



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

June 15 – 19, 2009

This Week's Hearings:

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- On Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands** and the **Subcommittee on Water and Power** will hold a joint oversight hearing on "Mountain Pine Beetle: Strategies for Protecting the West." An outbreak of the mountain pine beetle in the West has killed millions of acres of trees, stretching across Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Washington, and Oregon. The dead trees have the potential to endanger local residents and hikers and spark large-scale wildfires. The hearing will look at the widespread destruction caused by the mountain pine beetle and seek to determine the best policies for protecting lives, infrastructure, and the Western economy.

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*June 16, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

- Also on Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will receive testimony on the following bills:
 - [H.R. 2055](#) (M. Thompson): To establish a Salmon Stronghold Partnership program to protect wild Pacific salmon, and for other purposes. "*Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2009*"
 - [H.R. 2565](#) (Kind): To conserve fish and aquatic communities in the United States through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation, to improve the quality of life for the people of the United States, and for other purposes. "*National Fish Habitat Conservation Act*"

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*June 16, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1334 Longworth House Office Building*)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will receive testimony on the following bill:
 - [H.R. 21](#) (Farr): To establish a national policy for our oceans, to strengthen the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a national and regional ocean governance structure, and for other purposes. *"Ocean Conservation, Education, and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act"*

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*June 18, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

In Case You Missed It:

- On June 10, the **Committee on Natural Resources** approved the following bills:
 - [H.R. 1612](#) (Grijalva): To amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to expand the authorization of the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Interior to provide service-learning opportunities on public lands, help restore the nation's natural, cultural, historic, archaeological, recreational, and scenic resources, train a new generation of public land managers and enthusiasts, and promote the value of public service. *"Public Lands Service Corps Act of 2009"*
 - [H.R. 556](#) (Farr): To establish a program of research, recovery, and other activities to provide for the recovery of the southern sea otter. *"Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act"*
 - [H.R. 934](#) (Sablan): To convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.
 - [H.R. 1080](#) (Bordallo): To strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes. *"Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing 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"*
 - [H.R. 509](#) (Henry E. Brown, Jr.): To reauthorize the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004. *"Marine Turtle Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2009"*

- [H.R. 1454](#) (Henry E. Brown, Jr.): To provide for the issuance of a Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. *"Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Act of 2009"*
- [H.R. 1275](#) (Matheson): To direct the exchange of certain land in Grand, San Juan, and Uintah Counties, Utah, and for other purposes. *"Utah Recreational Land Exchange Act of 2009"*
- [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. 129](#) (Gallegly): To authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California.
- [H.R. 409](#) (Heller): To provide for the conveyance of certain Bureau of Land Management land in the State of Nevada to the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, and for other purposes.
- [H.R. 762](#) (Heller): To validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes.
- On June 11, the **House of Representatives** approved the following resolution under the jurisdiction of the House Natural Resources Committee:
 - [H.Res. 529](#) (Klein): Condemning the violent attack on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10, 2009, and honoring the bravery and dedication of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum employees and security personnel.

Quotable Quote:

“The Museum has suffered a great loss but the Museum will continue in its important work. This attack has no power over the Museum, its supporters or its mission. Hatred can no longer beat back the forces of justice and equality. Whatever the dark aims of the attacker may have been – there is no question that he has failed and those like him will always fail as long as organizations like the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum are standing.”

– Chairman Rahall, during floor debate in the U.S. House of Representatives on [H.Res. 529](#), a resolution condemning the violent attack on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10, 2009, and honoring the bravery and dedication of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum employees and security personnel. The House approved [H.Res. 529](#) on June 11, 2009, by a vote of 413 to 0. Visit the Committee’s Web site to [view archived video](#) of Chairman Rahall’s [floor statement](#).

Calendar:

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

Monday 6/15	Tuesday 6/16	Wednesday 6/17	Thursday 6/18	Friday 6/19
	Joint Subcommittee Oversight Hearing (10:00 AM) Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)		Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)	

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