

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN DOC HASTINGS



**Creating Jobs & Advancing
Common Sense Solutions to
Grow our Economy and
Protect our Environment**

<http://naturalresources.house.gov>

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Dear Colleague:

During the 112th Congress, the Natural Resources Committee has focused extensively on how to keep and create new American jobs, protect the environment and grow our economy through the responsible use and management of our natural resources. The broad jurisdiction of this Committee allows us to touch multiple facets of American life and we have worked to balance the need to be responsible stewards of our resources, while also protecting our most treasured lands and waters.

Fast Facts

- 113** - Natural Resources Committee Bills Passed by the House
(see appendix A)
- 187** - Total Number of Committee & Subcommittee Hearings
- 43** - Number of Full Committee Hearings
- 16** - Number of Full Committee Markups

Nearly every bill advanced by this Committee helps foster American job creation and economic growth. Increasing all-of-the-above American energy production, protecting public access to public lands and waters, and reducing burdensome government regulations and red tape are all essential in order to put people back to work and strengthen our Nation's economic competitiveness.

The Committee also took very seriously our responsibility to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch. We took a close and thoughtful look at numerous Obama Administration policies, regulations and actions, including the Endangered Species Act, the National Ocean Policy, the Wild Lands Secretarial Order, the re-write of coal regulations, the drilling moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico, energy policies, new mandates on Power Marketing Administrations, the Cobell settlement agreement, and many more. Through investigations and oversight hearings, this Committee sought answers from the Administration on behalf of the American people and promoted accountability and transparency.

By responsibly harnessing our own natural resources, we can create new jobs, decrease our dependence on foreign countries, and revitalize our economy, while still protecting the environment. The Natural Resources Committee will remain focused on promoting these common sense, job-creating policies.

Sincerely,



Doc Hastings
Chairman
House Committee on Natural Resources

Protecting & Creating American Jobs

Since President Obama was elected, the American people have been asking, “where are the jobs?” Under President Obama’s failed leadership, unemployment has been over 8 percent for 43 months and there are 23 million Americans without a job.

During the 112th Congress, one of the Natural Resources Committee’s top priorities has been keeping and creating new American jobs and growing our economy through the responsible use and management of our natural resources.

Our Nation’s natural resources – from energy to minerals, water and timber – are integral to our daily lives and necessary for a strong, competitive economy. By responsibly harnessing our natural resources we can create new American jobs and strengthen America’s competitiveness.

Unfortunately, the Obama Administration has chosen to impose red tape and policy after policy on American families and small businesses that are impeding our economic recovery. These federal policies that delay or outright block access to our country’s natural resources send American jobs overseas, forfeit new government revenue and increase our reliance on often hostile foreign countries.

The House has passed nearly [40 jobs](#) bills aimed at reducing barriers to private-sector job creation that are sitting in the Democrat-controlled Senate awaiting action.

Several of these are Natural Resources Committee bills, including:

- ✓ H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act
- ✓ H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act
- ✓ H.R. 1231, Reversing President Obama’s Offshore Moratorium Act
- ✓ H.R. 1837, Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act
- ✓ H.R. 1904, Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act
- ✓ H.R. 2087, To remove restrictions from a parcel of land situated in the Atlantic District, Accomack County, Virginia.
- ✓ H.R. 2578, Conservation and Economic Growth Act
- ✓ H.R. 2842, Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act
- ✓ H.R. 3408, Protecting Investment in Oil Shale the Next Generation of Environmental, Energy, and Resource Security Act (PIONEERS)
- ✓ H.R. 3409, Stop the War on Coal Act
- ✓ H.R. 4402, National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act
- ✓ H.R. 4480, Domestic Energy and Jobs Act
- ✓ H.R. 5544, Minnesota Education Investment and Employment Act
- ✓ H.R. 6082, Congressional Replacement of President Obama's Energy-Restricting and Job-Limiting Offshore Drilling Plan

Strengthening and Improving the Endangered Species Act

This Congress, the Committee held a series of oversight hearings to review the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and conduct a fair and open assessment of both the law's strengths and weaknesses. Congress last renewed the ESA in 1988, which means it has been 24 years since any substantial updates have been made.

Of the 1,401 domestic animal and plant species listed under the Act, just 20 species have been declared recovered - representing only a 1 percent recovery rate. The law is failing to achieve its primary purpose of recovering endangered species. We must do better for both species and people.

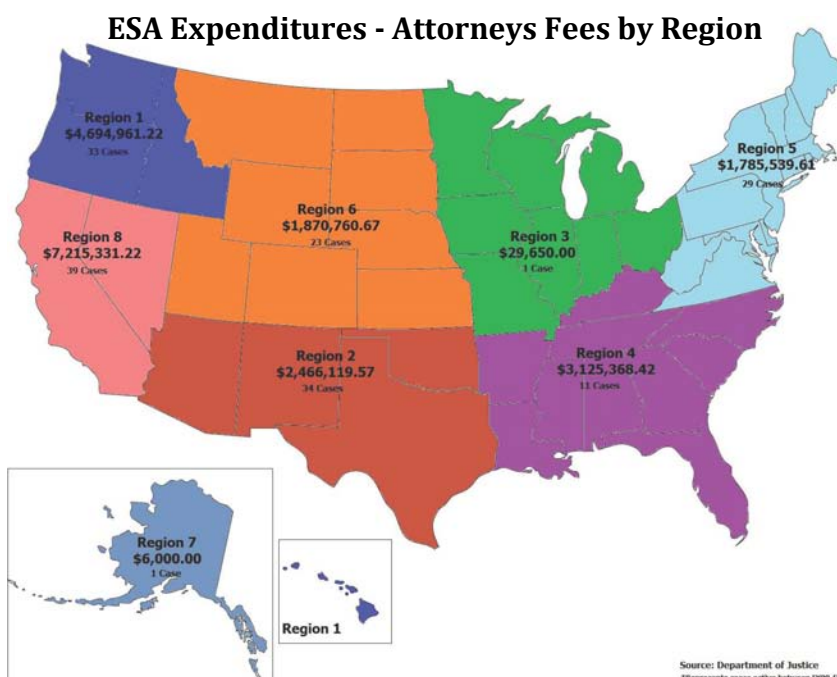
Oversight of ESA-Related Litigation and DOI's "Mega-Settlements"

One of the greatest obstacles to the success of the ESA is the way in which it has become a tool for excessive litigation. Instead of focusing on recovering endangered species, groups are using the ESA to file hundreds of lawsuits against the government. In response, agencies have to spend time and financial resources addressing those lawsuits instead of species recovery.

In 2011, the Obama Administration's Department of the Interior

(DOI) announced it had negotiated settlements, behind closed-doors, with two litigious environmental organizations, the Center for Biological Diversity and the WildEarth Guardians. While DOI touts the settlements as "an improvement of the ESA," the settlements raise serious questions about the Obama Administration's scope of authority and lack of transparency on the ESA. Over the past few months, the following facts were uncovered relating to the "mega-settlements":

- The settlements require DOI to decide by 2016 whether to list 779 species and designate critical habitat in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.
- In the year since the settlements have been signed, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has already moved ahead to list 107 more species.



- Implementation of the settlement could cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars just to complete required regulatory paperwork, according to testimony heard by the Committee.
- According to the [Department of Justice](#), more than 500 ESA-related lawsuits were filed or opened against the federal government since 2009, and more than \$21 million has been awarded in taxpayer funded attorneys' fees to environmental lawyers through the Judgment Fund and the Equal Access to Justice Act. Some attorneys are paid as much as \$450 per hour for their efforts to sue under the ESA.

The Committee has held two full committee hearings on ESA litigation, and multiple witnesses testified about the need to address the impact of litigation and improve implementation of ESA. Since March of this year, the Committee has been awaiting responses from the Obama Administration on two oversight and document requests regarding DOI's negotiation of settlements.

The Committee has also requested information about the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) "instruction memoranda" and "technical reports" relating to western states' efforts to protect the Greater Sage Grouse, a candidate species included in the "mega-settlements" that if listed could adversely impact mining, grazing and other energy and economic development throughout the interior West.

Budget Oversight

The Committee has held several budget oversight hearings to closely examine the

merit and spending levels of ESA programs submitted by agencies within the Committee's jurisdiction. In Fiscal Year 2010, federal agencies spent a combined \$1.4 billion in taxpayer and electricity ratepayer dollars on ESA implementation. For FY 2013, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service requested more than \$250 million for ESA-related programs. NOAA requested \$184 million. Amidst huge deficits and a soaring national debt, these requests represent \$200 million more than Congress appropriated the previous year. The result: more petitions to list species, more critical habitat designations, and more lawsuits.

Impacts of ESA on Jobs, Schools and Catastrophic Wildfires

ESA lawsuits and regulations are too often used to block job-creating economic activities. For example:

- A witness at the Committee's June ESA hearing testified that ESA and environmental litigation have blocked the development of an elementary school in San Diego that was originally slated for construction in 1998.
- During the Committee's July hearing on ESA and wildfires, it was discovered that in the last four years, 59 environmental lawsuits have been filed against the Forest Service or BLM regarding forest management. All of the witnesses testifying before the Committee agreed that regulations and processes related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and ESA increased the risk of wildfires that destroyed entire habitats of species. These wildfires harm the environment and put communities and jobs at risk.

President Obama's Plan to Impose Mandatory Ocean Zoning

The Committee has conducted thorough oversight over President Obama's plan to unilaterally implement a new National Ocean Policy and mandatory ocean zoning. The President is using the ocean as his latest regulatory weapon to impose new bureaucratic restrictions on nearly every sector of our economy. While marketed as a common sense plan for the development and protection of our oceans, it is instead being used to create a massive new bureaucracy that would harm our economy.

Top 10 Things to Know

1. **Lacks Congressional Authorization.** In four separate Congresses, legislation has been introduced to implement similar far-reaching ocean policies, and to-date NO bill has passed the House or been reported out of a Committee.
2. **Unilateral Action.** Established through Executive Order, President Obama with a simple stroke of a pen took unilateral action to impose a massive top-down federal bureaucracy with broad regulatory control over our oceans, Great Lakes, rivers, tributaries and watersheds.
3. **Locks up our Ocean.** Imposing mandatory ocean zoning could place huge portions of our oceans and coasts off-limits, seriously curtailing recreational activities, commercial fishing, and all types of energy development – including renewable energy such as offshore wind farms.
4. **Far-Reaching Impacts Not Limited to the Ocean.** This new ocean zoning authority would allow Federally-

Republicans in Action

The Natural Resources Committee has held multiple oversight hearings and sent numerous letters to the Administration to investigate the policy, its implementation and potential impacts.

In May 2012, the House, in a bipartisan vote, approved an [amendment](#) by Rep. Bill Flores (TX-17) to pause funding for this policy until the true job and economic impacts are known. This pause in funding was supported by over 80 organizations, including the US Chamber of Commerce, American Farm Bureau Federation, National Association of Homebuilders, American Forest & Paper Association, and the National Fisheries Institute.

5. **Threatens American Jobs.** Ocean zoning has the potential to damage sectors such as agriculture, commercial and recreational fishing, construction, manufacturing, marine commerce, mining, oil and natural gas, renewable energy, recreational boating, and waterborne transportation, among others. These industries support tens of millions of jobs and contribute trillions of dollars to the U.S. economy.

6. **New Cost to Taxpayers.** This new policy will affect already budget-strapped agencies such as NOAA, Department of Commerce, Department of the Interior, EPA, Department of Transportation, USDA, Homeland Security, and the Army Corps of Engineers. As Federal budgets are further reduced, it is unclear how much funding the agencies are taking from existing programs to develop and implement this new initiative.
7. **Creates More Bureaucracy.** The Executive Order creates: 10 National Policies; a 27-member National Ocean Council; an 18-member Governance Coordinating Committee; and 9 Regional Planning Bodies. This has led to an additional: 9 National Priority Objectives; 9 Strategic Action Plans; 7 National Goals for Coastal Marine Spatial Planning; and 12 Guiding Principles for Coastal Marine Spatial Planning to be created.
8. **Tool for Litigation.** The ocean zoning initiative involves vague and undefined objectives, goals, and policies that can be used as fodder for lawsuits to stop or delay Federally-permitted activities. This initiative is poised to become a litigation nightmare.
9. **Those Impacted by Regulations Need Not Apply.** The Regional Planning Bodies, created by the ocean zoning initiative, will have no representation by the people, communities and businesses that will actually be impacted by the regulations. These heavily Federal bodies will create zoning plans without any stakeholders yet all Federal agencies, the States, and the regulated communities will be bound by the plan.
10. **New Regulatory Uncertainty.** The impacts of this new ocean zoning initiative contribute to an uncertain regulatory climate that is hindering economic activity and job creation.



Expanding Access to American Energy and Mineral Resources

Chaired by Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO-05), the Energy and Minerals Subcommittee was extremely active during the 112th Congress. The Subcommittee held over 32 legislative and oversight hearings focused on protecting and expanding access to American energy and mineral resources in order to create jobs, grow our economy and strengthen our national security.

Increasing American Energy Production Offshore

The Subcommittee conducted thorough oversight of the Obama Administration's plan to lock-up our offshore energy resources and has helped advance numerous bills to require the Department of the Interior to hold lease sales that were delayed or canceled by the Obama Administration and move forward with an offshore lease plan that allows for oil and natural gas production in areas containing the most energy resources.

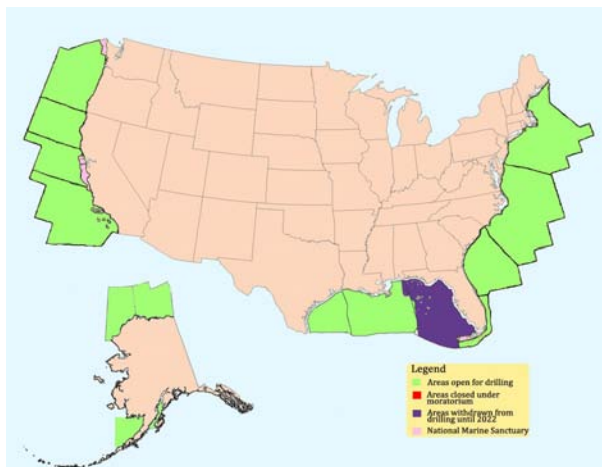
The Obama Administration's offshore drilling plan for 2012-2017 would place 85 percent of America's offshore areas off-limits to energy production. It includes only 15 lease sales, which according to [CRS](#) is the lowest number of lease sales ever included in a five-year plan since the program began. It would set our Nation's energy production back to the days before 2008 when two moratoria prohibited drilling of the vast majority of America's offshore areas.

In a bipartisan [vote](#), the House rejected President Obama's offshore drilling plan and voted to replace it with a robust plan that offers 29 lease sales in areas known to contain the most oil and natural gas.

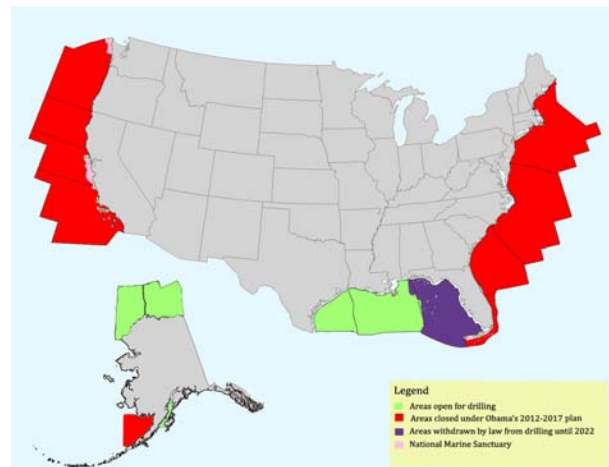
Onshore

The Committee has also taken steps to encourage the responsible production of our onshore energy and mineral resources, including oil, natural gas, shale gas, oil shale, coal and critical minerals.

Offshore Areas Available for Drilling when President Obama Took Office (January 2009)



Offshore Areas Blocked for Drilling under President Obama's Final 2012-2017 Plan



The House [passed](#) bipartisan legislation to open less than three percent of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) in Alaska to energy production, encourage the timely and efficient production of resources in the National Petroleum Reserve–Alaska (NPR-A), streamline the permitting process for onshore energy development, reform the leasing process for onshore energy development, and promote U.S. oil shale development.

The Subcommittee has conducted aggressive oversight of the Obama Administration’s [new regulations](#) on hydraulic fracturing on federal lands, including holding field hearings in Colorado and Ohio. The Administration’s duplicative, burdensome regulations on the state regulated, safe-practice of hydraulic fracturing will stifle energy production and cost American jobs.

The House has also [passed](#) legislation (H.R. 4402) to streamline government red tape to allow the U.S. to more efficiently develop our Nation’s strategic and critical minerals, such as rare earth elements, that are vital to job creation, economic competitiveness and national security.

Finally, the Subcommittee has conducted [oversight](#) of the Obama Administration’s war on coal, including their rewrite of the 2008 Stream Buffer Zone Rule that could cost 7,000 jobs and cause economic harm in 22 states.

Renewable Energy

House Republicans are committed to utilizing America’s abundant and diverse energy resources to implement an all-of-the-above, American-made energy

U.S. Energy Resources

Total U.S. Oil and Natural Gas

- 162.9 billion barrels of oil
- 1420.9 trillion cubic feet of gas

Outer Continental Shelf (Offshore)

- 85.8 billion barrels of oil
- 419.8 trillion cubic feet of gas

Onshore

- 48.6 billion barrels of oil
- 756.31 trillion cubic feet of gas

Coal

- 488 billion short tons, of which 261 billion short tons is recoverable through mining

Oil Shale

- More than 1.5 trillion barrels of oil

Shale Gas

- 616 trillion cubic feet

Methane Hydrates

- 320,000 trillion cubic feet of gas

Provided by Congressional Research Service

strategy. This includes utilizing our public lands for renewable energy projects. Yet too often renewable energy projects get caught up in government red tape.

That’s why the Committee [approved](#) four renewable energy bills to help promote wind, solar and geothermal energy production on federal lands and waters. The bills would streamline burdensome regulations and cumbersome government permitting processes that have greatly slowed renewable energy development on public lands.

Promoting Safe and Responsible Energy Production

In the wake of the Deepwater Horizon aftermath, the Committee held numerous hearings on offshore safety and stressed the vital need for American energy production to remain the safest in the

world. The Committee [passed](#) legislation to formally abolish the former Minerals Management Service (MMS) and create three separate offshore agencies to ensure robust and safe American energy production to create jobs and strengthen national security.

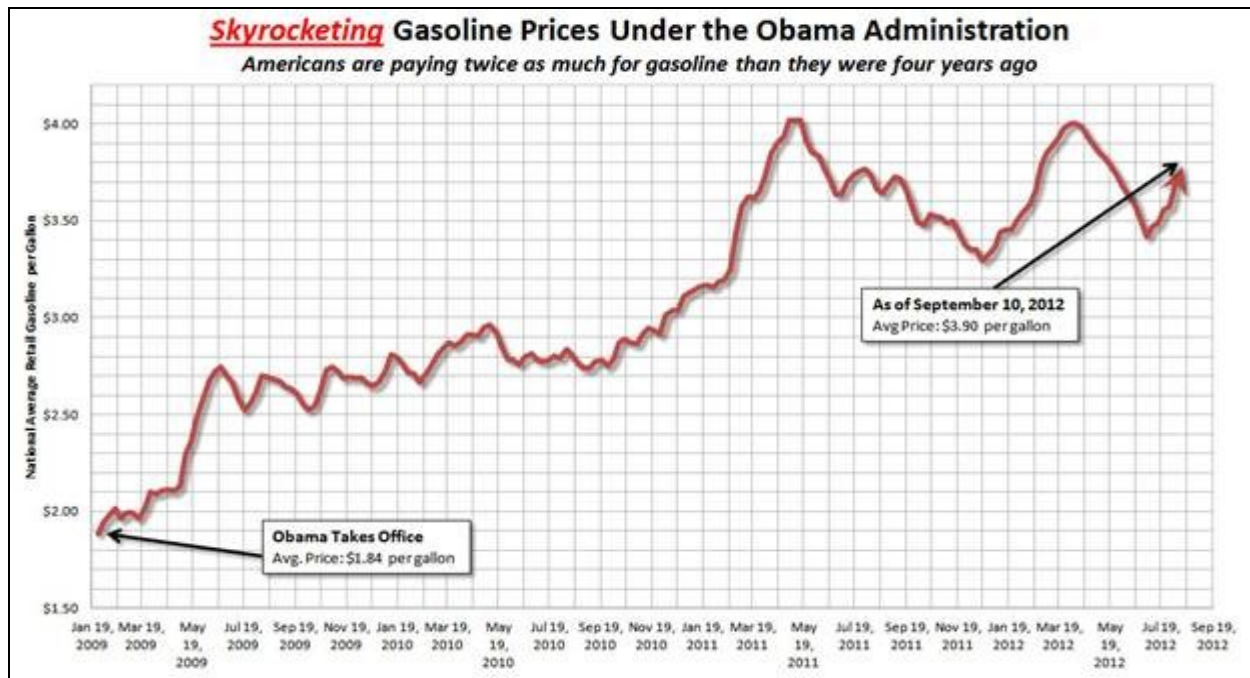
The Committee also held numerous hearings examining the job, energy and economic impacts of the Obama Administration's six-month drilling moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico and the subsequent *de facto* moratorium. At a field hearing in Louisiana, Members of the Committee heard first hand from local citizens and businesses about recovery efforts, the impacts of the Administration's *de facto* moratorium on drilling and the deployment of new technology to improve the safety of offshore drilling. The House also passed [H.R. 1229](#), *Putting the Gulf of Mexico Back to Work Act*, to end the *de facto* moratorium by setting firm timelines to act on permits to drill.

Addressing Rising Gasoline Prices

According to the Energy Information Administration, fossil fuel production (oil, natural gas and coal) on federal lands has dropped by 7 percent since President Obama took office. Administration policies that block access to American energy increase the price of gasoline and increase our dependence on hostile foreign nations.

House Republicans are committed to addressing America's rising gasoline prices by increasing American energy production. The Full Committee held several hearings this Congress on rising gasoline prices and the impact on families, small businesses, farmers and ranchers, and our economy.

According to an analyst from Cameron Hanover, for every penny the price of gasoline increases, it costs consumers an additional \$4 million per day. That equals \$1.4 billion over an entire year. Even the smallest increase in gasoline prices has a significant impact on our economy.



House Passed Energy Legislation

- **H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf Back to Work Act.** Facilitates the safe and timely production of American energy resources from the Gulf of Mexico.
- **H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act.** Requires the Administration to move forward promptly to conduct offshore lease sales in the Gulf of Mexico and offshore Virginia that the Obama Administration has delayed or canceled.
- **H.R. 1231, Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act.** Lifts the President's ban on new offshore drilling by requiring the Administration to move forward with energy production in areas containing the most oil and natural gas resources.
- **H.R. 2150, National Petroleum Reserve Alaska Act.** Ensures that oil and natural gas resources in the NPR-A are developed and transported in a timely and efficient manner. (Included in H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 2752, BLM Live Internet Auctions Act.** Allows Internet-based auctions for onshore leases to ensure the best return to the Federal taxpayer, reduce fraud, and secure the leasing process. (Included in H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 4381, Planning for American Energy Act.** Requires creation of an all-of-the-above American energy plan for using federal lands to meet our Nation's energy needs. (Included in H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 4382, Providing Leasing Certainty for American Energy Act.** Reforms the leasing process for onshore oil and natural gas projects on federal land in order to eliminate unnecessary government delays and hurdles. (Included in H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 4383, Streamlining Permitting of American Energy Act.** Reforms the process for energy permitting, to encourage the timely development of our federal onshore oil, natural gas, and renewable resources. (Included in H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 2172, Advancing Offshore Wind Production Act.** Streamlines the process to approve temporary infrastructure to test and develop offshore wind power. (Amendment to H.R. 4480)
- **H.R. 3407, Alaskan Energy for American Jobs Act.** Opens less than 3 percent of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to responsible energy development. (Included in H.R. 3408)
- **H.R. 3408, PIONEERS Act.** Sets clear rules for the development of U.S. oil shale resources and promoting shale technology research and development.
- **H.R. 3410, Energy Security and Transportation Jobs Act.** Requires the Administration to conduct certain offshore oil and natural gas lease sales, provide revenue sharing for coastal states and move forward with offshore energy production in area with the most resources. (Included in H.R. 3408)
- **H.R. 2171, Exploring Geothermal Energy on Federal Lands Act.** Reduces redundancy and bureaucratic delays by establishing a common sense policy for the development of clean, geothermal energy. (Amendment to H.R. 3408)
- **H.R. 4402, the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act.** Streamlines red tape to allow the U.S. to more efficiently develop our Nation's strategic and critical minerals.
- **H.R. 6082, the Congressional Replacement of President Obama's Energy-Restricting and Job-Limiting Offshore Drilling Plan.** Replaces President Obama's offshore lease plan with a robust plan that offers 29 lease sales in areas known to contain the most oil and natural gas resources.
- **H.R. 3409, the Stop the War on Coal Act.** Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from issuing new rules or regulations that will adversely impact mining jobs and our economy.

Promoting Responsible Management of our Oceans, Fisheries and Wildlife

The Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs, chaired by Rep. John Fleming (LA-04), held 28 hearings this Congress focused on promoting responsible management of our oceans, wildlife and fisheries in order to balance responsible stewardship with the need to protect and create new American jobs.

Fisheries Management

Subcommittee Members examined a number of threats to jobs in our coastal communities including: regulations that are causing overly precautionary management decisions which are adversely affecting the bottom line for both recreational and commercial fishermen; an Executive Order creating a new National Ocean Policy; and decisions to restrict recreational and commercial fishing activities without an adequate scientific basis.

A series of oversight and legislative hearings relating to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the law governing fisheries management in federal waters, and the Obama Administration's National Ocean Policy were held. Local perspectives on how to improve fisheries management was heard not only in Washington, D.C., but also in Washington state, Alaska, and Florida.

With almost a dozen legislative efforts to revise the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act introduced in the 112th Congress, Rep. Jon

Runyan (NJ-03), introduced legislation to combine the most important provisions into one vehicle. H.R. 6350, *The Transparent and Science-Based Fishery Management Act of 2012*, addresses issues raised in the hearings including basing annual catch limits on better science, requiring participant approval of new catch shares, allowing rebuilding flexibility for certain fisheries, using NOAA enforcement funds to acquire better fisheries information, requiring decisions on commercial fisheries disaster assistance in a timely manner, and requiring better transparency for the activities and decisions of the regional fishery management councils.

Lacey Act

This Congress the Subcommittee carefully examined the Lacey Act, a law first intended to protect native flora and fauna by banning the interstate transportation and sale of illegally obtained animal and plant products. However, since its enactment in 1900, the Lacey Act has been amended several times including expansions to include foreign laws, fish, and the importation and sale of illegally obtained timber and other plant products. The broad expansion of the law has increased job-destroying red tape and resulted in unanticipated consequences that have negatively impacted individuals and American businesses.

The Subcommittee [examined](#) several bills that would amend or alter varying aspects of the Lacey Act and the Full Committee

passed H.R. 3210, the *Retailers and Entertainers Lacey Implementation and Enforcement Fairness Act* (RELIEF Act). Introduced by Reps. Jim Cooper, Mary Bono Mack, and Marsha Blackburn, the RELIEF Act would improve and strengthen the Lacey Act to safeguard American jobs and protect American businesses and individuals from the unintended consequences of the law.

Land Acquisition, Operations and Maintenance Backlog

The Subcommittee conducted oversight on the operations and maintenance backlog of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Members heard from the Administration and associated parties on the current state of the System, the effects of the maintenance and operations backlog, and the Obama Administration's efforts to buy more land even though we can't properly maintain the land we already own. Despite a substantial maintenance and operations backlog, the Obama Administration

requested \$450 million to buy more land through the Land and Water Conservation Fund in the FY2013 budget, a \$160 million spending increase for government land acquisition compared to funding levels when he first took office.

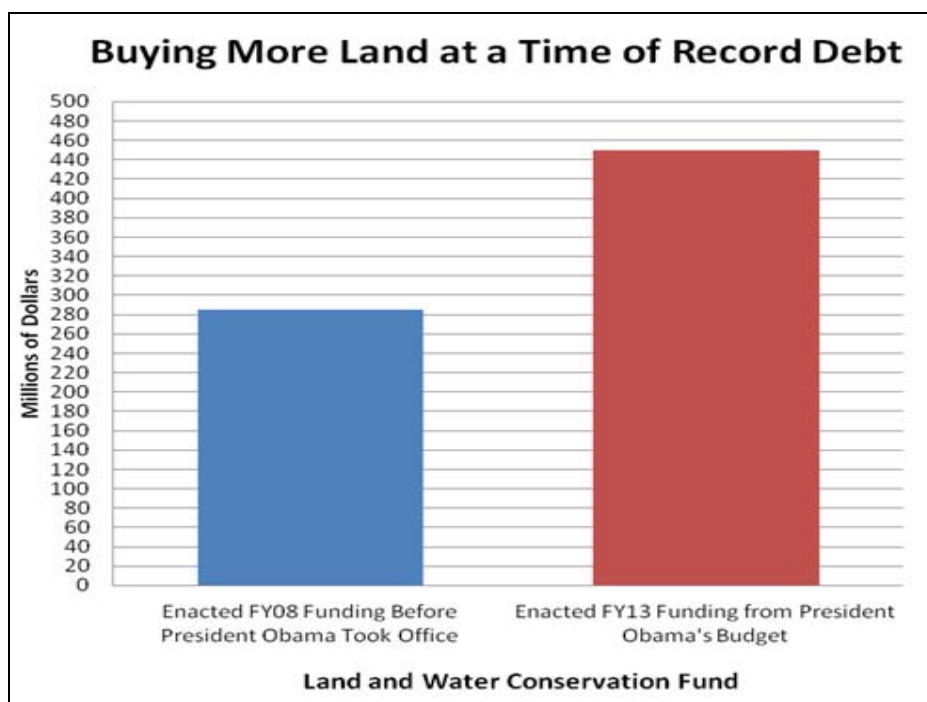
The Subcommittee also examined the Obama Administration's plans to administratively establish a 150,000 acre National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area in central Florida. This proposal would cost taxpayers \$700 million to buy the land and cost jobs by locking up this land to economic activities. However, it's questionable how much this proposal would contribute to the overall goal of restoring the Florida Everglades.

Invasive Species

There are now thousands of acres of land in the U.S. that are overrun by invasive species, including Asian carp, feral pigs, Giant Salvinia, and zebra mussels. The

Subcommittee held hearings examining how these foreign invaders are destroying valuable infrastructure and are costing taxpayers millions of lost dollars.

The House also passed legislation, H.R. 6007, the *North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act*, which would protect drinking water from being infested by zebra mussels.



Promoting Jobs and Economic Development on Tribal Lands

Chaired by Rep. Don Young (AK, at large), the Subcommittee on Indian & Alaska Native Affairs held 23 hearings to promote job creation and economic growth on Tribal and Alaska Native lands.

Energy Development

The Subcommittee held multiple hearings on Tribal development of energy resources and the creation of energy jobs on Indian lands. While Indian lands contain vast energy resources, actions by the Obama Administration have prevented many tribes from developing resources, creating jobs and improving their local tribal economies. Since taking office, the Obama Administration has implemented numerous roadblocks to Indian Energy development. The Subcommittee has

conducted vigorous oversight of the Administration in order to shine light on these policies and ensure accountability.

For example, in 2009 the Environmental Protection Agency ordered the cancellation of a permit for a Navajo Nation power plant that Navajo leadership called the most important development project the tribe has ever undertaken. The plant was expected to create 400 permanent jobs and generate \$50 million per year in revenue. A joint hearing was held with the Water and Power Subcommittee to examine the severe economic consequences of EPA's over-regulation.

An oversight hearing was also held on the

Indian Energy Production (dollars in millions)			
Commodity	Value of Reserves Produced in 2007	Total Value of Produced Reserves (1937-2007) and (1928-2007) for Coal	Proven Recoverable Reserves
Oil	\$898	\$19,545	881,609,916 bbls. = \$66,121 at \$75/bbl
Natural Gas	\$1,832	\$18,677	10,011,633,407 mcf = \$60,070 at \$4/mcf
Coal	\$616	\$15,385	1,203,600,00 tons = \$14,443 at \$12/ton

Source: 2008 Study by the Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development (IEED)

impact of the Interior Department's Hydraulic Fracturing Rules on Tribal energy development. Many Tribes are concerned that they were left out of the rulemaking process and that the current draft rule could greatly impede Tribes' ability to develop their own energy resources.

"BLM's proposed rule on Hydraulic Fracturing, if adopted, will create additional burdens to an already burdensome process that will likely delay and possibly prevent beneficial development of Blackfoot oil resources." — T.J. Show, Chairman of the Blackfoot Tribal Business Council

The Subcommittee also traveled to Alaska to hold an oversight field hearing in Fairbanks to examine the hardships local Alaska Natives face with high energy prices and how federal laws and regulations are affecting energy prices in rural Alaska and Native Villages.

In a bipartisan vote, the Committee passed [H.R. 3973](#), the *Native American Energy Act*. This bill streamlines burdensome and duplicative government regulations and increases the opportunity for Indian tribes to develop energy resources on their own land to create jobs and increase American energy production. It also requires the consent of a tribe before the Department of the Interior can restrict hydraulic fracturing on the Tribe's lands.

Economic Opportunities

After gathering input from Tribal Leaders across the country, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Chairman Don Young and Ranking Member Dan

Boren introduced H.R. 3532, the *American Indian Empowerment Act of 2011*.

This bipartisan piece of legislation would enhance the authority America's tribes have wanted over their lands. Specifically, this bill would allow a Tribe to request that the title to its Tribal land be taken out of trust and conveyed to the tribe while also ensuring such lands retain their "Indian Country" status. The bill would also permit a Tribe to lease its lands without having to gain approval from the Secretary of the Interior. Finally, this legislation would authorize a tribe to pass tribal laws that preempt applicable federal laws or regulations governing the tribe's land.

Cobell Settlement Agreement

The Subcommittee conducted aggressive oversight into the \$3.4 billion *Cobell v. Salazar* settlement agreement. Signed into law in 2010, it included an agreement, signed by the plaintiff attorneys and the government, setting attorneys' fees between \$50 million and \$99.9 million. However, plaintiff attorneys filed a petition in U.S. District Court seeking \$223 million pursuant to a previously unknown contingency fee agreement, the exact details of which are still publicly undisclosed.

Under this side deal, every dollar paid to an attorney is a dollar that comes out of the pocket of individual Indians. That's why Subcommittee Chairman Young and Full Committee Chairman Hastings [introduced](#) legislation, H.R. 887, to cap attorneys' fees at \$50 million.

The Subcommittee has received copies of letters and resolutions from tribal leaders and organizations expressing support for a

**National Congress of American Indians
Resolution Supporting Bill to Cap
Cobell Attorneys' Fees**

"The revelation of the contingency fee, and the \$223 million in attorneys' fees sought by the Cobell attorneys, is considered outrageous by many in Indian Country and as a breach of their fiduciary duty to the class by putting their own interests ahead of the class, and has resulted in intense bipartisan scrutiny and criticism." - [NCAI Resolution](#)

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (AFNI) adopted a similar [resolution](#) supporting H.R. 887.

reasonable cap of \$50 million on these fees. The Settlement has been appealed by several individual Indians who believe the Agreement violates their rights under the Constitution.

Carciari vs. Salazar

The Subcommittee held a legislative hearing on bills that would address the Supreme Court's *Carciari vs. Salazar* decision, which states that the Secretary of the Interior has no authority under Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act to require lands in trust for a tribe. The bills would overturn the effects of the Supreme Court decision by delegating authority to the Secretary of the Interior to acquire lands in trust for a tribe recognized at any time. The bills would also ratify and confirm lands that had been put in trust prior to the Supreme Court holding in February 2009. Further consideration of the legislation has been held up because the Interior Department refuses to provide

key legal and historical information necessary for Members of Congress to determine an effective and just resolution to the controversy.

IRS Taxation of Trust Per Capita Payments

The Subcommittee held an oversight hearing into an Obama Administration plan to tax per capita payments derived from the development of timber resources on tribes' unallotted trust lands. The Internal Revenue Service has never before collected such taxes from recipients of these benefits because resources on trust lands are meant to be used for the exclusive benefit of Indians, not the benefit of the federal government. In addition, the Per Capita Act provides that non-gaming per capita payments from a tribe's trust account to its enrolled members are not taxable.

Though usually modest in size, tribal trust per capita distributions supplement the income of tribal members living on the reservation and trying to meet their families' basic needs including warm clothes, electricity bills, and food.

During the hearing, a witness representing the Internal Revenue Service, under fire from Members of the Committee and from tribal leaders representing the Yakama Nation, Warm Springs Tribe, and Colville Tribes, clarified that it would back off from collecting taxes on trust per capita payments. The Subcommittee nonetheless intends to monitor the controversy closely because the IRS is reportedly advising several tribes that per capita payments may still be audited by the agency.

Protecting Public Access to Public Lands

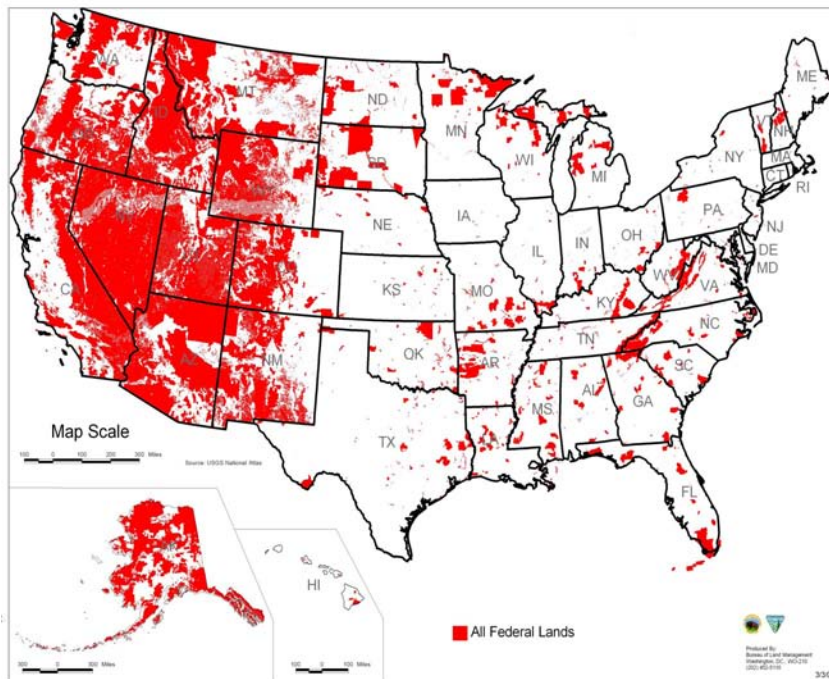
Chaired by Rep. Rob Bishop (UT-01), the National Parks, Forests and Public Lands Subcommittee held 40 hearings this Congress, including numerous field hearings across the country. The Subcommittee focused on protecting and maintaining federal lands, while also ensuring that our multiple-use public lands remain open to public enjoyment and available to help build our economy and create jobs.

Promoting Multiple-Use of Public Lands

One of the first actions of the Subcommittee was to conduct oversight of the Obama Administration's "Wild Lands Policy." The Wild Lands Policy, established by Secretarial Order, was an attempt by the Interior Department to establish *de facto* Wilderness areas without Congressional approval. Under this policy, the public's access to public lands could be limited or halted entirely – impacting our economy, jobs, recreational opportunities and American energy production. Although the Administration [formally abandoned](#) plans to implement this policy after the House passed language prohibiting implementation of the Secretarial Order, they continue to pursue restrictive policies under different names.

The Subcommittee also conducted

Federal Lands in the United States



oversight of an internal document from the Interior Department that revealed the Obama Administration's potential plans to designate new National Monuments under the Antiquities Act. The proposed designations would lock-up millions of acres of public lands in the West, without Congressional approval, and restrict access for energy production, recreation, and other job-creating economic activities. The Subcommittee held a legislative [hearing](#) on a series of bills to prevent unilateral administrative action by requiring either state approval or authorization by Congress prior to a National Monument designation.

Supporting Jobs & Economic Growth

This year the House [passed](#) H.R. 2578, the *Conservation and Economic Growth Act*, a bipartisan package of public lands bills

that remove red tape to responsible, local economic development and job growth. The bill would encourage tourism and recreation, promote responsible use of our public lands and resources, protect the environment, secure federal lands along the U.S. border and promote the development of clean, renewable hydropower.

In order to protect the rights of American sportsmen to fish and hunt, the House [passed](#) H.R. 4089, the *Sportsmen's Heritage Act of 2012*. The bill promotes American jobs and fosters economic growth by protecting recreational opportunities on these federal lands and strengthens existing law that bars the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from banning traditional ammunition and fishing tackle.

The House also passed H.R. 1904, the *Southeast Arizona Land Exchange Conservation Act*. Authored by Rep. Gosar (AZ-01), this bill authorizes a fair value land exchange that would open up the third largest undeveloped copper resource in the world. The bill would create nearly 3,700 jobs, generate billions in revenue and strengthen our national security by developing our own U.S. copper resources.

Promoting Active Forest Management

The Subcommittee conducted oversight on Forest Service regulations that stifle economic viability, job creation and access to our National Forests. It held hearings on the Forest Service's Planning Rule that will guide land and resource management plans for each of the agency's 155 national forests and 20 grasslands. Expert witnesses have cited the current Planning Rule as too complex, costly, and lengthy for



Wyoming homes surrounded by dead trees caused by Bark Beetles

efficient scientific management of our forests and too cumbersome for public involvement.

The Subcommittee also held field hearings in South Dakota, Colorado and Washington state to examine how the bark beetle epidemic, the Endangered Species Act, litigation and inadequate forest management have devastated federal lands throughout the West and left them susceptible to catastrophic wildfires.

In order to help prevent wildfires, the Committee [passed](#) legislation, H.R. 6089, the *Healthy Forest Management and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2012*, introduced by Colorado Members Scott Tipton, Doug Lamborn, Mike Coffman and Cory Gardner. The bill would reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires, address factors that contribute to insect infestation, and restore forest health by prioritizing and implementing hazardous fuels reduction projects on federal land.

The Committee also [passed](#) legislation to address the expiration of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Payment In Lieu of

Taxes (PILT) programs. H.R. 4019, the *Federal Forest County Revenue, Schools and Jobs Act of 2012*, aims to restore economic stability in forested counties that lost valuable revenue used to support schools, infrastructure and emergency services when federal regulations and lawsuits forced our timber industry into sharp decline in the 1990s. The bill would create jobs, foster forest health and provide a steady revenue stream to rural communities through restoration of active, healthy forest management. It would also authorize a five year extension of the PILT program to compensate local governments for lost property tax revenues on non-taxable federally owned land.

Protecting Public Lands Along the Border

Over 20.7 million acres along the U.S. southern border are federal lands managed by the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA). Unfortunately, federal land managers are using environmental regulations to block the U.S. Border Patrol from regularly patrolling these lands and effectively securing the border.

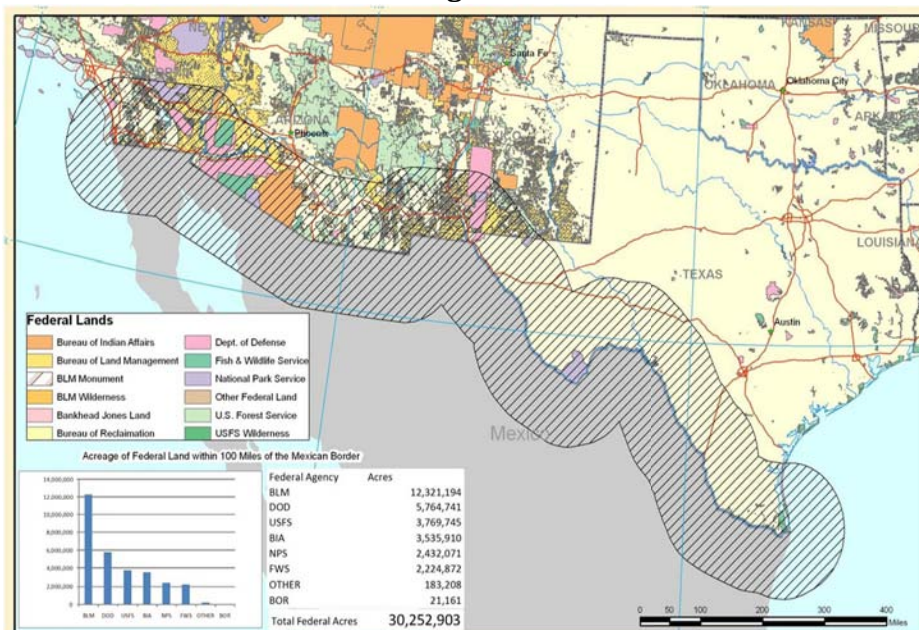
Under current DOI policies, the Border Patrol has only limited access to these lands, is unable to use motorized vehicles to patrol many of the most important border crossing areas, and is

prevented from placing electronic surveillance structures in strategic areas.

As a result, these federal lands have become a highway for criminals, drug smugglers, human traffickers and potential terrorists who endanger American lives and cause severe environmental damage.

[H.R. 1505](#), the *National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act*, sponsored by Subcommittee Chairman Bishop, to increase border security on federal lands passed the House as part of H.R. 2578. The bill is a common sense measure to ensure that Border Patrol has access to federal lands along the border and is not prohibited from doing its job due to bureaucratic red tape. It would prohibit the DOI and the USDA from using environmental regulations to hinder U.S. Border Patrol from securing our border on federal lands.

Federal Lands Along the Southern Border



Promoting Affordable Electricity and Abundant Water Supplies; Protecting Taxpayers and Ratepayers

Led by Chairman Tom McClintock (CA-04), the Water and Power Subcommittee held 21 hearings during the 112th Congress. The focus of all hearings was creating new American jobs; protecting and promoting clean, renewable hydropower; increasing water supplies and storage; and saving ratepayers and taxpayer dollars.

Protecting & Promoting Hydropower

Hydropower is a clean, renewable form of energy that accounts for 70 percent of electricity generation in Washington state alone, seven percent of electricity generated in the U.S. and prevents 200 million annual metric tons of carbon emissions. It is an essential part of an all-of-the-above energy plan, and its expansion would create thousands of new American jobs, grow our economy and protect the environment.

Throughout this Congress, numerous oversight hearings were held on protecting existing hydropower facilities from litigious special interest groups, protecting non-federal hydroelectric dams from costly, burdensome and often unrelated requirements imposed by federal agencies, and expanding large and small-scale hydropower production.

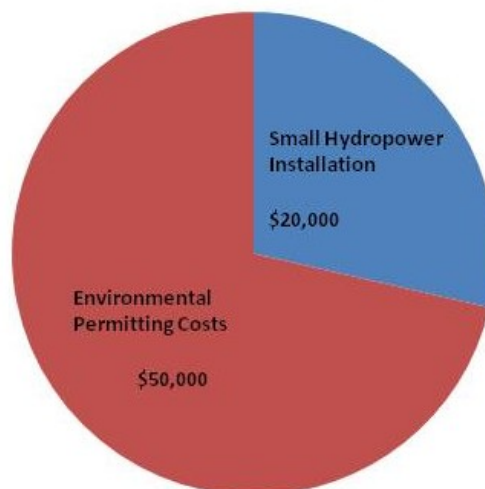
The information gathered at these hearings led to the creation of legislative hydropower initiatives. For example, Full Committee

Chairman Doc Hastings [introduced](#) H.R. 6247, the *Saving Our Dams and New Hydropower Development and Jobs Act*. The bill protects and promotes hydropower resources by ending practices that diminish existing hydropower, cutting regulatory red-tape, generating new non-federal funding for new projects, and improving transparency. A field hearing on the bill was held in Pasco, WA where it received support from local farmers, irrigators and elected officials.

The Subcommittee has considered, and the House has passed, a number of other hydropower production bills.

In March 2012, the House [passed](#) with bipartisan support H.R. 2842, the *Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act of 2012*, sponsored by Rep. Scott Tipton (CO-03).

Duplicative Federal Regulations Double Cost of Clean Hydropower



The bill authorizes hydropower development on existing, man-made Bureau of Reclamation water canals and pipes; cuts government red-tape by eliminating duplicative federal regulation; and reduces administrative costs.

The House also passed H.R. 460 by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (UT-03) to facilitate the development of 50 megawatts of clean hydroelectric power. In addition, the House recently passed H.R. 6060 by Rep. Rob Bishop (UT-01), which protects water and power supplies in parts of the intermountain West by keeping Endangered Species Act regulations at bay and eliminating bureaucratic overhead to expedite the delisting of four endangered fish.

Protecting and Increasing Water Supplies

The Subcommittee held several oversight hearings highlighting regulatory burdens that hinder vital water storage projects. New projects can store more water to help create jobs, grow the economy, increase agriculture production and generate hydropower. Cumbersome environmental regulations have delayed critical water storage projects for years while environmental litigation and age undermine current water storage infrastructure.

In February 2012, the House [passed](#) H.R. 1837, the *Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act* to address the man-made California drought. In 2009, federal regulations to protect a 3-inch fish - the Delta smelt - led to the deliberate diversion of over 300 billion gallons of water away from San Joaquin Valley farmers. This cost thousands of farm

workers their jobs, inflicted up to 40 percent unemployment in certain communities, and fallowed hundreds of thousands of acres of fertile farmland. H.R. 1837 would restore water deliveries that have been cut-off due to federal regulations and environmental lawsuits, protect tens of thousands of jobs, ensure a reliable water supply for people and fish, secure water rights, and save taxpayer money by ending unnecessary and dubious government projects.

The Subcommittee also held a field hearing in Montrose, CO in May to spotlight how inadequate forest management has left federal lands susceptible to catastrophic wildfire, endangered neighboring communities and put water and power supplies at risk. This and other hearings



Tree felled by wind leans against a transmission line in the San Isabel National Forest in Colorado.

led to provisions being included in H.R. 6089 (Tipton) and H.R. 6247 (Hastings).

In May 2011, the Water and Power Subcommittee and the Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Subcommittee held a joint [hearing](#) to examine the potential job and economic impacts of potential Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandates on the Navajo Generating Station (NGS). The proposals potentially impacting the NGS could shut down the plant, which has the generating capacity of two small nuclear plants. Closure would eliminate hundreds of Navajo and Hopi coal-mining and NGS jobs, reduce income into the reservations, undermine tribal water settlements and dramatically increase water costs for much of Arizona's population.

Protecting Ratepayers and Taxpayer Dollars

The Subcommittee has conducted thorough [oversight](#) of Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu's Memorandum to the Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs), which mandates new missions for the PMAs and could raise energy costs on over 40 million Americans.

Several hearings were held on the Chu Memorandum. At these hearings, electricity consumers expressed concerns that Chu's efforts would raise rates and socialize costs that failed to benefit those paying for such costs. Over 160 House members and Senators sent a bipartisan letter to Secretary Chu expressing concerns with the missions outlined in his Memorandum. The House also passed bipartisan appropriations language

prohibiting funding for any new activities in the document.

The Full Committee also passed H.R. 2915 (McClintock), the *American Taxpayer and Western Area Power Administration Customer Protection Act of 2011*. The legislation repeals the 2009 Stimulus Act's new \$3.25 billion WAPA loan authority, including the bailout provision for failed renewable energy transmission projects that would leave taxpayers holding the bag.

In order to protect taxpayer dollars, the Subcommittee also conducted an investigation into the Department of the Interior's practice of mailing out cash as an incentive to complete government surveys. In addition to sending oversight letters, the House in June 2012 [passed](#) an amendment by Rep. Scott Tipton to prohibit federal agencies funded in the Energy and Water appropriations bill from mailing out cash with government surveys.

In this Congress, the Committee passed bills that cost nothing in taxpayer dollars, reduced spending by over \$2.9 billion or generated revenue in excess of \$225 million when compared to the \$800 million in taxpayer dollars authorized for expenditure in the last Congress. That is nearly a \$4 billion difference in spending levels on legislation moved by the Water and Power Subcommittee during the Democrat controlled 111th Congress and the Republican controlled 112th Congress.

Promoting Accountability & Transparency

One of Chairman Hastings' top priorities this Congress was thoughtful and thorough oversight of the Obama Administration. Congress has a responsibility to keep the Executive Branch accountable to the American people and ensure that decisions by agencies are open and transparent. The Committee has conducted thoughtful oversight on a number of specific issues and policies administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior – seeking answers to how and why policy decisions are made, who made the decision, and how it affects people, our economy and the environment.

Obama Administration's Efforts to Rewrite Regulations on Coal Production

Almost immediately after taking office, the Obama Administration began rewriting a recently completed coal regulation, the [2008 Stream Buffer Zone Rule](#) (Rule). This unnecessary action, carried out through the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) at the Department of the Interior, proposed to dramatically alter a regulation that took over five years of environmental analysis and careful scientific consideration to complete. The Interior Department then entered into a lawsuit agreement with environmental groups to rewrite and produce a final rule by June 29, 2012. The Department has missed this deadline, and to date has failed to even publish a draft rule.

The Department's process in rewriting this regulation has been rushed and unorthodox. After tossing aside the 2008 plan, the Department spent millions of taxpayer dollars and hired new

contractors to complete a new environmental impact statement, even though one was already completed for the 2008 rule. Those contractors were dismissed after it was publically revealed that the Administration's new proposed regulation would cost 7,000 jobs and cause economic harm in 22 states. It's now unclear where the Administration is at in the process of conducting this rewrite and if they are hiding the ball and intentionally concealing the true economic impacts until after the November election.

The Committee has been conducting a more than yearlong investigation into why this rewrite was initiated, whether proper procedures are being followed and the economic costs of the proposed regulation. The Department has failed to meet a single deadline for document requests and is now flouting two Congressional subpoenas for further information. Despite pledges of transparency, the Department is determined to keep documents secret and withhold information from the public.

In September, the House passed legislation by Rep. Bill Johnson (OH-06) that would prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from approving any new rules or regulations that could adversely impact employment in coal mines, cause a reduction in federal, state or tribal revenue from coal mining, or diminish the ability of the American people to produce coal.

The Obama Administration's Editing of the Gulf Drilling Moratorium Report

The Committee is conducting an extensive investigation into how and why an Obama Administration report that recommended a [six-month drilling moratorium](#) in the Gulf of Mexico was edited to make it appear as though the moratorium was supported by a panel of engineering experts when it was not.

After the release of the report, the experts were forced to rebut the implication that they had approved the six-month moratorium. The experts noted that “A blanket moratorium is not the answer. It will not measurably reduce risk further and it will have a lasting impact on the nation's economy which may be greater than that of the oil spill.”

Following calls from Committee Chairman Hastings and other Natural Resources Committee Republicans, an Office of Inspector General (IG) investigation was conducted. A report was issued that confirmed that White House officials were responsible for editing the report's Executive Summary, but the IG was unable to independently verify whether the authors intended to mislead the public.

Documents obtained by the Committee raise red flags about the IG's investigation into the Drilling Moratorium Report. Emails from the IG's investigators detail how they were not able to obtain all DOI documents that may have been relevant to their investigation, and they were not allowed to interview Secretary Salazar or White House staff involved in editing the report. The IG report is being

used by the Obama Administration as a defense that this matter has been investigated and resolved. In reality, the Department has never had to disclose key documents or answer questions on how and why this report was edited.

The Department claims to be forthright and transparent, but has refused to comply with document requests seeking answers and has ignored a Congressional subpoena issued to Secretary Salazar in April.

Simple questions that remain are:

- How a decision was made by the Obama Administration to impose a drilling moratorium in the Gulf of Mexico that put thousands of people out of work, caused widespread economic harm and decreased energy production.
- Whether the views of the engineering experts were intentionally misrepresented by the Obama Administration in order to justify the moratorium decision.
- How the Administration responded to complaints by the engineering experts following the misrepresentation of their views.

House Passed Legislation from the Natural Resources Committee

During the 112th Congress, the House passed 113 Natural Resources Committee bills:

- H.R. 205, Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Home Ownership (HEARTH) Act of 2011
- H.R. 241, To authorize the conveyance of certain National Forest System lands in the Los Padres National Forest in California
- H.R. 258, Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2011 (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 290, The War Memorial Protection Act
- H.R. 295, 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
- H.R. 306, Corolla Wild Horse Protection Act
- H.R. 320, Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial Act
- H.R. 441, Kantishna Hills Renewable Energy Act of 2010
- H.R. 443, To provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska
- H.R. 460, Bonneville Unit Clean Hydropower Facilitation Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 461, South Utah Valley Electric Conveyance Act
- H.R. 470, Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2011
- H.R. 473, Help to Access Land for the Education of (HALE) Scouts Act
- H.R. 489, To clarify the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the C.C. Cragin Dam and Reservoir
- H.R. 491, To modify the boundaries of Cibola National Forest in the State of New Mexico, to transfer certain Bureau of Land Management land for inclusion in the national forest
- H.R. 588, To redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge
- H.R. 670, 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. 686, Utah National Guard Readiness Act
- H.R. 765, Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act of 2011
- H.R. 818, 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. 944, To eliminate an unused lighthouse reservation, Provide management consistency by incorporating the rocks and small islands along the coast of Orange County, California, into the California Coastal National Monument managed by the Bureau of Land Management, and meet the original Congressional intent of preserving Orange County's rocks and small islands
- H.R. 991, Polar Bear Conservation and Fairness Act of 2011
- H.R. 1022, Buffalo Soldiers in the National Parks Study Act

- H.R. 1038, To authorize the conveyance of two small parcels of land within the boundaries of the Coconino National Forest containing private improvements that were developed based upon the reliance of the landowners in an erroneous survey conducted in May 1960
- H.R. 1141, Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act
- H.R. 1160, McKinney Lake National Fish Hatchery Conveyance Act
- H.R. 1162, To provide the Quileute Indian Tribe Tsunami and Flood Protection
- H.R. 1229, Putting the Gulf Back to Work Act
- H.R. 1230, Restarting American Offshore Leasing Now Act
- H.R. 1231, Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act
- H.R. 1237, To provide for a land exchange with the Trinity Public Utilities District of Trinity County, California, involving the transfer of land to the Bureau of Land Management and the Six Rivers National Forest in exchange for National Forest System land in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest
- H.R. 1272, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Judgment Fund Distribution Act of 2011
- H.R. 1408, SE Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization and Jobs Protection Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 1461, Mescalero Apache Tribe Leasing Authorization Act
- H.R. 1505, National Security and Federal Lands Protection Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 1545, Waco Mammoth National Monument Establishment Act of 2011 (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 1556, To amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to allow certain land to be used to generate income to provide funding for academic programs
- H.R. 1560, To amend the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and Alabama and Coushatta Indian Tribes of Texas Restoration Act to allow the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe to determine blood quantum requirement for membership in that tribe
- H.R. 1740, To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
- H.R. 1837, San Joaquin Valley Water Reliability Act
- H.R. 1904, Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2011
- H.R. 2050, Idaho Wilderness Water Resources Protection Act
- H.R. 2060, Central Oregon Jobs and Water Security Act
- H.R. 2070, World War II Memorial Prayer Act of 2011
- H.R. 2087, To remove restrictions from a parcel of land situated in the Atlantic District, Accomack County, Virginia
- H.R. 2150, National Petroleum Reserve Alaska Access Act (Included in H.R. 4480)
- H.R. 2157, To facilitate a land exchange involving certain National Forest System lands in the Inyo National Forest
- H.R. 2240, Lowell National Historical Park Land Exchange Act of 2011
- H.R. 2336, York River Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2011
- H.R. 2351, North Cascades National Park Service Complex Fish Stocking Act

- H.R. 2352, To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to adjust the boundary of the Stephen Mather Wilderness and the North Cascades National Park in order to allow the rebuilding of a road outside of the floodplain while ensuring that there is no net loss of acreage to the Park or the Wilderness, and for other purposes (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 2360, Providing for Our Workforce and Energy Resources (POWER) Act
- H.R. 2467, Bridgeport Indian Colony Land Trust, Health, and Economic Development Act of 2011
- H.R. 2489, American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2011
- H.R. 2512, Three Kids Mine Remediation and Reclamation Act
- H.R. 2578, To amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act related to a segment of the Lower Merced River in California
- H.R. 2606, New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act (Floor amendment)
- H.R. 2621, Chimney Rock National Monument Establishment Act
- H.R. 2706, Billfish Conservation Act of 2011
- H.R. 2719, Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act of 2011
- H.R. 2745, To amend the Mesquite Lands Act of 1986 to facilitate implementation of a multispecies habitat conservation plan for the Virgin River in Clark County, Nevada
- H.R. 2752, BLM Live Internet Auctions Act (Included in H.R. 4480)
- H.R. 2834, Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act (Included in H.R. 4089)
- H.R. 2842, Bureau of Reclamation Small Conduit Hydropower Development and Rural Jobs Act of 2011
- H.R. 2938, Gila Bend Indian Reservation Lands Replacement Clarification Act
- H.R. 2947, To provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain land conveyed by the United States in 1950 for the establishment of an airport in Cook County, Minnesota
- H.R. 3065, Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 3069, Endangered Salmon Predation Prevention Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 3100, San Antonio Missions National Historical Park Boundary Expansion Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 3117, Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2011
- H.R. 3263, Lake Thunderbird Efficient Use Act of 2011
- H.R. 3319, To allow the Pascua Yaqui Tribe to determine the requirements for membership in that tribe
- H.R. 3388, Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act
- H.R. 3397, Cabin Fee Act of 2011
- H.R. 3407, Alaskan Energy for American Jobs Act (Included in H.R. 3408)
- H.R. 3408, Protecting Investment in Oil Shale the Next Generation of Environmental, Energy, and Resource Security (PIONEERS) Act
- H.R. 3409, Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act (Included in H.R. 3408)
- H.R. 3410, Energy Security and Transportation Jobs Act (Included in H.R. 3408)

- H.R. 3440, Recreational Shooting Protection Act (Included in H.R. 4089)
- H.R. 3641, Pinnacles National Park Act
- H.R. 3685, To amend the Herger-Feinstein Quincy Library Group Forest Recovery Act to extend and expand the scope of the pilot forest management project required by that Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 3706, To create the Office of Chief Financial Officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands
- H.R. 3874, Black Hills Cemetery Act
- H.R. 4027, To clarify authority granted under the Act entitled "An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes"
- H.R. 4039, Yerington Land Conveyance and Sustainable Development Act, To convey certain Federal land to the city of Yerington, Nevada (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 4073, To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to accept the quitclaim, disclaimer, and relinquishment of a railroad right of way within and adjacent to Pike National Forest in El Paso County, Colorado, originally granted to the Mt. Manitou Park and Incline Railway Company pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1875
- H.R. 4089, Sportsmen's Heritage Act of 2012
- H.R. 4094, Preserving Access to Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area Act (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 4222, To provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the U.S. to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona
- H.R. 4234, To amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to improve the management of grazing leases and permits (Included in H.R. 2578)
- H.R. 4381, Planning for American Energy Act of 2012 (Included in H.R. 4480)
- H.R. 4382, Providing Leasing Certainty for American Energy Act of 2012 (Included in H.R. 4480)
- H.R. 4383, Streamlining Permitting of American Energy Act of 2012 (Included in H.R. 4480)
- H.R. 4402, National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012
- H.R. 4480, Domestic Energy and Jobs Act
- H.R. 4484, Y Mountain Access Enhancement Act
- H.R. 4849, Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks Backcountry Access Act
- H.R. 5544, Minnesota Education Investment and Employment Act
- H.R. 5958, To name the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge Visitor Contact Station of the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge unit of Gateway National Recreation Area in honor of James L. Buckley
- H.R. 6007, North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act of 2012
- H.R. 6060, Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Extension Act of 2012
- H.R. 6082, Congressional Replacement of President Obama's Energy-Restricting and Job-Limiting Offshore Drilling Plan
- S. 270, La Pine Land Conveyance Act, A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon

- S. 271, Wallowa Forest Service Compound Conveyance Act, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a property conveyance with the city of Wallowa, Oregon
- S. 278 (H.R. 643), Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act
- S. 292 (H.R. 296), Salmon Lake Land Selection Resolution Act
- S. 363, To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey property of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the City of Pascagoula, Mississippi
- S. 404 (H.R. 3411), To modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior
- S. 535 (H.R. 2687), Fort Pulaski National Monument Lease Authorization Act
- S. 683 (H.R. 1258), Box Elder Utah Land Conveyance Act
- S. 684, A bill to provide for the conveyance of certain parcels of land to the town of Alta, Utah
- S. 997, East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act, A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend a water contract between the United States and the East Bench Irrigation District
- S. 1134, St. Croix River Crossing Project Authorization Act

To read more about the Committee's efforts, visit our webpage at <http://naturalresources.house.gov>, or connect with us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/NaturalResourcesCommittee or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/NatResources