

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | June 17 - June 21, 2024

Highlights:

The Senate passed the *Fire Grants and Safety Act* ([S.870](#)), led by Sens. Gary Peters (D-Mich.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine). In addition to reauthorizing fire and emergency response programs, the bill includes the [Accelerating Deployment of Versatile Advanced Nuclear for Clean Energy \(ADVANCE\) Act](#), which would accelerate the development and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors. Reps. Tom Kean (R-N.J.) and Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.) introduced the companion bill ([H.R.4090](#)) to the *Fire Grants and Safety Act* last year.

Reps. Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) and Scott Peters (D-Calif.) introduced the *Fix Our Forest Act* ([H.R.8790](#)), which would expedite regulatory review processes for forest management projects that curtail [wildfire risk](#), such as forest thinning and prescribed burns. EESI's wildfire-focused Living with Climate Change [briefing](#) discusses policy solutions for reducing wildfire risk in forests.

Reps. Robert Wittman (R-Va.), Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Jen Kiggans (R-Va.), and Mike Thompson (D-Calif.) introduced the *America's Conservation Enhancement (ACE) Reauthorization Act* ([H.R.8811](#)). The bill [reauthorizes](#) wildlife conservation efforts across the country and increases protections from new and emerging threats, such as from invasive species and disease. EESI's [podcast](#), *The Climate Conversation*, discusses how Congress can leverage scientific research to bolster legislative conservation solutions. The Senate passed their version of the bill ([S.3791](#)) in May, led by Sens. Tom Carper (D-Del.) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.).

Sen. John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) and bipartisan cosponsors introduced the *Colorado River Basin System Conservation Extension Act* ([S.4576](#)) to [extend](#) the life of the System Conservation Pilot Program to 2026. The program tests water conservation strategies in the Colorado River Basin to alleviate the impacts of severe drought. For more on Colorado River conservation, check out EESI's [article](#) on how farmers in the region are responding to water shortages.

June 21, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.8811

To reauthorize the America's Conservation Enhancement Act, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Wittman, Robert J. \[Rep.-R-VA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure; Agriculture; Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 06/21/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

H.J.Res.169

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status With Critical Habitat for Guadalupe Fatmucket, Texas Fatmucket, Guadalupe Orb, Texas Pimpleback, Balcones Spike, and False Spike, and Threatened Species Status With Section 4(d) Rule and Critical Habitat for Texas Fawnsfoot".

Sponsor: [Arrington, Jodey C. \[Rep.-R-TX-19\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/21/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Senate:

June 20, 2024

House:

The House did not meet today.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.4615](#)

A bill to amend title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for electricity and natural gas suppliers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Smith, Tina \[Sen.-D-MN\]](#)

Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.4628](#)

A bill to improve wildfire mitigation, management, and recovery, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Kelly, Mark \[Sen.-D-AZ\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

[S.J.Res.100](#)

A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "New Source Performance Standards for the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the Synthetic Organic Chemical Manufacturing Industry and Group I & II Polymers and Resins Industry."

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

Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Passed Senate:

[H.R.1240](#)

Winnebago Land Transfer Act of 2023

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

Cosponsors: (7)

Committees: House - Natural Resources | Senate - Indian Affairs

Committee Reports: [H. Rept. 118-369](#), [S. Rept. 118-180](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Message on Senate action sent to the House.

S.1987

Fort Belknap Indian Community Water Rights Settlement Act of 2024

Sponsor: [Tester, Jon \[Sen.-D-MT\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Message on Senate action sent to the House.

S.Res.747

A resolution recognizing the importance of pollinators to ecosystem health and agriculture in the United States by designating June 16 through June 22, 2024, as "National Pollinator Week".

Sponsor: [Merkley, Jeff \[Sen.-D-OR\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Latest Action: Senate - 06/20/2024 Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

June 19, 2024

The House and Senate did not meet today.

June 18, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.8779

To amend the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 to require projects in the Caloosahatchee River watershed, the St. Lucie River and estuary basin, and the Lake Okeechobee watershed that mitigate harmful algal blooms and nutrient pollution by removing algae and converting the algae biomass into biofuel, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Donalds, Byron \[Rep.-R-FL-19\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

[H.R.8781](#)

To prohibit the implementation of the Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment and Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Federal coal managed by the Buffalo, Wyoming Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management.

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

Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.8783](#)

To reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Larsen, Rick \[Rep.-D-WA-2\]](#)

Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.8788](#)

To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish the Fisheries and Ecological Resilience Program and to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on the competitiveness of domestic seafood producers in domestic and global seafood trade.

Sponsor: [Peltola, Mary Sattler \[Rep.-D-AK-At Large\]](#)

Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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.8790](#)

Fix our Forest Act

Sponsor: [Westerman, Bruce \[Rep.-R-AR-4\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([12](#))

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

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

[H.R.8791](#)

To provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Zinke, Ryan K. \[Rep.-R-MT-1\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.J.Res.168](#)

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Council on Environmental Quality relating to "National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Regulations Revisions Phase 2".

Sponsor: [Graves, Garret \[Rep.-R-LA-6\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([12](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 06/18/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.4568](#)

A bill to repeal certain provisions of the CHIPS Act of 2022 and the Research and Development, Competition, and Innovation Act, to limit Federal mandates imposed on entities seeking Federal funds, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Tuberville, Tommy \[Sen.-R-AL\]](#)

Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S.4576

A bill to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to reauthorize the Colorado River System conservation pilot program.

Sponsor: [Hickenlooper, John W. \[Sen.-D-CO\]](#)

Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.4579

A bill to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Murray, Patty \[Sen.-D-WA\]](#)

Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

S.J.Res.99

A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Council on Environmental Quality relating to "National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Regulations Revisions Phase 2".

Sponsor: [Manchin, Joe, III \[Sen.-I-WV\]](#)

Cosponsors: (15)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Bills Reported:

[S.1254](#)

Wild Olympics Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

Sponsor: [Murray, Patty \[Sen.-D-WA\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 421.

[S.1348](#)

Wyoming Public Lands Initiative Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Barrasso, John \[Sen.-R-WY\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 422.

Passed Senate:

[S.870](#)

Fire Grants and Safety Act

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#)

Cosponsors: ([14](#))

Latest Action: Senate - 06/18/2024 Senate agreed to the House amendments to [S. 870](#) by Yea-Nay Vote. 88 - 2. [Record Vote Number: 200](#). (consideration: CR [S4142](#))

June 17, 2024

House:

No environmental or energy related activity in the House today.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.4557

A bill to authorize the use of off-highway vehicles in certain areas of the Capitol Reef National Park, Utah.

Sponsor: [Lee, Mike \[Sen.-R-UT\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/17/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.4561

A bill to amend the Wilderness Act to allow local Federal officials to determine the manner in which non motorized uses may be permitted in wilderness areas, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Lee, Mike \[Sen.-R-UT\]](#)

Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 06/17/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.