



News from the
Committee on Natural Resources
Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II - Chairman

1324 Longworth House Office Building - Washington DC, 20515 - <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov>

The Weekly Preview

March 31-April 4, 2008

On the House Floor:

- On Monday, the **House of Representatives** is expected to consider under suspension of the rules the following 8 bills:
 - [H.R. 1187](#) (Woolsey): To expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary
 - [H.R. 2342](#) (Allen): To direct the President to establish a National Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System, and for other purposes
 - [H.R. 4933](#) (Bordallo): To amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to protect captive wildlife and to make technical corrections, and for other purposes
 - [H.R. 3352](#) (Young (AK)): To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes
 - [H.R. 3891](#) (Brown (SC)): To amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act to increase the number of Directors on the Board of Directors of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
 - [H.R. 2675](#) (Boren) To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes
 - [H.R. 3651](#) (Bishop (UT)): To require the conveyance of certain public land within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, to support the training and readiness of the Utah National Guard

- [H.R. 2515](#) (Heller) To authorize appropriations for the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program in the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, and for other purposes

This Week's Hearings:

- On Wednesday, the **Committee on Natural Resources** will meet in open markup session to consider the following 4 bills:
 - [H.R. 3513](#) (DeFazio): To amend the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984 to designate the Copper Salmon Wilderness and to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the North and South Forks of the Elk River in the State of Oregon as wild or scenic rivers, and for other purposes. "*Copper Salmon Wilderness Act*"
 - [H.R. 5151](#) (Rahall): To designate as wilderness additional National Forest System lands in the Monongahela National Forest in the State of West Virginia, and for other purposes. "*Wild Monongahela Act: A National Legacy for West Virginia's Special Places*"
 - [H.R. 831](#) (D. Young): To provide for the conveyance of certain Forest Service land to the city of Coffman Cove, Alaska. "*Coffman Cove Administrative Site Conveyance Act*"
 - [H.R. 3734](#) (Simpson): To rename the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in the State of Idaho as the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area in honor of the late Morley Nelson, an international authority on birds of prey, who was instrumental in the establishment of this National Conservation Area, and for other purposes. "*Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area Act*"

Visit the Committee's Web site to view the [markup report](#) following the markup. (April 2, 2008, at 11:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans** will hold a legislative hearing to receive testimony on the following bill:
 - [H.R. 5618](#) (Bordallo): To reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes. (*National Sea Grant College Program Amendments Act of 2008*)

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (April 3, 2008, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1334 Longworth House Office Building)

In Case You Missed It:

- On March 13, 2008, House Natural Resources Committee **Chairman Nick J. Rahall** (D-WV) introduced the **Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments Act (H.R. 5608)**, legislation mandating that the Administration consult with tribes on policies that directly affect their lives. Rahall’s legislation reaffirms and puts into statute much of Presidential Executive Order 13175, signed in November 2000 by President Clinton, requiring the Department of the Interior, the Indian Health Service, and the National Indian Gaming Commission to consult with Indian tribes and Alaska Natives on a government-to-government basis. The current Administration has all but ignored this mandate, and most recently issued a January 2008 Guidance Memo that was issued without tribal input and resulted in a change in federal policy toward Indian tribes. Visit the Committee’s Web site to view the [press release](#) with additional information on H.R. 5608.

Quotable Quotes:

“Far too often, the Bush Administration has taken and continues to take actions that have serious and negative consequences on Indian country, without any consultation at all from the tribes themselves. Clearly, this should not be the case. In the end, this bill will ensure that the United States, as a government, sits at the table with Indian tribal governments when decisions are to be made affecting the lives of our First Americans. We cannot afford to repeat the mistaken policies of the past where the federal government makes decisions and policies in a vacuum.”

– *Chairman Rahall, upon introducing the Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments Act (H.R. 5608) on March 13, 2008.*

Calendar:

Click on the text within the calendar to be linked directly to our Web site.

Monday 3/31	Tuesday 4/01	Wednesday 4/02	Thursday 4/03	Friday 4/04
		Full Committee Markup of 4 Bills (11:00 AM)	Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans Legislative Hearing on H.R.5618 (10:00 AM)	

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