



Tackling Plastic Pollution: Approaches that Benefit Seabirds

Appropriations FY25

Boost National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funding for the following:

- Marine Debris Program (\$8 million)
- Sanctuaries and Marine Protected Areas (\$70 million)
- Observers and Training (\$59 million)
- Targeting and Combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (\$2 million to supplement and support various efforts)

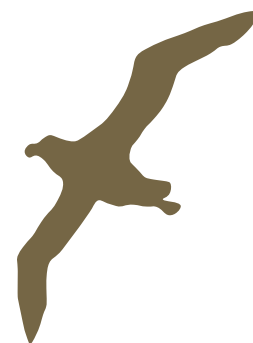
Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act

Bill Number(s): [S.318/H.R.886](#)

Status: Awaiting Floor Votes in Both Chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Reps. Rob Menendez (D-NJ), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), and Jennifer González-Colón (R-PR)

- Makes technical changes to improve the administration of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act, Marine Debris Act, and the congressionally-chartered Marine Debris Foundation. Gives NOAA more flexibility in delivering federal resources and establishing cooperative agreements for marine debris prevention and clean up.



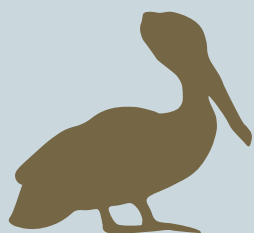
Rewarding Efforts to Decrease Unrecycled Contaminants in Ecosystems (REDUCE) Act

Bill Number(s): [S.2844/H.R.5564](#)

Status: Awaiting Introduced in Both Chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Rep. Lloyd Doggett (D-TX)

- Instates an excise tax on virgin plastic resin to incentivize better manufacturing and recycling practices. Tax revenue would go to the Plastic Waste Reduction Fund, created by the act, to support plastic waste reduction and recycling efforts, including marine debris reduction, monitoring, and cleanup activities.



Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act

Bill Number(s): [S.3127/H.R.6053](#)

Status: Introduced in both chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA)

- Reduces single-use plastics, increase product producer responsibility for waste and pollution, and improve recycling by amending the Solid Waste Disposal Act.



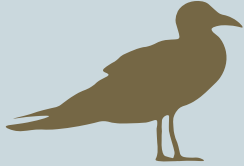
Plastic Pellet Free Waterways Act

Bill Number(s): [S.2337](#)

Status: Awaiting Introduced in Senate

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Dick Durbin (D-IL), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), and Ben Cardin (D-MD)

- Requires the Environmental Protection Agency to create a rule prohibiting the discharge of pre-production plastic pellet pollution into waterways. There is currently no national or state standard(s) limiting plastic pellet discharge.



Reducing Waste in National Parks Act

Bill Number(s): [S.2728/H.R.4561](#)

Status: Awaiting Introduced in Both Chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)

- Limits and reduces the use of single-use, disposable plastic in the National Parks System.



Protecting Communities from Plastics Act

Bill Number(s): [S.5163*/H.R.9388*](#)

Status: Awaiting Reintroduction

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Reps. Jared Huffman (D-CA) and Alan Lowenthal (Retired)

- Requires the EPA to protect communities from the harmful effects of plastics through research, rulemaking, and consideration of environmental justice impacts. Mandates research on the plastics industry, stricter requirements for plastic facilities, and a nationwide shift away from single-use plastic.



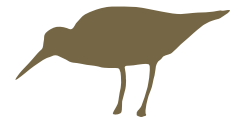
Recycling and Composting Accountability Act

Bill Number(s): [S.1194/H.R.4040](#)

Status: Introduced in Both Chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Tom Carper (D-DE), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), and John Boozman (R-AR) and Reps. Joe Neguse (D-CO), Tim Burchett (R-TN), and Bill Foster (D-IL)

- Instructs the EPA to improve data collection and reporting on recycling and composting.



Recycling Infrastructure and Accessibility Act of 2023

Bill Number(s): [S.1189/H.R. 6159](#)

Status: Introduced in Both Chambers

Congressional Leader(s): Sens. Tom Carper (D-DE), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), and John Boozman (R-AR) and Reps. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA) and Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ)

- Establishes a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility in under-served communities.

