

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Business Session

*May 15, 2014
2:45 – 3:15 p.m.
Alexandria, Virginia*

Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.

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| 1. Welcome/Introductions (<i>L. Daniel</i>) | 2:45 p.m. |
| 2. Board Consent | 2:50 p.m. |
| • Approval of Agenda | |
| 3. Public Comment | 3:00 p.m. |
| 4. Other business/adjourn | 3:10 p.m. |

The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town, 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 703-683-6000

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Dr. Louis B. Daniel, III, (NC), Chair

Douglas E. Grout (NH), Vice-Chair

Robert E. Beal, Executive Director

Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

MEMORANDUM

April 25, 2014

To: ASMFC Commissioners and Proxies

From: Robert Beal

Re: Federal Legislative Tracking Sheet: 113th Congress, 2nd Session

Please find attached an update on federal fisheries legislation impacting the Commission, as well as tables providing summary information of key federal legislation introduced in the 113th Congress.

This document will be updated quarterly or as key bills are introduced or acted on. The document is not intended to summarize all legislation that might affect oceans and coasts, nor does it list the complete contents of bills. To access the complete text of the bills as well as the Library of Congress summary, click on the links below the titles provided in the table. If there is a particular bill not included here that you would like summarized or if you would like more information on bills listed, please contact Deke Tompkins (dtompkins@asmfc.org).

Federal Legislative Update

Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Program 2013 Sequester Amounts Returned

The Department of Interior announced in March that it will release \$18.5 million in Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund funding that was withheld in 2013 as a result of the sequester. The total disbursement for 2014 totals \$325.7 million, including the sequestered amount from 2013. The 2014 disbursement is \$34.1 million lower than 2013 due to lower domestic fishing equipment excise tax receipts. Following are the 2014 apportionments of the 15 ASMFC member states:

Maine	\$11,420,465	Delaware	\$7,752,281
New Hampshire	\$7,752,281	Maryland	\$10,458,232
Massachusetts	\$10,516,201	Virginia	\$19,046,390
Rhode Island	\$7,752,281	North Carolina	\$29,553,173
Connecticut	\$8,715,486	South Carolina	\$14,857,369
New York	\$28,467,902	Georgia	\$23,306,448
New Jersey	\$10,516,201	Florida	\$24,404,776
Pennsylvania	\$35,731,360		

The Sport Fish Restoration Program provides grant funding directly to states for fishery projects, boating access, and aquatic education. It is funded through excise taxes on fishing equipment, motorboat and small engine fuels, and import duties. Funds are distributed to states based on a formula which includes area and the number of paid license holders. Additionally, the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Program requires that each year \$200,000 from the Sport Fish Restoration Trust Fund be allocated to each of the four fisheries commissions. The Sport Fish Restoration Program reimburses up to 75 percent of the cost of each eligible project, while state fish and wildlife agencies contribute a minimum of 25 percent.

Fishing Safety Funding

On April 1, 2014, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4005, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2014, which authorizes funding for the Coast Guard for 2015 and 2016. Included in the legislation was an amendment authored by Rep Bill Keating (D-MA) that reauthorized the Fishing Safety Training and Fishing Safety Research grant programs. The programs, first established in the 2010, provide access to training resources as well as research to improve safety on fishing boats. Rep Keating has also introduced a stand-alone bill, H.R. 4025, the Fishing Safety Training and Research Act, which extends authorizations for both safety training programs through 2025. H.R. 4005 is currently awaiting action in the Senate.

House Natural Resources Committee Chairman to Retire

Rep. Doc Hastings (R-WA), the chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, announced on February 13, 2014 that he will not seek reelection in 2014. Hastings has represented his Washington district since 2004 and assumed Chairmanship of the Natural Resources Committee in 2011. Hastings' replacement as Chair of the Committee remains up in the air should Republicans hold a majority in the House, as many are currently predicting. The second-ranking Republican, Rep. Don Young (R-AK), has already served the maximum six years as chairman of the committee and is not likely to serve again due to House Republican Conference rules. The committee's third-ranking Republican, Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX), is likely to be passed over for the Chairmanship due to his rocky relationship with House leadership. At this point, the front-runner to replace Hastings is Rep. Rob Bishop (R-UT). The race for the next Natural Resources Committee Chair will heat up after the general election in November.

Seafood Sustainability

In December 2013, MAFAC delivered its recommendations for a NOAA sustainable seafood certification program. NMFS is currently accepting public comments on MAFAC's recommendation through May 28, 2014. MAFAC recommends that any certification program focus on a business-to-business certification, with an audited chain-of-custody verification. Of particular note to the Commission, MAFAC recommends that seafood caught in federal waters be certified first, followed by state fisheries, then aquaculture. Additionally, the Senate's draft Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization bill contains provisions for voluntary sustainability labeling. Briefly, a producer, processor, importer, exporter, distributor, or seller could use a "Sustainably Caught" label on any fish product as long as the fishery has a federal FMP; is not being overfished; and meets traceability requirements.

As previously noted, the Commission is concerned that any certification available to federally managed species and not those managed by the states could disadvantage the states from a marketing perspective.

Catch Shares Appropriations Rider

Rep Steve Southerland (R-FL) has requested the FY 2015 Commerce, Justice, Science, Appropriations bill contain a policy rider barring funding for the implementation of new catch share programs. Rep Southerland has championed this rider for the last several years and has also proposed it as an amendment on the House floor. The House and Senate Appropriations Committees have yet to release the text of the 2015 Commerce, Justice, Science, Appropriations bills.

Fluke Fairness Act Included in Senate MSA Reauthorization Bill

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced that the Senate MSA Reauthorization bill will include the text of S. 1757 – the Fluke Fairness Act. As previously noted, Senator Schumer introduced the legislation on November 21, 2013. The bill essentially requires the Commission and the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to adopt a regional management system. Specifically, it would require that the summer flounder FMP be modified within one year to reflect the best available science; consider changes in the migratory behavior of summer flounder in establishing distribution of the commercial and recreational catch quotas; prioritize regional or coastwide management measures for summer flounder that comply with the Magnuson Act's National Standards on equity and fairness; and prohibit the allocation of commercial or recreational catch quotas for summer flounder on a state-by-state basis using historical landings data that do not reflect a state's participation in the current summer flounder fishery.

U.S. Senate Approves Two Treaties to Combat Pirate Fishing

On April 3, 2014, the U.S. Senate approved two international treaties to combat illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing – the Port State Measures Agreement and the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean.

The Port State Measures Agreement, which the United Nations adopted in 2009, applies to foreign-flagged vessels calling on ports in any country that is a party to the agreement. Under its provisions, port officials who conclude that a vessel has a known or suspected record of illegal fishing would turn away the vessel or subject it to immediate inspection. The Agreement will take effect once 25 parties ratify it; the United States is the 11th party to do so, joining nine other countries and the European Union. The Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean would create an international organization to regulate fishing in international waters of the North Pacific to protect fish habitat.

Bill Number	Highlights	Sponsor [Cosponsors]/Committee Status
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Priority I

S.1757	<p>Fluke Fairness Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1757</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires MAFMC to submit a new summer flounder FMP within one year and prohibits allocation of summer flounder catch quotas on a state by state basis using historical landings data. • Requires MAFMC to consult with ASMFC. 	<p>Schumer (D-NY) [1 Cosponsor] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 11/21/2013 Introduced 11/21/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 69	<p>Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr69</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amends several existing laws to increase enforcement of fishing regulations by giving the Secretary of Commerce and the Coast Guard authority to enforce fishing-related policies. • Authorizes additional enforcement measures relating to search or inspection of facilities, records inspection, shipment detention, arrest, search and seizure, and service of civil or criminal process. 	<p>Bordallo (D-GU) [16 Cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 1/3/2013 Introduced 1/31/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 4/3/2014 House Subcommittee hearing Held</p>
H.R. 71	<p>Coral Reef Conservation Act Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr71</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000. 	<p>Bordallo (D-GU) [10 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 1/3/2013 Introduced 1/31/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>

H.R. 996	<p>Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr996</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthens the Fish and Wildlife Service's ability to designate animals as "injurious," meaning these animals could not be imported or shipped between states without a permit. • Allows the USFWS to update screening procedures using rapid assessment technology and to designate temporary emergency "injurious" listings. • Allows governors to petition for immediate listing actions. • Allows listing of non-crustacean and non-mollusk invertebrates. 	<p>Slaughter (D-NY) [31 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, And Investigations 3/6/2013 Introduced 4/8/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
S. 1153	<p>Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1153</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senate counterpart to H.R. 996 	<p>Gillibrand (D-NY) [2 cosponsors] Senate committee on Environment and Public Works 6/12/2013 Introduced 6/12/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
S. 221	<p>Saving Fishing Jobs Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s221</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires the Secretary of Commerce to terminate new and existing catch share programs that result in a 15 percent or more reduction in the total number of fishermen in the program, and develop a new management plan within one year. 	<p>Ayotte (R-NH) [none] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/4/2013 Introduced 2/4/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 263	<p>National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr263</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes \$25 million for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for FY 2014 to 2019. • The bill would require a new 28-member board of directors including experts in freshwater, saltwater, coastal and land creatures, and would allow the foundation to accept gifts and bequests. The foundation could turn gifts over to federal agencies. • The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was created by Congress in 1984 to protect and restore fish and wildlife and their habitats. It directs public dollars to critical environmental needs and matches those investments with private contributions. 	<p>Grimm (R-NY) [1 cosponsor] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 1/15/2013 Introduced 1/31/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>

S. 267	<p>Pirate Fishing Elimination Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s267</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Codifies the Port States Measures Agreement into U.S. law, an international treaty aimed at prohibiting vessels that have engaged in illegal fishing from entering ports around the world. 	<p>Rockefeller (D-WV) [11 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/11/2013 Introduced 1/8/2014 Reported out of Senate Committee</p>
S. 269	<p>International Fisheries Stewardship and Enforcement Act (IFSEA) http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s269</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends several existing laws to increase enforcement of fishing regulations by giving the Secretary of Commerce and the Coast Guard authority to enforce fishing-related policies. Creates an International Fisheries Enforcement Program within NOAA. 	<p>Rockefeller (D-WV) [12 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/11/2013 Introduced 12/17/2013 Reported out of Senate Committee</p>
S. 520	<p>Safety And Fraud Enforcement for Seafood (SAFE) Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s520</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires that detailed information accompany seafood through the supply chain to the point of sale, including scientific name, geographic catch area, date of catch, and catch method. Improves the FDA list of standardized names for seafood. Authorizes refusal of suspected or known violators of seafood mislabeling. 	<p>Begich (R-AK) [5 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/11/2013 Introduced 3/11/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 1012	<p>Safety And Fraud Enforcement for Seafood (SAFE) Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House companion bill to S. 520, Safety And Fraud Enforcement for Seafood (SAFE) Act (see above). 	<p>Markey (D-MA) [28 cosponsors] House Committees on Energy and Commerce; Agriculture; Natural Resources; Ways and Means 3/6/2013 Introduced 4/2/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees</p>
S. 646	<p>National Endowment for the Oceans Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s646</p>	<p>Whitehouse (R-RI) [6 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/21/2013 Introduced 3/21/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a National Endowment for the Oceans to fund activities intended to protect, conserve, restore, and understand the Nation's oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes through a competitive grant process. 	
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H.R. 764	<p>Coastal State Climate Change Planning Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr764</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation planning and response program to provide assistance to coastal states to develop climate change adaptation plans and provide financial and technical assistance to implement such plans. Requires the Secretary of Commerce to promote the use of National Estuarine Research Reserves as sites for pilot projects. 	<p>Capps (D-CA) [28 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/15/2013 Introduced 3/1/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
S. 839	<p>Coral Reef Conservation Amendments Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s839</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehensive reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000. 	<p>Nelson (D-FL) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 4/25/2013 Introduced 7/30/2013 Reported out of Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 3063	<p>Healthy Fisheries through Better Science Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3063</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would require the Department of Commerce to develop a plan to conduct stock assessments for all stocks of fish for which a fishery management plan is in effect under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. 	<p>Wittman (R-VA) [none] House Natural Resources Committee 8/2/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>
S. 713	<p>Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s713</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would give Rhode Island a seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). 	<p>Reed (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 4/11/2013 Introduced 4/11/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 1504	<p>Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1504</p>	<p>Rep Langevin (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] House Committee on Natural Resources.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House companion bill to S. 713, Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act (see above). • Would give Rhode Island a seat on the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC). 	<p>4/11/2013 Introduced 4/11/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>
S. 2028	<p>Sport Fish Restoration and Recreational Boating Safety Act of 2014 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s2028</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act through 2021 	<p>Sen Rockefeller (D-WV) [1 cosponsor] Senate Commerce Committee 2/12/2014 Introduced 4/9/2014 Reported out of Senate Committee</p>
S. 2030	<p>National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2014 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s2030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the National Sea Grant College Program Act through 2020 	<p>Sen Schatz (D-HI) [1 cosponsor] Senate Commerce Committee 2/12/2014 Introduced 2/12/2014 Referred to Senate committee</p>

Priority II

S. 2094	<p>Vessel Incidental Discharge Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s2094</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create national, uniform standards on ballast water discharges. • Currently ballast water is regulated by both the Coast Guard and EPA. 	<p>Sen Begich (D-AK) [26 cosponsors] Senate Commerce Committee 3/6/2014 Introduced 3/6/2014 Referred to Senate Committee.</p>
H.R. 2413	<p>Weather Forecasting Improvement Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2413</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs NOAA's research and satellite offices and National Weather Service offices to develop a prioritized weather research plan with the aim of restoring U.S. world leadership in weather modeling, prediction, and forecasting. • An earlier version of this bill limited NOAA's ability to study climate change 	<p>Rep Bridenstine (R-OK) [20 cosponsors] House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology 6/18/2013 Introduced 4/1/2014 Approved by the House</p>
S. 1996	<p>Bipartisan Sportsmen's Act of 2014 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1996</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Sen Hagen (D-NC) [23 cosponsors]</p>

S.1505	<p>Hunting, Fishing, and Recreational Shooting Protection Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1505</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Toxic Substances Control Act to exclude from the definition of chemical substance any sport fishing equipment, firearm, or cartridge subject to a federal excise tax. 	<p>Thune (R-SD) [6 cosponsors] Senate Environment and Public Works Committee 9/17/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 4315	<p>21st Century Endangered Species Transparency Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr4315</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires data used by federal agencies for ESA listing decisions be made publicly available and accessible through the Internet. 	<p>Rep Hastings (R-WA) [14 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 3/27/2014 Introduced 4/8/2014 Committee hearing held</p>
H.R. 4316	<p>Endangered Species Recovery Transparency Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr4316</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the Administration to track and make available online the amount of taxpayer dollars being spent on ESA-related litigation to give the American people clear information about the time and resources currently used to address ESA-related lawsuits. 	<p>Rep Lummis (R-WY) [14 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 3/27/2014 Introduced 4/8/2014 Committee hearing held</p>
H.R. 4318	<p>Endangered Species Litigation Reasonableness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr4318</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces taxpayer-financed attorney fees to help ensure that resources for species protection are focused more on species than on lucrative legal fees. It puts in place the same reasonable hourly caps on attorney fees used in another federal law, the Equal Access to Justice Act. 	<p>Rep Huizenga (R-MI) [17 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 3/27/2014 Introduced 4/8/2014 Committee hearing held</p>
H.R. 4317	<p>State, Tribal, and Local Species Transparency and Recovery Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr4317</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhances state, local, and tribal involvement in ESA decisions. 	<p>Rep Neugebauer (R-TX) [15 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 3/27/2014 Introduced 4/8/2014 Committee hearing held</p>
H.R. 4025	<p>Fishing Safety Training and Research Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr4025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reauthorizes the Fishing Safety Training and Fishing Safety Research grant programs through 2015 	<p>Rep Keating (D-MA) [1 cosponsor] 2/10/2014 Introduced 2/11/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>

H.Con.Res. 13	Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Fish and Wildlife Service should incorporate consideration of global warming and sea-level rise into the comprehensive conservation plans for coastal national wildlife refuges. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hconres13	Christensen (D-VI) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/13/2013 Introduced 2/13/2013 Referred to Senate Subcommittee
H.R. 262	Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr262 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the availability of the Save Vanishing Species stamp for four years. • The Postal Service gives the proceeds from stamp sales to the Fish and Wildlife Service to fund projects for endangered wildlife species including African and Asian elephants, rhinos, tigers, great apes, and marine sea turtles. 	Grimm (R-NY) [57 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 1/15/2013 Introduced 1/31/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee
S. 327	Good Neighbor Forestry Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s327 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to enter into cooperative agreements and contracts with state foresters to provide forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services that include activities to treat insect infected trees, reduce hazardous fuels, and any other activities to restore or improve forest, rangeland, and watershed health, including fish and wildlife habitat. 	Barasso (R-WY) [10 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 2/14/2013 Introduced 2/14/2013 Referred to Senate Committee 6/18/2013 Mark-up held, reported out of Committee 9/10/2013 Reported out of Senate Committee
H.R. 2401	Good Neighbor Forestry Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2401 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House companion bill to S. 327, Good Neighbor Forestry Act. 	Cotton (R-AR) [1 cosponsor] House Committee on Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation; House Committee on Agriculture 6/17/2013 Introduced 8/13/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees
S. 421	Freedom to Fish Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s421	Alexander (R-TN) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits the Army Corps of Engineers from taking any action to establish a restricted area prohibiting public access to waters downstream of a dam. 	2/28/2013 Introduced 2/28/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
H.R. 826	Freedom to Fish Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr826 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House companion bill to S. 421, Freedom to Fish Act of 2013 (see below). 	Whitfield (R-KY) [6 cosponsors] House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment 2/26/2013 Introduced 2/27/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee
S. 982	Freedom to Fish Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s982 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to H.R. 421 and S. 421 (above), but restricted to only the Cumberland River Basin. 	Alexander (R-TN) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works 2/28/2013 Introduced 5/16/2013 Passed in Senate 5/21/2013 Passed in House 6/3/2013 Became Public Law
S. 542	Maritime Lien Reform Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s542 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits maritime liens from being imposed on Alaskan limited entry commercial fishing permits. 	Murkowski (R-AK) [2 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/13/2013 Introduced 3/13/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
H.R. 596	Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr596 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlines permitting for renewable energy projects on public lands and waters. 	Gosar (R-AZ) [56 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs House Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry. 2/8/2013 Introduced 2/25/2013 Referred to Subcommittees
H.R. 638	National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr638 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocks the Fish and Wildlife Service from declaring any new refuges unless Congress passed legislation specifically allowing it. The bill would not affect any existing refuges. 	Fleming (R-LA) [13 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/13/2013 Introduced

		2/21/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 4/25/2013 Legislative hearing held 9/20/2013 Reported out of House Committee
S. 681	<p>Offshore Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s681</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the offshore jurisdictions of Gulf of Mexico states to three marine leagues from their respective coastlines. • States would control the rights to energy resources and gain exclusive fishery management authority over reef fish within the new boundary. 	Vitter (R-LA) [none] Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 4/9/2013 Introduced 4/9/2013 Referred to Senate Committee

H.R. 1430	<p>Offshore Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1430</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House companion bill to S. 681, the Offshore Fairness Act (see above). 	Cassidy (R-LA) [1 cosponsor] House Judiciary Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial And Antitrust Law; House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources 4/30/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees
S. 747	<p>A bill to grant exclusive fishery management authority over the red snapper fish in the Gulf of Mexico to certain States. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s747</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants Gulf states exclusive fishery management authority over red snapper fish in the Gulf of Mexico in the area located between the coast line of each such state and the point that is 200 miles seaward of the coast line. 	Vitter (R-AL) [none] Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 4/17/2013 Introduced 4/17/2013 Senate Committee

H.R. 753	<p>Prohibiting commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone.</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr753</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Commerce from authorizing commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the federal Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) unless specifically authorized by Congress. Congress has never authorized open ocean aquaculture or provided a legislative framework for managing finfish farms in the EEZ. 	<p>Young (R-AK) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/15/2013 Introduced 3/1/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
H.R. 910	<p>Sikes Act Reauthorization Act of 2013</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr910</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reauthorizes the Sikes Act from 2015 through 2019. The Sikes Act requires the Department of Defense to develop and implement Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans for military installations across the United States. 	<p>Fleming (R-LA) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness 2/28/2013 Introduced 3/21/2013 House Natural Resources Subcommittee hearing held 6/24/2013 Reported of House Committee</p>
H.R. 1021	<p>Land Acquisition to Cut National Debt Act</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suspends net federal land acquisitions under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service unless the Federal budget is balanced for the year in which the land would be purchased. 	<p>Stivers (R-OH) [none] House Natural Resources Committee; House Agriculture Committee 3/6/2013 Introduced 3/12/2013 Referred to House Committees 4/2/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees</p>
S. 1022	<p>A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to extend the exemption from the fire-retardant materials construction requirement for vessels operating within the Boundary Line.</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1022</p>	<p>Brown (D-OH) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 5/22/2013 Introduced 5/22/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends federal shipping law to extend through October 31, 2028, the exemption of certain vessels from the requirement that U.S. passenger vessels having berth or stateroom accommodations for at least 50 passengers be constructed of fire-retardant materials in order to be granted a certificate of inspection. Continues to apply this exemption only to vessels in operation before January 1, 1968, which operate only within the Boundary Line (the dividing point between inland waters and high seas). 	
S. 1079	<p>Artificial Reef Promotion Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1079</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedites the application review to remove an offshore oil or gas platform in the Gulf of Mexico for use as an artificial reef by requiring that a decision be made within 150 days. 	<p>Vitter (R-LA) [2 cosponsors] Senate 5/23/2013 Introduced 5/23/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>

H.R. 1080	<p>To amend the Sikes Act to promote the use of cooperative agreements under such Act for land management related to Department of Defense readiness activities and to facilitate interagency cooperation in conservation programs to reduce adverse impacts on military readiness activities. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1080</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits the Department of Defense to extend a program reducing restrictions on training by finding and restoring habitat off base. 	<p>Bordallo (D-GU) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs; House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness 3/12/2013 Introduced 3/21/2013 House Natural Resources Subcommittee hearing held 3/26/2013 Referred to the House Subcommittee on Readiness</p>
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		5/15/2013 Natural Resources Committee mark-up held 6/17/2013 Reported favorably out of the Natural Resources Committee
S. 1161	Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Conservation Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1161 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transfers management responsibility of Gulf of Mexico red snapper to the Gulf states.	Landrieu (D-LA) [1 cosponsor] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 6/13/2013 Introduced 6/13/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
S. 1202	SAFE Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1202 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires federal agencies that manage natural resources to adopt climate change adaptation plans.	Whitehouse (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] Environment and Public Works Committee 6/20/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
H.R. 1219	Gulf Fisheries Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1219 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resets the state water boundaries for the purposes of reef fish management for all five Gulf states to an average depth of 20 fathoms (120 feet) or nine nautical miles, whichever is farthest.• Currently, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi have three mile boundaries, while Florida and Texas are set at nine miles.	Bonner (R-AL) [12 cosponsors] House Committee on Natural Resources 3/15/2013 Introduced 3/15/2013 Referred to House Committee

H.R. 1300	To amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer programs and community partnerships for the benefit of national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1300 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reauthorizes the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer, Community Partnership, and Education Programs for 2014 through 2018.	Runyon (R-NJ) [1 cosponsor] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs. 3/20/2013 Introduced 3/28/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee
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		6/17/2013 Reported favorably out of the Natural Resources Committee 7/30/2013 Passed in House
H.R. 1313	<p>To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act to repeal a duplicative program relating to inspection and grading of catfish. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1313</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terminates the USDA catfish inspection program. • Currently the FDA and NFMS also have catfish inspection programs in place, and the Government Accountability Office singled out USDA's catfish inspection program as duplicative in a February 2013 report on government waste. • Three other bills (H.R. 1999, S. 632, and the House Farm Bill) also end USDA's catfish inspection program. 	Hartzler (R-MO) [57 cosponsors] House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock, Rural Development, and Credit 3/21/2013 Introduced 4/2/2013 Referred to Senate Subcommittee
S. 1419	<p>Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1419</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the Department of Energy's marine hydrokinetic (MHK) research, development and demonstration programs through 2017. • Encourages private investment in MHK power technologies by streamlining the regulatory process for pilot projects that generate energy from oceans, lakes and rivers. 	Wyden (D-OR) [4 cosponsors] Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committees 8/1/2013 Referred to Senate Committees

H.R. 1425	<p>Marine Debris Emergency Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1425</p>	Bonamici (D-OR) [22 cosponsors] House 4/9/2013 Introduced 4/9/2013 Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries,
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes improvements to the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act (2006) by establishing a program within NOAA that complements the Environmental Protection Agency's marine debris program. • Requires NOAA to give preference to projects that address severe marine debris events especially in the event of potential threat of marine invasive species. • Requires speedier approval of applications and grant funding. 	Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs; House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation 6/13/2013 Subcommittee hearing held in the Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs Subcommittee 4/2/2014 Reported out of House Natural Resources Committee
S. 1435	<p>Clean Ports Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1435</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages ports to adopt and enforce requirements to reduce pollution, mitigate traffic congestion, improve highway safety, and enhance efficient utilization of port facilities. 	Gillibrand (D-NY) [1 cosponsor] Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee 8/1/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
H.R. 1825	<p>Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1825</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates an "open until closed" policy for sportsmen's use of federal land. • Would direct U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to facilitate use and access for hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting activities on federal lands. 	Benishek (R-MI) [108 cosponsors] House Agriculture Committee, House Natural Resources Committee 6/12/2013 Reported out of the Natural Resources Committee by a vote of 28-15 1/31/2014 Discharged by the House Agriculture Committee
H.R. 2219	<p>To reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System (ICOOS) Act of 2009. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2219</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the ICCOS Act of 2009, which expires in 2013. • The 2009 law established a national integrated system of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes observing systems to promote better public awareness and scientific communication concerning ocean, coastal, and lake conservation. 	Young (R-AK) [none] House Natural Resources Committee, House Science, Space, and Technology Committee 6/3/2013 introduced 6/4/2013 Referred to House subcommittee 6/13/2013 Subcommittee hearing held
H.R. 2261	<p>National Mitigation Fisheries Coordination Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2261</p>	Crawford (R-AR) [6 cosponsors] Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directs agencies with fishery mitigation activities on mandated federal water projects to reimburse the Fish and Wildlife Service for the cost of operating the hatcheries used in mitigation. 	6/5/2013 Introduced 6/10/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees
H.R. 3099	<p>Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Conservation Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3099</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfers management authority over the red snapper fishery to the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. • Contains a three year prohibition on any reduction in quotas. 	Miller (R-FL) [20 cosponsors] House Natural Resources 9/12/2013 Referred to House Committee
H.R. 3105	<p>Aquaculture Risk Reduction Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3105</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides exemption from the Lacey Act for animals unintentionally included in shipments of fish produced in commercial aquaculture. 	Crawford (R-AR) [5 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 9/20/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 2/27/2014 Subcommittee Hearing held
H.R. 3464	<p>Commercial Vessel Discharges Reform Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3464</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends permanently, a moratorium from EPA, state regulations and fines governing incidental discharges from commercial fishing vessels and all other commercial vessels less than 79 feet. 	LoBiondo (R-NJ) [10 cosponsors] House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure 11/14/2013 Introduced 11/14/2013 Referred to Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation/Water Resources and Environment
H.R.3976	<p>Wounded Veterans Recreation Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3976</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a no-cost, lifetime pass for entry into 2,000 national parks and federal recreation lands for veterans living with service-connected disabilities 	Ruiz (D-CA) [22 cosponsors] House Committee on Natural Resources 1/29/2014 Introduced 2/4/2014 Referred to Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation 4/4/2014 Subcommittee Hearing held

Regional Projects/Legislation

<p>H.R. 187/H.R. 277/H.R. 1810/H.R. 1811/H.R. 2057/H.R. 3226/H.R. 3227/H.R. 3572/H.R. 4222 /S. 533</p>	<p>To revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System http://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=373987</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A suite of bill dealing with portions of North Topsail Beach access to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) 	<p>Cicilline (D-RI) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works 4/8/2014 House Subcommittee hearing held</p>
<p>H.R. 175</p>	<p>To authorize a project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, West Onslow Beach and New River Inlet (Topsail Beach), North Carolina. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr157</p>	<p>Rep McIntyre, Mike (D-NC) [none] Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment 1/4/2013 introduced 1/7/2013 Referred to subcommittee</p>
<p>H.R. 644</p>	<p>Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr644</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. • Requires the Secretary to institute a new partnership to work in consultation with existing management structures to identify, prioritize, and implement restoration and protection activities in the entire basin and adopt a basin-wide investment strategy for implementation of the program. 	<p>Carney (D-DE) [20 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/13/2013 Introduced 2/22/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
<p>H.R. 739</p>	<p>Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr739</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements crosscut budgeting and adaptive management to enhance coordination, flexibility, and efficiency of restoration efforts, similar to techniques used in the Everglades and the Great Lakes. • Creates a Chesapeake Bay Program Independent Evaluator to review and report to Congress on restoration activities in the watershed. 	<p>Wittman (R-VA) [6 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/14/2013 Introduced 3/11/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 4/24/2013 Mark-up held, reported out of the Natural Resources Committee by Unanimous Consent</p>

S. 1520	<p>York River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1520</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the York River and associated tributaries for study for potential inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. 	<p>Kind (I-ME) [none] Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 9/18/2013 Introduced 9/18/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 1808	<p>Maine Coastal Islands Wilderness Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1808</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designates specified lands in Maine within the Cross Island National Wildlife Refuge, to be known as the Cross Island Wilderness, and within the Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge, to be known as the Maine Coastal Islands Wilderness, as wilderness and as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System. 	<p>Michaud (D-ME) [1 cosponsor] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation 5/6/2013 Introduced 5/6/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 7/23/2013 Subcommittee hearing</p>
H.R. 2174	<p>Long Island Sound Restoration and Stewardship Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2174</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streamlines the federal authorization process for the Long Island Sound Restoration Act (passed in 2000 & 2005) and the Long Island Sound Stewardship Act (passed in 2006). • Improves coordination among federal, state and local agencies and requires reporting on the use of the funds. 	<p>Israel (D-NY) [16 cosponsors] Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 5/23/2013 introduced 6/3/2013 Referred to subcommittee</p>
H.R. 3139	<p>To amend the Chesapeake Bay Initiative Act of 1998 to provide for the reauthorization of the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3139</p>	<p>Sarbanes (D-MD) [10 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee 9/19/2013 Introduced 9/27/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>