

House Natural Resources Committee Water, Wildlife and Fisheries Subcommittee - Thursday, Mar. 21, 2024

Topic: Pending legislation

Intro: There were four bills in the committee hearing, with [H.R. 5487 \(118\)](#), the "Help Our Kelp Act" being mentioned for its provisions that include Tribes.

Consulting officials/Congressional Witnesses:

- Deb Self , Senior director of restoration and partnerships at the [Greater Farallones Association](#)

General notes:

- It was a generally light meeting, with Greater Farallones Association's Deb Self mentioning the provisions in the "Help Our Kelp Act" (H.R. 5487), specifically. Self explained her organization partners with collaborators working on kelp bed restoration in California, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Maine.
- This bill would direct know what to stand up a new competitive grant program for states and local governments tribes, the fishing industry and higher educational institutions to create projects that bolster the health of underwater kelp and improve monitoring efforts.
- The bill provides five years of funding scale restoration projects within a framework of collaboration and specifically includes a set aside for Tribes.