

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Beal, Executive Director, ASMFC
FROM: Blank Rome Government Relations
DATE: October 22, 2013
RE: Federal Issues Status Report

Below please find a status report on various Federal budget and policy issues that Blank Rome has been working on in conjunction with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), including an update on the Continuing Resolution, Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) spending bills, the Magnuson-Stevens Reauthorization bill, and various other issues.

Government Shutdown and Continuing Resolution

After over two weeks of debate and negotiations during which the federal government was shut down, and just one day before the Treasury would have exhausted its borrowing authority, on October 16, 2013, Congress passed a deal that includes a short term Continuing Resolution (CR) and temporarily extends the debt ceiling. The CR passed the Senate by a vote of 81-18, and the House by a vote of 285-144.

The bill funds the government at the current, \$987 billion level, and all agencies should see their funding levels remain consistent with the previous CR. All furloughed federal employees have returned to work, and the government has resumed functioning normally.

The deal consists of the following major provisions:

- Funds the government through January 15, 2014;
- Extends the debt ceiling until February 7, 2014;
- Requires a budget conference committee of House and Senate members to negotiate a broader fiscal deal and report back by December 13;
- Allows the Treasury Department to use "extraordinary measures" to pay the nation's bills in the event that the debt ceiling is not raised early next year;
- Provides back pay to furloughed federal employees; and
- Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to verify the income of those receiving health insurance subsidies under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

In the end, Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), who led efforts to attach a repeal of the Affordable Care Act

to the budget, voted against the CR, but did not attempt to block the legislation from coming to a vote. After weeks of trying to placate his right flank, House Speaker John Boehner violated the so-called Hastert Rule and passed the CR with a minority of Republicans voting in favor of the package.

With the government reopened, both sides will begin working on a broader "grand bargain," but it is too soon to tell what kind of compromise may be possible in this political climate.

FY14 Appropriations

The House and Senate both managed to make progress on many of their individual FY14 appropriations bills before the August recess hit and then the subsequent battle over the CR and debt ceiling. With regard to the Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations bill, which funds the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the House and Senate full Appropriations Subcommittees have both passed their respective FY14 bills, however neither bill has moved past the committee level at this point. We were pleased to see that both bills provide good funding levels for ASMFC's top priority line items, including the "Councils and Commissions" line item and the "Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act" line item as part of the funding provided to National Marine Fisheries. Below please find a breakdown of how these programs are funded in the FY14 draft bills as compared to FY12 and FY13 funding levels.

It is unclear at this point if any of the full year FY14 bills will ultimately be passed as part of an omnibus spending bill, but much depends on whether or not a grand bargain can be reached on revenues and entitlements. The most likely scenario is that another CR is passed in January that would last through the rest of FY14, with potentially one or two regular FY14 spending bills (such as the Defense bill) attached.

	FY12 Congressional Appropriated Levels	FY13 Congressional Appropriated Levels	FY14 House Spending Bill (HR 2787)	FY14 Senate Spending Bill (S. 1329)
IJFA	\$1.157 million	\$2 million	\$2 million	\$2.5 million
Councils & Commissions	\$31.9 million	\$31.5 million	\$32 million	\$32 million

Magnuson Stevens Act Reauthorization

The House and Senate continue to move forward towards a Magnuson Stevens Act (MSA) Reauthorization bill. Both chambers have held a series of informational hearings over the course of this year at which a variety of government (NOAA/NMFS), industry, fisheries council and

commission representative have testified, including ASMFC. In terms of the schedule, a final bill will not likely be completed for until next year at the earliest. But the House Natural Resources Committee expects to have an initial draft prepared sometime in late October to early November. It is unknown at this time how soon the Senate may introduce a bill. Blank Rome has been working in conjunction with ASMFC to monitor all progress and developments, as well as to ensure that the Commission's viewpoints are heard by staff and submitted for the record.

Tri-Commission Efforts

ASMFC has continued to work with the Pacific and Gulf Coast Fisheries Commissions on Federal budget and policy issues of common interest. Most recently the three commissions have coordinated on FY14 and FY15 budget issues, including continuing the dialogue with NOAA about next year's budget request. ASMFC and the other two commissions intend to continue to work together and coordinate messages both with NOAA and on the Hill.

Other Issues

Most recently, Blank Rome has worked in conjunction with ASMFC on additional issues which include helping to schedule and support meetings with some members of the New England delegation regarding spiny dogfish issues.

We continue to make progress on our list of Hill offices to touch, including a few good meetings recently with House CJS Appropriations Committee staff, House Natural Resources Committee staff, as well as with more of ASMFC's state delegation members.



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Healthy, self-sustaining populations for all Atlantic coast fish species or successful restoration well in progress by the year 2015

MEMORANDUM

October 21, 2013

To: ASMFC Commissioners

From: Robert Beal

Re: **Federal Legislative Tracking Sheet: 113th Congress, 1st Session**

Please find attached an update on federal fisheries legislation impacting the Commission, as well as more comprehensive tables providing summary information of key federal legislation introduced in the 113th Congress. The tables are divided into four categories:

Priority I: Legislation directly impacting the Commission or Commission managed species

Priority II: Other ocean and fishery legislation

Fisheries Disaster Legislation

Regionally Projects/ Legislation

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

Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriations

The recent spending deal signed by the President on October 16, 2013 ended the 16 day federal government shutdown and included a continuing resolution (CR) that funds the federal government through January 15, 2014 at current levels. For the Commission, this means our federal partners went back to work on October 17 and our federal funding will remain flat at 2013 levels for the duration of the CR. Please see the accompanying update from Blank-Rome for an in-depth update on big picture federal issues. It should also be noted that during the shutdown, NMFS law enforcement activities for the protection of marine fisheries and fisheries management activities including quota monitoring, observer activities, and regulatory actions to prevent overfishing continued without interruption.

Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization

The Magnuson-Stevens Act authorization expired on October 1, 2013. As noted in previous updates, the House and Senate have been holding hearings throughout the year examining various issues related to the reauthorization. The House Natural Resources Committee plans to unveil its first draft of the bill at the end of October. Flexibility with respect to rebuilding timelines and ACLs for federally managed species is expected to be a part of the House bill, but details will be unavailable until the bill text is officially released. It is unlikely the Act will be reauthorized until next year at the earliest, although programs authorized through the Act are expected to continue. We are tracking all Magnuson-Stevens Act related legislative hearings and are in contact with Congressional staff as the process moves forward.

The following Magnuson-Stevens Act reauthorization hearings have been held this year:

- House Natural Resources Committee, "The Reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act" March 13, 2013
- House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, "Data collection issues in relation to the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act" May 21, 2013
- Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Fisheries, "New England and Mid-Atlantic Perspectives on Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization." June 23, 2013
- Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Fisheries, "The Management of Red Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act." June 27, 2013
- House Natural Resources Committee "Oversight Hearing on Reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act" September 11, 2013

I was asked to testify at May 21 hearing on data collection submitted official statements on behalf of the Commission for the June 23 and September 11 hearings.

Sustainability Certification

Private sector fishery sustainability certifications, particularly those certifications by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), have come under scrutiny due to recent attention from Senators in Alaska and may be addressed in the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Lawmakers are specifically concerned that a number of government agencies and private companies are opting to purchase only seafood with an MSC certification.

On September 24, the Senate Commerce Committee's Fisheries Subcommittee held a hearing on the issue, entitled "The Role of Certification in Rewarding Sustainable Fishing." Details of the hearing can be found on the Committee's website or by clicking [here](#). Witnesses included Sam Rauch from NMFS, Darren Blue

from the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), Stefanie Moorland from the Alaska Governor's office, and representatives from Wal-Mart, Sodexo, and the National Fisheries Institute.

One option Congress is weighing as it reauthorizes the Magnuson-Stevens Act is a federally administered sustainability certification of U.S. fisheries. Because a majority of Commission managed species are governed by the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act and the Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act, they do not fall under the umbrella of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. We are concerned that a federal certification within Magnuson-Stevens may leave out Commission or state managed fisheries, putting those fisheries at a competitive disadvantage. We have shared our concerns with senior staff on the House Natural Resources Committee and will ask that Congress takes into account the unique position of the states and state-managed fisheries.

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

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</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>
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. 	<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>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
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) [10 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/11/2013 Introduced 2/11/2013 Referred to Senate Committee 7/30/2013 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) [11 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/11/2013 Introduced 7/30/2013 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) [3 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) [25 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishes a National Endowment for the Oceans to fund activities intended 	<p>Whitehouse (R-RI) [5 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/21/2013 Introduced</p>

	to protect, conserve, restore, and understand the Nation's oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes through a competitive grant process.	3/21/2013 Referred to Senate Committee
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) [27 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>

Priority II

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) [1 cosponsor] Senate Environment and Public Works Committee 9/17/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.Con.Res. 13	<p>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.</p>	<p>Christensen (D-VI) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular</p>

	http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hconres13	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 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar
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 <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. 	Alexander (R-TN) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works 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	Whitfield (R-KY) [6 cosponsors] House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Water Resources and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> House companion bill to S. 421, Freedom to Fish Act of 2013 (see above). 	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) [48 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 Committee
S. 681	Offshore Fairness Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s681 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends the offshore jurisdictions of Gulf of Mexico states to three marine 	Vitter (R-LA) [none] Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 4/9/2013 Introduced

	<p>leagues from their respective coastlines.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States would control the rights to energy resources and gain exclusive fishery management authority over reef fish within the new boundary. 	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). 	<p>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</p>
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. 	<p>Vitter (R-AL) [none] Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. 4/17/2013 Introduced 4/17/2013 Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 753	<p>Prohibiting commercial finfish aquaculture operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone. 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 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</p>

		6/24/2013 Reported favorably out of the Natural Resources Committee
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. 	<p>Slaughter (D-NY) [30 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>
H.R. 1021	<p>Land Acquisition to Cut National Debt Act 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. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1022</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). 	<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>
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 	<p>Vitter (R-LA) [2 cosponsors] Senate 5/23/2013 Introduced 5/23/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>

	made within 150 days.	
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.</p> <p>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 5/15/2013 Natural Resources Committee mark-up held 6/17/2013 Reported favorably out of the Natural Resources Committee</p>
S. 1161	<p>Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Conservation Act of 2013</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1161</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfers management responsibility of Gulf of Mexico red snapper to the Gulf states. 	<p>Landrieu (D-LA) [1 cosponsor] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 6/13/2013 Introduced 6/13/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
S. 1202	<p>SAFE Act</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1202</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires federal agencies that manage natural resources to adopt climate change adaptation plans. 	<p>Whitehouse (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] Environment and Public Works Committee 6/20/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 1219	<p>Gulf Fisheries Fairness Act</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1219</p> <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. 	<p>Bonner (R-AL) [12 cosponsors] House Committee on Natural Resources 3/15/2013 Introduced 3/15/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>
H.R. 1300	<p>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.</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1300</p>	<p>Runyon (R-NJ) [1 cosponsor] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reauthorizes the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer, Community Partnership, and Education Programs for 2014 through 2018. 	3/20/2013 Introduced 3/28/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee 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) [48 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) [2 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> <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. 	Bonamici (D-OR) [22 cosponsors] House 4/9/2013 Introduced 4/9/2013 Referred to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, 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

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. 	<p>Gillibrand (D-NY) [1 cosponsor] Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee 8/1/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
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. 	<p>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</p>
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. 	<p>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</p>
H.R. 2261	<p>National Mitigation Fisheries Coordination Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr2261</p> <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. 	<p>Crawford (R-AR) [2 cosponsors] Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment 6/5/2013 Introduced 6/10/2013 Referred to House Subcommittees</p>
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. 	<p>Miller (R-FL) [19 cosponsors] House Natural Resources 9/12/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>
H.R. 3105	<p>Aquaculture Risk Reduction Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr3105</p>	<p>Crawford (R-AR) [two cosponsors] House Natural Resources Committee</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. 	9/17/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee
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Disaster Relief

H.R. 152	<p>Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr152</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster funding for Superstorm Sandy. The initial Senate version of the bill contained \$150 in funding for New England and Mid-Atlantic Fisheries given disaster designation in 2012. The enacted version included on \$5 million for NY and NJ. This bill was signed into law on January 29, 2013. 	<p>Hal Rogers (R-KY) [none] House Appropriations Committee 1/4/2013 Introduced 1/29/2013 Enacted into law</p>
H.R. 799	<p>Fisheries Disaster Relief and Research Investment Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr799</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocates funds directed to the Department of Commerce under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act in FY 2014 to be used for assistance to those states affected by fishery disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce in calendar year 2012. (in FY 2013 the amount was \$124 million and in Fiscal Year 2012, it was \$109 million). Beginning in FY2015, the bill would direct those funds to research, and put fisheries research, monitoring, and data collection in the hands of regional management councils by requiring multi-stakeholder regional committees, authorized by the bill and appointed by the nation's eight fishery management councils, to develop plans to identify priorities for investment in each region. 	<p>Tierney (D-MA) [9 cosponsors] House Committee on Natural Resources 2/15/2013 Introduced 3/1/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
H.R. 1445	<p>Supplemental appropriations for fisheries disasters from Superstorm Sandy http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1445</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides \$193 million for damages Superstorm Sandy inflicted on the fishing industry. Roughly \$120 million would go to New Jersey and the remainder would go to New York. 	<p>Pallone (D-NJ) [none] House Committee on Appropriations House Committee on Budget 4/9/2013 Introduced 4/9/2013 Referred to House Committees</p>
Amendment 672	<p>Amendment to the Senate Budget, S.CON.RES.8 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113sconres8</p>	<p>Warren (D-MA) No Committee 3/23/2013 Introduced</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would allow an unspecified amount of disaster assistance to fishermen during regular FY 2014 appropriations. • Any federal assistance must maintain budget neutrality. 	3/23/2013 Adopted, unanimous consent
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Regional Projects/Legislation

H.R. 277/H.R. 187/S. 533	<p>To revise the boundaries of John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Sachuest Point Unit RI-04P, Easton Beach Unit RI-05P, Almy Pond Unit RI-06, and Hazards Beach Unit RI-07 in Rhode Island.</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr277 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr187 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s533</p>	<p>Cicilline (D-RI) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 1/15/2013 Introduced 1/31/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
H.R. 175	<p>To authorize a project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, West Onslow Beach and New River Inlet (Topsail Beach), North Carolina.</p> <p>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>
H.R. 644	<p>Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2013</p> <p>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) [19 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/13/2013 Introduced 2/22/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
H.R. 739	<p>Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2013</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr739</p>	<p>Wittman (R-VA) [6 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular</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>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. 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). • Squid catches are managed by the MAFMC, but Rhode Island has a large squid fishing fleet and currently sits only on the New England council. 	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • House companion bill to S. 713, Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act (see above). 	<p>Rep Langevin (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] House Committee on Natural Resources. 4/11/2013 Introduced 4/11/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>
S. 1520	<p>York River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s1520</p>	<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). 	<p>Israel (D-NY) [15 cosponsors] Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 5/23/2013 introduced 6/3/2013 Referred to subcommittee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improves coordination among federal, state and local agencies and requires reporting on the use of the funds. 	
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.</p> <p>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>