Environment & Energy Congressional Round-Up | October 23 - 27, 2023

Highlights:

Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.) and Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) reintroduced the Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act (H.R.6053/S.3127). The most comprehensive of its kind ever introduced, the bill would reduce plastic production, amp up and standardize recycling efforts, and protect frontline communities from emissions from plastics production. EESI’s recent article, Reducing Plastic from Production to Pollution: A California Nonprofit’s Vision for a Plastic Free Future for All, spotlights Plastic Free Future’s efforts to curb the disproportionate impacts of plastic pollution.

The Fixing Gaps in Hurricane Preparedness Act (H.R.6080), introduced by Reps. Maxwell Frost (D-Fla.) and Daniel Webster (R-Fla.), will improve the public’s understanding and response to hurricane forecasts. Meanwhile, the bipartisan Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization Act of 2023 (H.R.6093), introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas (R-Okla.), will strengthen the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s capacity to forecast extreme weather.

The House passed the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2024 (H.R.4394) with a 210-199 vote. Introduced by Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-Tenn.), H.R.4394 is the fifth of twelve appropriations bills that must be passed to avoid a government shutdown in November.

Reps. Jennifer McClellan (D-Va.) and Jennifer Kiggans (R-Va.) introduced the Department of Defense PFAS Discharge Prevention Act (H.R.6095). The bipartisan bill aims to protect military personnel and families living in and around military facilities from harmful and historic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination by accelerating environmental remediation projects.

October 27, 2023

No climate or energy related activity in the House or Senate today.

October 26, 2023

House:
Bills Introduced:

**H.R.6076**
To establish the Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the Department of Energy to provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies in manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Cartwright, Matt [Rep.-D-PA-8] Cosponsors: (7)
Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology; Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

**H.R.6080**
Fixing Gaps in Hurricane Preparedness Act
Sponsor: Frost, Maxwell [Rep.-D-FL-10] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

**H.R.6081**
To amend the short title of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act to be the Dianne Feinstein Lake Tahoe Restoration Act.
Sponsor: Garamendi, John [Rep.-D-CA-8] Cosponsors: (43)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

**H.R.6082**
To amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to establish a pilot program to increase the allowable amounts of advance payments under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Garbarino, Andrew R. [Rep.-R-NY-2] Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Financial Services
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

**H.R.6085**
To prohibit the implementation of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Rock Springs RMP Revision, Wyoming, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Hageman, Harriet M. [Rep.-R-WY-At Large] Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.6089
To prohibit States or local governments from prohibiting the connection, reconnection, modification, installation, or expansion of an energy service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Langworthy, Nicholas A. [Rep.-R-NY-23] Cosponsors: (11)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.6093
Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization Act of 2023
Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

H.R.6095
Department of Defense PFAS Discharge Prevention Act
Committees: House - Armed Services; Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

H.R.6107
To amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern.
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.
Passed House:

**H.R.4394**
Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024
Sponsor: Fleischmann, Charles J. "Chuck" [Rep.-R-TN-3] Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: House - Appropriations
Committee Report: H. Rept. 118-126
Latest Action: House - 10/26/2023 The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, and to make other necessary technical and conforming corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 4394.

Other Committee Actions:

**MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES**
Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 1792, the "South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023"; H.R. 2560, the "Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023"; H.R. 3415, the "Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act"; H.R. 4587, the "Red Snapper Act"; H.R. 4770, the "Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023"; H.R. 5009, the "WILD Act"; H.R. 5283, the "Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023"; and H.R. 5616, the "BRIDGE Production Act of 2023". H.R. 3415 and H.R. 5009 were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 1792, H.R. 2560, H.R. 4770, H.R. 4587, H.R. 5283, and H.R. 5616 were ordered reported, as amended.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

**S.3146**
A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish a voluntary program to reduce food loss and waste, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Durbin, Richard J. [Sen.-D-IL] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**S.3147**
A bill to modify Department of Agriculture programs to improve flood protection and infrastructure resiliency, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Ricketts, Pete [Sen.-R-NE] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**S.3153**
A bill to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to establish a pilot program to increase the allowable amounts of advance payments under the National Flood Insurance Program, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Kennedy, John [Sen.-R-LA] Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

**S.3156**
A bill to establish the Financing Energy Efficient Manufacturing Program at the Department of Energy to provide financial assistance to promote energy efficiency and onsite renewable technologies in manufacturing facilities, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Merkley, Jeff [Sen.-D-OR] Cosponsors: (0)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.Con.Res.23**
A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a carbon tax would be detrimental to the economy of the United States.
Sponsor: Cassidy, Bill [Sen.-R-LA] Cosponsors: (14)
Committees: Senate - Finance
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S5219)

**S.Res.433**
A resolution commemorating the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge.
Sponsor: Welch, Peter [Sen.-D-VT] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (text: CR S5216-5217)
Passed Senate:

S.Res.436
A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of October 24, 2023, to October 31, 2023, as “Bat Week”.
Sponsor: Welch, Peter [Sen.-D-VT] Cosponsors: (1)
Latest Action: Senate - 10/26/2023 Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S5219; text: CR S5217-5218) (All Actions)

Committee Meetings:

FEDERAL OFFSHORE ENERGY
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Federal offshore energy strategy and policies, after receiving testimony from Elizabeth Klein, Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior; and Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce.

SINGLE–USE PLASTICS

October 25, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.6053
Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act
Sponsor: Huffman, Jared [Rep.-D-CA-2] Cosponsors: (45) Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure; Foreign Affairs; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 10/25/2023 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Foreign Affairs, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

**H.R.6064**
To amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for the denial of certain applications for solar or wind energy development projects right-of-way applications.
Sponsor: [Simpson, Michael K. (Rep.-R-ID-2)]
Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 10/25/2023 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

**Bills Reported:**

**H.R.3343**
Federal Broadband Deployment Tracking Act
Sponsor: [Pfluger, August (Rep.-R-TX-11)]
Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 10/25/2023 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 198.

**Committee Meetings:**

**LEGISLATIVE MEASURES**
*Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources*
held a [hearing on H.R. 1449](https://example.com), the CLEAN Act; [H.R. 2855](https://example.com), the Sinkhole Mapping Act of 2023; legislation on the Right of Way Application Transparency and Accountability Act; and legislation on the Restoring American Energy Dominance Act. Testimony was heard from Representatives Soto, Boebert, and Fulcher; Tom Kropatsch, Oil and Gas Supervisor, Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; and public witnesses.

*Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries* held a [hearing on H.R. 520](https://example.com), to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide that artificially propagated animals shall be treated the same under that Act as naturally propagated animals; [H.R. 2990](https://example.com), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Improvements Act of 2023; [H.R.]
5103, the FISHES Act; H.R. 5504, to require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to withdraw proposed rules relating to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and for other purposes; H.R. 5509, the Electronic Permitting Modernization Act; H.R. 5874, the TAAP Act; and legislation to prohibit the implementation of certain documents until the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service issues documents relating to the Rice's whale. Testimony was heard from Representatives McClintock, Bonamici, Newhouse, Porter, and Ciscomani; Gary Frazer, Assistant Director for Ecological Services, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

Other Committee Actions:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES


MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES
Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1792, the South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023; H.R. 2560, the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Act of 2023; H.R. 3415, the Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act; H.R. 4587, the Red Snapper Act; H.R. 4770, the Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2023; H.R. 5009, the WILD Act; H.R. 5283, the Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act of 2023; and H.R. 5616, the BRIDGE Production Act of 2023.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

**S.3123**
A bill to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Barrasso, John [Sen.-R-WY] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/25/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.3127**
Break Free from Plastic Pollution Act
Sponsor: Merkley, Jeff [Sen.-D-OR] Cosponsors: (11)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works
Latest Action: Senate - 10/25/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**S.3134**
A bill to amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, to clarify the authority of the Department of Defense to conduct certain military activities at the Nevada Test and Training Range, to designate the Southern Paiute Wilderness in the State of Nevada, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Cortez Masto, Catherine [Sen.-D-NV] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/25/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.Res.429**

A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) nuclear security role.

Sponsor: Lujan, Ben Ray [Sen.-D-NM] Cosponsors: (1)

Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations

Latest Action: Senate - 10/25/2023 Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

**Committee Meetings:**

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUPPLY CHAINS**

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded a [hearing](#) to examine how climate change threatens supply chains, after receiving testimony from Scott Kelly, Risilience, Cambridge, United Kingdom; Adam Rose, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Kathy Fulton, American Logistics Aid Network, Auburndale, Florida; David Barker, Barker Companies, Iowa City, Iowa; and Robert McNally, Rapidan Energy Group, Washington, D.C.

**PENDING LEGISLATION**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining* concluded a [hearing](#) to examine S. 175, to codify certain public land orders relating to the revocation of certain withdrawals of public land in the State of Alaska, S. 297, to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to authorize certain construction activities on public lands, S. 1348, to redesignate land within certain wilderness study areas in the State of Wyoming, S. 1719, to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to establish emergency fireshed management areas, S. 1764, to improve Federal activities relating to wildfires, S. 1889, to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, S. 2132, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a pilot program for the establishment and use of a pre-fire-suppression stand density index, S. 2151, to amend the Southwest Forest Health and Wildlife Prevention Act of 2004 to require the establishment of an additional Institute under that Act, S. 2581, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, S. 2615, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Village Corporations shall not be required to convey land in trust to the State of Alaska for the establishment of Municipal Corporations, S. 2855, to modernize and streamline the permitting process for broadband infrastructure on Federal land, S. 2867, to
address the forest health crisis on the National Forest System and public lands, S. 2991, to improve revegetation and carbon sequestration activities in the United States, S. 3033, to withdraw certain Federal land in the Pecos Watershed area of the State of New Mexico from mineral entry, S. 3036, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, S. 3044, to redesignate the Mount Evans Wilderness as the "Mount Blue Sky Wilderness", S. 3045, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, S. 3046, to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, S. 3044, to redesignate the Mount Evans Wilderness as the "Mount Blue Sky Wilderness", S. 3045, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, S. 3046, to make permanent the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity National Forest marina fees, H.R. 3324, to extend the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity Marina fees through fiscal year 2029, S. 3062, to provide for the removal of small-diameter trees in fire hazard areas, and S. 3079, to establish a policy regarding appraisal and valuation services for real property for a transaction over which the Secretary of the Interior has jurisdiction, after receiving testimony from Nada Wolff Culver, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Jacqueline Emanuel, Associate Deputy Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Mark Boshell, Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, Salt Lake City.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW AND THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT
Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act in native communities, after receiving testimony from Jarred-Michael Erickson, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Nespelem, Washington; Jacob Keyes, Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Perkins; Timothy Nuvangyaoma, Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi, Arizona; Sherry Parker, Hualapai Tribe, Peach Springs, Arizona; Shawn Malia Kana’iaupuni, Partners in Development Foundation, Honolulu, Hawaii; Jasmine Boyle, Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc., Anchorage; and Susan Masten, Native American Finance Officers Association, Washington, D.C.

October 24, 2023

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.6024
To amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 to extend the increased transfer authority for a certain study on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination in drinking water, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Dean, Madeleine [Rep.-D-PA-4] Cosponsors: (1)
Latest Action: 10/24/2023 Introduced in House

H.R.6032
To amend Public Law 88-657 to require greater transparency in the consideration of projects for the Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program, and for other purposes.
Latest Action: 10/24/2023 Introduced in House

H.Res.805
Expressing support for the designation of the week of October 24, 2023, to October 31, 2023, as "Bat Week".
Sponsor: Balint, Becca [Rep.-D-VT-At Large] Cosponsors: (0)
Latest Action: 10/24/2023 Introduced in House

H.Res.809
Recognizing Rett Reef off the coast of San Leon, Texas, in Galveston Bay, and all those associated with bringing the project to fruition.
Sponsor: Weber, Randy K., Sr. [Rep.-R-TX-14] Cosponsors: (0)
Latest Action: 10/24/2023 Introduced in House

Other Committee Actions:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES
Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security began a markup on legislation on the Advanced Reactor Fee Reduction Act; legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Reactor Prize Act; legislation on the Nuclear for Brownfields Site Preparation Act; legislation on the Strengthening American Nuclear Competitiveness Act; legislation on the NRC Mission Alignment Act; legislation on the Nuclear Licensing Efficiency Act; legislation on the Advanced Nuclear Deployment Act; legislation on the Modernize Nuclear Reactor Environmental Reviews Act; legislation on the Advancing Nuclear Regulatory Oversight Act; H.R. 995, the Global Nuclear Energy Assessment and Cooperation Act; H.R. 5718, the Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023; H.R. 4528, the Strengthening the NRC Workforce Act of 2023; H.R. 4167, the Protecting America’s Distribution Transformer Supply Chain Act; legislation on the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act; legislation on the GRID Act; legislation
on the Affordable HOMES Act; and H.R. 4045, the Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act.

**Senate:**

**Bills Introduced:**

**S.3111**
A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to reauthorize and improve that Act, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Padilla, Alex [Sen.-D-CA] Cosponsors: (12)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works
Latest Action: Senate - 10/24/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**S.3115**
A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to require the Secretary of Energy to conduct research on how quantum information science, technology, and engineering can enhance the resilience and security of the electric grid, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Cornyn, John [Sen.-R-TX] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 10/24/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**S.3116**
A bill to amend Public Law 88-657 to require greater transparency in the consideration of projects for the Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Lujan, Ben Ray [Sen.-D-NM] Cosponsors: (1)
Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Latest Action: Senate - 10/24/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

**S.3117**
A bill to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to authorize the sale of certain Federal land to States and units of local government to address housing shortages, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Lee, Mike [Sen.-R-UT] Cosponsors: (3)
Passed Senate:

S.Res.426
A resolution designating November 4, 2023, as "National Bison Day".
Sponsor: Hoeven, John [Sen.-R-ND] Cosponsors: (20)
Latest Action: Senate - 10/24/2023 Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

**October 23, 2023**

No climate or energy related activity in the House or Senate today.