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National Legislation (119th Congress, 2025-2026)

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Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
HOUSE BILLS				
HR65	Armed Forces Endangered Species Exemption Act	Rep Biggs [R-AZ]	01/03/25-Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Exempts military from ESA, prohibits critical habitat in military installations, exempts military personnel</i>
HR102	American Sovereignty and Species Protection Act of 2025	Rep Biggs [R-AZ]	01/03/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Amends ESA to prevent a species that is not native to the US from being listed</i>
HR106	Less Imprecision in Species Treatment (LIST) Act of 2025	Rep Biggs [R-AZ]	01/03/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Requires improved precision in listing and delisting endangered species</i>
HR180	Endangered Species Transparency and Reasonableness Act of 2025	Rep McClintock [R-CA]	07/22/25-Subcommittee hearings held	<i>Requires the publication on the internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered</i>
HR181	Amend ESA to treat raised animals the same as natural animals	Rep McClintock [R-CA]	01/03/25-referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Requires wild animals and raised animals to be treated the same under ESA and authorizes NMFS to raise a species when mitigation is required under ESA</i>
HR191	Inflation Reduction Act of 2025	Rep Ogles [R-TN]	01/03/25-Referred to every committee in the House	<i>Repeals the inflation reduction act of 2022 and rescinds any unobligated</i>

Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
				<i>funds</i>
<u>HR207</u>	SHARKED Act of 2025	Rep Wittman [R-VA]	Passed House; 01/22/25- received in Senate and read twice and referred to Commerce, Science and Transportation	<i>Requires DOC to establish a task force to address shark depredation; must include RFMC reps</i>
<u>HR261</u>	Undersea Cable Protection Act of 2025	Rep Carter [R-GA]	07/02/25-Placed on the Union Calendar	<i>Amend NMSA to require authorization of undersea fiber optic cables in an NMS</i>
<u>HR408</u>	To Nullify the Presidential memoranda on the withdrawal of certain areas of the outer continental shelf	Rep Arrington [R-TX]	01/15/25-referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Nullifies the President's withdrawal of outer continental shelf from oil or natural gas leasing</i>
<u>HR513</u>	Offshore Lands Authorities Act of 2025	Rep Higgins [R-LA]	05/20/25-Referred to Natural Resources, Rules Committees	<i>Nullify the President's withdrawal of unleased offshore land</i>
<u>HR521</u>	Reserve to congress the authority to establish or extend a national monument	Rep Maloy [R-UT]	01/16/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Reserves Congress the authority to establish or extend a national monument</i>
<u>HR531</u>	South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2025	Rep Radewagen [R-AS]	Passed House; 05/14/25- Referred to the House received in Senate and read twice and referred to the Commerce, Science and Transportation	<i>Amends 1988 South Pacific Tuna Act;</i>
<u>HR562</u>	BLUE Pacific Act	Rep Case [D-HI]	01/20/25-Referred to Foreign Affairs, Natural Resources, and Ways and Means Committees	<i>Focuses on long-term strategy for partnerships in the Pacific including PIF, SPREP, PIDP, etc.</i>
<u>HR573</u>	Studying NEPA's Impact on Projects Act	Rep Yakym [R-IN]	01/21/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Requires a report on impacts of NEPA on government projects</i>
<u>HR576</u>	A bill to codify EO 14096	Rep Barragan [D-CA]	01/21/25-Referred to Committees on Energy and Commerce, Natural	<i>Would make EO14096 have the force and effect of law</i>

Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
			Resources, and Science, Space and Technology	
HR644	Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2025	Rep Bonamici [D-OR]	01/02/25-Referred to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology; Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Amends Harmful Algal bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998-creates a task force, observing network, incubator program; adds NHO to list of orgs</i>
HR663	To oppose permitting of deep seabed mining	Rep Case [D-HI]	02/04/25-Sponsor introductory remarks on measure	<i>Opposes deep sea mining</i>
HR664	American Seabed Protection Act	Rep Case [D-HI]	02/04/25-Sponsor introductory remarks on measure	<i>Prohibits seabed mining</i>
HR674	Northeast Fisheries Heritage Protection Act of 2025	Rep Golden [D-ME]	01/23/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Prohibits commercial offshore wind energy development in the Gulf of Maine (Lobster Management Area)</i>
HR1808	Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act of 2025	Rep Pingree [D-ME]	03/03/25-Referred to Natural Resources Committee	<i>Amends CZMA to establish a working waterfronts task force, grant and loan program</i>
HR1894	FISH Act of 2025	Rep Calvert [R-CA]	03/06/25-Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Companion to S688</i>
HR1897	ESA Amendments Act of 2025	Rep Westerman [R-AR]	03/25/25-Subcommittee hearings held	<i>Optimize conservation through resource prioritization, create transparency, etc.</i>
HR 2176	Saving NEMO Act of 2025	Rep Case [D-HI]	03/18/25-Referred to Natural Resources, Ways and Means, Foreign Affairs Committees	<i>To prohibit certain actions with respect to certain marine reef species, and for other purposes.</i>
HR 2294	To reauthorize the ICOOS Act of 2009	Rep Ezell [R-MS]	07/23/25-Ordered to be Reported by Unanimous Consent	<i>Reauthorizes ICOOS, changes the Council to Ocean Policy Committee;</i>
HR 2406	NOAA Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements	Rep Bonamici [D-OR]	03/27/25-Referred to the House Committee on Natural	<i>Address and report on sexual harassment and assault in NOAA;</i>

Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
	Act of 2025		Resources	<i>includes Council ED and administrative staff</i>
HR 2518	Fishing Industry Credit Enhancement Act	Rep Pingree [D-ME]	04/18/25-Referred to the subcommittee on General Farm Commodities	<i>Amends the Farm Credit Act of 1971 to support the commercial fishing industry (Extension of credit)</i>
HR 3048	Ocean Regional Opportunity and Innovation Act of 2025	Rep Pingree [D-ME]	04/28/2025 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, and Financial Services	<i>establish Ocean Innovation Clusters to strengthen the coastal communities and ocean economy of the United States</i>
HR 3189	Albatross and Petrel Protection Act	Rep Huffman [D-CA]	05/05/25-Referred to House Natural Resources Committee and Foreign Affairs	<i>Reduce seabird bycatch; includes Councils</i>
HR 3332	Pacific Partnership Act	Rep Case [D-HI]	05/13/25-Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs	<i>Bolster US engagement with the Pacific Islands region (supported by regional delegates)</i>
HR 3692	Reauthorization of the Young Fishermen's Development Act	Rep Begich [R-AK]	09/03/25-Subcommittee Hearings Held	<i>Reauthorizes YFDA to 2031</i>
HR 3706	SUSHI Act	Rep Babin [R-TX]	07/22/25-Subcommittee Hearings held	<i>Requires NOAA to develop method for identifying country of origin for tuna and red snapper; House Companion to S283</i>
HR 3714	Forage Fish Conservation Act	Rep Dingell [D-MI]	06/04/25-Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Amends MSA to include a definition of forage fish and to develop a list of unmanaged forage fish to determine whether management is needed</i>
HR 3718	Sustaining Americas Fisheries for the Futures Act	Rep Huffman [D-CA]	06/04/25-Referred to House Natural Resources Committee and Agriculture Committee	<i>Co-sponsored by Case and Moylan</i>

Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
<u>HR 3831</u>	To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to prohibit feeding sharks in the exclusive economic zone off the State of Florida.	Rep Webster [R-FL]	07/22/25-Subcommittee Hearings held	<i>Prohibits shark feeding off Florida</i>
<u>HR 4800</u>	Fisheries Modernization Act of 2025	Rep Higgins [R-LA]	07/29/25-Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources	<i>Amends MSA to make certain freshwater fisheries eligible for disaster relief</i>
HR	Discussion Draft to amend the MMPA	Rep Begich [R-AK]	TBI	<i>Amends MMPA</i>
SENATE BILLS				
<u>S93</u>	Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2025	Sullivan [R-AK]	09/10/25-Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent	<i>Amends the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to develop a task force and action strategy for HABs amongst others</i>
<u>S216</u>	Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act	Sullivan [R-AK]	05/26/25- Passed Senate; Held at the desk	<i>Amend Marine Debris Act to improve the Marine Debris Program</i>
<u>S254</u>	ARTIST Act	Sullivan [R-AK]	06/25/25-Commerce Committee ordered to be reported with an amendment	<i>Amend MMPA to protect cultural practices in AK</i>
<u>S283</u>	Illegal Red Snapper and Tuna Enforcement Act	Cruz [R-TX]	07/15/25-Passed Senate; Held at the desk	<i>Identify standards for country of origin labeling</i>
<u>S688</u>	FISH Act of 2025	Sullivan [R-AK]	04/30/25- Commerce Committee ordered to be reported with an amendment	<i>To combat IUU fishing at its sources</i>
<u>S759</u>	Modernizing Access to Our Public Oceans Act	Cruz [R-TX]	09/10/25-Passed Senate with amendment by Unanimous Consent	<i>Provides for publication and standardization of data-requires MSA fishing prohibited areas to be published for the public</i>

Bill	Title	Sponsor(s)	Status	Notes
S1217	Fishing Industry Credit Enhancement Act of 2025	Angus [I-ME]	3/31/25-Read twice and referred to Committee on Ag, Nutrition and Forestry	<i>Companion to HR2518</i>
S1292	Save Our Seafood Act	Murkowski [R-AK]	04/03/25-Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary	<i>Authorizes aliens working as fish processors</i>
S1369	Protecting Global Fisheries Act of 2025	Kaine [D-VA]	04/09/25-Read twice and referred to the committee on Foreign Relations	<i>Authorizes president to impose sanctions with respect to IUU and support bilateral agreements</i>
S1740	Pacific Partnership Act	Cortez Masto [D-NV]	05/13/25-Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations	<i>Bolster US engagement with the Pacific Islands Region</i>
S1968	Working Waterfronts Act of 2025	Murkowski [R-AK]	06/05/25-Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance	<i>Supports rural coastal and maritime economic development; Councils included to provide input on ocean acidification</i>
S2314	SHARKED Act of 2025	Scott [R-FL]	07/30/25-Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably	<i>Creates shark depredation task force with Councils (same as HR207)</i>
S2357	A bill to reauthorize the Young Fishermen's Development Act	Sullivan [R-AK]	07/17/25-Read twice and referred to Commerce, Science and Transportation	<i>Reauthorizes YFDA to 2031</i>
S2586	MARA Act of 2025	Wicker [R-MS]	07/31/25-Read twice and referred to Commerce, Science and Transportation	<i>Requires NOAA to establish a program for commercial offshore aquaculture through demo projects, support aquaculture workforce development, establish aquaculture centers of excellence</i>
S2674	Helping Allies Respond to Piracy, Overfishing, and Oceanic Negligence (HARPOON) Act	Young [R-IN]	08/01/25-Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations	<i>Authorize Secretary of Defense to assist in IUU</i>

Hearings Held

February 26, 2025

House Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

[Oversight Hearing](#) on “**Evaluating the Implementation of the MMPA and ESA**”

KEY MESSAGES

- The recent Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo decision reiterates that Congress has the responsibility to reign in the overreach of executive branch agencies in implementing laws.
- The Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act are well-intentioned laws that have been exploited by the federal government and radical environmental organizations to stifle development and hinder species recovery.
- House Republicans will ensure that federal agencies are held accountable for their regulatory overreach and will work to reform these statutes so they are implemented as Congress intended.
- Empowering states, tribes, local governments, and private landowners in the regulatory decision-making process is the best path forward for both the health of species and the sustainability of local communities that coexist with species.

WITNESSES

- Mr. Parker Moore, Principal, Beveridge & Diamond PC, Washington, DC
- Mr. Paul Weiland, Partner, Nossaman LLC, Irvine, California
- Mr. John Vecchione, Senior Litigation Counsel, New Civil Liberties Alliance, Arlington, Virginia
- Mr. Daniel Rohlf, Professor of Law, Lewis and Clark Law School, Portland, Oregon [Minority witness]

March 5, 2025

House Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs

[Oversight Hearing](#) on “Examining the Office of Insular Affairs’ Role in Fostering Prosperity in the Pacific Territories and Addressing External Threats to Peace and Security”

KEY MESSAGES

- As part of the U.S. homeland, the U.S. Pacific territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands are on the frontlines against attempts by the People’s Republic of China (PRC) and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) to undermine U.S. leadership and interests in the Indo-Pacific.
- The activities of the PRC under the rule of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the DPRK threaten U.S. national security, particularly in the U.S. Pacific territories.

- It is imperative that the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), the office charged with managing federal relations with the territories, work with the territories to address threats within its jurisdiction.
- It is critically important for national security that the U.S. government counter these activities of the PRC and the DPRK in the U.S. Pacific territories. Relevant federal agencies must coordinate to ensure the U.S. effectively counters these malign activities.
- The OIA should work with Congress to find opportunities to improve economic prosperity in the Pacific territories to meet U.S. interests in a fiscally responsible manner.

WITNESSES

- Mr. Dean Cheng, Senior Fellow, Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, Arlington, VA
- Mr. Bruce Klingner, Senior Research Fellow, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- Ms. Cleo Paskal, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Washington, D.C.
- Mr. Francisco Bencosme, Former China Policy Lead, U.S. Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C. [Minority Witness]

March 25, 2025

House Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

[Hearing](#) on the following bill: H.R. 1897-ESA Amendments Act of 2025

KEY MESSAGES

- With a whopping three percent success rate of recovering species, it's safe to say the ESA is failing at its main goal, which is recovery. For far too long, radical environmentalists have weaponized the Endangered Species Act, causing wildlife managers to spend more time tied up in litigation than recovering species.
- H.R. 1897, the ESA Amendments Act of 2025, will make critical reforms to the ESA and ensure the success of America's wildlife. H.R. 1897 would refocus the ESA on species recovery, empower state and privately led species conservation, ensure accountability for regulatory agencies, and streamline the permitting process.

WITNESSES

- Dr. Nathan Roberts, Professor, College of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, Missouri [H.R. 845]
- Mr. Mauricio Guardado, General Manager, United Water Conservation District, Oxnard, California [H.R. 1897]
- Mr. Erik Milito, President, National Ocean Industries Association, Washington DC [H.R. 276 and H.R. 1897]

- Mr. Peter Kareiva, President and CEO, Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach, California [Minority Witness, H.R. 845 and H.R. 1897]

June 4, 2025

House Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

[Oversight Hearing](#) titled “**Restoring American Seafood Competitiveness.**” on EO 14276

KEY MESSAGES

- President Trump and Committee Republicans are committed to pursuing a policy agenda that secures public access to natural resources and restores America’s seafood competitiveness.
- Enjoyed by millions, recreational fishing is both a major pastime activity and an important economic driver for coastal communities. Similarly, commercial fishing is an engine for job creation and economic growth that makes a significant contribution to the nation’s food supply chain.
 - The system developed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) has made America the world’s gold standard in fisheries management. Operating under this system and by engaging with stakeholders, regulators, and other experts, Congress can identify new opportunities to support fishing in the United States, safeguard fishing’s role in the national economy, and meet responsible stewardship obligations.
- The hearing will examine opportunities to partner with the Trump administration and sector stakeholders to develop the policies needed to steward and promote the productive harvest of our seafood resources

WITNESSES

- Mr. Rick Bellavance, Chair, Council Coordination Committee, U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils, North Kingstown, RI
- Mr. Dustin Delano, Chief Operating Officer, New England Fishermen’s Stewardship Association, South Portland, ME
- Ms. Martha Guyas, Southeast Fisheries Policy Director, American Sportfishing Association, Tallahassee, FL
- Mr. Larson Hunter, Chairman, Board of Directors, Coastal Villages Region Fund, Scammon Bay, AK
- Ms. Jamie O’Connor, Deputy Executive Director, Alaska Marine Conservation Council, Anchorage, AK [Minority witness]

July 21, 2025

House Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

[Legislative Hearing](#) on 7 bills

KEY MESSAGES

- The Discussion Draft to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act makes long-overdue reforms to a key statute governing Tribal activities, state fish and wildlife agencies, commercial fishing, offshore energy, the maritime sector, and more. The Discussion Draft reduces regulatory uncertainty and ensures more effective

implementation, advancing the goals of the Trump administration and the House Committee on Natural Resources.

- The Discussion Draft's reforms to the regulatory process are crucial to building on the success of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, advancing the Trump administration's goal to unleash America's energy resources.
- H.R. 3831 would enable safer recreational uses of our public beaches and provide relief to commercial and recreational fishermen in Florida by aligning federal and state laws regarding shark feeding.
- H.R. 4293 provides needed flexibility to ensure the long-term viability of critical military assets.
- H.R. 4294 provides economic incentives to commercial watermen of the Chesapeake Bay watershed for the removal of invasive blue catfish

WITNESSES

Panel II (Administration Witnesses)

- **Mr. Justin "J" Shirley**, Principal Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. [H.R. 180, H.R. 4033, H.R. 4293, and Discussion Draft]

Panel III (Outside Experts)

- **Mr. Geno Evans**, President, Evans Farm, Pierson, Florida [H.R. 4033]
- **Mr. Forrest Burkholder**, President and CEO, SAExploration, Calgary, Alberta, Canada [Discussion Draft]
- **Mr. William Holcomb**, Major, Division of Law Enforcement, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, Florida [H.R. 3706 and H.R. 3831]
- **Mr. Jeff Corwin**, Wildlife Biologist, Marshfield, Massachusetts [Discussion Draft, H.R. 180, and H.R. 4033
[Minority Witness]]

Sept 03, 2025

House Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

[Legislative Hearing](#) on 5 bills (including HR 3692)

KEY MESSAGES

- H.R. 2073 builds on a presidential memorandum signed by President Trump to prevent any federal funds from being used to allow or study the breach of the Lower Snake River dams. The dams are a critical component of the Federal Columbia River Power System, a significant energy resource, and support industries such as agriculture, tourism, shipping, and trade. Ensuring the long-term operational certainty of these dams will be critical for the Pacific Northwest.
- 4255 heeds the calls of ranchers, local governments, states, and tribes to restore accountability and sanity to federal management of the Mexican wolf in western New Mexico and eastern Arizona.
- 4970 provides water users in California with the flexibility necessary to optimize their resources regardless of the water year.

- H.R. 3692 and H.R. 4256 reauthorize expiring programs at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that are integral to coastal and fishing communities.

WITNESSES

Panel I (Members of Congress)

• To Be Announced

Panel II (Administration Witnesses)

- **Mr. Dustin Sherer**, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Water and Science, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. [H.R. 2073, H.R. 4255, and H.R. 4970]

Panel III (Outside Experts)

- **Mr. Tom Paterson**, President-Elect, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, Luna, New Mexico [H.R. 4255]
- **Mr. Clark Mather**, Executive Director, Northwest RiverPartners, Vancouver, Washington [H.R. 2073]
- **Mr. Bill Vanderwaal**, General Manager, Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, Willows, California [H.R. 4970]
- **The Honorable Shannon F. Wheeler**, Chairman, Nez Perce Tribe, Lapwai, Idaho [H.R. 2073] [Minority witness]