

Congressional Activities Report for the Council Coordination Committee

Submitted to the New England Fishery Management Council

March 31, 2017

Overview of Work Provided:

- Provided information on Congressional activities of interest to the Regional Fishery Management Councils (see below for updates on, and links to, House and Senate Magnuson-related hearings or other hearings of interest)
- Monitored Congressional hearing and markup schedules related to fisheries management, international fisheries, or other issues of interest to the Regional Fishery Management Councils
- Provided notice of legislation of interest moving through the House, Senate, or to the President
- Provided Regional Fishery Management Councils' meeting schedule information to House and Senate staff for consideration in the scheduling of Congressional activities related to the Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization or other fisheries issues of interest to the Councils
- Met with Congressional staff to discuss upcoming activities, hearings and legislation
- Provided Council information to appropriate Congressional staff on fisheries issues of interest

Upcoming Magnuson-Stevens Act Hearings:

No hearings have been scheduled at this time.

Other Upcoming Fisheries Hearings or Other Issues of Interest:

- The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a markup of a number of bills on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The bills that are slated for markup include (bills of interest to the Councils are in **bold**):
 1. S. 763, Surface and Maritime Transportation Security Act
 2. **S. 61, a bill to remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105-384 (the Dungeness Crabs bill)**
 3. S. 74, Marine Oil Spill Prevention Act
 4. **S. 396, a bill to make technical amendments to certain marine fish conservation statutes**
 5. S. 701, a bill to improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities
 6. S. 755, Fairness For Pilots Act
 7. S. 756, Save Our Seas Act of 2017

8. S. 770, Making Available Information Now to Strengthen Trust and Resilience and Enhance Enterprise Technology (MAIN STREET) Cybersecurity Act

The markup can be viewed at:

<http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=7D645C69-762C-48E8-B264-4E95EBA6F143>

- The House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans will hold a legislative hearing on three bills (bills of interest to the Councils are in **bold**) on March 4, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.:
 1. H.R. 220, to authorize the expansion of the existing Terror Lake hydroelectric project, and for other purposes.
 2. **H.R. 1411, the "Transparent Summer Flounder Quotas Act." A bill to exempt the summer flounder fishing from current federal fishery regulations.**
 3. Discussion Draft of H.R. _____, the "Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act." A bill to amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to authorize pumped storage hydropower development utilizing multiple Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=401759>

Other upcoming hearings of possible interest:

- April 4, 2017 - House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation will hold an oversight hearing on the "Authorization of Coast Guard and other Maritime Transportation Programs" on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

The hearing can be viewed at:

<http://transportation.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=401288>

Previous Hearings, Markups, or Meetings of Interest:

- March 15, 2017 – House Natural Resources Committee's Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans held an oversight hearing titled "Examining the Creation and Management of Marine Monuments and Sanctuaries". Link:
<http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/default.aspx?Year=2017&Month=03&Earliest=3/15/2017>

- February 7, 2017 – House Natural Resources Committee’s organizational meeting. Link to the meeting:
<http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/default.aspx?Year=2017&Month=02&Earliest=2/7/2017>
- January 24, 2017 – Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Executive Session on a number of issues including the vote on the nomination of Wilbur Ross, President-elect Donald Trump’s Secretary of the Department of Commerce designee.
Link: <http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=2D5C496A-1B0C-4DA4-861A-607187402E38>
- January 18, 2017 - Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Hearing on the nomination of Wilbur Ross, President-elect Donald Trump’s Secretary of the Department of Commerce designee.
Link: <http://www.commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=D31485C6-69E7-4AA5-A9B4-1025C364B3DF>

Other hearings (not directly related to fisheries) of possible interest:

Invasive Species:

- The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works held a hearing entitled, “Examining Innovative Solutions to Control Invasive Species and Promote Wildlife Conservation” on Wednesday, March 15, 2017.

The hearing archive can be viewed at:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=40C0CE17-9913-4336-AE5A-5EEF87975159>

Endangered Species Act:

- The House Natural Resources Committee’s Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee held an oversight hearing titled “ESA Consultation Impediments to Economic and Infrastructure Development” on Tuesday, March 28, 2017.

The hearing archive can be viewed at:

<http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=401724>

- The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works held a hearing titled “Oversight: Modernization of the Endangered Species Act” on Wednesday, February 15, 2017.

The hearing archive can be viewed at:

<https://www.epw.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/hearings?ID=72694EEF-F5BB-40CC-A382-1E8B6F7CA28C>

Appropriations Update:

The Continuing Resolution, which became Public Law 114-254 on December 12, 2016, funds the Federal government through April 28, 2017.

The House Appropriations Committee announced “Member Day” hearings – which are opportunities for individual Members of the House to testify on programs within specific appropriation bills. The “Member Day” for the Commerce Subcommittee was held on February 28, 2017.

No other hearings related to appropriations for fisheries programs have been announced yet by the House or Senate Appropriations Committee.

Legislation of Interest and Legislative Activities (updates in red):

House Fisheries-Related Bills:

H.R. 200, the “Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 204, the “Genetically Engineered Salmon Labeling Act” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

H.R. 205, a bill to “amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labeling of genetically engineered fish” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

H.R. 206, the “Prevention of Escapement of Genetically Altered Salmon in the United States Act (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 214, the “American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 223, 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.” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 374, a bill to remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105–384, and for other purposes (Rep. Beutler, R-Washington). Introduced on January 9, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. *(Note: This is the bill to extend state jurisdiction over the Dungeness crab fishery.)* This legislation passed the House of Representatives on January 30, 2017 under Suspension of the Rules.

H.R. 943, the “Finding Innovative Lionfish Elimination Technologies Act of 2017”, (Rep. Curbelo, R-Florida), to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to award competitive grants to combat the certain species of lionfish in the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. Introduced on February 23, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1195, the “Local Fishing Access Act”, (Rep. Zeldin, R-New York), to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to permit striped bass fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone transit zone between Montauk, New York, and Point Judith, Rhode Island, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 16, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1382, the “Give Our Fishermen Immediate Snapper Help Act” or the “GOFISH Act”, (Rep. Weber, R-Texas), to establish requirements and restrictions for the commercial, charter, and recreational red snapper fishing seasons in the Gulf of Mexico for the 2017 and 2018 fishing seasons, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 1411, the “Transparent Summer Flounder Quotas Act”, (Rep. Pallone, D-New Jersey), to continue in effect for the 2017 and 2018 fishing seasons certain fishing specifications for the summer flounder fishery, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 7, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee. *Note: as noted above, a hearing on this legislation will be held on April 4, 2017 by the House Natural Resources Committee’s Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.*

H.R. 1456, the “Shark Fin Sales Elimination Act of 2017”, (Rep. Royce, R-California), to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 9, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Senate Fisheries-Related Bills:

S. 61, a bill to remove the sunset provision of section 203 of Public Law 105–384 and for other purposes (Sen. Cantwell, D-Washington). Introduced on January 9, 2017 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. *(Note: This is the bill to extend state jurisdiction over the Dungeness crab fishery.) Note: as mentioned above, a markup of this legislation by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee is scheduled for April 5, 2017.*

S. 396, (Sen. Nelson, D-Florida) to make technical amendments to certain marine fish conservation statutes, and for other purposes. Introduced on February 15, 2017 and referred to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. *(Note: this legislation would amend the Billfish Conservation Act of 2012 and the Shark Conservation Act of 2010.) Note: as mentioned above, a markup of this legislation by the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee is scheduled for April 5, 2017.*

Other House Bills of Interest:

H.R. 169, the “West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2017” (Rep. Huffman, D-California) 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 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 222, a bill to “amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act to prescribe an additional requirement for the designation of marine sanctuaries off the coast of Alaska and for other purposes” (Rep. Young, R-Alaska). Introduced on January 3, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 310, the “Southwestern Oregon Watershed and Salmon Protection Act” (Rep. DeFazio, D- Oregon) 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 January 5, 2017 and referred to the House Natural resources Committee.

H.R. 368, the “Safeguard Aquaculture Farmers Act” (Rep. Crawford, R-Arkansas) to provide the force and effect of law for certain regulations relating to the taking of double-crested cormorants to reduce depredation at aquaculture facilities and protect public resources. Introduced on January 9, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

H.R. 845, the “Ocean Acidification Research Partnerships Act” (Rep. Carbajal, D-California) provide for ocean acidification collaborative research grant opportunities. Introduced on February 3, 2017 and referred to the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

H.R. 961, the “Ban Aquaculture in the Great Lakes Act” (Rep. Kildee, D-Michigan) to prohibit aquaculture in the Great Lakes. Introduced on February 7, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee and the House Agriculture Committee.

H.R. 1489, the “Marine Access and State Transparency” or the “MAST Act”, (Rep. Young, R-Alaska), to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for declaration of marine national monuments, and for other purposes. Introduced on March 9, 2017 and referred to the House Natural Resources Committee.

Other Senate Bills of Interest:

S. 31, the “West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2017” (Sen. Wyden, D-Oregon) 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 4, 2017 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

S. 33, the “Improved National Monument Designation Process Act” (Sen. Murkowski, R-Alaska), to provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for the declaration of marine national monuments, and for other purposes. Introduced on January 5, 2017 and referred to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Committees of Interest – list of Members for 115th Congress:

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Members

The Committee has 27 Members - 14 Republicans and 13 Democrats

(Coastal State Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Sen. John Thune (R-South Dakota) – Chairman

Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Mississippi)

Sen. Roy Blunt (R-Missouri)

Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas)

Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Nebraska)

Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kansas)

Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska)

Sen. Dean Heller (R-Nevada)

Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma)

Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah)

Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin)

Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-West Virginia)

Sen. Cory Gardner (R-Colorado)

Sen. Todd Young (R-Indiana)

Democrats

Sen. Bill Nelson (D-Florida) – Ranking Member

Sen. Maria Cantwell (D-Washington)

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minnesota)

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut)

Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii)

Sen. Ed Markey (D-Massachusetts)

Sen. Cory Booker (D-New Jersey)

Sen. Tom Udall (D-New Mexico)

Sen. Gary Peters (D-Michigan)

Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin)

Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Illinois)

Sen. Maggie Hassan (D-New Hampshire)

Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nevada)

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

The Subcommittee has 15 Members - 8 Republicans and 7 Democrats

(Coastal State Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), Chairman

Sen. Roger Wicker (R-Mississippi)

Sen. Deb Fischer (R-Nebraska)

Democrats

Gary Peters (D-Michigan) – Ranking Member

Maria Cantwell (D-Washington)

Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut)

Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma)

Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah)

Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wisconsin)

Sen. Cory Gardner (R-Colorado)

Sen. Todd Young (R-Indiana)

Brian Schatz (D- Hawaii)

Edward Markey (D- Massachusetts)

Cory Booker (D-New Jersey)

Tammy Baldwin (D- Wisconsin)

House Natural Resources Members – 115th Congress

The Committee membership consists of 43 Representatives –

25 Republicans and 18 Democrats

(Coastal Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Rob Bishop (UT-01) – Chairman

Don Young (AK-at large)

Louie Gohmert (TX-01)

Doug Lamborn (CO-05)

Rob Wittman (VA-01)

Tom McClintock (CA-04)

Steve Pearce (NM-02)

Glenn 'GT' Thompson (PA-05)

Paul Gosar (AZ-04)

Raul Labrador (ID-01)

Scott Tipton (CO-03)

Doug LaMalfa (CA-01)

Jeff Denham (CA-10)

Paul Cook (CA-08)

Bruce Westerman (AR-04)

Garret Graves (LA-06)

Jody Hice (GA-10)

Democrats

Raúl M. Grijalva (AZ-03) – Ranking Member

Grace Napolitano (CA-32)

Madeleine Bordallo (Guam, At-large)

Jim Costa (CA-16)

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (CNMI, At-large)

Niki Tsongas (MA-05)

Jared Huffman (CA-02)

Alan Lowenthal (CA-47)

Don Beyer (VA-08)

Norma Torres (CA-35)

Ruben Gallego (AZ-07)

Jared Polis (CO-02)

WM. Lacy Clay, Jr. (Missouri-01)

Colleen Hanabusa (HI-01)

Nanette Barragán (CA-44)

Darren Soto (FL-09)

Jimmy Panetta (CA-20)

Amata Coleman Radewagen (AS-at large)

Darin LaHood (IL-18)

Daniel Webster (FL-11)

David Rouzer (NC-07)

Jack Bergman (MI-01)

Liz Cheney (WY-at large)

Mike Johnson (LA-04)

Jennifer Gonzalez (PR-at large)

A. Donald McEachin (VA-04)

Anthony Brown (MD-04)

Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee

19 Members – 11 Republicans and 8 Democrats

(Coastal Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Doug Lamborn (Colorado) – Chair

Rob Wittman (Virginia)

Tom McClintock (California)

Paul Gosar (Arizona)

Doug LaMalfa (California)

Jeff Denham (California)

Garret Graves (Louisiana)

Jody Hice (Georgia)

Daniel Webster (Florida)

David Rouzer (North Carolina)

Mike Johnson (Louisiana)

Rob Bishop (Utah) – Ex Officio

Democrats

Jared Huffman (California) – Ranking Member

Grace Napolitano (California)

Jim Costa (California)

Don Beyer (Virginia)

Nanette Barragan (California)

Jimmy Panetta (California)

Madeleine Bordallo (Guam)

Gregorio Sablan (CNMI)

Raul Grijalva (Arizona) – Ex Officio

Senate Appropriations Committee – 115th Congress

16 Republicans and 15 Democrats

(Coastal State Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Thad Cochran, Mississippi, Chairman

Mitch McConnell, Kentucky

Richard Shelby, Alabama

Lamar Alexander, Tennessee

Susan Collins, Maine

Lisa Murkowski, Alaska

Lindsey Graham, South Carolina

Roy Blunt, Missouri

Jerry Moran, Kansas

John Hoeven, North Dakota

John Boozman, Arkansas

Shelley Moore Capito, West Virginia

James Langford, Oklahoma

Steve Daines, Montana

Marco Rubio, Florida

John Kennedy, Louisiana

Democrats

Patrick Leahy, Vermont, Vice Chairman

Patty Murray, Washington

Dianne Feinstein, California

Richard Durbin, Illinois

Jack Reed, Rhode Island

Jon Tester, Montana

Tom Udall, New Mexico

Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire

Jeff Merkley, Oregon

Christopher Coons, Delaware

Brian Schatz, Hawaii

Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin

Chris Murphy, Connecticut

Joe Manchin, West Virginia

Chris Van Hollen, Maryland

Senate Appropriations Committee - Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

9 Republicans and 8 Democrats

(Coastal State Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Richard Shelby, Alabama, Chairman

Democrats

Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire, Ranking Member

Lamar Alexander, Tennessee

Lisa Murkowski, Alaska

Susan Collins, Maine

Lindsey Graham, South Carolina

John Boozmen, Arkansas

Shelley Moore Capito, West Virginia

James Langford, Oklahoma

John Kennedy, Louisiana

Patrick Leahy, Vermont

Dianne Feinstein, California

Jack Reed, Rhode Island

Christopher Coons, Delaware

Brian Schatz, Hawaii

Joe Manchin, West Virginia

Chris Van Hollen, Maryland

House Appropriations Committee Members – 115th Congress

30 Republicans and 22 Democrats

(Coastal Members are highlighted)

Republicans

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen, New Jersey, Chairman

Harold Rogers, Kentucky

Robert B. Aderholt, Alabama

Kay Granger, Texas

Michael K. Simpson, Idaho

John Abney Culberson, Texas

John R. Carter, Texas

Ken Calvert, California

Tom Cole, Oklahoma

Mario Diaz-Balart, Florida

Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania

Tom Graves, Georgia

Kevin Yoder, Kansas

Steve Womack, Arkansas

Democrats

Nita M. Lowey, New York, Ranking Member

Marcy Kaptur, Ohio

Peter J. Visclosky, Indiana

José E. Serrano, New York

Rosa L. DeLauro, Connecticut

David E. Price, North Carolina

Lucille Roybal-Allard, California

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr., Georgia

Barbara Lee, California

Betty McCollum, Minnesota

Tim Ryan, Ohio

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger, Maryland

Debbie Wasserman Schultz, Florida

Henry Cuellar, Texas

Jeff Fortenberry, Nebraska

Thomas J. Rooney, Florida

Charles J. Fleischmann, Tennessee

Jaime Herrera Beutler, Washington

David P. Joyce, Ohio

David G. Valadao, California

Andy Harris, MD, Maryland

Martha Roby, Alabama

Mark E. Amodei, Nevada

Chris Stewart, Utah

David Young, Iowa

Evan H. Jenkins, West Virginia

Steven Palazzo, Mississippi

Dan Newhouse, Washington

John R. Moolenaar, Michigan

Scott Taylor, Virginia

Chellie Pingree, Maine

Mike Quigley, Illinois

Derek Kilmer, Washington

Matt Cartwright, Pennsylvania

Grace Meng, New York

Mark Pocan, Wisconsin

Katherine M. Clark, Massachusetts

Pete Aguilar, California

House Appropriations Committee - Commerce Subcommittee Members

Republicans and 4 Democrats

(Coastal Members are highlighted)

Republicans

John Culberson, Texas, Chairman

Hal Rogers, Kentucky

Robert Aderholt, Alabama

John Carter, Texas

Martha Roby, Alabama

Steven Palazzo, Mississippi

Evan Jenkins, West Virginia

Democrats

José Serrano, New York, Ranking Member

Derek Kilmer, Washington

Matt Cartwright, Pennsylvania

Grace Meng, New York