

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON



NATURAL RESOURCES

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114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

At the onset of the 114th Congress, Chairman Bishop elevated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to the jurisdiction of the Full Committee and established a new subcommittee, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. During the 114th Congress, the Committee worked to strengthen and expand access to energy and mineral resources, increase public access to and management of federal lands, provide water reliability and certainty, and promote greater autonomy and economic opportunity in Tribal, Alaska Native and U.S. Insular communities.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 138 Hearings
- 8 Field Hearings
- 41 Letters and Document Requests
- 2 Subpoenas
- 14 Markups
- 118 Bills Passed Committee
- 73 Bills Passed House
- 77 Bills Currently in Conference with Senate
- 28 Bills Enacted into Law

KEY OVERSIGHT:

National Environmental Policy Act: Initiated an extensive review of the selective application of NEPA and a range of related policies and guidance

Endangered Species Act: Conducted extensive oversight on ESA, including the lack of state input in related decision-making, selective enforcement of ESA consultation requirements under Section 7 and expanded critical habitat designations

Puerto Rico: Conducted a series of oversight hearings to examine and address the financial crisis facing the territory of Puerto Rico

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

S. 612: Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act – signed into law

The WIIN Act includes the most significant update to federal water policy in decades and provides expanded water delivery and storage to support drought stricken communities of the West

H.R. 5278: Puerto Rico Oversight, Management & Economic Stability Act – signed into law

Bipartisan legislation bringing order to the financial crisis in Puerto Rico through the creation of an independent oversight board to oversee the territory's financial and economic overhaul

H.R. 4680: National Park Service Centennial Act – signed into law

Bipartisan legislation providing new funding and management authorities to the National Park Service as the agency prepares for the next 100 years

H.R. 2647: Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2015 – passed House

Bipartisan legislation pairing a responsible, budget neutral fix to “fire-borrowing” with comprehensive forestry reforms to restore forest health and mitigate catastrophic wildfire

H.R. 538: Native American Energy Act – passed House

Legislation addressing the federal government's overregulation of Indian lands to promote energy development by Indian tribes and Alaska Native Corporations

H.R. 2295: National Energy Security Corridors Act – passed House

Bipartisan legislation streamlining the approval process for natural gas pipelines across federal lands to better serve American families and businesses

H.R. 2358: Electricity Reliability and Forest Protection Act – passed House

Bipartisan legislation improving the safety and reliability of the electric grid on federal lands

H.R. 1644: Supporting Transparent Regulatory & Environmental Actions in Mining Act – passed House

Legislation increasing transparency in the development of regulations concerning stream buffer zones

H.R. 1937: National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2015 – passed House

Legislation streamlining the permitting process currently impeding domestic mineral development to promote American manufacturing competitiveness and economic growth

H.R. 1335: Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Reauthorization and Modernization – passed House

Bipartisan legislation improving the conservation and management of U.S. fishery resources to support a more robust domestic seafood industry

H.R. 2406: Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act – passed House

Bipartisan legislation eliminating regulatory impediments to outdoor sporting activities while protecting Second Amendment rights

Comprehensive Mining Reclamation Legislation – passed Committee

A trio of bills comprehensively addressing the existing funding, technical and legal impediments to abandoned mine cleanup (H.R. 3734, the Mining Schools Enhancement Act, H.R. 3844, the Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act, and H.R. 3843, the Locatable Minerals Claim Location and Maintenance Fees Act)



SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & MINERAL RESOURCES
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Under Chairman Doug Lamborn (R-CO), the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources worked to rein in burdensome regulatory policies impacting energy production and mining on federal lands, and pursued aggressive oversight against harmful executive regulations, rules and actions. Members also led a two year examination of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and selective application or outright circumvention of the statute by the executive branch.

The subcommittee also led the development and passage by the Full Committee of comprehensive mining reclamation reforms and was instrumental in the crafting of legislation to address Puerto Rico's fiscal crisis and energy shortfalls.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 17 Oversight Hearings
- 9 Legislative Hearings
- 8 Full Committee Oversight Hearings
- 2 Field Hearings

KEY OVERSIGHT:

National Environmental Policy Act: Held a series of hearings on NEPA demonstrating the need to modernize the statute and prevent it from being used as a bureaucratic tool to block or impede energy and infrastructure development

Puerto Rico: Oversight on Puerto Rico's energy infrastructure and the significant bureaucratic challenges facing the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA)

Regulatory Overreach: Conducted oversight hearings bringing attention to the questionable statutory justification relied on by the Obama Administration in the promulgation of a number of costly, job-killing regulations, including the hydraulic fracturing rule, methane venting and flaring rule, and oil and gas valuation rule

Statutory Implementation: Successfully persuaded the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to correctly implement non-allocated helium sales as required by the Helium Stewardship Act and to initiate online lease sales as required by the 2015 National Defense Authorization Act

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

H.R. 5278: Puerto Rico Oversight, Management & Economic Stability Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation creating an independent oversight board to oversee the territory's financial overhaul and facilitate much-needed energy and infrastructure development

H.R. 1937: National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2015 – *passed House*

Legislation streamlining the permitting process currently impeding domestic mineral development to promote American manufacturing competitiveness and economic growth

H.R. 3881: Cooperative Management of Mineral Rights Act of 2016 – *passed House*

Legislation clarifying and codifying the repeatedly upheld decision by federal courts to protect the rights of private mineral owners in Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest

H.R. 1644: Supporting Transparent Regulatory & Environmental Actions in Mining Act – *passed House*

Legislation increasing transparency in the development of regulations concerning stream buffer zones

H.R. 5577: Innovation in Offshore Leasing Act – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation modernizing the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's offshore leasing process through the use of internet-based oil and natural gas lease sales

H.R. 2295: National Energy Security Corridors Act – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation streamlining the approval process for natural gas pipelines across federal lands to better serve American families and businesses

H.R. 3844: The Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation, included as part of the Committee's comprehensive mining reclamation package, establishing a new foundation to assist federal land management agencies with raising funds for abandoned mine lands cleanup efforts

Comprehensive Mining Reclamation Legislation – *passed Committee*

A trio of bills comprehensively addressing the existing funding, technical and legal impediments to abandoned mine cleanup (H.R. 3734, the Mining Schools Enhancement Act, H.R. 3844, the Bureau of Land Management Foundation Act, and H.R. 3843, the Locatable Minerals Claim Location and Maintenance Fees Act)



SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FEDERAL LANDS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Under Chairman Tom McClintok (R-CA), the Subcommittee on Federal Lands fought to restore public access to federal lands, promote sound management practices, and reduce excessive and restrictive federal land acquisition. Early in the first term, members held a series of hearings on forest management and catastrophic wildfires, and led efforts in the House with the development and passage of comprehensive wildfire and forest management legislation.

The subcommittee also worked to promote new and innovative ideas for the National Park Service (NPS) Centennial, and advanced passage in the House and Senate of legislation to provide new funding and management authorities to the NPS.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 16 Legislative Hearings
- 11 Oversight Hearings
- 5 Full Committee Oversight Hearings
- 3 Field Hearings

KEY OVERSIGHT:

Federal Land Acquisition: Held a series of hearings exposing abuses and failures within the Land and Water Conservation Fund leading to the development of discussion draft legislation

Forest Management & Wildfires: Extensive oversight of litigation and burdensome NEPA analysis and related impacts to forest management and catastrophic wildfire

Federal Land Managers as Good Neighbors: Held hearings to hear state, local and tribal perspectives on federal forest management and held a legislative hearing on the draft LOCAL Act, which requires increased coordination between federal land managers and local communities

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

H.R. 4680: National Park Service Centennial Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation providing new funding and management authorities to the National Park Service as the agency prepares for the next 100 years

H.R. 1475: Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation authorizing the construction of a Wall of Remembrance at the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC to honor the members of the U.S. Armed Forces who died in the Korean War

H.R. 2647: Resilient Federal Forests Act of 2015 – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation pairing a responsible, budget neutral fix to “fire-borrowing” with comprehensive forestry reforms to restore forest health and mitigate catastrophic wildfire

H.R. 2406: Sportsmen’s Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation eliminating regulatory impediments to outdoor sporting activities while protecting Second Amendment rights

H.R. 5780: Utah Public Lands Initiative Act – *passed Committee*

Legislation designating millions of acres of federal land for conservation and recreation; exchanging and consolidating certain federal and non-federal land; and providing for economic development within the State of Utah



SUBCOMMITTEE ON
**INDIAN, INSULAR AND
ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS**
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Under Chairman Don Young (R-AK), the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs focused on promoting job creation, economic growth and prosperity in Tribal, Alaska Native and U.S. Insular communities. Members also played an integral role in addressing the fiscal crisis in Puerto Rico through hearings and oversight that ultimately led to the creation of an independent oversight board to oversee the territory's financial and economic overhaul.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 14 Legislative Hearings
- 7 Oversight Hearings
- 2 Full Committee Oversight Hearings
- 1 Field Hearing

KEY OVERSIGHT:

Puerto Rico: Conducted a series of oversight hearings to examine and address the financial crisis facing the territory of Puerto Rico

Federal Recognition of Indian Nations: Held a series of oversight hearings into whether the Obama administration exceeded its authority in the federal recognition of tribes and developed legislation to reassert Congress's constitutional authority in the federal recognition process

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

H.R. 5278: Puerto Rico Oversight, Management & Economic Stability Act – *signed into law*
Bipartisan legislation bringing order to the financial crisis in Puerto Rico through the creation of an independent oversight board to oversee the territory's financial and economic overhaul

H.R. 538: Native American Energy Act – *passed House*
Legislation addressing the federal government's overregulation of Indian lands to promote energy development by Indian tribes and Alaska Native Corporations

H.R. 812: Indian Trust Asset Reform Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation enabling Indian tribes to take greater control over their trust resources

H.R. 3764: Tribal Recognition Act of 2015 – *passed Committee*

Legislation restoring the constitutional framework to tribal recognition authorities vested with Congress under Article I

H.R. 1168: Native American Children's Safety Act – *passed House*

Legislation requiring thorough background checks by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian tribes for foster homes on Indian reservations

H.R. 2791: Western Oregon Tribal Fairness Act – *passed House*

Legislation transferring 18,000 acres of federal land to the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians and more than 14,000 acres of federal land to the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians

H.R. 2733: Nevada Native Nations Land Act – *signed into law*

Legislation placing more than 70,000 acres of federal land into trust for the benefit of several tribes in the State of Nevada



SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT & INVESTIGATIONS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations was created in the 114th Congress with the expressed purpose of pursuing aggressive oversight of executive branch regulations, rules and actions. Under Chairman Louie Gohmert (R-TX), these efforts focused on promoting job creation and economic growth, ensuring responsible use of taxpayer resources, and protecting public access to federal lands and waters.

The federal government's Gold King Mine Spill in the Animas River was the subcommittee's largest undertaking, as it has been at the forefront of the multiple Congressional investigations concerning the involvement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) in the August 2015 blowout. The subcommittee also led oversight on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as part of the committee's long-term efforts to modernize ESA.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 14 Oversight Hearings
- 41 Letters and Document Requests
- 4 Full Committee Oversight Hearings
- 2 Subpoenas issued
- 1 Joint Committee Hearing with the Committee on Oversight & Government Reform

KEY OVERSIGHT:

Gold King Mine Blowout: Led oversight at the subcommittee and full committee level of the EPA's Gold King Mine Spill in the Animas River and subsequent accounting of events from DOI and other federal agencies. These efforts included a joint committee hearing with the House Oversight & Government Reform Committee; 1 full Committee hearing; 11 document requests; 2 subpoenas; a Majority Staff Report; and over 100,000 pages of records analyzed

Endangered Species Act: Conducted extensive oversight on ESA, including the lack of state input in related decision-making, selective enforcement of ESA consultation requirements under Section 7 and expanded critical habitat designations

DOI's Culture of Corruption & Mismanagement: Held a series of hearings on the DOI's culture of corruption and ethics failures, including misconduct and mismanagement at Effigy Mounds National Monument and data manipulation at a U.S. Geological Service

Federal Footprint: Developed the [Federal Footprint Map](#), which continuously updates data direct from the agencies themselves to complete layers and legends detailing the roughly 640 million acres of land that the federal government currently owns, particularly in western states



SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER, POWER & OCEANS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

114TH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Under Chairman John Fleming (R-LA), the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans worked towards enhancing water and power supplies and electricity reliability, reducing litigation and providing water certainty for tribal and non-tribal communities, eliminating conflicting federal requirements, promoting fishing access in domestic and international waters, instilling federal transparency and accountability, empowering states, and providing oversight of federal regulations and proposals that threaten American jobs, water and electricity rates and economic growth. The subcommittee's efforts laid the foundation for the first significant update to federal western water policy in decades signed into law and passage of historic Indian water rights settlement agreements.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 11 Legislative Hearings
- 10 Oversight Hearings
- 2 Full Committee Oversight Field Hearings
- 1 Site Visit

KEY OVERSIGHT:

Enhancing Water Power Supplies and Electricity Reliability: Conducted oversight and passed legislation on the need to protect and promote more water storage and hydropower, and provide accountability and timely decision-making related to electricity transmission and distribution lines on federal lands

Conflicting Regulatory Requirements: Held a series of hearings to expose conflicting federal requirements that restrict fish population control efforts and predation by invasive species in river systems in the West

KEY LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

S. 612: Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act – *signed into law*

Legislation providing the first significant update to federal water policy in decades, expanding water storage and delivery across the West, and approving of long-standing water settlement agreements for the benefit of taxpayers and Native Americans

H.R. 6452: Ensuring Access to Pacific Fisheries Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation implementing the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean, and the amendments to the Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries

H.R. 4582: Save Our Salmon Act – *signed into law*

Bipartisan legislation excluding striped bass from the fish doubling requirement and other provisions of the Central Valley Improvement Act to eliminate the ongoing federal conflict between protecting invasive striped bass and native endangered salmon in California

H.R. 2898: Western Water and American Food Security Act of 2015 – *passed House*

Legislation addressing the underlying policy failures that are contributing to increasingly severe drought conditions in communities in California and across the West

H.R. 2358: Electricity Reliability and Forest Protection Act – *passed House*

Legislation improving the safety and reliability of the electric grid on federal lands, and reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfires and costly electricity blackouts

H.R. 1335: Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Reauthorization and Modernization – *passed House*

Bipartisan legislation improving the conservation and management of U.S. fishery resources to support a more robust domestic seafood industry and create jobs in regions across the country

H.R. 3070: EEZ Transit Zone Clarification and Access Act – *passed House*

Legislation clarifying regulatory confusion in fishery management between state and federal waters around the Block Island Sound near Long Island, New York

H.R. 1107: Bureau of Reclamation Transparency Act – *passed Committee*

Legislation requiring the Secretary of the Interior to publish reports detailing specific repairs and rehabilitation needs at Bureau of Reclamation facilities