



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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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

April 16, 2013

To: ASMFC Commissioners

From: Robert Beal

Re: **Federal Legislative Tracking Sheet: 113th Congress**

The 113th United States Congress is underway. Please find attached an overview of federal legislation with major impacts on Atlantic fisheries, as well as more comprehensive tables providing summary information of key federal legislation introduced in the 113th Congress. The tables are divided into three categories:

Priority I: legislation with a major impact on Atlantic Coast fisheries

Priority II: legislation relating to ocean and fishery policy with minimal impact on the Atlantic Coast

Fisheries disaster legislation: bills directing federal assistance to fisheries with disaster declarations

This is a living document, and it 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. 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). Also, please let us know if you have any ideas to improve this report.

Overview of Federal Fisheries Issues

2013 is shaping up to be an important year for Atlantic Coast fisheries. Budget cuts will continue to be a focal issue, but many others will take center stage throughout the year. Among those: reauthorizing the expiring Magnuson-Stevens Act, fisheries disasters in New England and the Mid-Atlantic, seafood labeling fraud, and another complicated appropriations process.

Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization:

The current authorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act expires on September 30, 2013, and Congress has already begun the lengthy process of reauthorizing the law. The House Committee on Natural Resources held its first hearing of the year on March 13 and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation held its first hearing on March 18. These were the first of many this year and were intended to bring stakeholders together to begin the process of identifying the top problems that need to be addressed.

A great deal of time was spent on the whether the reauthorization should include increased flexibility in catch limits and stock rebuilding schedules. This debate was lively in the House, where Massachusetts lawmakers Stephen Lynch (D-MA), John Tierney (D-MA), and Bill Keating (D-MA) pushed for more flexibility while Massachusetts Representative and Senate candidate Ed Markey (D-MA) said he thought the current rules for catch shares should remain in place.

As you know, 2006 provisions added to the Magnuson Act required the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to specify annual catch limits to end overfishing in all federally managed fisheries by 2011. NOAA's final rule established catch shares, requiring regulators to set total catch limits for each population or species of fish by allotting a portion of the allowable catch to fishermen. As you well know, these new regulations have put a severe strain on New England and South Atlantic fisheries in particular, and many Members and Senators representing these regions may be looking to add flexibility to the law.

Other items discussed include: basing annual catch limits on better science; requiring participant approval of new catch share programs; allowing rebuilding flexibility for certain fisheries; using NOAA enforcement funds to acquire better fisheries information; expediting decisions on commercial fisheries disaster assistance; replacing NOAA's observer program with electronic monitoring; and requiring better transparency for the activities and decisions of the regional fishery management councils.

Fiscal Year 2013 Fisheries Funding:

The latest Continuing Resolution (H.R. 933) was signed into law on March 26, 2013 and contained a full appropriations bill for Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) for the remainder of FY2013. This is important (and good) because it gives the Department of Commerce some latitude in implementing automatic cuts required by law, colloquially known as the sequester. Within NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) appropriations, H.R. 933 provided \$437 million overall for Fisheries and Research Management programs, which is \$17.36 million above 2012 funding levels. The specific funding lines for FY2013 Fisheries Research and Management appropriations are listed below in thousands of dollars.

Fisheries Research and Management Programs Base	177,260
National Catch Share Program	25,200
Expand Annual Stock Assessments& Improve Data Collection	68,645
Economics and Social Sciences Research	7,300
Salmon Management Activities	39,000
Regional Councils and Fisheries Commissions	31,555
Fisheries Statistics	23,200

Fish Information Networks	22,100
Survey and Monitoring Projects	24,336
Fisheries Oceanography	2,200
American Fisheries Act	3,800
Interjurisdictional Fisheries Grants	2,000
National Standard 8	1,017
Reducing Bycatch	3,440
Product Quality and Safety	6,589
Total, Fisheries Research and Management	437,642

Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriations:

On April 10, 2013 the President submitted his FY 2014 Budget Request to Congress. The budget for NOAA contained \$31,124,000 for Regional Fishery Management Councils and the Atlantic States Marine Fishery Commission, a decrease of \$731,000. Also notable was the inclusion of \$2.5 million for Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act (IJFA) Grants, which the President and House had previously targeted for elimination. The IJFA authorization expired on September 30, 2012 as was authorized for \$5 million per year. The President further recommended reauthorizing the program at \$3.09 million per year. Additionally, the Species Recovery Grant Program received a significant increase of \$15 million to \$17.8 million per year. These grants are used by states for the conservation and recovery of marine and anadromous species under NMFS’s jurisdiction and listed under the Endangered Species Act. Fisheries Statistics and Fisheries Information Network funding for FY 2014 both received a slight bump as well, with increases of \$206,000 and \$20,000, respectively.

In Congress, the House passed its FY 2014 budget on March 21, 2013 and the Senate passed its FY 2014 budget on March 23, 2013. The two budgets differ greatly, but serve mainly as a roadmap and do not go into detail on individual programs of funding lines. However, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees are beginning work on appropriations bills and we should see the first drafts within the next month. On April 11, 2013 Acting Secretary of Commerce, Rebecca Blank testified before the House and Senate Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittees about the President’s Budget Request. She fielded questions on a wide range of fisheries issues including electronic monitoring implementation, catch shares, and fisheries disasters.

2012 Fishery Disaster Declarations:

In late 2012, the Department of Commerce assigned disaster designations for fisheries in a number of New England states due to an anticipated reduction in catch limits as well as damage sustained during Superstorm Sandy. The affected states include Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey. The designation paves the way for federal assistance funds to repair or restore fishing equipment and infrastructure, compensate for losses, restore fisheries habitat, support workforce education, provide low-interest loans, and conduct monitoring and cooperative research focused on improving stock assessments.

While a disaster designation allows fishermen in the affected regions to qualify for the federal assistance, Congress must still appropriate the funds. Congress attempted to attach \$150 million in disaster assistance funding to the Superstorm Sandy Relief Bill, but were ultimately resulted in only \$5 million for fishermen in New York and New Jersey affected by Superstorm Sandy. Efforts to secure additional federal aid are ongoing and moving forward in both the House and Senate. A list of those efforts is included in the table below.

Key Bill	Highlights	Sponsor [Cosponsors]/Committee Status
Priority I		
H.R. 69/S. 269	<p>Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr69 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. 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) [14 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>
S. 520/H.R. 1012	<p>Safety And Fraud Enforcement for Seafood (SAFE) Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s520 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1012</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) [1 cosponsor] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/11/2013 Introduced 3/11/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
H.R. 739	<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) [none] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/14/2013 Introduced 3/11/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>

H.R. 644	<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) [12 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. 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"> • Strengthens NOAA's ability to address threats to coral reefs and empowers the agency with tools to ensure that damage to coral reef ecosystems is prevented or mitigated. • Establishes consistent practices for maintaining data, products, and information, and promote the widespread availability and dissemination of that environmental information. • Allows for any amount received by the United States as a result of illegal activity resulting in the destruction, take, loss, or injury of coral reefs to be used toward restoration efforts. 	<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. 1504/ S.713	<p>Rhode Island Fishermen's Fairness Act (Rep Lengevin) http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1504 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>Rep Lengevin (D-RI) [1 cosponsor] House Committee on Natural Resources. 4/11/2013 Introduced 4/11/2013 Referred to House Committee</p>

H.R. 596	<p>Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr596</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlines permitting for renewable energy projects on public lands and waters. 	<p>Gosar (R-AZ) [27 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</p>
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Priority II

S. 646	<p>National Endowment for the Oceans Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s646</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would establish 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 	<p>Whitehouse (R-RI) [4 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/21/2013 Introduced 3/21/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
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"> Ends USDA catfish inspection program Currently the FDA and NFMS both have catfish inspection programs in place. 	<p>Hartzler (R-MO) [29 cosponsors] House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock, Rural Development, and Credit 3/21/2013 Introduced 4/2/2013 Referred to Senate Subcommittee</p>
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"> Direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a coastal climate change adaptation planning and response program to: (1) provide assistance to coastal states to voluntarily develop coastal climate change adaptation plans to minimize contributions to climate change and to prepare for and reduce the negative consequences that may result from climate change in the coastal zone, and (2) provide financial and technical assistance and training to enable coastal states to implement such plans through coastal states' enforceable policies. 	<p>Capps (D-CA) [13 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/15/2013 Introduced 3/1/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes the Secretary to make grants to coastal states to develop such plans and to support projects that implement strategies contained in such plans. • Requires the Secretary to promote and encourage the use of National Estuarine Research Reserves as sites for pilot or demonstration projects carried out with such grants. 	
H.Con.Res. 13	<p>Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service should incorporate consideration of global warming and sea-level rise into the comprehensive conservation plans for coastal national wildlife refuges, and for other purposes.</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hconres13</p>	<p>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</p>
S. 421/H.R. 826	<p>Freedom to Fish Act</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s421 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr826</p> <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. 	<p>Alexander (R-TN) [3 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works 2/28/2013 Introduced 2/28/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>
S. 327	<p>Good Neighbor Forestry Act</p> <p>http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s327</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizes the Secretaries 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. • Permits state foresters to enter into subcontracts to provide such restoration and protection services. 	<p>Barasso (R-WY) [6 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources 2/14/2013 Introduced 2/14/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</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. 	<p>Slaughter (D-NY) [28 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. 1137	<p>Joint Ventures for Bird Habitat Conservation Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1137</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Codifies Fish and Wildlife Service's current role in Joint Ventures operating across the U.S. In doing so, it would require the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, to conduct a migratory bird Joint Ventures Program in order to develop an administrative framework for the approval, establishment, and implementation of Joint Ventures. 	<p>Kind (D-WI) [1 cosponsor] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 3/13/2013 Introduced 3/21/2013 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 Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation 3/6/2013 Introduced 3/12/2013 Referred to House Subcommittee</p>
S. 542	<p>Maritime Lien Reform Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113s542</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibits maritime liens from being imposed on commercial fishing permits and allows fishermen to continue to engage in commercial fishing. • The legislation would benefit not only Alaskan residents but over 13,000 individuals who hold Alaska Commercial Entry Permits. While approximately 75% of the permits are held by Alaskan residents, permit holders live in all 50 states. 	<p>Murkowski (R-AK) [2 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 3/13/2013 Introduced 3/13/2013 Referred to Senate Committee</p>

H.R. 262	<p>Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr262</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the availability of the Save Vanishing Species stamp for four years. • The U.S. 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, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes and marine sea turtles. 	<p>Grimm (R-NY) [44 cosponsors] 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. 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 with restrictions. 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>
H.R. 638	<p>National Wildlife Refuge Review Act of 2013 http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr638</p> <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. 	<p>Fleming (R-LA) [12 cosponsors] House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs 2/13/2013 Introduced 2/21/2013 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) [9 cosponsors] Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation 2/11/2013 Introduced 2/11/2013 Referred to Senate 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. http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.uscongress/legislation.113hr1300</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorizes the National Wildlife Refuge System Volunteer, Community Partnership, and Education Programs for 2014 through 2018. 	<p>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</p>

H.R. 1219	<p>Gulf Fisheries Fairness Act 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) [11 cosponsors] House Committee on Natural Resources 3/15/2013 Introduced 3/15/2013 Referred to House Committee</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 title I of the Sikes Act for FY2015 through 2019 The Sikes Act requires the Department of Defense (DoD) 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>
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 amend title 10, United States Code, to facilitate interagency cooperation in conservation programs to avoid or 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>
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. 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. 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>
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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) [8 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) [4 cosponsors] 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> <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. 	<p>Warren (D-MA) No Committee 3/23/2013 Introduced 3/23/2013 Adopted, unanimous consent</p>