

S 921

Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Apr 14, 2015

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 548.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 548. (Jul 7, 2016)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/921>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]

Party: Democratic • **State:** DE • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 14, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Apr 14, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Apr 14, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 14, 2015
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 14, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Apr 14, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jul 7, 2016

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 612	Related bill	Dec 16, 2016: Became Public Law No: 114-322.
114 S 2848	Related bill	Sep 19, 2016: Held at the desk.
114 HR 1772	Identical bill	Jul 23, 2015: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

Delaware River Basin Conservation Act of 2015

(Sec. 4) This bill requires the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to establish a nonregulatory Delaware River Basin restoration program, under which it shall: (1) draw on management plans for the basin or portions of the basin and work in consultation with applicable management entities, including representatives of the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary, the Delaware River Basin Commission, the federal government, other state and local governments, and regional and nonprofit organizations, to identify, prioritize, and implement restoration and protection activities within the basin; (2) adopt a basin-wide strategy that supports the implementation of a shared set of science-based restoration and protection activities, targets cost-effective projects with measurable results, and maximizes conservation outcomes with no net gain of federal full-time equivalent employees; and (3) establish the voluntary grant and technical assistance programs in accordance with this bill.

"Basin" is defined as the four-state Delaware Basin region, including all of Delaware Bay and portions of Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania located in the Delaware River watershed.

(Sec. 5) The USFWS shall: (1) establish the Delaware River Basin restoration grant program to provide competitive matching grants to carry out restoration and protection activities within the basin, and (2) develop criteria to ensure that funded activities accomplish specified purposes and advance the implementation of priority actions or needs identified in the strategy adopted under this bill.

The USFWS may contract with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation or another organization that offers grant management services.

(Sec. 6) The USFWS shall submit to Congress annually a report on the implementation of this bill, including a description of each project that has received funding.

(Sec. 7) Appropriations are authorized to carry out this bill for FY2016-FY2021. The USFWS shall use at least 75% of any amount made available for each fiscal year to carry out the grant program and to provide or provide for technical assistance under such program.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 7, 2016:** Committee on Environment and Public Works. Reported by Senator Inhofe without amendment. With written report No. 114-294.
- **Jul 7, 2016:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 548.
- **May 18, 2016:** Committee on Environment and Public Works. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Apr 14, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 14, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.