

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Ranking Member Hastings Announces New Staff in Committee Communications Office

**Washington DC** – House Natural Resources Committee Ranking Member Doc Hastings (WA-04) today announced new staff in the Committee communications office:

- Jill Strait has been promoted to Communications Director for the House Natural Resources Committee, taking over for Emily Lawrimore, who accepted the Communications Director position with Senator John Barrasso (R-WY). Jill previously served as Press Secretary for the Committee. Prior to joining the Natural Resources Committee, Jill was Communications Director for Dino Rossi's 2008 gubernatorial campaign in Washington state and also served as Press Secretary for Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05). Strait graduated from Gonzaga University in 2005 with a B.A. in Public Relations and a B.A. in Political Science.
- Spencer Pederson has been named Press Secretary for the House Natural Resources Committee. Prior to joining the Natural Resources Committee, Spencer served as Press Secretary and Legislative Assistant on energy and environment issues for Rep. George Radanovich (CA-19). Pederson graduated from the University of Redlands in 2005 with a B.A. in Creative Writing and a B.A. in History.
- Neal Kirby has been named Media Assistant for the House Natural Resources Committee. Prior to coming to the Hill, Kirby worked as Campaign Administrator for Jack Donahue for Louisiana State Senate Campaign. Kirby graduated from The University of Southern Mississippi in 2006 with a B.A. in Political Science.

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