

## Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | May 6 - May 10, 2024

### Highlights:

The Senate passed the *Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) of 2023* ([S.2195/H.R.5444](#)). The bill, led by Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Tom Carper (D-Del.) and Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), [reauthorizes](#) \$100 million annually for the DERA program, which finances the replacement and retrofitting of older diesel engines with lower-emission technologies.

The Senate passed the *America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024* ([S.3791](#)). Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chair Tom Carper (D-Del.) and Ranking Member Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.) co-authored the bill, which [reauthorizes](#) wildlife conservation efforts across the country and increases protections from new and emerging threats, such as from invasive species and disease. Check out EESI's [podcast](#) on how Congress can leverage scientific research to bolster legislative conservation solutions.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations advanced the *United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2023* ([S.618/H.R.6727](#)) to the Senate floor for debate. If enacted, the bill would [support](#) both [federal and private financing](#) for biodiversity conservation around the world, with a focus on supporting local communities' capacity to manage biodiversity. Senate Foreign Relations Committee member Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.) and Committee Chair Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) introduced the bill in the Senate, and House Foreign Affairs Committee Chair Michael McCaul (R-Texas) introduced the bill in the House.

Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Rep. Robert Garcia (D-Calif.) reintroduced the *Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act* ([S.4277/H.R.8253](#)). The bill would authorize [\\$500 billion](#) from the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and *Inflation Reduction Act* over 10 years to electrify existing public transportation and expand electric transportation infrastructure across the country.

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**May 10, 2024**

**House:**

## **Bills Introduced:**

### **[H.R.8344](#)**

**To require the Secretary of Agriculture to submit to Congress a report on available assistance to agricultural producers in the State of Texas that have suffered economic losses due to the failure of Mexico to deliver water.**

Sponsor: [De La Cruz, Monica \[Rep.-R-TX-15\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

### **[H.R.8350](#)**

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

Sponsor: [Finstad, Brad \[Rep.-R-MN-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (3)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

### **[H.R.8351](#)**

**To increase duties imposed with respect to autos imported into the United States that originate in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Golden, Jared F. \[Rep.-D-ME-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

### **[H.R.8352](#)**

**To require the imposition of additional duties with respect to imports of green energy goods that originate in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Golden, Jared F. \[Rep.-D-ME-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

### **[H.R.8359](#)**

**To amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to require the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation to carry out research and development regarding a policy to insure table, wine and juice grapes against losses due to a freeze event, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Langworthy, Nicholas A. \[Rep.-R-NY-23\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

### [H.R.8363](#)

**To exchange non-Federal land held by the Chugach Alaska Corporation for certain Federal Land in the Chugach Region, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Peltola, Mary Sattler \[Rep.-D-AK-At Large\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/10/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### **Senate:**

No environmental or energy related activity in the Senate today.

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### **May 9, 2024**

### **House:**

The House of Representatives did not meet today.

### **Senate:**

### **Bills Introduced:**

### [S.4307](#)

**A bill to amend the Clean Air Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to modify requirements for citizen suits under those Acts, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Rubio, Marco \[Sen.-R-FL\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 05/09/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

### [S.4310](#)

**A bill to exchange non-Federal land held by the Chugach Alaska Corporation for certain Federal Land in the Chugach Region, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Murkowski, Lisa \[Sen.-R-AK\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/09/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**[S.4319](#)**

**A bill to provide for progress reports on the national transition plan related to a fluorine-free firefighting foam.**

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 05/09/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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**May 8, 2024**

**House:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**[H.R.8305](#)**

**To establish a payment program for unexpected loss of markets and revenues to timber harvesting and timber hauling businesses due to major disasters, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Golden, Jared F. \[Rep.-D-ME-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (2)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

**[H.R.8308](#)**

**To reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003.**

Sponsor: [Harder, Josh \[Rep.-D-CA-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

**[H.R.8313](#)**

**To prioritize Federal permitting for certain national defense activities related to the authorities under the Defense Production Act of 1950 and projects related to such activities, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Luetkemeyer, Blaine \[Rep.-R-MO-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Financial Services

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2024 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

### **Passed House:**

#### **[H.R.2925](#)**

##### **Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Amodei, Mark E. \[Rep.-R-NV-2\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-416](#)

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

#### **[S.870](#)**

**To authorize appropriations for the United States Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs, to advance the benefits of nuclear energy, and for other purposes**

Sponsor: [Peters, Gary C. \[Sen.-D-MI\]](#) Cosponsors: (12)

Latest Action: House - 05/08/2024 The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.

### **Committee Meetings:**

#### **AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING (Morning Session)**

*Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies* held a [hearing](#) entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING (Afternoon Session)**

*Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies* held a [hearing](#) entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## **EXAMINING THE PRESIDENT'S FY 2025 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE, AND OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS**

*Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs* held a [hearing](#) entitled "Examining the President's FY 2025 Budget Request for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Indian Health Service, and Office of Insular Affairs". Testimony was heard from Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary--Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior; Carmen Cantor, Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; and Roselyn Tso, Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

### **Senate:**

#### **Bills Introduced:**

##### **[S.4281](#)**

**A bill to establish a student loan forgiveness plan for certain borrowers who are employed at a qualified farm or ranch.**

Sponsor: [Murphy, Christopher \[Sen.-D-CT\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

##### **[S.4282](#)**

**A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from implementing any rule or regulation requiring the mandatory use of electronic identification ear tags on cattle and bison.**

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

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

##### **[S.4288](#)**

**A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to provide for more efficient hearings on nuclear facility construction applications, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Scott, Tim \[Sen.-R-SC\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Passed Senate:**

**[S.2195](#)**

**Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2023**

Sponsor: [Carper, Thomas R. \[Sen.-D-DE\]](#) Cosponsors: (5)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Committee Report: [S. Rept. 118-100](#)

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2024 Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.

**[S.3791](#)**

**America's Conservation Enhancement Reauthorization Act of 2024**

Sponsor: [Carper, Thomas R. \[Sen.-D-DE\]](#) Cosponsors: (15)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 05/08/2024 Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.

**Committee Meetings:**

**APPROPRIATIONS: INTERIOR**

*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 Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Deb Haaland, Secretary of the Interior.

**EPA BUDGET**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee* concluded a [hearing](#) to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Michael S. Regan, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

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**May 7, 2024**

**House:**

**Bills Introduced:**

### [H.R.8262](#)

**To provide for greater cooperation and coordination between the Federal Government and the governing bodies and community users of land grant-mercedes in New Mexico relating to historical or traditional uses of certain land grant-mercedes on Federal public land, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Leger Fernandez, Teresa \[Rep.-D-NM-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### [H.R.8263](#)

**To amend the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 to encourage non-Federal hydropower development with respect to Bureau of Reclamation projects.**

Sponsor: [Boebert, Lauren \[Rep.-R-CO-3\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### [H.R.8270](#)

**To amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to modernize the conservation reserve program, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Finstad, Brad \[Rep.-R-MN-1\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

### [H.R.8277](#)

**To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the effects of solar panel installations on covered farmland, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Miller, Mary E. \[Rep.-R-IL-15\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

## **Passed House:**

### [H.R.6192](#)

**Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act**

Sponsor: [Lesko, Debbie \[Rep.-R-AZ-8\]](#) Cosponsors: (10)

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-432](#)



Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

### [H.Res.1194](#)

**Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6192) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7109) to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all persons; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) 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 "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121"; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2925) to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to provide for security of tenure for use of mining claims for ancillary activities, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Houchin, Erin \[Rep.-R-IN-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Rules

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-487](#)

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

### **Committee Meetings:**

#### **AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING (Morning Session)**

*Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies* held a [hearing](#) entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### **AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PUBLIC WITNESS HEARING (Afternoon Session)**

*Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies* held a [hearing](#) entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM RULE: FAILURES TO PROTECT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND AMERICAN MANUFACTURING**

*Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials* held a [hearing](#) entitled "EPA's RMP Rule: Failures to Protect the American People and American Manufacturing". Testimony was heard from Gentner Drummond, Attorney General, Oklahoma; and public witnesses.

## **ENSURING SAFETY AND RELIABILITY: EXAMINING THE REAUTHORIZATION NEEDS OF THE PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials* held a [hearing](#) entitled "Ensuring Safety and Reliability: Examining the Reauthorization Needs of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration". Testimony was heard from Tristan Brown, Deputy Administrator, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

### **Other Committee Actions:**

## **MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**

*Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee* held a [markup](#) on....[H.R. 897](#), the "Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act". [H.R. 897](#) was ordered reported, as amended.

### **Senate:**

### **Bills Introduced:**

#### [S.4267](#)

**A bill to prohibit Big Cypress National Preserve from being designated as wilderness or as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Scott, Rick \[Sen.-R-FL\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/07/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### [S.4271](#)

**A bill to provide for greater cooperation and coordination between the Federal Government and the governing bodies and community users of land grant-mercedes in New Mexico relating to historical or traditional uses of certain land grant-mercedes on Federal public land, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Lujan, Ben Ray \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 05/07/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### **[S.4277](#)**

**Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act**

Sponsor: [Warren, Elizabeth \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) Cosponsors: (4)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 05/07/2024 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### **Bills Reported:**

### **[S.618](#)**

**United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2023**

Sponsor: [Coons, Christopher A. \[Sen.-D-DE\]](#) Cosponsors: (8)

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations

Latest Action: Senate - 05/07/2024 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 368.

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**May 6, 2024**

**House:**

### **Bills Introduced:**

### **[H.R.8250](#)**

**To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to implement the recommendations described in a GAO report relating to replacing legacy air quality data systems, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Connolly, Gerald E. \[Rep.-D-VA-11\]](#) Cosponsors: (0) Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 05/06/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

### [H.R.8253](#)

**Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act**

Sponsor: [Garcia, Robert \[Rep.-D-CA-42\]](#) Cosponsors: (27)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 05/06/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

### [H.R.8259](#)

**To amend the California Desert Protection Act of 1994 to expand the boundary of Joshua Tree National Park.**

Sponsor: [Ruiz, Raul \[Rep.-D-CA-25\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/06/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### [H.Res.1202](#)

**Expressing support for the recognition of May 5 through May 11, 2024, as Wildfire Preparedness Week, the national event educating the public on fire safety and preparedness, and supporting the goals of a Wildfire Preparedness Week.**

Sponsor: [Torres, Norma J. \[Rep.-D-CA-35\]](#) Cosponsors: (9)

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 05/06/2024 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

### **Bills Reported:**

### [H.Res.1194](#)

**Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6192) to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing any new or amended energy conservation standard for a product that is not technologically feasible and economically justified, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7109) to require a citizenship question on the decennial census, to require reporting on certain census statistics, and to modify apportionment of Representatives to be based on United States citizens instead of all persons; providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) 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 "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121"; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2925) to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to provide for security of tenure for use of mining claims for ancillary activities, and for other purposes.**

Sponsor: [Houchin, Erin \[Rep.-R-IN-9\]](#) Cosponsors: (0)

Committees: House - Rules

Committee Report: [H. Rept. 118-487](#)

Latest Action: House - 05/07/2024 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

### **Committee Meetings:**

#### **HANDS OFF OUR HOME APPLIANCES ACT [and] MINING REGULATORY CLARITY ACT OF 2024**

*Committee on Rules: Full Committee* held a [hearing](#) on [H.R. 6192](#), the "Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act" and [H.R. 2925](#), the "Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2024" [Rule Markup Only]. Testimony was heard from Representatives Duncan, Pallone, Biggs, Raskin, Flood, and Waters.

### **Senate:**

The Senate did not meet today.