

Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | April 8 - April 12, 2024

Highlights:

Reps. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) and Julia Brownley (D-Calif.), and Sen. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) reintroduced the *Climate Change Education Act* ([H.R.7946/S.4117](#)). The bill [would establish](#) a grant and technical assistance program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to ensure that graduating college students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to tackle a changing climate.

The *Evapotranspiration Data Act* ([S.1118/H.R.2429](#)) is scheduled for a Senate vote after passing out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The bill, reintroduced by Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.), and Rep. Susie Lee (D-Nev.) and bipartisan House cosponsors, would codify the measuring, monitoring, and reporting of evapotranspiration levels in the Colorado River Basin. Hundreds of thousands of acre feet of the river's flows are [lost](#) to evapotranspiration each year, exacerbating already low water levels.

The *Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act* ([H.R.6492](#)) passed the House, following its passage in the Natural Resource Committee the previous week. The bill, introduced by Committee Chair Rep. Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) and Ranking Member Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.), aims to improve access to recreation on federal public lands and waters.

The *Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023* ([H.R.4389](#)) also passed the House. Introduced by Reps. María Elvira Salazar (R-Fla.), Rick Larsen (D-Wash.), Dave Joyce (R-Ohio), and Mary Peltola (D-Alaska), the bill [reauthorizes](#) and increases [congressionally mandated](#) grant funding for habitat conservation, research and monitoring, and education.

April 12, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7973](#)

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to support the restoration of coral reefs in South Florida.

Sponsor: [Gimenez, Carlos A. \[Rep.-R-FL-28\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/12/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Senate:

The Senate did not meet today.

April 11, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7938](#)

To amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Bentz, Cliff \[Rep.-R-OR-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7940](#)

To amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to protect taxpayers from liability associated with the reclamation of surface coal mining operations, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cartwright, Matt \[Rep.-D-PA-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (11)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7941](#)

To amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to establish additional considerations with regard to the adequacy of permit performance bonds, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cartwright, Matt \[Rep.-D-PA-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7944](#)

To exempt certain entities from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 with respect to releases of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Curtis, John R. \[Rep.-R-UT-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7946](#)

To require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Climate Change Education Program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Dingell, Debbie \[Rep.-D-MI-6\]](#) Cosponsors: (9)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Education and the Workforce

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7968](#)

To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for the establishment of a Critical Supply Chain Site Development grant program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Sorensen, Eric \[Rep.-D-IL-17\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure; Financial Services

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.J.Res.128](#)

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review".

Sponsor: [Arrington, Jodey C. \[Rep.-R-TX-19\]](#) Cosponsors: (15)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.Res.1134](#)

Expressing support for the designation of April 11, 2024, as "Remanufacturing Day".

Sponsor: [Stevens, Haley M. \[Rep.-D-MI-11\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Oversight and Accountability

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

Passed House:

[H.R.524](#)

To amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to create an exemption for certain shoreline borrow sites.

Sponsor: [Rouzer, David \[Rep.-R-NC-7\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-421](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

[H.R.2560](#)

Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance and Rehabilitation Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Keating, William R. \[Rep.-D-MA-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (13)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-433](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

[H.R.6011](#)

ROWATA Act

Sponsor: [Valadao, David G. \[Rep.-R-CA-22\]](#) Cosponsors: (6)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-420](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

[S.382](#)

Puyallup Tribe of Indians Land Into Trust Confirmation Act of 2023

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

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Committee Report: [S. Rept. 118-130](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/11/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Committee Meetings:

ENERGIZING THE TERRITORIES: PROMOTING AFFORDABLE AND RELIABLE ENERGY SOURCES FOR THE U.S. INSULAR AREAS

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs held a **hearing** entitled "Energizing the Territories: Promoting Affordable and Reliable Energy Sources for the U.S. Insular Areas". Testimony was heard from John Brewer, Jr., Director, Office of Insular and International Affairs, Department of the Interior; Kyle D Fleming, Director, Virgin Islands Energy Office, and Chairman, Governing Board, Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority, U.S. Virgin Islands; and public witnesses.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.4117](#)

A bill to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a Climate Change Education Program, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (20)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 04/11/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

[S.J.Res.71](#)

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 "Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review".

Sponsor: [Marshall, Roger \[Sen.-R-KS\]](#) Cosponsors: (11)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 04/11/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

April 10, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7920](#)

To amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program under which the Secretary will award competitive grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing and enhancing farming and ranching opportunities for veterans.

Sponsor: [Van Orden, Derrick \[Rep.-R-WI-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Agriculture; Veterans' Affairs

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7922](#)

To establish a Water Risk and Resilience Organization to develop risk and resilience requirements for the water sector.

Sponsor: [Crawford, Eric A. "Rick" \[Rep.-R-AR-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure; Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

[H.R.7923](#)

To limit USDA funding for ground-mounted solar energy systems, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Bost, Mike \[Rep.-R-IL-12\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.7925](#)

To provide for the standardization, publication, and accessibility of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [D'Esposito, Anthony \[Rep.-R-NY-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (10)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7926](#)

To amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to requirements for air carriers to disclose certain exposures to toxic fumes, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Espaillat, Adriano \[Rep.-D-NY-13\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

[H.R.7936](#)

To prepare the National Park Service for America's Semiquincentennial by reevaluating and recommitting to efforts to protect and sustain the resiliency of our Nation's cultural resources for the enjoyment, wellbeing, and education of all present and future generations.

Sponsor: [Tonko, Paul \[Rep.-D-NY-20\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Bills Reported:

[H.R.7626](#)

Affordable Air Conditioning Act

Sponsor: [Crenshaw, Dan \[Rep.-R-TX-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-451](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 374.

[H.R.7637](#)

Refrigerator Freedom Act

Sponsor: [Miller-Meeks, Mariannette \[Rep.-R-IA-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 375.

[H.R.7645](#)

Clothes Dryer Reliability Act

Sponsor: [Ezell, Mike \[Rep.-R-MS-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-453](#)

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 376.

[H.R.7673](#)

Liberty in Laundry Act

Sponsor: [Ogles, Andrew \[Rep.-R-TN-5\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 377.

[H.R.7700](#)

Stop Unaffordable Dishwasher Standards Act

Sponsor: [Langworthy, Nicholas A. \[Rep.-R-NY-23\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/10/2024 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 378.

Committee Meetings:

AMERICAN NUCLEAR ENERGY EXPANSION: SPENT FUEL POLICY AND INNOVATION

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security held a [hearing](#) entitled "American Nuclear Energy Expansion: Spent Fuel Policy and Innovation". Testimony was heard from John C. Wagner, Laboratory Director, Idaho National Laboratory, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

BEYOND SCOPE: HOW THE SEC'S CLIMATE RULE THREATENS AMERICAN MARKETS

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a [hearing](#) entitled "Beyond Scope: How the SEC's Climate Rule Threatens American Markets". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM AT RISK: IMPACTS OF THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE'S PROPOSED BIOLOGICAL INTEGRITY, DIVERSITY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RULE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries held a [hearing](#) entitled "The National Wildlife Refuge System at Risk: Impacts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Proposed BIDEH Rule". Testimony was heard from Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

Senate:

Passed Senate

[S.J.Res.61](#)

A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Highway Administration relating to "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure".

Sponsor: [Cramer, Kevin \[Sen.-R-ND\]](#) Cosponsors: (49)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Passed Senate without amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 53 - 47. [Record Vote Number: 121](#).

Committee Meetings:

APPROPRIATIONS: FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, concluded a [hearing](#) to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the U.S. Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Randy Moore, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the state of air quality monitoring technology, after receiving testimony from Omar M. Hammad, Analyst in Environmental Policy, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Anne Austin, former Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, Environmental Protection Agency; and Bill Obermann,

Denver Department of Public Health and Environment Air Program Supervisor, Denver, Colorado.

April 9, 2024

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.7897](#)

To require the Secretary of the Interior to finalize a proposed rule to remove the Apache trout from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife.

Sponsor: [Crane, Elijah \[Rep.-R-AZ-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 04/09/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.7900](#)

To establish a regulatory review process for rules that the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency plans to propose, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Finstad, Brad \[Rep.-R-MN-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (12)

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

Latest Action: House - 04/09/2024 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

[H.R.7904](#)

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend tax credits for clean vehicles to possessions of the United States.

Sponsor: [González-Colón, Jenniffer \[Resc-R-PR-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 04/09/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[H.R.7916](#)

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide grants for nitrate and arsenic reduction projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Torres, Norma J. \[Rep.-D-CA-35\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 04/09/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[H.J.Res.127](#)

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to "The Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors".

Sponsor: [Huizenga, Bill \[Rep.-R-MI-4\]](#) Cosponsors: ([22](#))

Committees: House - Financial Services

Latest Action: House - 04/09/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

Passed House:

[H.R.1246](#)

To authorize leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for federally recognized Indian Tribes.

Sponsor: [Hageman, Harriet M. \[Rep.-R-WY-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: ([7](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources | Senate - Indian Affairs

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-422](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

[H.R.1829](#)

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona.

Sponsor: [Crane, Elijah \[Rep.-R-AZ-2\]](#) Cosponsors: ([2](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-430](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 360.

[H.R.4389](#)

Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Enhancements Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Salazar, Maria Elvira \[Rep.-R-FL-27\]](#) Cosponsors: ([19](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources | Senate - Environment and Public Works

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-439](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[H.R.6233](#)

Community Reclamation Partnerships Act

Sponsor: [LaHood, Darin \[Rep.-R-IL-16\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources | Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-438](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[H.R.6492](#)

EXPLORE Act

Sponsor: [Westerman, Bruce \[Rep.-R-AR-4\]](#) Cosponsors: (51)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture; Veterans' Affairs

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-441](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 04/10/2024 Received in the Senate.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.4080](#)

A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct a study and submit a report on national resource adequacy, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Braun, Mike \[Sen.-R-IN\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 04/09/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.4081](#)

A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to provide premium support for certain plans of insurance, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Hoeven, John \[Sen.-R-ND\]](#) Cosponsors: (6)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: 04/09/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR [S2669-2671](#))

Bills Reported:

[S.1118](#)

Evapotranspiration Data Act

Sponsor: [Cortez Masto, Catherine \[Sen.-D-NV\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 04/09/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 355.

[S.1662](#)

Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act

Sponsor: [Barrasso, John \[Sen.-R-WY\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 04/09/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 356.

[S.1955](#)

A bill to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to authorize expenditures for the conduct of certain water conservation measures in the Great Salt Lake basin, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Lee, Mike \[Sen.-R-UT\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 04/09/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 357.

[S.2247](#)

Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023

Sponsor: [Hickenlooper, John W. \[Sen.-D-CO\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 04/09/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 358.

Other Committee Actions:

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

- *Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies:* Senators Heinrich (Chair), Tester, Merkley,

Baldwin, Manchin, Peters, Sinema, Hoeven, McConnell, Collins, Moran, Hyde-Smith, and Fischer.

- *Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development*: Senators Murray (Chair), Tester, Durbin, Shaheen, Merkley, Coons, Baldwin, Heinrich, Sinema, Kennedy, McConnell, Murkowski, Graham, Hoeven, Hyde-Smith, Hagerty, and Britt.
- *Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies*: Senators Merkley (Chair), Reed, Tester, Van Hollen, Heinrich, Peters, Sinema, Murkowski, McConnell, Capito, Hoeven, Fischer, and Britt.

April 8, 2024

House:

The House of Representatives did not meet today.

Senate:

No environmental or energy related activity in the Senate today.