

HR 2416

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jun 11, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry. (Jun 24, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2416>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bereuter, Doug [R-NE-1]	R · NE		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. English, Phil [R-PA-3]	R · PA		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Gilchrest, Wayne T. [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. McInnis, Scott [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Rehberg, Dennis R. [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jun 11, 2003
Rep. Udall, Mark [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Jun 11, 2003
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Jun 19, 2003
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Jul 9, 2003
Rep. Tiahrt, Todd [R-KS-4]	R · KS		Jul 16, 2003
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Apr 27, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 24, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 19, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 19, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 19, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jun 11, 2003)

Paleontological Resources Preservation Act - Directs the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture (the Secretaries) to: (1) manage and protect paleontological resources on Federal land using scientific principles and expertise; and (2) develop plans for inventorying, monitoring, and deriving the scientific and educational use of such resources. Directs the Secretaries to establish a program to increase public awareness about the significance of paleontological resources.

Prohibits a person from collecting a paleontological resource from Federal land without a permit issued under this Act by one of the Secretaries. Authorizes the Secretaries to allow casual collecting of common invertebrate and plant paleontological resources for scientific, educational, and recreational uses, without a permit, on certain Federal lands where not inconsistent with laws governing management of such lands and this Act. Recognizes as valid permits issued before enactment of this Act.

Prohibits: (1) excavating, removing, or altering a paleontological resource located on Federal lands, except in compliance with this Act; (2) exchanging or receiving such a resource, if the person knew or should have known such resource to have been illegally removed from Federal lands; (3) selling or purchasing a paleontological resource, if the person knew or should have known such resource to have been illegally removed from Federal lands; or (4) making or submitting false records, accounts, or identification of any paleontological resource excavated or removed from Federal lands. Imposes criminal penalties for violating this Act.

Sets forth requirements for the assessment of civil penalties by the Secretaries for violations of any prohibitions contained in regulations or permits issued under this Act. Requires any recovered amounts to be available for use: (1) to protect or restore the paleontological resources and sites which were the subject of the action, or to acquire sites with equivalent resources and to protect, monitor, and study the resources and sites; (2) to provide educational materials to the public about paleontological resources and sites; and (3) as a reward.

Requires that information on the nature and specific location of a paleontological resource that requires a permit under this Act or other Federal law be withheld from the public, including under the Freedom of Information Act, except under specified conditions.

Declares that no permit is required by this Act for the casual collecting of rocks and minerals on National Forest System lands for personal use.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 24, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Department Operations, Oversight, Nutrition and Forestry.
- **Jun 19, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands.
- **Jun 19, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health.
- **Jun 19, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans.
- **Jun 19, 2003:** Subcommittees on Fisheries and Forests held a joint hearing.
- **Jun 11, 2003:** Introduced in House
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- **Jun 11, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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