



Congressional Update



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Arizona Game and Fish Commission

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Congressional Update is published by the Arizona Game and Fish Department Legislative Affairs Division throughout the year. We provide a summary of legislation and national news that pertains to the Department.

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National News:

- Mark Spitzer, of the Arizona Corporation Commission was sworn in on Monday, July 24th as a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. A Republican will be appointed by Governor Napolitano to serve the remainder of his term.
- Congress is currently considering S. 1926, sponsored by Sen. James Inhofe, R-Oklahoma, and H.R. 4239, sponsored by Rep. Tom Petri, R-Wisconsin. The bills, introduced late last year and currently being heard in their respective judiciary committees, close loopholes in the existing anti-terrorism law and stiffen penalties for convicted terrorists. Provisions in the bills will ensure that domestic animal rights terrorists are brought to justice for their crimes.

Congressional Legislation

House Bills: 5
Senate Bills: 3
Total: 8

H.R.2720

Title: To further the purposes of the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 by directing the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to carry out an assessment and demonstration program to control salt cedar and Russian olive, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Pearce, Stevan [NM-2] (introduced 5/26/2005) Cosponsors (9)

Related Bills: S.177

Latest Major Action: 5/3/2006 Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 420.

House Reports: 109-341 Part 1

Game and Fish Provision(s): \$250,000 grant available

H.R.4761

Title: To provide for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources on the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Jindal, Bobby [LA-1] (introduced 2/15/2006) Cosponsors (114)

Related Bills: H.RES.897

Latest Major Action: 7/10/2006 Received in the Senate.

House Reports: 109-531

Game and Fish Provision(s): Potential for Arizona related legislation. (Onshore mineral leases)

H.R.5136

Title: To establish a National Integrated Drought Information System within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to improve drought monitoring and forecasting capabilities.

Sponsor: Rep Hall, Ralph M. [TX-4] (introduced 4/6/2006) Cosponsors (10)

Related Bills: S.2751

Latest Major Action: 6/15/2006 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 280.

House Reports: 109-503

Game and Fish Provision(s): will improve drought monitoring and forecasting capabilities for the Arizona region, includes consultation with state government.

H.R.5386

Title: Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Taylor, Charles H. [NC-11] (introduced 5/15/2006) Cosponsors (None)

Related Bills: H.RES.818

Latest Major Action: 6/29/2006 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Appropriations. Date of scheduled consideration and markup session. SD-106. 2:00 p.m.

House Reports: 109-465

Game and Fish Provision(s): several federal funds that the Department receives in match money.

H.R.5539

Title: To reauthorize the North American Wetlands Conservation Reauthorization Act.

Sponsor: Rep Pombo, Richard W. [CA-11] (introduced 6/7/2006) Cosponsors (6)

Latest Major Action: 7/19/2006 House committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Ordered to be Reported in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.

Game and Fish Provision(s): Grants and federal funding available to state agencies.

S.548

Title: A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make their land available for access by the public under programs administered by States and tribal governments.

Sponsor: Sen Conrad, Kent [ND] (introduced 3/8/2005) Cosponsors (22)

Related Bills: H.R.1351

Latest Major Action: 3/8/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Game and Fish Provision(s): allow access to hunting/fishing

S.1926

Title: A bill to provide the Department of Justice the necessary authority to apprehend, prosecute, and convict individuals committing animal enterprise terror.

Sponsor: Sen Inhofe, James M. [OK] (introduced 10/27/2005) Cosponsors (4)

Related Bills: H.R.4239

Latest Major Action: 10/27/2005 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Game and Fish Provision(s): Would apply to the state boundaries of Arizona. Enforced by the Federal Government?

S.3497

Title: A bill to provide for the exchange of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Pima County, Arizona, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Sen Kyl, Jon [AZ] (introduced 6/13/2006) Cosponsors (1)

Related Bills: H.R.5016

Latest Major Action: 6/13/2006 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Game and Fish Provision(s): provides for transfer of land affecting wildlife and provides for *permanent legal public access* into the Coronado National Forest, Whetstone Mountains.

Arizona Congressional Delegation

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The Congressional Update is available
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Legislative Affairs Division
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