



The Weekly Preview

March 15 – 19, 2010

This Week's Hearings and Markups

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- On Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will hold an oversight hearing on "Catch Shares As A Management Option: Criteria For Ensuring Success." Catch shares are a fishery management tool in which fishermen, cooperatives, or communities are allocated a specific portion of a total allowable fishing quota. While the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is actively promoting this tool, there is not universal agreement on the merits of its use. The Subcommittee will receive testimony from expert witnesses who will provide recommendations on improving the design and execution of catch share programs.

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (March 16, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- On Wednesday, the **Committee on Natural Resources** will receive testimony on the following bill:
 - [H.R. 2099](#) (Don Young): To provide for the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes. "Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act"

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (March 17, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- Later on Wednesday, the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will hold an oversight hearing on “The Proposed Virgin Islands Constitution From The Fifth Constitutional Convention.” The Virgin Islands is one of two U.S. states and territories without its own constitution. The Subcommittee will receive testimony from a representative of the Department of Justice, Virgin Islands Governor John deJongh, and other local leaders on a constitution drafted by the Fifth Constitutional Convention of the Virgin Islands.

Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*March 17, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Water and Power** will receive testimony on the following bills:
 - [H.R. 4349](#) (Napolitano): To further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes. *"Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2009"*
 - [H.R. 4579](#) (Filner): To amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in phase one of the South San Diego County Water Reclamation Project, and for other purposes. *"South San Diego County Water Reclamation Project of 2009"*

Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (*March 18, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building*)

Quotable Quote

“This Settlement Agreement will end almost 14 years of contentious litigation. For the first time ever, the parties have come together and agreed upon a proposed settlement. I commend the parties for overlooking their differences, trying to resolve the issues, and putting an end to the court battle.”

– *Chairman Nick J. Rahall (D-WV), at a March 10, 2010, Full Committee oversight hearing on the "Proposed Settlement of the Cobell v. Salazar Litigation."* In December 2009, plaintiffs and the United States government announced a long-awaited \$3.4 billion settlement to the Cobell class-action lawsuit regarding the mismanagement of over three hundred thousand individual American Indian trust accounts. Visit the Committee’s Web site to access [witness testimony](#), read Chairman Rahall’s [opening statement](#), or view [archived video](#) from the hearing.

Calendar

Monday 3/15	Tuesday 3/16	Wednesday 3/17	Thursday 3/18	Friday 3/19
	Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Oversight Hearing (10:00 AM)	Full Committee Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM) Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Oversight Hearing (2:00 PM)	Subcommittee on Water and Power Legislative Hearing (10:00 AM)	

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