

HR 6148

Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Dec 7, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife. (Dec 17, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6148>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Carl, Jerry L. [R-AL-1]

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

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Graves, Garret [R-LA-6]	R · LA		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Moore, Barry [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Jul 11, 2022
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Jul 15, 2022
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2022
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Aug 19, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 17, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary and Protection Act

This bill designates an ancient cypress forest in the Gulf of Mexico as the Alabama Underwater Forest National Marine Sanctuary under the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972.

In the sanctuary, the following activities are prohibited:

- cutting, removing, or any kind of subsurface salvage of the cypress trees;
- lowering certain devices (e.g., dredging) below the surface of the water;
- detonating explosives below the surface of the water;
- drilling or coring the seabed; and
- lowering, laying, positioning, or raising any type of seabed cable or cable-laying device.

However, the prohibitions do not apply to

- fishing, diving, mooring, or similar recreational or commercial activities;
- necessary operations of public vessels;
- construction or placement of artificial reef structures for the purpose of enhancing fishery resources, fishing opportunities, or recreational diving opportunities;
- exploration, development, or production of oil or gas projects authorized before this bill's enactment; and
- certain other activities authorized by the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) must develop a comprehensive management plan for the sanctuary. NOAA must also establish an advisory council for the sanctuary.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 17, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 7, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.