



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

July 20 – 24, 2009

This Week's Hearings and Markups:

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 Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands** will receive testimony on the following bill:
 - [H.R. 644](#) (Grijalva): To withdraw the Tusayan Ranger District and Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in the vicinity of Kanab Creek and in House Rock Valley from location, entry, and patent under the mining laws. *"Grand Canyon Watersheds Protection Act of 2009"*

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (July 21, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- Also on Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on Water and Power** will receive testimony on the following 7 bills:
 - [H.R. 1738](#) (Roybal-Allard): To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the city of Downey, California, regional wastewater treatment and reclamation facility projects. *"Downey Regional Water Reclamation and Groundwater Augmentation Project of 2009"*
 - [H.R. 2265](#) (Chaffetz): To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Magna Water District water reuse and groundwater recharge project, and for other purposes. *"Magna Water District Water Reuse and Groundwater Recharge Act of 2009"*
 - [H.R. 2442](#) (George Miller): To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to expand the Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program, and for other purposes. *"Bay Area Regional Water Recycling Program Expansion Act of 2009"*

- [H.R. 2522](#) (Gallegly): To raise the ceiling on the Federal share of the cost of the Calleguas Municipal Water District Recycling Project, and for other purposes.
- [H.R. 2741](#) (Walden): To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the City of Hermiston, Oregon, water recycling and reuse project, and for other purposes.
- [H.R. 2950](#) (Matheson): To direct the Secretary of the Interior to allow for prepayment of repayment contracts between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District.
- [H.R. 1065](#) (Kirkpatrick): To resolve water rights claims of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes. *“White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2009”*

The following witnesses are scheduled to testify: Mike Connor, Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.; Desi Alvarez, Deputy City Manager, Downey, CA; Edwin J. Hansen, General Manager, Manga Water District, Magna, UT; Gary Darling, General Manager, Delta Diablo Sanitation District, Antioch, CA; Susan Mulligan, Manager of Engineering, Calleguas Municipal Water District, Thousand Oaks, CA; Ed Brookshier, City Manager, Hermiston, OR; Scott Ruppe, General Manager, Uintah Water Conservancy District, Vernal, UT; Ronnie Lupe, Chairman, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Whiteriver, AZ; and John F. Sullivan, Associate General Manager, Salt River Project, Phoenix, AZ.

Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*July 21, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1334 Longworth House Office Building*)

- On Wednesday, the **Committee on Natural Resources** will meet in open markup session to consider the following bill:
 - [H.R. 2499](#) (Pierluisi): To provide for a federally sanctioned self-determination process for the people of Puerto Rico. *“Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009”*

Visit the Committee’s Web site to view the [markup report](#) following the markup. (*July 22, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building.*)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources** will hold an oversight and legislative hearing on the following:

- "Federal Geospatial Data Management." The federal government spends billions of dollars each year to acquire and manage geospatial data, which go into making maps for consumers, state and local officials, and emergency responders, among others. The Department of the Interior has estimated that up to half of the federal investment in geospatial data is redundant. The Subcommittee will examine how the federal government manages the geospatial activities of its various agencies, and how information sharing between federal, state, and local governments, and between the public and private sectors, can be improved.
- [H.R. 2489](#) (Herseht Sandlin): To authorize a comprehensive national cooperative geospatial imagery mapping program through the United States Geological Survey, to promote use of the program for education, workforce training and development, and applied research, and to support Federal, State, tribal, and local government programs. *"AmericaView Geospatial Imagery Mapping Program Act."*

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (July 23, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

In Case You Missed It:

- Today, the **House of Representatives** approved the **"Restore Our American Mustangs (ROAM) Act"** ([H.R. 1018](#)), legislation introduced by Chairman Nick J. Rahall (D-WV) and Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, that would save the lives of up to 30,000 wild horses and burros that roam America's public lands, while saving the American taxpayers' money. Visit the Committee's Web site to [view video](#) of Chairman Rahall's floor statement.
- Earlier this week, the **House of Representatives** also approved the following 7 bills under the jurisdiction of the House Natural Resources Committee:
 - [H.R. 1044](#) (G. Miller): To provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes. *"Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial Enhancement 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. 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. 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. 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): Affirming patent number 27-2005-0081 and its associated land reconfiguration issued by the Bureau of Land Management

Quotable Quote:

“The status quo is the worst of both worlds – it requires the Bureau of Land Management to hold these animals in expensive, long-term storage, right up to the point when the money runs out and the agency has to kill tens of thousands of them. H.R. 1018 will give the agency new and better tools to avoid this outcome and will save money in the process.”

– Chairman Rahall, during floor debate in the U.S. House of Representatives on the “**Restore Our American Mustangs (ROAM) Act**” ([H.R. 1018](#)), legislation he introduced to ensure the continued protection of wild horses and burros that roam America’s public lands from senseless slaughter. The House approved [H.R. 1018](#) on July 17, 2009, by a vote of 239 to 185. Visit the Committee’s Web site to [view video](#) of Chairman Rahall’s floor statement.

Calendar:

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

Monday 7/20	Tuesday 7/21	Wednesday 7/22	Thursday 7/23	Friday 7/24
	Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM) Subcommittee on Water and Power Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)	Full Committee Markup (10:00 AM)	Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight and Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)	

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