



To: House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Members
From: Water, Oceans and Wildlife Subcommittee Republican Staff; Kiel Weaver (Kiel.Weaver@mail.house.gov), Annick Miller (Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov), and Rob MacGregor (Robert.MacGregor@mail.house.gov)
Date: June 21, 2021
Subject: Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3764 (Grijalva, D-AZ) and twelve additional bills contained within H.R. 3764

The Natural Resources Committee will hold a legislative hearing on thirteen bills on **Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. EDT** online via Cisco WebEx.

Member offices are requested to notify Annick Miller (Annick.Miller@mail.house.gov) **no later than Monday, June 21, at 12:00 p.m. EDT**, if their Member intends to participate. Submissions for the hearing record must be submitted through the Committee's electronic repository at HNRCDocs@mail.house.gov. Please contact David DeMarco (David.DeMarco@mail.house.gov) or Everett Winnick (EverettWinnick@mail.house.gov) should any technical difficulties arise.

I. KEY MESSAGES

- This over-reaching 290-page piece of legislation will raise energy costs on American consumers through a legislated ban on new offshore oil and gas drilling outside of the Gulf of Mexico.
- It will also increase bureaucracy and red tape for some offshore activities as well as create extra layers of bureaucracy and added litigation risk for those who depend on inland infrastructure, such as dams and reservoirs.
- It also advances the Biden Administration's "30x30" initiative by fast-tracking marine protected areas and sanctuaries, which could lock up important marine resources.
- The bill creates more top-down federal regulation that ignores state and local efforts aimed at improving the environment.

II. WITNESSES

Panel I: Congressional Panel

- Representatives to be confirmed

Panel II: Administration Panel

- **Mr. Stephen Guertin**, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Ms. Nicole LeBoeuf**, Acting Administrator, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Panel III: Invited Witnesses

- **Mr. Mauricio Guardado**, General Manager, United Water Conservation District, Oxnard, California (also testifying on behalf of the Family Farm Alliance) [*Republican witness*]
- **The Honorable Chris Lee**, State Senator, Hawaii State Legislature
- **Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson**, Co-Founder, Urban Ocean Lab, Brooklyn, New York
- **Ms. Marce Gutiérrez-Graudiņš**, Founder and Executive Director, Azul, San Diego, California

III. COSPONSORS (of H.R. 3764)

Reps. Donald Beyer Jr. (D-VA), Earl Blumaneauer (D-OR), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Julia Brownley (D-CA), Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Ed Case (D-HI), Kathy Castor (D-FL), Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), Steve Cohen (D-TN), Charlie Crist (D-FL), Diana DeGette (D-CO), Adriano Espaillat (D-NY), Dwight Evans (D-PA), Jimmy Gomez (D-CA), Jared Huffman (D-CA), Ro Khanna (D-CA), Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Mike Levin (D-CA), Ted Lieu (D-CA), Alan Lowenthal (D-CA), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Chellie Pingree (D-ME), Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-MP), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Eric Swalwell (D-CA), Gerald Connolly (D-VA) and Peter Welch (D-VT).

IV. BACKGROUND

The hearing will cover thirteen bills, all included, in some form, in H.R. 3764. This bill is similar to a controversial bill heard before the full Natural Resources Committee in the 116th Congress.¹ The current bill, with conflicting and overlapping provisions, was referred to six other committees: Science, Space and Technology; House Administration; Ways and Means; Transportation and Infrastructure; Foreign Affairs; and Armed Services.

Below is a list of all the bills being considered in this hearing:

- [H.R. 3764](#) (Rep. Raúl Grijalva, D-AZ), To direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide for ocean-based climate

¹ <https://naturalresources.house.gov/hearings/ocean-climate-action-solutions-to-the-climate-crisis>

solutions to reduce carbon emissions and global warming; to make coastal communities more resilient; and to provide for the conservation and restoration of the ocean and coastal habitats, biodiversity, and marine mammal and fish populations; and for other purposes. *Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act of 2021*.

- [H.R. 660](#) (Rep. Stacey Plaskett, D-VI), To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to benefit coastal habitats, resiliency, and the economy, and for other purposes. *Shovel-Ready Restoration Grants for Coastlines and Fisheries Act of 2021*.
- [H.R. 1415](#) (Rep. Derek Kilmer, D-WA), To amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to authorize grants to Indian Tribes to further achievement of Tribal coastal zone objectives, and for other purposes. *Tribal Coastal Resiliency Act*.
- [H.R. 1689](#) (Rep. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon, R-PR), To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to apply to territories of the United States, to establish offshore wind lease sale requirements, to provide dedicated funding for coral reef conservation, and for other purposes. *Offshore Wind for Territories Act*.
- [H.R. 2750](#) (Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, D-OR), To establish an Interagency Working Group on Coastal Blue Carbon, and for other purposes. *Blue Carbon for Our Planet Act*.
- [H.R. 3160](#) (Rep. Chellie Pingree, D-ME), To amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to establish a Working Waterfront Task Force and a working waterfronts grant program, and for other purposes. *Keep America's Waterfronts Working Act*.
- [H.R. 3228](#) (Rep. Nydia Velazquez, D-NY), To direct the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to improve science, data, and services that enable sound decision-making in response to coastal flood risk, including impacts of sea-level rise, storm events, changing Great Lakes water levels, and land subsidence. *National Coastal Resilience Data and Services Act*.
- [H.R. 3692](#) (Rep. Julia Brownley, D-CA), To amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to direct the Secretary of Commerce to establish a climate impact management plan for the conservation of certain marine mammal species, and for other purposes. *Marine Mammal Climate Change Protection Act*.
- [H.R. 3748](#) (Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, D-OR), To improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, and for other purposes. *BLUE GLOBE ACT*.
- [H.R. 3817](#) (Rep. Charlie Crist, D-FL), To allow coastal States to participate in regional ocean partnerships with one or more other coastal States that share a common ocean or coastal area with the coastal State to conserve living resources, expand and protect valuable habitats, enhance coastal resilience, and address such other issues related to the shared ocean or coastal area as are determined to be a shared, regional priority by those States. *Regional Ocean Partnership Act*.
- [H.R. 3864](#) (Rep. Anthony Brown, D-MD), To express the sense of Congress that the Chesapeake Bay Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall be the primary representative of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the Chesapeake Bay, to require the Secretary of the Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to provide grants supporting research on the conservation,

- restoration, or management of oysters in estuarine ecosystems, and for other purposes. *Chesapeake Bay Oyster Research Act*.
- [H.R. 3892](#) (Rep. Don Beyer, D-VA), To improve the National Oceans and Coastal Security Act, and for other purposes. *National Oceans and Coastal Security Improvements Act*.
 - [H.R. 3906](#) (Rep. Jared Huffman, D-CA), To establish a Blue Carbon program to conserve and restore marine and coastal blue carbon ecosystems, and other purposes. *Blue Carbon Protection Act*.

V. MAJOR PROVISIONS OF H.R. 3764

Title I— Blue Carbon

The title creates a new “Blue Carbon Program” within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). In addition, NOAA is directed to lead a newly created, 19 agency federal working group that is tasked with developing a strategic plan on research, restoration, and protection efforts relating to “blue carbon ecosystems.” Notably, the Bureau of Reclamation is not included, even though its facilities could be impacted by the working group’s efforts. A similar agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, is included within the working group.

Under this title, blue carbon ecosystems are defined as “vegetated coastal habitats including mangroves, tidal marshes, seagrasses, kelp forests, and other tidal or salt-water wetlands that *have the capacity* to sequester carbon from the atmosphere for a period of not less than 100 years”² [emphasis added]. This title also requires NOAA to create a national “coastal and marine blue carbon ecosystems” map which requires the listing of “any upstream restrictions detrimental to the watershed process and conditions, including dams, dikes, and levees.”³ The bill does not appear to limit how far “upstream” the map can extend. For context, the Mississippi River watershed includes all or parts of 32 states and Canada.

Additionally, NOAA is required to submit a report to Congress, which among other things requires an assessment of the vulnerability of blue carbon ecosystems to climate change, and an assessment of “biophysical, social, and economic impediments including water storage and flood control structures to coastal and marine blue carbon ecosystem protection and restoration and opportunities to restore and enhance the resilience of and sequestration potential of blue carbon ecosystems,”⁴ and of “aging or outdated artificial structures, including dikes, levees, dams, culverts, water storage structures, shoreline hardening projects, impediments to fish passage, and other infrastructure that impede the ecological or sequestration functions of blue carbon areas and the feasibility of repairing, retrofitting, or removing such structures.”⁵

² H.R. 3764, page 35.

³ H.R. 3764, page 11.

⁴ H.R. 3764, page 15.

⁵ H.R. 3764, page 15-16.

The identification of these structures, coupled with the report to Congress, raise concerns that dam removal will be pursued to increase the potential capacity of blue carbon ecosystems. Lastly, NOAA is required to designate in each coastal state “blue carbon areas of significance” in any area that is the coastal zone, U.S. territorial waters, or U.S. exclusive economic zone that provides for long-term storage and sequestration of “significant amounts” of ecosystem carbon and either: 1) limits erosion and future landward migration; 2) provides a buffer against storm surge; or 3) provides a spawning, breeding, feeding, or nesting habitat for wildlife. This designation creates a new consultation requirement for any proposed federal agency action that has the potential to cause an adverse impact to these designated areas. In addition, federal agencies are prohibited from taking a proposed action if, according to NOAA, an alternative exists that fulfills the purpose of the proposed action without harming the designated area, regardless of cost.

In the 116th Congress, concerns were submitted for the record at a hearing on H.R. 8632, which included a similar title. For example, the Family Farm Alliance, a group primarily composed of irrigated agriculture interests in the West, indicated that “Identifying ‘any’ upstream pollution sources that threaten the health of each ecosystem also appears to be subjective and unrealistic. For example, in the Columbia River estuary, how far upstream would such an analysis extend? Canada?” and that the bill “provides a whole new set of tools for litigious critics of Western irrigated agriculture and federal infrastructure to use in the courtroom.”⁶ Those concerns remain with H.R. 3764.

This title includes language from H.R. 2750, sponsored by Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and H.R. 3906, sponsored by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA).

Title II – Offshore Energy

The title prohibits all oil and gas pre-leasing, leasing and related activities, as well as geological or geophysical activities in support of oil, gas, or methane hydrate exploration and development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), except the Central and Western planning areas of the Gulf of Mexico. It also requires current lessees conducting geophysical exploration on the OCS to use the best commercially available technology to reduce acoustic pressure levels. It should be noted that OCS revenues provide nearly 100% of the funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, as well as significant revenues to Gulf of Mexico coastal states for coastal resources restoration.

A shutdown of offshore oil and gas production has been advocated for by many Natural Resources Committee Democrats, in both broad legislative proposals and targeted legislation. Offshore drilling is not only responsible for the largest source of federal income aside from taxes, but it provides millions of dollars to necessary State programs – particularly, coastal resiliency – through revenue sharing. In 2019, offshore drilling supported 345,000 jobs and generated \$28.7 billion for the U.S. economy.⁷ Should a

⁶ <https://docs.house.gov/meetings/II/II00/20201117/111092/HMTG-116-II00-20201117-SD008.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-offshore-drilling-study/u-s-drilling-industry-says-offshore-ban-would-crush-jobs-government-revenues-idUSKBN2320DT>

nationwide ban go into effect, less than half of potential jobs in the industry will be available in 2040, compared to the number of jobs projected under current policies.⁸ Expected annual revenues would drop from \$7 billion to just \$2.7 billion.⁹

In addition, the title sets an aggressive short-term goal of permitting not less than 12.5 gigawatts of offshore wind energy production by January 1, 2025, and not less than 30 gigawatts by January 1, 2030. One gigawatt equals 1,000 megawatts. Currently, the U.S. has one active offshore wind project, the Block Island Wind Farm in the state waters of Rhode Island. This project has a 30-megawatt capacity.¹⁰ While there are 17 active commercial leases for offshore wind development, these are at different stages of the approval process.¹¹ In addition, the potential increase of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) through the Biden Administration's proposed 30x30 expansion could lead to issues with marine resource industries whose work may conflict with some of the offshore wind proposals.

Part of Congresswoman Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon's (R-PR) H.R. 1689, which was favorably reported by the Natural Resources Committee in 2019, is included in this title. The Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee held a hearing on this bill on April 20, 2021. This section of H.R. 3764 amends the Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Act to allow for offshore wind leasing and development in the territories. However, provisions from the introduced version of H.R. 1689 that provided authority for revenue sharing with the territories and the establishment of a Coral Reef Conservation Fund are not in H.R. 3764.

In addition, the title directs 30% of revenue from federal offshore wind energy leases to the National Oceans and Coastal Security (NOCS) Fund. Unlike oil and gas production, there is currently no revenue sharing mechanism for wind or solar energy. While the NOCS Fund does authorize grants to coastal states and territories, the 30% portion authorized to support the fund falls significantly short of the 37.5% state share provided to Gulf States under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (P.L. 109-432), and even further behind the approximate 50% share directed to states producing oil and gas onshore under the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.). Further, the NOCS Fund is not obligated to provide grants directly to coastal states and recipients of certain grants include associations, nongovernmental organizations, and public-private partnerships. Lastly, Title IX of this bill makes several changes to the NOCS Fund including the addition of a \$1 billion authorization of appropriations, the removal of a ban on the use of funds for the creation of national marine monuments or MPAs, and the inclusion of language authorizing additional land acquisition.

⁸ Id.

⁹ Id.

¹⁰ <https://us.orsted.com/wind-projects>

¹¹ <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities>

Title III – Climate-Ready Fisheries, Efficient Fishery Vessels, and Buy American Seafood

The title creates a new program under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1881 et seq., MSA) “to improve the management of fisheries under current and anticipated impacts of climate change.” The program aims at incorporating climate change into fisheries management,¹² including promoting a precautionary approach to management.¹³ The goal of the current MSA is to allow for fishing at an optimal level of sustainable catch each year, taking into consideration ecological, economic, and social factors. The inclusions above could limit the Regional Fishery Management Councils’ flexibility.

This title also makes significant changes to the current Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation process. It would replace the current consultation requirement between the Secretary of Commerce and another federal agency and replace it with a requirement that if any action by a federal agency may have an adverse effect on EFH, that agency would be required, through consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, to avoid the adverse effects. To the extent that adverse effects cannot be avoided, the agency would be required to “minimize and mitigate” the adverse effect based on the recommendations of the Secretary of Commerce.

Title IV – Coastal Barrier Resource Protection Act Amendments

This title broadens the definition of an undeveloped coastal barrier to include bluffs and areas that are or will be vulnerable to coastal hazards. The use of “will be vulnerable” is open to interpretation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). This title creates a pilot program to map up to ten percent of the Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) and potential areas for inclusion under the new undeveloped coastal barrier definition. The title also prohibits the sale of any interest in real property located in the CBRS unless the seller provides appropriate disclosures.

Title V – Coastal Zone Management Act

This title reauthorizes appropriations to carry out the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C 1451 et seq., CZMA) programs, which provides for the management of the nation’s coastal resources, including the Great Lakes. The goal of CZMA is to “preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance the resources of the nation’s coastal zone.” Under this title, the new annual appropriations for the various grant programs under CZMA would total \$137 million over five years.

Changes to CZMA by this legislation include a new grant program to specifically assist Indian tribes. It is worth noting that tribes already have the ability to participate in any program authorized by the CZMA. This language is similar to H.R. 1415, sponsored by Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-WA).

¹² H.R. 3764, page 58.

¹³ H.R. 3764, page 57.

This title also adds the District of Columbia (District) to the definition of a state under the CZMA program. Making the District eligible for formula funding, grants, and gives the District the ability to review federal actions under CZMA's "federal consistency" provision.¹⁴ Federal consistency requires that federal actions, within and outside the coastal zone, which have reasonably foreseeable effects on any coastal use or natural resource of the coastal zone be consistent with the enforceable policies of a state's federally approved coastal management program.¹⁵ These include federal agency activities, federal license or permit activities, and federal financial assistance activities.

Lastly, this title would establish a Working Waterfront Grant Program that provides matching, competitive grants to coastal states. The grants would go toward preserving and expanding access to coastal waters for commercial fishing, recreational guiding, aquaculture, boat building, and other water-dependent businesses. This language is from H.R. 3160, sponsored by Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME).

Title VI – Insular Affairs

The title directs the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior to provide various kinds of technical assistance to the U.S. territories and Freely Associated States for climate change resiliency and adaptation efforts either through the creation of new or the reauthorization of existing grant programs. In addition, it eliminates the non-federal share funding requirement for any funding made available to U.S. territories and freely associated states for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

Title VII – Strengthening Marine Mammal Conservation

The title directs NOAA, in consultation with the Marine Mammal Commission, to develop new climate impact management plans for each marine mammal species "for which climate change, alone or in combination or interaction with other factors, is more likely than not to result in a decline in population abundance, of impeding population recovery, or of reducing carrying capacity."¹⁶ Management plans must include strategies for mitigating the direct and indirect effects of climate change on the marine mammal population and, in addition, NOAA is encouraged to integrate these plans into Marine Mammal Protection Act (P.L. 92-522, MMPA) conservation plans or Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et. seq) recovery plans.

Under this bill, any federal agency action that potentially conflicts or interferes with the management plans must consult with NOAA and implement any measures NOAA deems necessary to minimize conflicts. NOAA is also required to designate "areas of importance" to marine mammals and to work with the U.S. Coast Guard to establish

¹⁴ Section 307 of the "[Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972](#)" (CZMA).

¹⁵ <https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/consistency/>

¹⁶ H.R. 3764, page 147.

seasonal or year-round vessel speed restrictions. These changes add yet another consultation requirement to the MMPA.

This title includes language from H.R. 3692 (Rep. Julia Brownley, D-CA).

Title VIII – International Agreements, Efforts in the Arctic, and Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Resilience Program

The title requires NOAA to submit a report to Congress that describes the “progress towards achieving the targets of the 14th Sustainable Development Goal of the United Nations,”¹⁷ which relates to the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.¹⁸ It also requires that the Secretary of State develop a plan “for identifying and establishing strongly protected areas of the ocean in areas beyond national jurisdiction.”¹⁹ It also includes requirements to develop plans to cut “black carbon” emissions by 2025.

Title IX – Coastal Resiliency and Adaptation

The title creates several grant programs, including:

- \$10 billion for “shovel-ready coastal restoration projects.” This language is similar to H.R. 660, sponsored by Rep. Stacey Plaskett (D-VI);
- \$250 million for living shoreline grants;
- \$25 million for research on conservation, restoration, or management of oysters in estuarine ecosystems. This language is from H.R. 3864, sponsored by Rep. Anthony Brown (D-MD);
- \$15 million to designate as National Centers of Excellence in Coastal Resilience Research and Education institutions of higher education that have shown national leadership in coastal climate change adaptation and mitigation;
- \$20 million for NOAA to finalize the designations of the five currently nominated national marine sanctuaries;²⁰ and
- \$25 million in grants for Indian Tribes and Indigenous communities and States for climate research.

In addition, the title makes changes to the National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund, which is administered by NOAA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Changes include a new \$1 billion authorization of appropriations; the removal of the current prohibition in the use funds for the creation of national marine monuments and marine protected areas, marine spatial planning, or the National Ocean Policy; and the inclusion of language authorizing additional land acquisition. The language is from H.R. 3892, sponsored by Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA).

¹⁷ H.R. 3764, page 181.

¹⁸ <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/goal-14- conserve-and-sustainably-use-oceans-seas-and-marine-resources-sustainable-development>

¹⁹ H.R. 3794, page 182.

²⁰ <https://nominate.noaa.gov/nominations/>

Title X – Ocean Health: Ocean Acidification and Harmful Algal Blooms

Some of the changes in this title include the authority for federal agencies on the interagency working group on ocean acidification²¹ to offer prizes to advance understanding of ocean acidification or to develop management and adaptation options. The title authorizes \$12.5 million for NOAA to designate more Centers of Excellence in harmful algal bloom research, prevention, response, and mitigation.

Title XI – Ocean Data and Collaborative Efforts

Subtitle A authorizes over \$50 million for the creation of a Regional Ocean Partnerships program among two or more coastal States to assist efforts to manage and restore coastal areas and resources across state boundaries. The language is from H.R. 3817, sponsored by Rep. Charlie Crist (D-FL).

Subtitle B authorizes \$15 million for NOAA to create “product and services” to address among other things coastal flood and sea level rise. Establishes an interagency Coastal Flooding and Sea Level Rise Subcommittee. This language is from H.R. 3228, sponsored by Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY).

Subtitle C requires NOAA to create a centralized website that makes public all grants available to States and local communities for resiliency, adaptation and mitigation of climate change and sea level rise.

Title XII – Measures to Address Greenhouse Gas Pollution from Shipping Vessels

Requires vessels over 5,000 gross tons to measure and monitor on a per-voyage basis and report on an annual basis greenhouse gas emitted. Additionally, it creates a \$20 million “Quiet Seas and Clear Skies Program” to award money to companies that have at least 75 percent of eligible vessels participate and comply with said program. Some of the requirements include speed limits, significantly reducing greenhouse gas, protecting marine life, and noise reduction.

Title XIII – Virgin Plastic Excise Tax

Imposes a 5-cent excise tax, with an annual cost of living adjustment, on “virgin” plastic used for single-use products. There are certain exemptions for medical products and personal hygiene products.

²¹ The working group includes representatives from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Science Foundation (NSF), National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Department of Agriculture (USDA), Department of State (DOS), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Parks Service (NPS), Smithsonian Institution (SI), U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S. Navy, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy.

Title XIV – Studies and Reports

This title authorizes eleven studies and reports relating to climate change. These include a study on black carbon, a study on deep sea mining, an inventory of Marine Protected Areas to include areas being considered for protection to public access to coasts, a marine biodiversity census, and a study on derelict fishing gear.

VI. COST

The Congressional Budget Office score for the legislation in the 117th Congress has not been initiated or completed.

VII. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW (RAMSEYER)

[H.R. 3764 \(Grijalva\)](#)