

Summary of Key Ocean Bills

The Joint Ocean Commission Initiative is a collaborative effort by the members of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Oceans Commission to advance the pace of change for meaningful ocean policy reform consistent with the two Commissions' recommendations. Since early 2005, the Joint Initiative has been engaging leaders in Congress and the Administration on critical ocean policy reform issues. It has also been working closely with Governors and other state leaders, as well as a variety of networks of people involved in local, state, and regional ocean issues, facilitating progress in the regions in order to build durable support for the Initiative's national priorities. For more information on the Joint Initiative, please visit www.jointoceancommission.org.

The following tables provide information on the status and content of key bills regarding oceans and coasts that are currently moving through the 111th United States Congress. The document focuses on legislation related to comprehensive ocean management reform, coastal zone management, climate change, offshore energy, fisheries management, an organic act for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, ocean observation, research and exploration, shipping and transportation and other marine issues.

This edition of the Joint Initiative's Summary of Key Ocean Bills documents the progress of important ocean-related legislation at this point of the 111th United States Congress. As of the writing of this document, H.R. 146, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, was signed into law by the President. H.R. 146 encompasses several ocean related bills introduced in the 110th Congress including:

The NOAA Undersea Research Program Act of 2009 and the Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act of 2009 (S. 39 from the 110th Congress). These programs work to create informed management, use, and preservation of marine and coastal areas and the Great Lakes through research and mapping.

The Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act (S. 950 from the 110th Congress). This law establishes a system designed to address regional and national needs for ocean information for dissemination.

The Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act (S. 1581 from the 110th Congress). This law directs the coordination of federal activities on ocean acidification and establishment of an interagency working group. It develops a plan for federal research and monitoring on ocean acidification.

The Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Act (S. 1907 from the 110th Congress). This law creates a program to protect important coastal and estuarine areas. It requires related property acquisition grants to coastal states with approved coastal zone management plans.

This is a living document that is updated as action is taken on existing legislation and as new bills are introduced. It is not intended to capture all legislation that might affect oceans and coasts, but instead is a highlight of the most important bills. This document was prepared by Meridian Institute, which serves as the secretariat for the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative. To facilitate periodic updates, Meridian Institute would appreciate notification of amendments or additions. Please contact Laura Cantral of Meridian Institute at 202-354-6444 or lcantrol@merid.org.

Last updated: 9 September 2009

| Bill Number | Elements | Primary Sponsor & Committee Status |
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COMPREHENSIVE OCEAN BILLS

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| H.R. 21 | <p>Ocean Conservation, Education, and National Strategy for the 21st Century Act (OCEANS 21)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specifies a national ocean policy and requires each federal agency to act in accordance to that policy ▪ Establishes a National Oceans Advisor in the Executive Office of the President ▪ Reestablishes the Committee on Ocean Policy in the Executive Office of the President and creates a Council of Advisors on Ocean Policy to advise the President ▪ Provides guidelines for regional coordination and ecosystem planning ▪ Establishes an Ocean and Great Lakes Conservation Trust Fund ▪ Formally authorizes NOAA | <p>Farr (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans Science, SC Energy & Environment 1/6/09: Introduced 6/18/09: SC hearings held</p> |
| S. 858 | <p>National Oceans Protection Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a national ocean, coastal and Great Lakes policy, and requires all federal agency to administer policies, regulations and laws in accordance ▪ Establishes a National Ocean Advisor and a Council on Ocean Stewardship in the Executive Office of the President, and a Presidential Panel of Advisers on Oceans and Climate ▪ Requires the preparation of a Regional Strategic Ocean Plan by each of nine designated regions ▪ Creates the Committee on Ocean Science, Education, and Operations, a marine biodiversity research program, a network of regional Ocean Ecosystem Resource Information Systems, a national interagency ocean and coastal public education program, the National Ocean Science and Technology Scholarship Program, the NOAA Office of Education, and an educational partnership with minority-serving institutions ▪ Establishes the Ocean and Great Lakes Conservation Trust Fund ▪ Requires a national media campaign to raise ocean awareness | <p>Boxer (D-CA) Commerce 4/22/09: Introduced</p> |

CLIMATE CHANGE

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| H.R. 2685 | <p>Climate and Ocean Research and Coordination Act of 2009 (and National Climate Enterprise Act of 2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reestablishes NOAA and its leadership | <p>Bordallo (D-GU) Science and Technology, Natural Resources, Energy & Environment, SC</p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the President to establish a National Climate Enterprise to coordinate international, federal, and nonfederal activity to provide scientifically based climate and climate impact data, information, products, and services to better forecast climate change ▪ Requires that the Enterprise consist of an Interdepartmental Oversight Board, an Interagency Coordinating Committee, and a Climate Operations Office established by this Act, and nonfederal contributors | Oceans 6/3/09: Introduced |
| H.R. 2454 | American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (and the Safe Climate Act) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 (PURPA) to require utilities to supply an increasing percentage of their demand from a combination of energy efficiency savings and renewable energy ▪ Amends the Clean Air Act (CAA) to require the Administrator of the EPA to set forth a national strategy to address barriers to carbon capture and sequestration ▪ Requires the Secretary to establish Clean Energy Innovation Centers to promote commercial deployment of clean energy alternatives to fossil fuels ▪ Amends the CAA to require the Administrator to cap and reduce GHG emissions so that GHG emissions from capped sources are reduced to 97% of 2005 levels by 2012, 83% by 2020, 58% by 2030, and 17% by 2050 | Waxman (D-CA) Commerce, Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Education, Science and Technology, Transportation, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Ways and Means, SC Aviation, SC Economic Development, SC Public Buildings, SC Highways and Transit, SC Railroads, SC Water Resources and Environment 5/15/09: Introduced 5/21/09: Ordered to be reported (amended) 6/19/09: Placed on Union Calendar No. 90 6/26/09: Passed by vote (219-212) 7/6/09: Received in the Senate 7/7/09: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 97 under General Orders |
| H.R. 2407 | National Climate Service Act of 2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to establish the National Climate Service within NOAA to analyze the effects of weather and climate on communities, provide information for government efforts to assess and respond to climate variability and change, and to conduct research to improve forecasting and understanding of climate change and its effects on communities ▪ Repeals the National Climate Program Act | Gordon (R-TN) Science 5/14/09: Introduced |
| H.R. 2192 | Climate Change Safeguards for Natural Resources Conservation Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the President to establish a national Natural Resources Climate Change Adaptation Strategy to protect, restore, and conserve natural resources to enable them to withstand the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification and to identify opportunities to mitigate those impacts ▪ Directs the President to establish a Natural Resources Climate Change Adaptation | Grijalva (D-AZ) Natural Resources, SC Oceans, SC Science and Technology, SC Energy & Environment 4/30/09: Introduced |

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| | <p>Panel for interagency consultation on and the coordination of the development and implementation of the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the Chair of the Council of Environmental Quality to: (1) chair the Panel; (2) advise the President on the Strategy and agency adaptation plans; and (3) coordinate agency natural resources actions in response to climate change and ocean acidification ▪ Requires the Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior to establish a coordinated process for developing and providing information needed to address the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on natural resources ▪ Requires that the Secretaries undertake a climate change and ocean acidification impact survey ▪ Requires that the Secretaries establish a Science Advisory Board to advise the Secretaries on science regarding the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on natural resources and on scientific strategies and mechanisms for protecting, restoring, and conserving natural resources ▪ Requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Fish and Wildlife Habitat and Corridors Information Program | |
| H.R. 585 | <p>Environment and Public Health Restoration Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the President to arrange with the National Academy of Sciences to evaluate potentially harmful impacts on public health, air quality, water quality, plant and animal wildlife, global climate, or the environment ▪ Directs Federal departments and agencies to reverse those impacts deemed harmful by the National Academy of Sciences | <p>Lee (D-CA) Science, SC Transportation, SC Natural Resources, SC Agriculture, SC Energy and Commerce, SC Operations 1/15/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 52 | <p>Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 to make forests, coral reefs, and associated coastal marine ecosystem activities eligible for U.S. debt reduction benefits for developing countries | <p>Kirk (R-IL) Foreign Affairs 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 14 | <p>Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act of 2009 (FOARAM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology of the National Science and Technology Council to create a strategic plan for research and monitoring of federal ocean acidification that includes an assessment of acidification impacts on marine ecosystems and the development of mitigation and adaptation strategies ▪ Directs the Secretary of Commerce to create a strategic ocean acidification plan within NOAA ▪ Requires the National Science Foundation to support competitive peer-reviewed | <p>Baird (D-WA) Science, SC Energy & Environment 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |

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| | <p>proposals for research and monitoring of ocean acidification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the administrator of NASA to continue using relevant space-based technology to monitor ocean acidification | |
| S. 810 | <p>Ocean and Coastal Adaptation Planning Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directs the Administrators of NOAA and the EPA to establish four Institutes for Ocean and Coastal Adaptation to Climate Change and Ocean Acidification to: (1) assess, prepare for, and adapt to the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification on ocean and coastal areas and resources, including the Great Lakes; and (2) create centers of excellence to document and predict coastal and ocean effects of climate change and ocean acidification Requires the Administrators to award a grant to one institution of higher education to serve as such an Institute in each of four regions: (1) the Great Lakes Region; (2) the Northeast Region; (3) the Southeast and Gulf Coast Region; and (4) the Western and Pacific Region | <p>Whitehouse (D-RI) Commerce 4/2/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 345 | <p>Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Companion bill to H.R. 52 | <p>Lugar (R-IN) Foreign Relations 1/29/09: Introduced 7/16/2009: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar No. 111 under General Orders</p> |

COASTAL CONSERVATION

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| H.R. 2548 | <p>Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to require the establishment of a Working Waterfront Grant Program Directs the Secretary of Commerce to award grants to coastal states to implement plans to preserve and expand access to coastal waters for persons engaged in commercial fishing, recreational fishing, aquaculture, boatbuilding, or other water-dependent coastal-related business | <p>Pingree (D-ME) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 5/21/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 2093 | <p>Clean Coastal Environment and Public Health Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Clean Water Act to require the EPA to specify in performance criteria for monitoring and assessing coastal recreation waters adjacent to beaches or similar points of interest (waters) available methods for monitoring protocols that are most likely to detect pathogenic contamination Requires that coastal recreation water quality monitoring programs include monitoring consistent with such criteria, public notification, source tracking, sanitary | <p>Pallone (D-NJ) Transportation 4/23/09: Introduced 7/20/09: Reported (amended) 7/29/09: Passed the House by voice vote 8/7/09: Referred to Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works</p> |

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| | <p>surveys, and prevention efforts to address identified sources of contamination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Authorizes appropriations for grants to states and local governments for developing and implementing monitoring and notification programs for FY 2007-FY 2013 ▪ Authorizes funding to implement the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act of 2000 through FY 2013 | |
| H.R. 1672 | <p>Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to establish and set the goals of the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission ▪ Provides for the creation of the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation | <p>Larsen (D-WA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 3/26/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1053 | <p>Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Office of Management and Budget and the Chesapeake Executive Council to submit a financial report to Congress that contains an interagency cross-cut budget for Chesapeake Bay restoration activities ▪ Requires the EPA to develop and update every three years a management plan for the Chesapeake Bay Program | <p>Wittman (R-VA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans Transportation, SC Water & Environment 2/12/09: Introduced 7/8/09: SC Oceans hearings held 7/29/09: Discharged from SC, Nat. Resources Committee mark-up, ordered to be reported (amended)</p> |
| S. 878 | <p>Clean Coastal Environment and Public Health Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 2093 | <p>Lautenberg (D-NJ) Environment & Public Works 4/23/09: Introduced 6/18/09: Ordered to be reported (amended) favorably</p> |
| S. 668 | <p>Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 1672 | <p>Murray (D-WA) Commerce 3/23/09: Introduced 7/8/09: Ordered to be reported (amended) favorably</p> |
| S. 533 | <p>Working Waterfront Preservation Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 ▪ Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to award a grant to a coastal state, a nonprofit organization, or a fishing cooperative for projects to acquire or make improvements to coastal property that provides access to commercial fishermen or persons in the aquaculture industry | <p>Collins (R-ME) Finance 3/5/09: Introduced</p> |

CORAL REEF CONSERVATION

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| H.R. 860 | <p>Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization and Enhancement Amendments of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 to award the remaining coral reef conservation grant funds to appropriate projects ▪ Authorizes actions to minimize and repair coral reef damage from fishing and other unforeseen human activities, including vessel removal ▪ States that destruction of coral reefs is not unlawful if actions are in compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other federal or state laws ▪ Requires a report every five years to the Senate and House of Representatives on all strategy implementation activities ▪ Establishes the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force to address reef ecosystem issues | <p>Bordallo (D-GU) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/4/09: Introduced 2/25/09: SC hearings held 4/22/09: Discharged from SC, Committee mark-up 7/10/09: Amended by Committee and placed on Union Calendar No. 103</p> |
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FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

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| H.R. 2565 | <p>National Fish Habitat Conservation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a National Fish Habitat Board to oversee and coordinate the implementation of this Act and the existing National Fish Habitat Action Plan ▪ Authorizes the Board to designate Fish Habitat Partnerships to: (1) coordinate Plan implementation at a regional level; (2) identify strategic priorities; (3) recommend habitat projects; and (4) develop and carry out fish habitat conservation projects | <p>Kind (D-WI) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 5/21/09: Introduced 6/16/09: Hearings Held</p> |
| H.R. 2055 | <p>Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes the Salmon Stronghold Partnership as a cooperative, incentive-based, public-private partnership to identify and conserve salmon strongholds ▪ Authorizes the sharing of status and trends data, innovative conservation strategies, conservation planning methodologies, and other information with North Pacific countries, including Canada, Japan, Russia, and South Korea, and appropriate international entities to promote salmon conservation | <p>Thompson (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 4/22/09: Introduced 6/16/09: Hearings held</p> |
| H.R. 1584 | <p>Flexibility in Rebuilding American Fisheries Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to require a time period for ending overfishing ▪ Allows the Secretary of Commerce to extend the timeframe for rebuilding to the sum of the initial ten-year period, the expected time to rebuild the stock absent any fishing mortality and under prevailing environmental conditions, and the mean generation time of the stock | <p>Pallone (D-NJ) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 3/23/09: Introduced</p> |

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| H.R. 1379 | <p>To prohibit the commercial harvesting of Atlantic striped bass in the coastal waters and the exclusive economic zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prohibits the commercial harvesting of Atlantic striped bass in the coastal waters or the exclusive economic zone ▪ Requires the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director to take actions reflecting the prohibition | <p>Pallone (D-NJ) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 3/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1370 | <p>Commercial Seafood Consumer Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program to strengthen federal activities for ensuring that commercially distributed seafood meets federal food quality and safety requirements ▪ Directs the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to enter into an agreement to strengthen cooperation on seafood safety, including examining and testing seafood imports, inspections of foreign facilities, technical assistance and training of foreign facilities for marine aquaculture, establishing a distribution chain tracking system, and labeling | <p>Weiner (D-NY) Commerce Agriculture, Livestock 3/5/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1108 | <p>Grow American Supply Act (Rigs to Reefs Act of 2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act with respect to Adjacent Zones and Planning Areas ▪ Prescribes requirements for the use of decommissioned offshore oil and gas platforms as artificial reefs ▪ Revises natural gas leasing procedures ▪ Requires that portions of the receipts from OCS leases are placed in the Social Security Trust Fund and the Deficit Reduction Trust Fund ▪ Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to establish royalty rates for oil shale and tar sands and to promote the production of natural gas from hydrates and CO₂ injection ▪ Repeals the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 | <p>Scalise (R-LA) Natural Resources Ways and Means Armed Services, SC Readiness Energy & Commerce 2/23/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1080 | <p>Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grants federal agencies greater authority to investigate illegal fishing and bolster penalties for violators ▪ Calls for international fishing violations within U.S. waters to face similar penalties to those outlined in Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act | <p>Bordallo (D-GU) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/13/09: Introduced 3/19/09: Hearings held 7/24/09: Placed on Union Calendar No. 126</p> |
| S. 1255 | <p>Flexibility in Rebuilding American Fisheries Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 1584 | <p>Schumer (D-NY) Commerce 6/11/09: Introduced</p> |

INVASIVE SPECIES

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| H.R. 669 | <p>Nonnative Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Secretary of the Interior to establish a process for assessing the risk of importation for any nonnative species to the United States ▪ Provides procedures for expansion of a list of allowed species and prohibited species for importation into the United States ▪ Renames the Invasive Species Council as the National Invasive Species Council | <p>Bordallo (D-GU) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/26/09: Introduced 4/23/09: SC hearings held</p> |
| H.R. 500 | <p>Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act (National Invasive Species Council Act)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to require invasive species management plans for certain vessels, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to create vessel performance requirements, and to restrict the importation of unscreened aquatic species ▪ Renames the aforementioned Act the Nonindigenous Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Control Act of 1990 ▪ Establishes the National Invasive Species Council and requires it to develop a National Invasive Species Management Plan ▪ Reauthorizes and modifies the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990 ▪ Amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to, among other things, replace each reference to "navigable waters of the United States" with a reference to "waters of the United States"; to require the Great Lakes National Program Office to provide grants to reduce mercury in the Great Lakes; and to require the President to include a joint Great Lakes research plan in the annual budget ▪ Establishes the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force within the EPA | <p>Ehlers (D-MI) Natural Resources, SC Oceans Science and Technology Transportation, SC Water & Environment 1/14/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 51 | <p>Eradicating Asian Carp in the Great Lakes Study Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study and report to Congress on methods for ridding invasive Asian carp from the Illinois Waterway System ▪ Possible strategies to investigate include harvesting the species from the Illinois River and repopulating the River with native species | <p>Kirk (R-IL) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 48 | <p>Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Lacey Act to add certain species of carp to the list of injurious species that are prohibited from being imported or shipped | <p>Biggert (R-IL) Natural Resources, SC Homeland Security 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 237 | <p>Great Lakes Collaboration Implementation Act of 2009 (National Aquatic Invasive Species Act of 2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 500 | <p>Levin (D-MI) Environment & Public Works 1/14/09: Introduced</p> |

MARINE ANIMALS

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| <p>H.R. 2455</p> | <p>To amend the Whale Conservation and Protection Study Act to promote international whale conservation, protection, and research, and for other purposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Secretary of Commerce, in cooperation with the Secretary of State, to firmly restate the United States' strong opposition to commercial whaling in any form and refuse to engage in any negotiation or reinterpretation of the IWRC that would weaken the moratorium on commercial whaling ▪ Directs the Secretary to establish comprehensive research initiatives to improve knowledge about the world's whales in order to enhance whale conservation efforts | <p>Faleomavaega (D-AS) Foreign Affairs, Natural Resources, Ways and Means, Transportation, SC Coast Guard, SC Oceans 5/18/09: Introduced</p> |
| <p>H.R. 2029</p> | <p>Authorizes a national research program that would fund basic and applied research on marine mammals under the Marine Mammal Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act to require the Marine Mammal Commission to create a research Program and Program office for research on marine mammals, including factors that affect populations, habitats, and migration ▪ Supports the creation of partnerships among agencies, academia, industry, and others to coordinate research ▪ Authorizes the Commission to enter into contacts and apply for grants ▪ Authorizes the President to create the National Marine Research Coordinating Committee to develop a marine mammal research plan and periodically evaluate the plan | <p>Abercrombie (D-HI) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 4/27/09: Introduced</p> |
| <p>H.R. 844</p> | <p>Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Amendments of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to require the collection and updating of existing practices and procedures for rescue and rehabilitation of stranded or entangled marine animals ▪ Authorizes the entanglement response agreement ▪ Authorizes increased annual appropriations through FY 2013 to carry out the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program ▪ Authorizes appropriations through FY 2013 to the Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Event Fund | <p>Young (R-AK) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/3/09: Introduced 3/2/09: Passed House under suspension of rules by voice vote 3/3/09: Referred to Senate Committee on Commerce</p> |
| <p>H.R. 843</p> | <p>To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to repeal the long-term goal for reducing to zero</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Asserts that the goal of attaining sustainable marine mammal species stocks can be met without the zero mortality rate goal of the Marine Mammal Protection Act ▪ Asserts that some high marine mammal stocks are hurting some endangered species | <p>Young (R-AK) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/3/09: Introduced</p> |

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| H.R. 556 | <p>Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a Recovery and Research Program for the southern sea otter off the coast of California ▪ Requires the Secretary to appoint a team of individuals to oversee the recovery program and establish a process to award competitive grants for research ▪ Stipulates acceptable sea otter research topics and recovery methods ▪ Requires a status report from the Secretary after 12 months, 24 months, and five years ▪ Authorizes appropriations from FY 2010 to FY 2015 | <p>Farr (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/15/09: Introduced 5/5/09: SC hearings held 6/23/09: Amended by the Committee 7/28/09: Passed (amended) (316-107) 7/29/09: Received in the Senate and referred to Commerce</p> |
| H.R. 509 | <p>Marine Turtle Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Marine Turtle Conservation Act of 2004 to include the United States and its territories ▪ Authorizes appropriations to the Marine Turtle Conservation Fund from FY 2009 to FY 2014 ▪ Limits funds available for marine turtle conservation projects to 20% of the Fund for any given fiscal year | <p>Brown (R-SC) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/14/09: Introduced 5/5/09: SC hearings held 7/10/09: Amended by the Committee 7/28/09: Passed (amended) (354-72) 7/29/09: Received in the Senate and referred to Environment & Public Works</p> |
| H.R. 81 | <p>Shark Conservation Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to revise provisions prohibiting the removal of shark fins ▪ Amends the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act so that nations whose fishing activities target or incidentally catch sharks are listed in the biennial report on international compliance | <p>Bordallo (D-GU) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/6/09: Introduced 3/2/09: Passed by voice vote 3/3/09: Received in the Senate and referred to Commerce</p> |
| S. 859 | <p>Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Amendments of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 844 | <p>Cantwell (D-WA) Commerce 4/22/09: Introduced 5/20/09: Ordered to be reported favorably without amendment</p> |
| S. 850 | <p>Shark Conservation Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 81 | <p>Kerry (D-MA) Commerce 4/22/09: Introduced</p> |

MARINE SANCTUARIES

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| H.R. 905 | <p>Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Perseveration Boundary Modification Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expands the boundaries of Thunder Bay and the Underwater Preserve in Lake Huron | <p>Stupak (D-MI) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/4/09: Introduced</p> |
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| | <p>to encompass Presque Isle and Alcona Counties in Michigan and out to the border between the United States and Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gives underwater cultural resources, such as vessel losses, equal protection | <p>7/8/09: Hearings Held 7/29/09: Ordered to be amended by unanimous consent</p> |
| H.R. 223 | <p>Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adjusts the boundaries of the Gulf of Farallones and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries ▪ Prohibits all mineral and hydrocarbon exploration, development, production, and transportation by pipeline in the areas ▪ Directs the Secretary of Commerce to draft a supplemental management plan for the areas and to assess any necessary revisions to the regulations for the sanctuaries | <p>Woolsey (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 2/4/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 380 | <p>Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Perseveration Boundary Modification Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 905 | <p>Levin (D-MI) Commerce 2/4/09: Introduced 5/20/09: Ordered to be reported favorably with amendment</p> |
| S. 212 | <p>Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 223 | <p>Boxer (D-CA) Commerce 1/12/09: Introduced 5/20/09: Ordered to be reported favorably with amendment</p> |

NOAA ORGANIC ACT

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| H.R. 300 | <p>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reestablishes NOAA in the Department of Commerce to be headed by the Under Secretary of Oceans and Atmosphere who shall serve as the Administrator of NOAA ▪ Maintains in NOAA; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The National Weather Service ○ programs to collect data and provide information on coastal, ocean and Great Lakes satellite observations ○ programs to support research, education, and technological development related to weather, climate, the coasts, oceans and the Great Lakes ○ programs to conduct research and education and the development of technologies relating to weather, climate, the coasts, oceans, and Great Lakes ▪ Establishes the Science Advisory Board in NOAA | <p>Ehlers (R-MI) Science, SC Energy & Environment Natural Resources, SC Oceans 1/8/09: Introduced</p> |
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OFFSHORE ENERGY

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| H.R. 2885 | <p>Ocean Thermal Energy Tax and Energy Credits Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the credit for electricity produced from certain renewable resources ▪ Allows an energy tax credit for investment in equipment which uses ocean thermal energy to generate electricity, to cool a structure, or to produce fresh water | <p>Faleomavaega (D-AS) Ways and Means 6/16/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 2834 | <p>To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct a technological capability assessment, survey, and economic feasibility study regarding recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Administrator of NOAA to develop an assessment of all available domestic technological capabilities required for the location and the efficient and environmentally sound recovery of minerals, other than oil and natural gas, from the shallow and deep seabed of the United States ▪ Requires a survey of the shallow and deep seabed of the United States to identify sites for the recovery of such minerals ▪ Requires an economic feasibility study on the recovery of such minerals ▪ Requires a related report to Congress | <p>Faleomavaega (D-AS) Natural Resources, SC Oceans, SC Energy and Min. Res. 6/11/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 2148 | <p>Marine Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Department of Energy to establish a program of marine renewable energy research focused on: (1) developing new marine renewable energy technologies; (2) reducing the manufacturing and operation costs of such technologies; (3) increasing the reliability of marine renewable energy facilities; (4) integrating marine renewable energy into the national electric grid; (5) identifying the environmental impacts of marine renewable energy ▪ Requires the Department of Energy to create a Marine-based Energy Device Verification Program to provide a bridge from the wave, tidal, or current energy capture device design and development efforts underway across the industry to commercial deployment of marine renewable energy devices | <p>Inslee (D-WA) Science, Commerce, Ways and Means, SC Energy & Environment 4/28/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 2120 | <p>Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Submerged Lands Act regarding delineation of lateral offshore state boundaries with respect to the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, as well as related oil and gas mineral rights ▪ Repeals the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 | <p>Myrick (R-NC) Natural Resources, Science, Judiciary, SC Energy & Min. Res., SC Oceans 4/27/09: Introduced</p> |

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| H.R. 1906 | <p>California Ocean and Coastal Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit oil and gas preleasing, leasing, and related activities off the coast of California | <p>Capps (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Energy & Min. Res. 4/2/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1696 | <p>Clean Ocean and Safe Tourism Anti-Drilling Act (COAST Anti-Drilling Act)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit offshore drilling on the Outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic and North Atlantic planning areas | <p>Pallone (D-NJ) Natural Resources, SC Energy & Min. Res. 3/24/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1690 | <p>Coastal State Renewable Energy Promotion Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to give lease grants to coastal states for voluntary coastal water surveys that identify areas for exploration, development, and production of renewable energy Requires that suitable areas be given priority for renewable energy siting | <p>Capps (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 3/24/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1143 | <p>Developing Resources Immediately and Long-Term through Leases on Our Nation's Offshore Waters Act of 2009 (DRILL NOW Act of 2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to revoke existing presidential authority to withdraw unleased lands of the outer Continental Shelf from disposition for exploration, development, or production of oil and gas Authorizes state governors to petition the Secretary of the Interior to issue leases for oil and gas exploration and development within 50 miles of the state coastline Instructs the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit 30% of qualified revenues from oil and gas development into a Clean and Alternative Energy Fund | <p>Poe (R-TX) Natural Resources, SC Energy & Min. Res. 2/24/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 797 | <p>Maximize Offshore Resource Exploration Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terminates long-standing Federal prohibitions on the domestic production of offshore oil and natural gas Removes protections on all U.S. submerged lands previously exempt from oil and gas exploration and production Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from allowing oil and gas leases on any OCS within 25 miles of the state coast unless the state has allowed it Qualifies states for 75% of revenue from oil and gas projects within 25 miles of their coast Establishes the Renewable Energy Reserve in the Treasury, to be composed of 12.5% of all oil and gas royalties from these projects Makes the Reserve accessible for energy efficiency initiatives | <p>Calvert (R-CA) Natural Resources, SC Energy & Min. Res., House Budget, House Rules 2/3/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 790 | <p>Georges Bank Preservation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibits the lease or authorization by the Federal Government of exploration, | <p>Markey (D-MA) Natural Resources, SC Oceans, SC Energy</p> |

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| | <p>development, or production of oil and gas in any marine national monument, natural marine sanctuary, or on fishing grounds of Georges Bank in U.S. waters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Designates that the Secretary of Commerce will define the coordinates of Georges Bank | <p>& Min. Res. 2/2/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 204 | <p>Northern California Ocean and Coastal Protection Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Permanently prohibits oil and gas leasing and related activities off the coast of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties in California ▪ Amends the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to exclude these areas from mandatory oil and gas inventories | <p>Thompson (D-CA) Natural Resources, SC Energy & Min. Res. 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 53 | <p>Bad Polluters Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny expensing to refineries with permission to discharge certain waste levels into the Great Lakes | <p>Kirk (R-IL) Ways and Means 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 49 | <p>American Energy Independence and Price Reduction Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes and implements a competitive oil and gas leasing program ▪ Allows exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources off the Coastal Plain of Alaska | <p>Young (R-AK) Natural Resources, Commerce, Science, SC Energy & Min. Res. 1/6/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 1560 | <p>Alaska Adjacent Zone Revenue Sharing Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to increase the percentage of bonus revenues paid to the state of Alaska from offshore energy leases | <p>Begich (D-AK) Energy and Natural Resources 8/3/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 923 | <p>Marine Renewable Energy Promotion Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 2148 | <p>Murkowski (R-AK) Energy and Natural Resources 4/29/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 851 | <p>Georges Bank Preservation Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 790 | <p>Kerry (D-MA) Energy and Natural Resources 4/22/09: Introduced</p> |

RESEARCH, SCIENCE, AND EDUCATION

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| H.R. 2864 | <p>To amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 to authorize funds to acquire hydrographic data and provide hydrographic services specific to the Arctic for safe navigation, delineating the United States extended continental shelf, and the monitoring and description of coastal changes</p> | <p>Young (R-AK) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 6/12/09: Introduced</p> |
| H.R. 1771 | <p>Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Authorization Act of 1992 to require the Director of the Chesapeake Bay Office of NOAA to support the development of an integrated observations system for the Bay | <p>Sarbanes (D-MD) Natural Resources, SC Oceans 3/26/09: Introduced 7/8/09: Hearings held</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports the establishment and implementation of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail ▪ Establishes a Chesapeake Bay watershed education and training program ▪ Establishes a Chesapeake Bay coastal living resources management and habitat program | 7/29/09: Ordered to be reported (amended) by unanimous consent |
| H.R. 327 | <p>National Hurricane Research Initiative Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere of the Department of Commerce and the Director of the National Science Foundation to establish a National Hurricane Research Initiative and to cooperate with other specified federal agencies to carry it out | Hastings (D-FL) Science, SC Energy & Environment 1/8/09: Introduced |
| S. 1564 | <p>Arctic Oil Spill Research and Prevention Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instructs the Secretary of Commerce to direct research and enhance the ability of the United States to prevent, respond, and recover from oil spills in the Arctic ▪ Requires that the Secretary of Commerce direct a risk assessment of current oil spill recovery procedures in the Arctic | Begich (D-AK) Commerce 8/3/09: Introduced |
| S. 1562 | <p>Arctic Ocean Research and Science Policy Review Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Directs the Secretary of Commerce to require the National Research Council to conduct a study of current research on the Arctic ▪ Requires the study to include a 10-20 year United States Arctic Ocean research and monitoring plan ▪ Requires a report of the study to Congress 18 months after the enactment of this Act | Begich (D-AK) Commerce 8/3/09: Introduced |
| S. 1252 | <p>Oceans and Human Health Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Oceans and Human Health Act to expand the interagency oceans and human health research program to include coasts and the Great Lakes ▪ Directs the President, through the National Science and Technology Council, to deliver information and services to reduce public health risks, and enhance health benefits from the ocean ▪ Requires the establishment of an oceans and human health advisory panel ▪ Extends funding to carry out the initiative | Rockefeller (D-WV) Commerce 6/11/09: Introduced |
| S. 1224 | <p>Chesapeake Bay Science, Education, and Ecosystem Enhancement Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Companion bill to H.R. 1771 | Warner (D-VA) Commerce 6/10/09: Introduced |
| S. 952 | <p>Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to require the Secretary of Commerce to create an Interagency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia | Snowe (R-ME) Commerce 5/1/09: Introduced |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the President to establish a coordinated national research program for algal blooms and hypoxia research ▪ Requires the Task Force to report to congressional committees on hypoxia research every five years | |
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TRANSPORTATION AND SHIPPING

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| S. 1563 | <p>United States Ambassador at Large for Arctic Affairs Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Amends the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 ▪ Directs the President to appoint an Ambassador at Large for Arctic Affairs to deal with foreign relations and meetings relating to Arctic affairs | <p>Begich (D-AK) Foreign Relations 8/3/09: Introduced</p> |
| S. 1561 | <p>Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment Implementation Act of 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the Coast Guard to complete a High Latitude Polar Ice-Breaking Mission Analysis Report and any recommendations related to the report ▪ Directs the Coast Guard to prepare an Arctic Vessel Traffic Risk Assessment and provide recommendations to Congress | <p>Begich (D-AK) Commerce 8/3/09: Introduced</p> |