

Congressional Round-Up

November 16-20, 2026

Every week, the Environmental and Energy Study Institute publishes a legislative tracker of environment- and energy-related bills introduced, advanced, and passed by Congress, as well as relevant committee hearings. This document was put together with information from congress.gov, press releases from congressional offices, and news stories. (Note that we may have inadvertently missed a bill or hearing.)

Highlights:

The Senate passed the *Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) of 2026* (S.5653). Sens. Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Mike Lee (R-Utah), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), and Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) introduced the bill to streamline permitting for major federal energy infrastructure projects. BAAJA aims to increase transmission lines and grid capacity, strengthen regional and interregional transmission planning, ensure that data centers pay their fair share of energy costs (rather than pass those costs to consumers), and create jobs across the energy supply chain. To learn more about the interregional transmission issues in this bill, check out EESI's briefing, *Bridging the Transmission Gap*.

The House passed the *Earth MRI Reauthorization Act of 2026* (H.R.9640), led by Reps. Robert Wittman (R-Va.) and Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.). The bill would reauthorize the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative—a U.S. Geological Survey program that helps generate baseline data on geologic hazards, critical minerals, and geothermal resources across the United States—through 2031.

The *Don Young Doug LaMalfa Indian Buffalo Management Act* (H.R.7954) also passed the House. Reps. Jeff Hurd (R-Colo.), Teresa Leger Fernandez (D-N.M.), Julie Fedorchak (R-N.D.), and Dan Newhouse (R-Wash.) introduced the bill, which would require the Secretary of the Interior to work with tribal governments—through grantmaking, consultation, and collaborative agreements—to restore and manage American bison populations.

November 20, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.11129
To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for composting.
Sponsor: Burchett, Tim [Rep.-R-TN-2] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Ways and Means
Latest Action: House - 11/20/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.11140
To amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 with respect to micro-grants for food security, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Tokuda, Jill N. [Rep.-D-HI-2] **Cosponsors:** (2)
Committees: House - Ways and Means; Agriculture
Latest Action: House - 11/20/2026 Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Bills Reported:

H.R.6213
Heat Workforce Standards Act of 2026
Sponsor: Messmer, Mark B. [Rep.-R-IN-8] **Cosponsors:** (75)
Committees: House - Education and Workforce
Latest Action: House - 11/20/2026 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 783.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.5816
A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 with respect to micro-grants for food security, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Schatz, Brian [Sen.-D-HI] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Finance
Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.5817
A bill to require the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out a study to better understand the environmental impacts of wildland fires, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Schiff, Adam B. [Sen.-D-CA] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Bills Reported:

S.2586
MARA Act of 2025
Sponsor: Wicker, Roger F. [Sen.-R-MS] **Cosponsors:** (3)
Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 725.

S.2883
Quantifying Uncertainty and Action to Help Optimize Growth of Shellfish Act of 2025
Sponsor: Whitehouse, Sheldon [Sen.-D-RI] **Cosponsors:** (2)
Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 726.

S.4802
Hurricane Hunter Aircraft Recapitalization Act
Sponsor: Cantwell, Maria [Sen.-D-WA] **Cosponsors:** (5)
Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 723.

S.5332
Cooperative Institute Act of 2026
Sponsor: Cantwell, Maria [Sen.-D-WA] **Cosponsors:** (3)
Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Latest Action: Senate - 11/20/2026 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Cruz with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.

November 19, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.11084

To provide for the establishment of a U.S.-Ethiopia Agricultural and Critical Minerals Trade Partnership.
Sponsor: Baird, James R. [Rep.-R-IN-4] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Ways and Means
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.11085
To provide for the establishment of a U.S.-Eritrea Agricultural and Critical Minerals Trade Partnership.
Sponsor: Baird, James R. [Rep.-R-IN-4] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Ways and Means
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.11086
Plug-In Solar Savings Act of 2026
Sponsor: Barragán, Nanette Diaz [Rep.-D-CA-44] **Cosponsors:** (4)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11089
To require the Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council to establish the Interagency Working Group on Coastal Blue Carbon, require the Interagency Working Group to produce a national map and inventory of coastal blue carbon ecosystems, require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out pilot programs to protect intact and restore degraded coastal blue carbon ecosystems, require the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution to establish the Coastal Carbon Data Clearinghouse, require the Administrator to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct an assessment regarding geologic stores of carbon dioxide, require the Administrator to establish the Coastal Blue Carbon Inventory Program, and require the Administrator to conduct a national assessment to quantify the carbon sequestration potential of coastal blue carbon ecosystems.
Sponsor: Bonamici, Suzanne [Rep.-D-OR-1] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Science, Space, and Technology; House Administration; Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, House Administration, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.11090

To provide for interagency coordination and data standards, technology to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, ocean innovation prize competitions, the modernization of certain programs of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the development of the ocean workforce, a feasibility assessment for the establishment of an Advanced Research Projects Agency-Oceans, and certain oversight related to such activities, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Bonamici, Suzanne [Rep.-D-OR-1] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Science, Space, and Technology; Transportation and Infrastructure; Education and Workforce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.11097
To authorize the purchase of the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project in northern California, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Gallagher, James [Rep.-R-CA-1] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.11100
To establish prohibitions on certain entities with respect to data centers, data center services, and cloud services, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Harrigan, Pat [Rep.-R-NC-10] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11101
To establish a climate resilience workforce, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Jayapal, Pramila [Rep.-D-WA-7] **Cosponsors:** (5)
Committees: House - Education and Workforce; Energy and Commerce; Oversight and Government Reform; Judiciary; Transportation and Infrastructure; Ways and Means; Agriculture; Natural Resources; Financial Services
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Oversight and Government Reform, the Judiciary, Transportation and Infrastructure, Ways and Means, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.11115

To amend the Clean Air Act to provide for the phase-out and termination of the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Roy, Chip [Rep.-R-TX-21] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11122
To direct the Secretary of Energy to develop and maintain a website containing information regarding data centers and LEED certifications, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Soto, Darren [Rep.-D-FL-9] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11125
To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with the State of California and other appropriate entities in conducting a hydrogeologic characterization, mapping, and modeling program for priority transboundary aquifers, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Vargas, Juan [Rep.-D-CA-52] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/19/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Committee Hearings:

STRENGTHENING RURAL AMERICA THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS
Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Commodity Markets, Digital Assets, and Rural Development held a hearing entitled "Strengthening Rural America Through USDA Rural Development Programs and Partnerships". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BEYOND THE STORM: ASSESSING FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY MISSION READINESS
Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Management and Technology held a hearing entitled "Beyond the Storm: Assessing FEMA's Mission Readiness". Testimony was heard from Cameron Hamilton, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.5811
A bill to reauthorize the Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program Act of 1994, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Heinrich, Martin [Sen.-D-NM] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works
Latest Action: Senate - 11/19/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

S.Res.961
A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Federal Emergency Management Agency is an essential Federal institution, that disaster response and long-term recovery are critical statutory obligations of the Federal Government, and that robust Federal coordination is required to support States facing catastrophic natural disasters, including devastating wildfires in the western United States.
Sponsor: Rosen, Jacky [Sen.-D-NV] **Cosponsors:** (11)
Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Latest Action: Senate - 11/19/2026 Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Passed Senate:

H.R.2347
Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act of 2026
Sponsor: Smucker, Lloyd [Rep.-R-PA-11] **Cosponsors:** (3)
Committees: House - Ways and Means
Latest Action: Senate - 11/24/2026 Message on Senate action sent to the House.

S.1135
A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Bonneville Shoreline Trail.
Sponsor: Curtis, John R. [Sen.-R-UT] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/19/2026 Passed Senate with an amendment and an amendment to the Title by Unanimous Consent.

S.1288
Finger Lakes National Heritage Area Act
Sponsor: Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [Sen.-D-NY] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/19/2026 Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.

S.4238

Endless Mountains National Heritage Area Act
Sponsor: McCormick, David [Sen.-R-PA] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/19/2026 Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.

November 18, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.11059
To amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to update the local coordinating entity for the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area.
Sponsor: Hoyer, Steny H. [Rep.-D-MD-5] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

H.R.11063
To direct the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to promulgate regulations prohibiting the issuance of certain certificates and licenses without a finding that a certain system or facility can safely operate with spent nuclear fuel for a period of at least 100 years, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Levin, Mike [Rep.-D-CA-49] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11064
To require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Data Center Community Assistance Program, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Liccardo, Sam T. [Rep.-D-CA-16] **Cosponsors:** (3)
Committees: House - Energy and Commerce
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.11072
To expand research relating to the use of forest products, to support research and technologies of the Forest Service, and to establish a mass timber science and education program to respond to the emerging research needs of architects, developers, and the forest products industry.

Sponsor: Schrier, Kim [Rep.-D-WA-8] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Agriculture; Science, Space, and Technology; Budget
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.11077
To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to improve safety standards for wildland firefighters.
Sponsor: Whitesides, George [Rep.-D-CA-27] **Cosponsors:** (2)
Committees: House - Agriculture; Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker

H.Res.1668
Expressing support for the designation of November 18, 2026, as "National GIS Day".
Sponsor: Aguilar, Pete [Rep.-D-CA-33] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

Passed House:

H.R.9640
Earth MRI Reauthorization Act of 2026
Sponsor: Wittman, Robert J. [Rep.-R-VA-1] **Cosponsors:** (8)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/18/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Other Committee Meetings:

FULL COMMITTEE MARKUP
Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2323, the "Big Bend National Park Boundary Adjustment Act"; H.R. 2785, the "New Mexico Land Grant-Mercedes Historical or Traditional Use Cooperation and Coordination Act"; H.R. 3286, the "Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment
Act of 2025"; H.R. 6869, to amend the Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act to modify a provision relating to the extension of certain dates for the completion of the Regional Water System, and for other purposes; H.R. 7031, the "Making National Parks Safer Act"; H.R. 7466, the "SAFE CATTLE Act"; H.R. 8546, the "Pechanga Band of Indians Water Rights Settlement Technical Amendments Act"; H.R. 8674, the "Geese House Site Conveyance Act"; H.R. 8954, the "Tribal Regulatory Reform Implementation Act of 2026"; H.R. 9590, the "SAFE for Manatees Act";S. 282, the "Katahdin Woods and

Waters National Monument Access Act"; and S. 1377, the "Theodore Roosevelt National Park Wild Horses Protection Act". H.R. 2785, H.R. 3286, H.R. 7031, H.R. 9590, and S. 282 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 2323, H.R. 6869, H.R. 7466, H.R. 8546, H.R. 8674, H.R. 8954, and S. 1377 were ordered reported, without amendment.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.5740
A bill to prohibit conservation payments that benefit foreign countries of concern.
Sponsor: Fischer, Deb [Sen.-R-NE] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
Latest Action: Senate - 11/18/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

S.5759
A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to update the local coordinating entity for the Southern Maryland National Heritage Area.
Sponsor: Van Hollen, Chris [Sen.-D-MD] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/18/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S.5761
A bill to require the priority and consideration of using native plants in Federal projects, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Heinrich, Martin [Sen.-D-NM] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works
Latest Action: Senate - 11/18/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

November 17, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.1048
To direct the Director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency to conduct a comprehensive assessment of commercially available artificial intelligence tools

capable of automated analysis of satellite and geospatial imagery, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Moolenaar, John R. [Rep.-R-MI-2] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Intelligence (Permanent Select)
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Referred to the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

H.R.11052
To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a Hawaiian Islands Program, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Tokuda, Jill N. [Rep.-D-HI-2] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

H.R.11053
To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide grants to upgrade or convert small-capacity cesspools for households in the State of Hawaii.
Sponsor: Tokuda, Jill N. [Rep.-D-HI-2] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Bills Reported:

H.R.8801
DC ROADS Act
Sponsor: Perry, Scott [Rep.-R-PA-10] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Oversight and Government Reform
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 779.

Passed House:

H.R.7954
Don Young Doug LaMalfa Indian Buffalo Management Act
Sponsor: Hurd, Jeff [Rep.-R-CO-3] **Cosponsors:** (15)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

H.R.8195
Responsible Cormorant Management and Control Act of 2026
Sponsor: Walberg, Tim [Rep.-R-MI-5] **Cosponsors:** (6)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

H.R.8483
Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2026
Sponsor: Issa, Darrell [Rep.-R-CA-48] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

H.R.9785
South Dakota Water Feasibility Studies Act
Sponsor: Johnson, Dusty [Rep.-R-SD-At Large] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

H.R.10136
Crossett Experimental Forest Act of 2026
Sponsor: Westerman, Bruce [Rep.-R-AR-4] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: House - 11/17/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

S.5733
A bill to establish a best-available transmission conductor standard for certain transmission projects under the Federal Power Act and to provide for presumptions regarding cost recovery for such conductors.
Sponsor: Cortez Masto, Catherine [Sen.-D-NV] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/17/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Passed Senate:

H.R.8454
To provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: McClintock, Tom [Rep.-R-CA-5] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources
Latest Action: Senate - 11/17/2026 Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.

S.Res.949
A resolution designating October 12, 2026, as "National Loggers Day".
Sponsor: Baldwin, Tammy [Sen.-D-WI] **Cosponsors:** (1)
Committees: Senate - Judiciary
Latest Action: Senate - 11/17/2026 Resolution agreed to in Senate without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

November 16, 2026

House:

The House did not meet today.

Senate:

Passed Senate:

H.R.2302
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians Land Transfer Act of 2025
Sponsor: McClintock, Tom [Rep.-R-CA-5] **Cosponsors:** (0)
Committees: House - Natural Resources | Senate - Indian Affairs
Latest Action: Senate - 11/16/2026 Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.