

HR 5217

WOW Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Nov 21, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Dec 11, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5217>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McClinton, Tom [R-CA-4]

Party: Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bishop, Rob [R-UT-1]	R · UT		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Fulcher, Russ [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Hunter, Duncan D. [R-CA-50]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. McCarthy, Kevin [R-CA-23]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Nunes, Devin [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Nov 21, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 11, 2019
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 9, 2019
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 21, 2019
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 22, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 278	Related bill	Dec 15, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 531.
116 HR 2871	Related bill	Jun 25, 2020: Subcommittee Hearings Held.
116 S 1570	Related bill	Oct 29, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 276.
116 HR 1600	Related bill	Apr 26, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.
116 HR 1621	Related bill	Mar 28, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
116 HR 579	Related bill	Feb 7, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
116 HR 548	Related bill	Feb 4, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.

Summary (as of Nov 21, 2019)

Water Optimization for the West Act or the WOW Act

This bill addresses issues related to water projects in the Western States. Among other things, the bill

- makes the Bureau of Reclamation the lead agency for coordinating permitting activities required for the construction of certain new surface-water storage projects,
- directs the bureau to convey certain facilities and easements to the Kennewick Irrigation District in Washington State,
- redirects Department of Transportation funds previously intended for high-speed rail development in California to the Department of the Interior for certain water-related programs,
- gives the Fish and Wildlife Service the sole authority to protect endangered or threatened fish species that are anadromous species or catadromous species,
- authorizes the use of certain bureau facilities to convey water to recharge certain aquifers, and
- prohibits Interior or the Department of Agriculture from requiring a water user to apply for or acquire a water right in order to obtain certain permits or licenses.

Actions Timeline

- Dec 11, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- Dec 9, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- Nov 22, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- Nov 21, 2019: Introduced in House
- Nov 21, 2019: Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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.
- Nov 21, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.