



The Weekly Preview

March 22 – 26, 2010

This Week's Hearings and Markups

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- On Tuesday, the **Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands** and the **Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife** will hold a joint oversight hearing on "How To Manage Large Constrictor Snakes And Other Invasive Species." In recent years, snakes from around the world have turned up in Everglades National Park. Burmese Pythons, one of the largest snake species, are now breeding in the park and spreading rapidly. Nearly 1,000 pythons have been removed from the Everglades and surrounding areas since 2002. The Subcommittees will receive testimony on efforts to monitor and control Burmese Pythons and other invasive species in Everglades National Park.

The following witnesses are scheduled to testify: The Honorable Alcee Hastings (FL-23); Bert Frost, Ph.D., Associate Director, Natural Resources, Stewardship and Science, National Park Service; Frank J. Mazzotti, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center, University of Florida, Davie, FL; Marcy Heacker, M.S., Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC; Daniel Thayer, Director, Department of Vegetation & Land Management, South Florida Water Management District, West Palm Beach, FL; Jorge P. Gutierrez, Jr., Civil Trial Attorney, Gonzalez and Garcia, Miami, FL; Shawn K. Heflick, Palm Bay, FL; Daniel Simberloff, Ph.D., Gore Hunger Professor of Environmental Science, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN; Phyllis Windle, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, Invasive Species, Union of Concerned Scientists, Washington, DC; and Scott Hardin, Exotic Species Coordinator, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Tallahassee, FL.

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (March 23, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- On Wednesday, the **Committee on Natural Resources** will meet in open markup session to consider the following bill:
 - [H.R. 4225](#) (Costa): To authorize drought adjustments to provide immediate funding for projects and activities that will help alleviate record unemployment and diminished agricultural production related to the drought in California.

Visit the Committee's Web site to view the [markup report](#) following the markup. (March 24, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

- On Thursday, the **Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources** will hold an oversight hearing on "The President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Requests for the Minerals Management Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the United States Geological Survey (excluding the water resources program), and the USDA Forest Service."

Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#) following the conclusion of the hearing. (March 25, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building)

In Case You Missed It

- This week, the **House of Representatives** approved the following bills under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources:
 - [H.R. 4252](#) (Baca): To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the Rialto-Colton Basin in the State of California, and for other purposes. *"Inland Empire Perchlorate Ground Water Plume Assessment Act of 2009"*
 - [H.R. 1769](#) (Reichert): To expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers, and for other purposes. *"Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers Protection Act"*
 - [H.Res. 1173](#) (Welch): Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Vermont Long Trail, the oldest long-distance hiking trail in the United States, and congratulating the Green Mountain Club for its century of dedication in developing and maintaining the trail
 - [H.R. 3671](#) (Kind): To promote Department of the Interior efforts to provide a scientific basis for the management of sediment and nutrient loss in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, and for other purposes. *"Upper Mississippi River Basin Protection Act"*

- [H.R. 2788](#) (Calvert): To designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California. *"Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act"*
- [H.R. 3644](#) (Capps): To direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish education and watershed programs which advance environmental literacy, including preparedness and adaptability for the likely impacts of climate change in coastal watershed regions. *"Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Regional Program and National Environmental Literacy Grant Program Act"*
- [H.R. 4003](#) (Hinchey): To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate resources in the Hudson River Valley in the State of New York to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing the site as a unit of the National Park System. *"Hudson River Valley Special Resource Study Act"*
- [H.R. 4395](#) (Platts): To revise the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Gettysburg Train Station, and for other purposes.

Quotable Quote

"There is no universal agreement on the merits of the use of catch shares. The amount of anecdotal evidence to support either side is considerable, but empirical research about the impacts of catch shares, on both the fish and the fishers, is quite slim. One thing is clear – as we continue to rebuild fisheries in the United States, there will be much debate about which tools are most effective and appropriate for different fisheries."

– *Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee Chairwoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), at a March 16, 2010, Subcommittee 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. Visit the Committee's Web site to access [witness testimony](#), read Subcommittee Chairwoman Bordallo's [opening statement](#), or view [archived video](#) from the hearing.*

Calendar

Monday 3/22	Tuesday 3/23	Wednesday 3/24	Thursday 3/25	Friday 3/26
	Joint Oversight Hearing (10:00 AM)	Full Committee Markup (10:00 AM)	Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight Hearing (10:00 AM)	

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