

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | January 29 - February 2, 2024

Highlights:

In the House, the *Supporting the Health of Aquatic Systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue (SHARKED) Act* ([H.R.4051](#)) passed out of the Natural Resources Committee, and is scheduled for a vote on the House floor. Introduced by Reps. Rob Wittman (R-Va.), Darren Soto (D-Fla.), Garret Graves (R-La.), and Marc Veasey (D-Texas), this [bipartisan](#) bill will improve research and funding to address the impacts of shark predation on fishing conditions and marine ecosystems.

Rep. Kim Schrier (D-Wash.), alongside Reps. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez (D-Wash.) and Marilyn Strickland (D-Wash.) introduced the *Partnerships for Agricultural Climate Action (PACA) Act of 2024* ([H.R.7146](#)). The bill will provide grants to agricultural producers who implement climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience measures. These grants will also provide technical and financial support to new, low-income, and minority farmers. EESI's [Farm Bill in Focus](#) briefing series explores bipartisan solutions for addressing the climate crisis on U.S. farms and ranches.

Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-Penn.) and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) reintroduced the *PFAS Accountability Act* ([H.R.7194/S.3725](#)). The bicameral bill would facilitate the ability of victims of significant per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination to sue PFAS manufacturers.

February 2, 2024

No climate or energy related activity in the House or Senate today.

February 1, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7193](#)

To amend the Clean Air Act to provide for exclusion of air quality monitoring data that is directly due to a catastrophic or beneficial use wildfire from use in

determinations with respect to exceedances or violations of the national ambient air quality standard for any air pollutant, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Curtis, John R. \[Rep.-R-UT-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.R.7194](#)

To amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to codify a Federal cause of action and a type of remedy available for individuals significantly exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to encourage research and accountability for irresponsible discharge of those substances, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Dean, Madeleine \[Rep.-D-PA-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Judiciary

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7197](#)

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a study on the environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to convene a consortium on such environmental impacts, and to require the Director to develop a voluntary reporting system for the reporting of the environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Eshoo, Anna G. \[Rep.-D-CA-16\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology; Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7200](#)

To require the Secretary of Energy to establish a hydrogen infrastructure finance and innovation pilot program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Fitzpatrick, Brian K. \[Rep.-R-PA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure; Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and

Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7203](#)

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act relating to grants for beach monitoring, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Joyce, David P. \[Rep.-R-OH-14\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7204](#)

To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 with respect to the Susquehanna, Delaware, and Potomac River Basin Commissions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Molinaro, Marcus J. \[Rep.-R-NY-19\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7209](#)

To provide for the establishment of a Caribbean and Latin America Maritime Security Initiative to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the Caribbean and Latin America, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Peters, Scott H. \[Rep.-D-CA-50\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Foreign Affairs; Armed Services; Transportation and Infrastructure; Judiciary; Financial Services; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, the Judiciary, Financial Services, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.J.Res.111](#)

Disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Furnaces".

Sponsor: [Fischbach, Michelle \[Rep.-R-MN-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (36)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 02/01/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Committee Meetings:

SALT MARRIAGE PENALTY ELIMINATION ACT; DENOUNCING THE HARMFUL, ANTI-AMERICAN ENERGY POLICIES OF THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 7160](#), the "SALT Marriage Penalty Elimination Act"; and [H. Res. 987](#), denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden administration, and for other purposes. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 8-5, a rule providing for consideration of [H.R. 7160](#), the "SALT Marriage Penalty Elimination Act", and [H. Res. 987](#), Denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden Administration, and for other purposes. The rule provides for consideration of [H.R. 7160](#), the "SALT Marriage Penalty Elimination Act", under closed rule. Testimony was heard from Representatives Burgess, Castor of Florida, Lawler, and Schneider.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3719](#)

A bill to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to revise the duties of the Science Advisory Board, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Budd, Ted \[Sen.-R-NC\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3721](#)

A bill prescribe requirements with respect to plants detained by the Secretary of the Interior on suspicion of a violation of the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Ricketts, Pete \[Sen.-R-NE\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3724](#)

A bill to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from using assessments generated by the Integrated Risk Information System as a tier 1 data source in rulemakings and other regulatory actions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Kennedy, John \[Sen.-R-LA\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3725](#)

A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to codify a Federal cause of action and a type of remedy available for individuals significantly exposed to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to encourage research and accountability for irresponsible discharge of those substances, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Gillibrand, Kirsten E. \[Sen.-D-NY\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.3732](#)

A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a study on the environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to convene a consortium on such environmental impacts, and to require the Director to develop a voluntary reporting system for the reporting of the environmental impacts of artificial intelligence, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

[S.J.Res.58](#)

A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Energy relating to "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Furnaces".

Sponsor: [Cruz, Ted \[Sen.-R-TX\]](#) Cosponsors: (29)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 02/01/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

January 31, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7157](#)

To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to ensure fair enforcement of such Act.

Sponsor: [Duarte, John S. \[Rep.-R-CA-13\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7163](#)

To amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to establish the Climate Scientific Research Advisory Committee and the Rural Climate Alliance Network, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Brownley, Julia \[Rep.-D-CA-26\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.7166](#)

To establish the Great Lakes Mass Marking Program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Dingell, Debbie \[Rep.-D-MI-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7171](#)

Distribution Transformer Efficiency & Supply Chain Reliability Act of 2024

Sponsor: [Kelly, Mike \[Rep.-R-PA-16\]](#) Cosponsors: (8)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.R.7172](#)

To direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to promulgate regulations prohibiting the issuance of certain certificates and licenses without a finding that a certain system or facility can safely operate with spent nuclear fuel for a period of at least 100 years, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Levin, Mike \[Rep.-D-CA-49\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.R.7176](#)

To repeal restrictions on the export and import of natural gas.

Sponsor: [Pfluger, August \[Rep.-R-TX-11\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.R.7178](#)

To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to permit certain grant funds to be used for assisting regional economies with limiting industrial consumptive water use, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Titus, Dina \[Rep.-D-NV-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure; Financial Services

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.Res.987](#)

Denouncing the harmful, anti-American energy policies of the Biden administration, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Newhouse, Dan \[Rep.-R-WA-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (17)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Bills Reported:

[H.R.1121](#)

Protecting American Energy Production Act

Sponsor: [Duncan, Jeff \[Rep.-R-SC-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (29)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-19](#)

Latest Action: House - 01/31/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 305.

Committee Meetings:

ENSURING THE CYBERSECURITY OF AMERICA'S DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials held a [hearing](#) entitled "Ensuring the Cybersecurity of America's Drinking Water Systems". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Federal Lands held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 674](#), the "Root and Stem Project Authorization Act of 2023"; [H.R. 4297](#), the "Bolts Ditch Act"; [H.R. 5443](#), the "Accelerating Appraisals and Conservation Efforts Act"; [H.R. 6994](#), the "Restoring Our Unopened Trails for Enjoyment and Safety Act"; and [H.R. 7072](#), the "Wabeno Economic Development Act of 2024". Testimony was heard from Representatives Newhouse, Neguse, Lee of Nevada, Kim of California, and Tiffany; Greg Smith, Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Tom Tallier, Supervisor, Forest County Board of Supervisors, District 8, Wisconsin; Dan Munsey, Fire Chief, San Bernardino County Fire Department, California; Siri Roman, General Manager, Eagle River Water and Sanitation District, Vail, Colorado; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 2925](#), the "Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2023" [H.R. 6862](#), to amend the FAST Act to include certain mineral production activities as a covered project, and for other purposes; [H.R. 7003](#), the "National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2024"; and [H.R. 7004](#), to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to amend references of gilsonite to asphaltite. Testimony was heard from Representatives Amodei, DelBene, and Curtis; Steven Feldgus, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

Other Committee Activity:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a [markup](#) on [H.R. 7023](#), the "Creating Confidence in Clean Water Permitting Act"; [H.R. 5089](#), the "Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act"; [H.R. 6248](#), the "Think Differently About Transportation Act"; and [H.R. 7070](#), the "Wildfire Response Improvement Act". [H.R.](#)

[7023](#), [H.R. 6248](#), and [H.R. 7070](#) were ordered reported, as amended. [H.R. 5089](#) was ordered reported, without amendment.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3704](#)

A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve or deny applications for the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of facilities to export or import natural gas, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Scott, Tim \[Sen.-R-SC\]](#) Cosponsors: (17)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 01/31/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Committee Meetings:

METHANE EMISSIONS

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine avoiding, detecting, and capturing methane emissions from landfills, after receiving testimony from Tom Frankiewicz, RMI, Washington, D.C.; Tia R. Scarpelli, Carbon Mapper, Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Anne Germain, National Waste and Recycling Association, Arlington, Virginia.

January 30, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7145](#)

To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the taking, importation, exportation, and breeding of certain cetaceans for public display, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Schiff, Adam B. \[Rep.-D-CA-30\]](#) Cosponsors: (24)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on 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.7146](#)

Partnerships for Agricultural Climate Action (PACA) Act of 2024

Sponsor: [Schrier, Kim \[Rep.-D-WA-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

Bills Reported:

[H.R.1240](#)

Winnebago Land Transfer Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Feenstra, Randy \[Rep.-R-IA-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 302.

[H.R.2882](#)

Udall Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Ciscomani, Juan \[Rep.-R-AZ-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Education and the Workforce

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. [H. Rept. 118-364](#), Part I.

[H.R.2997](#)

CONVEY Act

Sponsor: [Boebert, Lauren \[Rep.-R-CO-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 303.

[H.R.3415](#)

Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act

Sponsor: [Hageman, Harriet M. \[Rep.-R-WY-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 300.

[H.R.4051](#)

Supporting the Health of Aquatic systems through Research Knowledge and Enhanced Dialogue Act

Sponsor: [Wittman, Robert J. \[Rep.-R-VA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 301.

[H.R.4385](#)

Drought Preparedness Act

Sponsor: [Neguse, Joe \[Rep.-D-CO-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 298.

[H.R.5009](#)

WILD Act

Sponsor: [Joyce, David P. \[Rep.-R-OH-14\]](#) Cosponsors: (12)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 01/30/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 299.

Committee Meetings:

EXPOSING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S PLAN TO DISMANTLE THE SNAKE RIVER DAMS AND THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS TO THE UNITED STATES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a [hearing](#) entitled "Exposing President Biden's Plan to Dismantle the Snake River Dams and the Negative Impacts to the United States". Testimony was heard from John Hairston, Administrator and Chief Executive Officer, Bonneville Power Administration, Department of Energy, Portland, Oregon; Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), U.S. Army; Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Jeremiah Baumann, Senior Advisor, Director of Policy and Implementation, Office of the Secretary, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

FIGHTING THE MISUSE OF BIDEN'S GREEN BANK GIVEAWAY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a [hearing](#) entitled "Fighting the Misuse of Biden's Green Bank Giveaway". Testimony was heard from Zealan Hoover, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

FROM RISK TO RESILIENCE: REAUTHORIZING THE EARTHQUAKE AND WINDSTORM HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAMS

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology held a [hearing](#) entitled "From Risk to Resilience: Reauthorizing the Earthquake and Windstorm Hazards Reduction Programs". Testimony was heard from Jason Averill, Deputy Director of the Engineering Laboratory, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce; Edward Laatsch, Director, Safety, Planning, and Building Science Division, Risk Analysis, Planning and Information Directorate, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Gavin Hayes, Earthquake Hazards Program Coordinator, U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior; and Susan Margulies, Assistant Director for Engineering, National Science Foundation.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.3683](#)

A bill to ensure that a declaration for a major disaster or emergency is made on a timely basis, rural areas receive assistance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cantwell, Maria \[Sen.-D-WA\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 01/30/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

[S.3694](#)

A bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the taking, importation, exportation, and breeding of certain cetaceans for public display, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Wyden, Ron \[Sen.-D-OR\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 01/30/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

January 29, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7106](#)

To amend the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Beyer, Donald S., Jr. \[Rep.-D-VA-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 01/29/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Senate:

No climate or energy related activity in the Senate today.