

HR 5770

Forage Fish Conservation Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Animals

Introduced: Oct 28, 2021

Current Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Latest Action: Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Nov 16, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5770>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]

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

Cosponsors (21 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Carter, Earl L. "Buddy" [R-GA-1]	R · GA		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Hudson, Richard [R-NC-8]	R · NC		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18]	R · FL		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Rice, Tom [R-SC-7]	R · SC		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Scott, Austin [R-GA-8]	R · GA		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Upton, Fred [R-MI-6]	R · MI		Oct 28, 2021
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Nov 2, 2021
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Nov 16, 2021
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Dec 2, 2021
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Feb 8, 2022
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Feb 9, 2022
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Donalds, Byron [R-FL-19]	R · FL		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Mar 24, 2022
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Mar 24, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Nov 16, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Animals

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 1484	Identical bill	Apr 29, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of Oct 28, 2021)

Forage Fish Conservation Act of 2021

This bill addresses the management and conservation of forage fish.

The Department of Commerce must issue a definition for the term *forage fish*. It must consider certain factors in defining such term, including whether a species covered by the definition (1) is at a low trophic level; (2) is generally small to intermediate-sized; (3) occurs in schools or other dense aggregations; (4) contributes significantly to the diets of other fish, marine mammals, or birds; and (5) serves as a conduit for energy transfer to species at a higher trophic level.

Commerce must also establish guidelines to assist regional fishery management councils in (1) developing a list of unmanaged forage fish areas and prohibiting the development of any new forage fish fisheries until the potential impacts of such fisheries have been assessed; and (2) setting annual catch limits for forage fish fisheries that assess, specify, and reduce such limits by the diet needs of other fish species and marine wildlife.

The bill adds shad (American shad and hickory shad) and river herring (blueback herring and alewife) to the list of managed stocks for the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 16, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Nov 2, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Oct 28, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 28, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.