



News from the  
**Committee on Natural Resources**  
Rep. Nick J. Rahall, II - Chairman

1324 Longworth House Office Building - Washington DC, 20515 - <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov>

## **The Weekly Preview**

*May 11 – 15, 2009*

### **This Week's Hearings:**

*Can't make it to our hearings or markups in person? Stay connected with our live and archived video and audio webcasts, available at <http://resourcescommittee.house.gov>.*

- On Monday, the **Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources** will hold an oversight field hearing on "Solar Energy Development On Federal Lands: The Road To Consensus" in Palm Desert, California. The Subcommittee will explore the complexities that surround the siting and permitting of solar plants and transmission lines on federal lands, and examine the planning processes being undertaken by the State of California to achieve consensus among various stakeholders.

The following witnesses are scheduled to testify: The Honorable Jim Ferguson, Councilman, City of Palm Desert, California; Commissioner Julia Levin, California Energy Commission, Commissioner Rachelle Chong, California Public Utilities Commission; Mr. James Abbott, Acting State Director, California State Office, Bureau of Land Management; Mr. Thomas M. Kretschmar, Senior Projects Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Mr. Steven Malnight, Vice President of Renewable Energy, Pacific Gas and Electric Company; Mr. Carl Zichella, Western Renewable Projects Director, Sierra Club; Ms. Katherine Gensler, Manager of Regulatory & Legislative Affairs, Solar Energy Industries Association; and Mr. Michael Niggli, Chief Operating Officer, Sempra Energy Utilities.

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. *(May 11, 2009, at 9 a.m. PST, University of California, Riverside (UCR), Palm Desert Graduate Center, 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive Palm Desert, CA 92211)*

- On Wednesday, the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will receive testimony on the following bills:
  - [H.R. 1916](#) (Dingell): To amend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act to provide for a revised schedule of price increases for the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, popularly known as the "Duck Stamp", and for other purposes. *"Migratory Bird Habitat Investment and Enhancement Act"*
  - [H.R. 2062](#) (DeFazio): To amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to provide for penalties and enforcement for intentionally taking protected avian species, and for other purposes. *"Migratory Bird Treaty Act Penalty and Enforcement Act of 2009"*
  - [H.R. 2188](#) (Kratovil): To authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to conduct a Joint Venture Program to protect, restore, enhance, and manage migratory bird populations, their habitats, and the ecosystems they rely on, through voluntary actions on public and private lands, and for other purposes. *"Joint Ventures for Bird Habitat Conservation Act of 2009"*

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*May 13, 2009, at 2 p.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands** will receive testimony on the following bills:
  - [H.R. 129](#) (Gallegly): To authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California.
  - [H.R. 762](#) (Heller): To validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes.
  - [H.R. 865](#) (Boucher): To convey the New River State Park campground located in the Mount Rodgers National Recreation Area in the Jefferson National Forest in Carroll County, Virginia, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes.
  - [H.R. 1442](#) (Matheson): To provide for the sale of the Federal Government's reversionary interest in approximately 60 acres of land in Salt Lake City, Utah, originally conveyed to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association under the Act of January 23, 1909.
  - [H.R. 1471](#) (Sanford Bishop): To expand the boundary of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, to redesignate the unit as a National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

- [H.R. 1641](#) (Inslee): To amend the National Trails System Act to provide for a study of the Cascadia Marine Trail. “*Cascadia Marine Trail Study Act*”

Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*May 14, 2009, at 10 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

- Also on Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Water and Power** will receive testimony on the following bill:
  - [H.R. 2008](#) (Matheson): A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to facilitate the development of hydroelectric power on the Diamond Fork System of the Central Utah Project.

Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*May 14, 2009, at 10 a.m., Room 1334 Longworth House Office Building*)

**Quotable Quote:**

“To waste, to destroy our natural resources, to skin and exhaust the land instead of using it so as to increase its usefulness, will result in undermining in the days of our children the very prosperity which we ought by right to hand down to them amplified and developed.”

– *Theodore Roosevelt, State of the Union Address, December 3, 1907*

**Calendar:**

*Click on the text within the calendar to be linked directly to our Web site.*

<b>Monday 5/11</b>	<b>Tuesday 5/12</b>	<b>Wednesday 5/13</b>	<b>Thursday 5/14</b>	<b>Friday 5/15</b>
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight Field Hearing (9:00 AM PST)		Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Legislative Hearing (2:00 PM)	Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)  Subcommittee on Water and Power Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)	

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