen. Schumer, D-New York), a bill to provide for an equitable management of summer flounder based on geographic, scientific, and economic data and for other purposes. Introduced on March 27, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation to be reported without amendment.**

S. 1008, the “Sustainable Shark Fisheries and Trade Act of 2019”, (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to amend and enhance the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act to improve the conservation of sharks, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 3, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1269, the “Maritime Security And Fisheries Enforcement Act” or the “Maritime SAFE Act”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to address the threat to national security from illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and associated illegal activity, to prevent the illegal trade of seafood and seafood products, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 1, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1291, the “Fishing Equipment Tax Relief Act of 2019”, (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a reduced excise tax rate for portable, electronically-aerated bait containers. Introduced on May 2, 2019 and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

S. 1375, the “Reef Safe Act of 2019”, (Sen. Merkley, D-Oregon), a bill to require the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to develop standards for a “Reef Safe” label for sunscreen. Introduced on May 8, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1922, the “Coral Sustainability Through Innovation Act of 2019”, (Sen. Hirono, D-Hawaii), a bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management development relating to coral reef ecosystems, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 20, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1984, (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide fisheries disaster relief for commercial fishery failures that are due to certain duties, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 26, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 2209, the “Commercial Fishing and Aquaculture Protection Act of 2019”, (Sen. Hyde-Smith, R-Mississippi), a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish a safety net program for commercial fishermen and aquaculture producers. Introduced on July 23, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 2346, “Fishery Failures: Urgently Needed Disaster Declarations Act”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to improve the Fishery Resource Disaster Relief program of the National Marine

Fisheries Service, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 30, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 2429, the “Restoring Resilient Reefs Act of 2019”, (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and to establish the United States Coral Reef Task Force, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 1, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

House - Other Legislation of Possible Interest:

H.R. 30, the “Saving America’s Endangered Species Act” or the “SAVES Act” (Rep. Gohmert, 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 January 3, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 91, the “Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act”, (Rep. Blumenauer, D-Oregon), a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to assess sanitation and safety conditions at Bureau of Indian Affairs facilities that were constructed to provide affected Columbia River Treaty tribes access to traditional fishing grounds and expend funds on construction of facilities and structures to improve those conditions, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 3, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 183, (Rep. Keating, D-Massachusetts), a bill to clarify the United States interest in certain submerged lands in the area of the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 3, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 205, the “Protecting and Securing Florida’s Coastline Act of 2019”, (Rep. Rooney, R-Florida), a bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to permanently extend the moratorium on leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico. Introduced on January 3, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 2, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On June 19, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee marked up the bill and ordered it to be reported. On July 16, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 11, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the legislation and on September 12, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.**

H.R. 279, the “California Clean Coast Act of 2019”, (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 January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 286, 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 January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 287, the “New England Coastal Protection Act”, (Rep. Cicilline, D-Rhode Island), a bill to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Introduced on January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 291, the “Coastal Economies Protection Act” (Rep. Cunningham, D-South Carolina), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to place a ten-year moratorium on oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities on the Outer Continental Shelf in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas and in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico. Introduced on January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 309, the “Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act of 2019”, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Introduced on January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 310, the “West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2019”, (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 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 335, the “South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019”, (Rep. Mast, R-Florida) a bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 8, 2019, 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. **On July 24, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended). On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation. On September 11, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee filed the report on the legislation, the House Natural Resources Committee was discharged from further consideration, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 26, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the bill by voice vote under Suspension of the Rules (amended).**

H.R. 337, the “Defend our Coast Act”, (Rep. McEachin, D-Virginia), 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 January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 341, 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, Straits of Florida, and Eastern Gulf of Mexico planning areas. Introduced on January 8, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 358, the “California New River Restoration Act of 2019”, (Rep. Vargas, D-California), a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a California New River restoration program to build on, and help coordinate funding for, restoration and protection efforts

relating to the New River, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2019, 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. 363, the “Reducing Environmental Barriers to Unified Infrastructure and Land Development Act of 2019” or the “REBUILD Act”, (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 9, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 414, the “Protecting Local Communities from Harmful Algal Blooms Act” (Rep. Rooney, R-Florida) a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include algal blooms in the definition of a major disaster, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 9, 2019, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 477 (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), a bill to amend section 7 of Public Law 100-515 (16 U.S.C. 1244 note) to promote continued use of the James J. Howard Marine Sciences Laboratory at Gateway National Recreation Area by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Introduced on January 10, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 579 (Rep. Tipton, R-Colorado), 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 Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 15, 2019, 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. 729 (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 January 23, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources’ Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation.**

H.R. 864 (Rep. Garamendi, D-California), a bill to support wildlife conservation, improve anti-trafficking enforcement, provide dedicated funding at no expense to taxpayers, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 30, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. 872 (Rep. Lowenthal, D-California), a bill to reauthorize the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and certain wildlife conservation funds, to establish prize competitions relating to the prevention of wildlife poaching and trafficking, wildlife conservation, the management of invasive species, and the protection of endangered species, to amend the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 to modify the protections provided by that Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 30, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, 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. 988, the “National Estuaries and Acidification Research Act of 2019” or the “NEAR Act of 2019”, Rep. Posey (R-Florida), a bill to provide for a study by the Ocean Studies Board of the National Academies of Science examining the impact of ocean acidification and other stressors in estuarine environments. Introduced on February 6, 2019 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. **On April 9, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology’s Environment Subcommittee marked up the legislation and ordered it to be forwarded to the full committee by voice vote. On May 1, 2019, the legislation was ordered to be reported (amended) by Voice Vote. On May 23, 2019, the report to accompany the legislation was filed, the House Natural Resources Committee was discharged from further consideration, and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On June 5, 2019, the bill was considered under Suspension of the Rules. On June 10, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.**

H.R. 1146, the “Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act”, (Rep. Huffman, D-California), a bill to amend Public Law 115–97 (commonly known as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act) to repeal the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge oil and gas program, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 11, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On May 1, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended). On June 27, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 12, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the legislation and the bill was referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.**

H.R. 1148, the “2018 Natural Disasters Tax Relief Act”, (Rep. Rice, R-South Carolina), a bill to provide for disaster tax relief. Introduced on February 11, 2019 and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

H.R. 1149, “Atlantic Coastal Economies Protection Act”, (Rep. Van Drew, D-New Jersey), a bill to prohibit the Department of the Interior from issuing certain geological and geophysical exploration permits under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 11, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 2, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation.**

H.R. 1214, the “Protecting Disaster Relief Funds Act of 2019”, (Rep. Velazquez, D-New York), a bill to prohibit certain funds from being transferred or reprogrammed to plan, develop, or construct a new physical barrier along the Southwest border, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 13, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and in addition to 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. 1237, the “Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats Research Act of 2019” or the “COAST Research Act of 2019”, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 to establish an Ocean Acidification Advisory Board, to

expand and improve the research on Ocean Acidification and Coastal Acidification, to establish and maintain a data archive system for Ocean Acidification data and Coastal Acidification data, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. On April 9, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Environment marked up the bill forwarded it to the full committee. On May 1, 2019, the committee ordered the bill to be reported. On May 28, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed. On June 5, 2019, the bill was passed under Suspension of the Rules. On June 10, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

H.R. 1305, the "Albatross and Petrel Conservation Act", (Rep. Lowenthal, D-California), a bill to implement the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 15, 2019 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. On March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On June 19, 2019, the bill was ordered to be reported.

H.R. 1314, the "Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act Amendments of 2019", (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), a bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 19, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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 May 8, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 1317, "Coastal Communities Adaptation Act", (Rep. Rouda, D-California), a bill to improve the resilience of the built and natural environment to natural disasters and climate change using, among other measures, natural and nature-based features, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 22, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and in addition to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Oversight and Reform Committee, the House Financial Services Committee, and the House Natural Resources, 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. 1326, the "Authorizing Critical Conservation and Enabling Sportsmen and Sportswomen Act" or the "ACCESS Act", (Rep. Thompson, D-California), a bill to provide for the preservation of America's outdoor heritage and enhance recreation opportunities on Federal land, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 22, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee, and in addition to the House Judiciary Committee, the House Agriculture Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the House Appropriations 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 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation.

H.R. 1568, the “Scientific Assistance for Very Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales Act of 2019” or the “SAVE Right Whales Act”, (Rep. Moulton, D-Massachusetts), a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 6, 2019, 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. **On March 26, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee held a hearing on the legislation. On May 1, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).**

H.R. 1606, the “Atlantic Seismic Airgun Protection Act”, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil-, gas-, and methane hydrate-related seismic activities in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas of the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1664, the “National Monument Creation And Protection Act” or the “National Monument CAP Act”, (Rep. Bishop, R-Utah), a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to reform the Antiquities Act of 1906, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 11, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1709, the “Scientific Integrity Act”, (Rep. Tonko, D-New York), a bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to establish certain scientific integrity policies for Federal agencies that fund, conduct, or oversee scientific research, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 13, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

H.R. 1716, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019”, (Rep. Pingree, D-Maine), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 13, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. **On April 9, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Environment marked up the legislation and reported the bill to the full committee. On May 1, 2019, the full committee ordered the bill to be reported. On May 23, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed. On June 5, 2019, the bill was considered under Suspension of the Rules and passed by the House. On June 10, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.**

H.R. 1834, the “Defending Our National Marine Sanctuaries from Damaging Chemicals Act of 2019”, (Rep. Rooney, R- Florida), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to issue regulations prohibiting the use of sunscreen containing oxybenzone or octinoxate in a National Marine Sanctuary in which coral is present, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 18, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1921, the “Ocean Acidification Innovation Act of 2019”, (Rep. Kilmer, D-Washington), a bill to authorize Federal agencies to establish prize competitions for innovation or adaptation management

development relating to ocean acidification. Introduced on March 27, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. **On April 9, 2019, the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Environment marked up the legislation and reported the bill to the full committee. On June 5, 2019, the bill was considered under Suspension of the Rules and passed by the House. On June 10, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.**

H.R. 1941, the "Coastal and Marine Economies Protection Act", (Rep. Cunningham, D- South Carolina), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior including in any leasing program certain planning areas, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 28, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On April 2, 2019, the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on the legislation. On June 19, 2019, the bill was ordered to be reported. On July 16, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Union Calendar. On September 11, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the legislation and on September 12, 2019, the bill was referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.**

H.R. 2189, the "Digital Coast Act", (Rep. Ruppertsberger, D-Maryland), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 9, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **A hearing was held by the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee on May 8, 2019. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).**

H.R. 2349, the "Climate Change Education Act", (Rep. Dingell, D- Michigan), a bill to authorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Climate Change Education Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 22, 2019 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the House Education and Labor 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. 2352, the "Marine Oil Spill Prevention Act", (Rep. Wasserman Schultz, D-Florida), a bill to improve the ability of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Coast Guard, and coastal States to sustain healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems by maintaining and sustaining their capabilities relating to oil spill preparedness, prevention, and response, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 22, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure 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.

H.R. 2405, the "National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2019", (Rep. Huffman, D-California) a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 30, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **A hearing on the legislation was held by the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee on May 8, 2019.**

On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 2406, the “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Amendments Act of 2019”, (Rep. Case, D-Hawaii), a bill to amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 to make certain changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s commissioned officer corps, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 30, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, Armed Services, and Veterans’ Affairs, 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. **A hearing on the legislation was held by the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee on May 8, 2019. On September 18, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).**

H.R. 2448, the “Ocean Acidification Research Partnerships Act”, (Rep. Carbajal, D-California), a bill to provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities. Introduced on May 1, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

H.R. 2551, the “Great Lakes Environmental Sensitivity Index Act of 2019”, (Rep. Kildee, D-Michigan) a bill to require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 7, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 2748, the “Safeguarding America's Future and Environment Act” or the “SAFE Act”, (Rep. Cartwright, D- Pennsylvania), a bill to establish an integrated national approach to respond to ongoing and expected effects of extreme weather and climate change by protecting, managing, and conserving the fish, wildlife, and plants of the United States, and to maximize Government efficiency and reduce costs, in cooperation with State, local, and Tribal Governments and other entities, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 15, 2019, and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On September 24, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the bill.**

H.R. 2918, the “Extinction Prevention Act of 2019”, (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 22, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On September 24, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the bill.**

H.R. 3115, the “Living Shorelines Act of 2019”, (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 5, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation. On**

September 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).

H.R. 3161, the “National Oceanographic Partnership Program Reauthorization Act”, (Rep. Panetta, D-California), a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 6, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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. 3203, the “Marine Energy Research and Development Act of 2019”, (Rep. Deutch, D-Florida), a bill to provide research, development, and deployment of marine energy, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 11, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

H.R. 3297, the “Harmful Algal Bloom Essential Forecasting Act”, (Rep. Rooney, 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 June 14, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. 3409, the “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2019”, (Rep. DeFazio, D-Oregon), a bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 21, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. **On June 26, 2019, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee amended the bill ordered it to be reported. On July 24, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the bill under Suspension of the Rules. On July 25, 2019, the bill was received in the Senate and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.**

H.R. 3541, the “Coastal State Climate Preparedness Act of 2019”, (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 June 27, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation. On September 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported.**

H.R. 3548, the “Bolstering Long-Term Understanding and Exploration of the Great Lakes, Oceans, Bays, and Estuaries Act” or the “BLUE GLOBE Act”, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 27, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and in addition to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, and the House Education and Labor 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. 3585, the “Bolstering Economies, Anglers, Coastal Habitats, Ecosystems and Security in Florida Act” or the “BEACHES in 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 2029, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 27, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 3596, 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 Waterfront Task Force and a working waterfronts grant program, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 28, 2019 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. **On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation. On September 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill to be reported (amended).**

H.R. 3609, the “Wind Energy Research and Development Act of 2019”, (Rep. Tonko, D-New York), a bill to provide for a program of wind energy research, development, and demonstration, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 2, 2019 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

H.R. 3723, the “Desalination Development Act”, (Rep. Levin, D-California), a bill to promote desalination project development and drought resilience, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 11, 2019 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. On July 25, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the legislation.

H.R. 3742, the “Recovering America’s Wildlife Act of 2019”, (Rep. Dingell, D-Michigan), 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 July 12, 2019 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.R. 3919, the “Creating Opportunity and Sustainability Through Science Act” or the “COASTS Act”, (Rep. Moulton, D-Massachusetts), a bill to require research in coastal sustainability and resilience, to ensure that the Federal Government continues to implement and advance coastal resiliency efforts, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 23, 2019 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.

H.R. 3969, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Act” or the “SOS 2.0 Act”, (Rep. Bonamici, D-Oregon), a bill to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and in addition to the House Natural Resources Committee, the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Foreign Affairs

Committee, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Science, Space, and Technology 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. 4031, the “Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2019” or the “GLRI Act of 2019”, (Rep. Joyce, R- Ohio), a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 4032, the “Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Act of 2019”, (Rep. Katko, R-New York), a bill to require the Corps of Engineers to carry out an assessment of the resiliency of the Great Lakes coastline, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2019 and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 4093, the “National Oceans and Coastal Security Improvements Act of 2019”, (Rep. Beyer, D-Virginia), a bill to improve the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 30, 2019 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.

H.R. 4044, the “Protect and Restore America’s Estuaries Act”, (Rep. Malinowski, D- New Jersey), a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2019, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

H.R. 4266, the “Clean Water Through Green Infrastructure Act” (Rep. Heck, D-Washington), a bill to establish centers of excellence for innovative stormwater control infrastructure, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 10, 2019, and referred to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. 4269, the “Climate Stewardship Act of 2019”, (Rep. Haaland, D-New Mexico), a bill to provide incentives for agricultural producers to carry out climate stewardship practices, to provide for increased reforestation across the United States, to establish the Coastal and Estuary Resilience Grant Program, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 10, 2019, and referred to the House Agriculture Committee, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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. 4348, the “Protect America’s Wildlife and Fish in Need of Conservation Act of 2019” or the “PAW and FIN Conservation Act of 2019”, (Rep. Grijalva, D-Arizona), a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 17, 2019, and referred to the

House Natural Resources Committee. On September 24, 2019, the House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on the bill.

Senate - Other Legislation of Possible Interest:

S. 10, the "South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019", (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 3, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 13, the "Florida Shores Protection and Fairness Act", (Sen. Rubio, R-Florida), a bill to include the State of Florida in the Gulf of Mexico outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing program, to extend the moratorium on oil and gas leasing in certain areas of the Gulf of Mexico, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 3, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 38, the "Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Extension Act of 2019", (Sen. Gardner, R-Colorado), a bill to maintain annual base funding for the Upper Colorado and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023, to require a report on the implementation of those programs, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 8, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 47, the "Natural Resources Management Act", (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to provide for the management of the natural resources of the United States, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 8, 2019 and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar. On February 12, 2019, passed the Senate and Sent to the House of Representatives. On February 26, 2019, the House of Representatives passed the bill. On March 12, 2019, the legislation was signed and became Public Law No: 116-9.

S. 268, the "Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Act" or the "WILD Act", (Sen. Barrasso, R-Wyoming), a bill to reauthorize the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and certain wildlife conservation funds, to establish prize competitions relating to the prevention of wildlife poaching and trafficking, wildlife conservation, the management of invasive species, and the protection of endangered species, to amend the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 to modify the protections provided by that Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 29, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. On February 5, 2019, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee ordered the bill to be reported and without a report the bill was placed on Senate Legislative Calendar.

S. 395, the "Providing Accountability Through Transparency Act of 2019", (Sen. Lankford, R-Oklahoma), a bill to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule making, to include a link to a 100 word plain language summary of the proposed rule. Introduced on February 7, 2019 and referred to the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. On February 13, 2019, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs ordered the bill to be reported without amendment favorably. On March 25, 2019, the report to accompany the bill was filed and the bill was placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar.

S. 499, the “Offshore Wind for Territories Act”, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 502, the “State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act”, (Sen. Enzi, R-Wyoming), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require disclosure to States of the basis of determinations under such Act, to ensure use of information provided by State, Tribal, and county governments in decision-making under such Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 14, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 775, the “Scientific Integrity Act”, (Sen. Schatz, D-Hawaii), a bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to require certain agencies to develop scientific integrity policies, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 13, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 778, the “Coastal Communities Ocean Acidification Act of 2019”, (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), a bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to conduct coastal community vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 13, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 810, the “COASTAL Implementation Act of 2019”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 14, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 828, the “Atlantic Seismic Airgun Protection Act”, (Sen. Booker, D-New Jersey), a bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit oil-, gas-, and methane hydrate-related seismic activities in the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Straits of Florida planning areas of the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 14, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 910, the “National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2019”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 27, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation (amended) to be reported.**

S. 914, the “Coordinated Ocean Observations and Research Act of 2019”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009, to clarify the authority of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration with respect to post-storm assessments, and to require the establishment of a National Water Center, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 27, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On April 3, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the legislation to be reported without amendment.**

S. 1069, the “Digital Coast Act”, (Sen. Baldwin, D-Wisconsin), a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes. Introduced on April 9, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1139, the “National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2019”, (Sen. Cardin, D-Maryland), a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act. Introduced on April 10, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 1296, the “New England Coastal Protection Act”, (Sen. Whitehouse, D-Rhode Island), a bill to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England. Introduced on May 2, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1304, the “Clean Ocean And Safe Tourism Anti-Drilling Act” or the “COAST Anti-Drilling Act”, (Sen. Menendez, 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 May 2, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1318, the “West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2019”, (Sen. Feinstein, 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 May 2, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1342, the “Great Lakes Environmental Sensitivity Index Act of 2019”, (Sen. Peters, D-Michigan) a bill to require the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere to update periodically the environmental sensitivity index products of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration for each coastal area of the Great Lakes, and for other purposes. Introduced on May 7, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On July 10, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the bill to be reported with amendments.**

S. 1426, (Sen. Cornyn, R-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements. Introduced on May 13, 2019, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 1523, the “Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act of 2019”, (Sen. Merkley, D-Oregon), a bill to prohibit drilling in the Arctic Ocean. Introduced on May 16, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1730, the “Living Shorelines Act of 2019”, (Sen. Harris, D-California), a bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to make grants to State and local governments and nongovernmental organizations for purposes of carrying out climate-resilient living shoreline projects that protect coastal communities by supporting ecosystem functions and habitats with the use of natural materials and systems, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 5, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1768, the “Native Species Protection Act”, (Sen. Lee, R-Utah), a bill to clarify that noncommercial species found entirely within the borders of a single State are not in interstate commerce or subject to regulation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 or any other provision of law enacted as an exercise of the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. Introduced on June 10, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 1821, the “Marine Energy Research and Development Act of 2019”, (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to provide for research on, and the development and deployment of, marine energy, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 12, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1821, the “Marine Energy Research and Development Act of 2019”, (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon), a bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to provide for research on, and the development and deployment of, marine energy, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 12, 2019 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 1957, the “Offshore Wind Incentives for New Development Act” or the “Offshore WIND Act”, (Sen. Markey, D-Massachusetts), a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an investment tax credit related to the production of electricity from offshore wind. Introduced on June 25, 2019 and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

S. 1982, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Act” or the “SOS 2.0 Act”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and for other purposes. Introduced on June 26, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 1988, the “Incentivizing Offshore Wind Power Act”, (Sen. Carper, D-Delaware), a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the energy credit for offshore wind facilities. Introduced on June 26, 2019 and referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

S. 2166, the “Regional Ocean Partnership Act”, (Sen. Wicker, R-Mississippi), a bill to designate Regional Ocean Partnerships of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 18, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. **On July 24, 2019, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee ordered the bill to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.**

S. 2260, the “Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure to Prevent Marine Debris Act”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to provide for the improvement of domestic infrastructure in order to prevent marine debris, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 24, 2019, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 2295, the “Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2019” or the “GLRI Act of 2019”, (Sen. Stabenow, D-Michigan), a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 25, 2019, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 2343, “Endangered Species Management Self-Determination Act”, (Sen. Paul, R-Kentucky), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to permit Governors of States to regulate intrastate endangered species and intrastate threatened species, to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to permit

the taking of certain black vultures and ravens, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 30, 2019, and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 2364, the “Save Our Seas 2.0: Enhancing the Domestic Marine Debris Response Act”, (Sen. Sullivan, R-Alaska), a bill to enhance domestic marine debris response, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 31, 2019, and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 2372, the “Save Our Seas 2.0: Enhanced Global Engagement to Combat Marine Debris Act”, (Sen. Menendez, D-New Jersey), a bill to enhance global engagement to combat marine debris, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 31, 2019, and referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

S. 2418, the “Conservation Of America’s Shoreline Terrain and Aquatic Life Act” or the “COASTAL Act”, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to modify a definition and the disposition and authorized uses of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues under that Act and to exempt State and county payments under that Act from sequestration, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 1, 2019, and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 2374, the “Saving America’s Vulnerable and Endangered Species Act” or the “SAVES Act”, (Sen. Cruz, R-Texas), a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to include a prohibition on the listing of a living nonnative species as a threatened species or an endangered species, and for other purposes. Introduced on July 31, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 2418, the “Conservation Of America’s Shoreline Terrain and Aquatic Life Act” or the “COASTAL Act”, (Sen. Cassidy, R-Louisiana), a bill to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to modify a definition and the disposition and authorized uses of qualified outer Continental Shelf revenues under that Act and to exempt State and county payments under that Act from sequestration, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, and for other purposes. Introduced on August 1, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.

S. 2453, the “Scientific Assistance for Very Endangered North Atlantic Right Whales Act of 2019” or the “SAVE Right Whales Act”, (Sen. Booker, D-New Jersey), a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 10, 2019 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

S. 2491, the “Protect America’s Wildlife and Fish in Need of Conservation Act of 2019”, (Sen. Udall, D- New Mexico), a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes. Introduced on September 17, 2019 and referred to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee.