Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

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Summary

Congress has enacted hundreds of federal laws affecting the nation’s water resources and continues to address numerous water-related issues annually. From responding to natural disasters such as droughts and floods, to improving water resources and water quality infrastructure and protecting fish and wildlife, many congressional committees are involved in legislating, funding, and overseeing the water-related activities of numerous federal agencies. Nearly two centuries of such activity have resulted in a complex web of federal involvement in water resource management and use.

Although the responsibility for development, management, protection, and allocation of the nation’s water resources is spread among federal, state, local, tribal, and private interests, this report focuses on the complexity of federal activities related to water. The report covers multiple topic areas and individual water-related subtopics ranging from water supply and water quality infrastructure to fisheries management and water rights. The report is not exhaustive; instead, the authors have attempted to cover the major federal activities authorized by Congress that affect water resource development, management, and use in the United States. Similarly, the analysis does not cover every aspect of House and Senate committee jurisdiction affecting water issues. Accordingly, it may be helpful to seek the views of the House and Senate Parliamentarian Offices for a more definitive evaluation of committee jurisdictions related to water.

The report covers four general areas: (1) “Water Resources Development, Management, and Use” (2) “Water Quality, Protection, and Restoration” (3) “Water Rights and Allocation,” and (4) “Research and Planning.” These are further divided into tables that list topic areas and individual water-related subtopics. For each subtopic, CRS has identified selected federal agencies and activities related to the topic, authorities for such activities, and relevant House and Senate committee jurisdictions. The “Water Resources Development, Management, and Use” theme includes subtopics that relate to supply and reservoir development, drought and flood management, and hydropower and navigation. The “Water Quality, Protection, and Restoration” theme includes issues relating to water quality (e.g., water pollution and treatment, drinking water quality) and aquatic resources protection and management. The “Water Rights and Allocation” theme addresses water allocation and interstate compacts, river basin commissions, federal reserved water rights, and tribal water rights. The “Research and Planning” theme includes subtopics related to research and data collection, including water cycle and climate change research, and watershed planning. Appendixes address considerations in determining House and Senate committee jurisdictions and present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources. A glossary of House and Senate Committee abbreviations and federal agency acronyms is also included.

In sum, the nine tables that make up the body of the document underscore the complexity of federal activities affecting water resource development, management, protection, and use in the United States. As apparent throughout these tables, numerous standing committees in the House and Senate have jurisdiction over various components of federal water policy. The wide range of federal executive responsibilities for water resources reflects comparably complex congressional legislative responsibilities, which in turn reflect the multiple ways in which water laws affect social and economic activities and vice versa.

Congressional Research Service
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Introduction and Overview

Congress addresses numerous water issues annually. From responding to natural disasters such as droughts and floods, to improving the nation’s water resource and water quality infrastructure, and protecting fish and wildlife, many different congressional committees are involved in legislating, funding, and overseeing the water-related activities of numerous federal agencies. Nearly two centuries of such involvement in water resource project development, environmental and resource management activities, and responding to population shifts and changing societal desires have resulted in a complex web of federal activities related to water.

Although the responsibility for development, management, protection, and allocation of the nation’s water resources is spread among federal, state, local, tribal, and private interests, this report focuses on the complexity of federal activities related to water. It is meant to serve as a guide to federal water-related activities, including the administering agency(ies), the primary or overarching authorities for such activities, and House and Senate committee jurisdictions. In most cases, the primary authorities listed are authorizing statutes and accompanying U.S. Code citations; in some cases, constitutional or other authorities are provided. In providing this analysis, CRS does not cover every aspect of water policy. Instead, the authors have attempted to cover the major federal activities authorized by Congress that affect water resource development, management, protection, and use in the United States. Similarly, this analysis does not cover every aspect of House and Senate committee jurisdiction affecting water issues. Accordingly, it may be helpful to seek the views of the House and Senate Parliamentarian Offices for a more definitive evaluation of committee jurisdictions related to water. Further, programs known to have expired and for which reauthorization legislation is pending are noted; however, given the breadth of the report and constant executive and legislative branch activity, it is not possible to provide comprehensive status reports for all entries.

Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committee Jurisdictions

The federal government has been involved in water resources development since the earliest days of the nation. From congressionally directed improvements, first to facilitate navigation and later to reduce flood damages and expand irrigation in the West, the federal government has been called upon to assist and pay for a multitude of water resource development projects. In recent decades, Congress has enacted legislation to regulate water quality; protect fish, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species; and facilitate water supply augmentation.

Specific federal water laws have been enacted for the diverse purposes noted above. Development and implementation of these laws have required the action of numerous congressional committees and federal agencies. At the congressional level, this action has resulted in a set of diverse and sometimes overlapping committee jurisdictions dealing with various aspects of water policy and addressing the interests of differing constituencies. At the executive branch level, this interest and congressional direction have resulted in many agencies and organizations being involved in different but related and sometimes overlapping aspects of federal water policy. The activities

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1 Grace Relf, a 2012 CRS research associate, coordinated the development of this report. For other authors and contributors, please see Acknowledgments.
identified in this report fall into the jurisdiction of numerous congressional standing committees (and generally exclude appropriations and other committees in the relevant chambers that deal with banking, taxes, and finance issues.) Similarly, the activities identified in this report are addressed in some form by many federal executive branch agencies.

CRS can provide additional information on all the issues addressed in this report.

**Report Organization**

The following tables describe federal water-related activities and programs in the United States, and identify the administering agency(ies), primary authorities, and congressional committees of jurisdiction for each agency activity or program. The tables are arranged under broad areas, subtopics, and topic terms.

The four areas covered by the report are as follows:

- “Water Resources Development, Management, and Use”;
- “Water Quality, Protection, and Restoration”; and
- “Water Rights and Allocation”; and
- “Research and Planning.”

Each theme area begins with a brief introduction and is followed by a table(s) of relevant agencies, activities and programs, and House and Senate committees of jurisdiction. Each table covers more focused areas of water issues—subtopics—based on agency function and the historical development of federal water programs. In organizing these tables, a series of topic terms was developed under which both members of the general public and those more familiar with water policy might categorize federal water-related activities. These topic terms were determined by the CRS specialists and legislative attorneys involved in developing the report.

The “Water Resources Development, Management, and Use” theme includes subtopics that relate to supply and reservoir development, drought and flood management, and hydropower and navigation. The “Water Quality, Protection, and Restoration” theme includes issues relating to water quality and aquatic resources protection and management. The “Water Rights and Allocation” theme addresses water allocation and interstate compacts, river basin commissions, federal reserved water rights, and tribal water rights. The “Research and Planning” theme includes subtopics related to research and data collection, including water cycle and climate change research, and watershed planning.

Significant overlaps occur both within and among the different categories. This analysis generally excludes marine/ocean issues, and international and boundary water issues, except for jointly managed dams at the U.S.-Mexico border and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs along the U.S.-Mexico border. Additionally, Congress has established various economic

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2 Citations refer to statutes as amended.
3 While some agencies administer programs authorized by Congress, others construct, operate, and manage projects or carry out other activities that are not covered by specific programs. Hence, column two of the following tables lists agency activities or functions, and program names, in italics where applicable.
4 Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber.
development programs that include water supply and/or treatment projects among the categories of purposes eligible for federal assistance; this report, however, does not include those programs for which water-related activities are not the major focus. Also excluded are broad environmental remediation or waste management statutes such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Solid Waste Disposal Act, or activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency other than flood disaster assistance (such as the flood insurance program). Water activities affecting Indian tribes are also not uniformly addressed in the accompanying tables, but instead are covered where they are known to interact with broader federal agency water-related programs and activities, such as water supply development and water quality infrastructure. Because federal environmental laws such as the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act apply to all federal agencies, federal agency activities under those laws are not identified in this report.

Appendix A of the report discusses considerations in determining House and Senate committee jurisdictions and provides an example of the complexity in water topics and jurisdictional coverage. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources. Both the House and Senate tables also address subcommittee jurisdiction, and the Senate table provides information on executive branch nominations handled by Senate committees. Appendix D provides a glossary of House and Senate Committee abbreviations, as well as a glossary of federal agency acronyms. Program acronyms are generally spelled out where they first occur in each table.

In sum, the nine tables that make up the body of the report define water based on the topic terms determined by CRS. These tables underscore the intricacy of the federal programs affecting water resource development, management, protection, and use in the United States. As apparent throughout the tables, numerous standing committees in the House and Senate have jurisdiction over various components of federal water policy; moreover, this figure generally excludes the extensive responsibilities of the appropriations committees in both chambers, and generally excludes the direct and indirect activities of other committees in the relevant chambers that deal with banking, taxes, and finance issues.

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5 Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).
Water Resources Development, Management, and Use

Historically, the federal government played a large role in development of the nation’s water resources—in particular constructing large water resource infrastructure projects (e.g., locks, levees, and dams)—for navigation, flood damage reduction, and irrigation water supply in the West. Most of the largest federal dams serve multiple purposes, including those just noted, as well as producing hydropower and providing water supplies for municipal and industrial uses. More recently Congress has authorized activities and programs to augment water supplies via water conservation programs and reclamation and reuse programs (including desalination).

This section focuses on federal activities related to water resource development, management and use and includes three tables:

Table 1 lists activities related to water supply and reservoir development and includes topic areas such as dams and dam safety; general water supply development; groundwater supply; irrigation assistance; rural water supply; water conservation; and water reclamation, reuse and desalination.

Table 2 lists activities related to drought and flood management and includes topic areas such as drought planning, mitigation, and response; emergency flood response; flood damage reduction; and flood mitigation.

Table 3 lists activities related to hydropower and navigation and includes topic areas such as federal hydropower development; nonfederal hydropower development; and navigation.
### Table 1. Supply and Reservoir Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dams</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR (or Reclamation) constructs, operates, and maintains dams principally for irrigation. Major projects also serve flood damage reduction, navigation, municipal and industrial supply, and recreation purposes.</td>
<td>Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.); and site-specific authorities</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>USACE constructs, operates, and maintains single and multi-purpose dams, with primary purposes of navigation and flood damage reduction under general and project-specific authorities.</td>
<td>Rivers and Harbors Acts (multiple statutes), and Flood Control Acts (multiple statutes), including Flood Control Act of 1936 and 1955; Water Resource Development Acts</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (also known as P.L.-566 and the Small Watershed Program)- provides financial and technical assistance to local project sponsors for small flood damage reduction projects, including dams and reservoirs.</td>
<td>Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, P.L. 83-566, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1000 et seq.), and (33 U.S.C. 701b-1)</td>
<td>House Ag House T&amp;I Senate Ag Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Small Watershed Rehabilitation Program- provides technical and financial assistance for planning, design, and implementation to rehabilitate aging dams (including upgrading or removing dams) constructed under the Small Watershed Program.</td>
<td>Grain Standards and Warehouse Improvement Act of 2000 as §14 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1012)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State: IBWC</td>
<td>Two international dams operated and managed jointly by the U.S. and Mexican Governments through the U.S. and Mexico sections of the IBWC provide water storage and flood damage reduction benefits.</td>
<td>Rio Grande, Colorado and Tijuana Treaty of 1944, ratified by the Senate on April 18, 1945</td>
<td>House FA House NR Senate ENR Senate FR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dam Safety</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
<td>Primary Authorities</td>
<td>Committee Jurisdiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHS: FEMA</td>
<td>National Dam Safety Program- provides grant assistance to state dam safety programs, as well as training and technical research.</td>
<td>National Dam Inspection Act, P.L. 92-367, as amended (33 U.S.C. 467f)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS: FEMA (Chair)</td>
<td>Interagency Committee on Dam Safety- serves as permanent forum for coordination of federal activities in dam safety.</td>
<td>National Dam Inspection Act, P.L. 92-367, as amended (33 U.S.C. 467e)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>USGS exchanges scientific information with other agencies involved in dam safety. This includes data gathered under the Survey’s geologic hazards research (e.g. seismic data).</td>
<td>The Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 (43 U.S.C. 506 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BIA</td>
<td>The Secretary of the Interior is to classify the condition of dams on Indian lands, establish a dam safety maintenance and repair program within BIA, and rehabilitate dams identified as posing a threat.</td>
<td>Indian Dam Safety Act of August 23, 1994 (25 U.S.C. 3801 note)</td>
<td>House NR Senate IA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Water Supply Development (Municipal, Industrial, Agricultural)

| DOI: BOR | General and project-specific authorities to construct, operate, and maintain dams principally for irrigation supply on a reimbursable basis (based on ability to pay and without interest). Many projects also provide water for municipal and industrial uses (M&I supply). M&I costs are reimbursable, with interest. | Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.); and site specific authorities; Water Supply Act of 1958 (43 U.S.C. 390b) | House NR Senate ENR |
| DOI: BOR | BOR is directed to undertake a water reclamation and reuse program to augment local water supplies, including groundwater reclamation and recharge. More than 50 projects have been authorized for construction by Congress. | Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, as amended, Title XVI of P.L. 102-575 (43 U.S.C. 390h) | House NR Senate ENR Senate EPW |
| DOI: BOR | BOR is authorized to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents in Reclamation states. | Rural Water Supply Act of 2006, P.L. 109-451 (43 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.) | House NR Senate ENR |
### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HHS: IHS</strong></td>
<td>Sanitation Facilities Construction Program - The IHS is authorized to provide and maintain domestic and community water supplies and facilities and waste disposal facilities for Indian homes and communities.</td>
<td>The Indian Sanitation Facilities Act, as amended, P.L. 86-121 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2001-2004)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C House NR Senate IA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOD: USACE</strong></td>
<td>Authorities include the reimbursable inclusion of M&amp;I water storage in multi-purpose reservoirs; and the temporary sale of surplus water for municipal and industrial use.</td>
<td>Water Supply Act of 1958 (43 U.S.C. 390b), and the Flood Control Act of 1944 (33 U.S.C. 708)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOD: USACE</strong></td>
<td>USACE is authorized to provide emergency supplies of clean water to localities in response to supply contamination threatening public health and welfare.</td>
<td>Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act (33 U.S.C. 701n)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOD: USACE</strong></td>
<td>Authorized to include irrigation as a reimbursable purpose for multi-purpose reservoirs. Also authorized to allow interim use for irrigation of uncontracted water at USACE reservoirs.</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1944 (43 U.S.C. 390); Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (43 U.S.C. 390)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Groundwater Supply

| **DOI: BOR** | BOR is authorized to study, plan, and assist in construction of reclamation wastewater and reuse projects to augment local area water supplies, including groundwater reclamation and recharge. BOR may also participate in groundwater banking. | Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, as amended, Title XVI of P.L. 102-575 (43 U.S.C. 390h); and site-specific authorities | House NR Senate ENR Senate EPW |

#### Other Irrigation Assistance

| **USDA: ARS, ERS, NASS, NRCS** | Several USDA programs directly or indirectly support irrigated agriculture; however, these generally are part of larger bureau or agency assistance functions, such as conducting land and crop surveys, and collecting farm and ranch operation statistics. | Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2204g); Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3103 et seq.); and Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.) | House Ag Senate Ag |
| **DOI: BIA, BOR** | BIA manages and operates numerous irrigation projects on tribal reservation lands. After 1907, many of these facilities were built by BOR. Congress has also approved numerous Indian water rights settlement acts since the 1970s (See also Table 7). | Reclamation Project Act of 1908, Stat. 70; Snyder Act of 1921 (25 U.S.C. 13); tribe- or site-specific water rights settlement acts | House NR Senate ENR Senate IA |
### Rural and Other Water Supply Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR is authorized to provide a clean, safe, affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents in Reclamation states.</td>
<td>Rural Water Supply Act of 2006, P.L. 109-451 (43 U.S.C. 2401 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Water Conservation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>WaterSense Program—provides certification of water-efficient consumer and commercial products. The program’s goal is to decrease indoor and outdoor nonagricultural water use through more efficient products, equipment, and programs.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>WaterSMART Program—provides grants for water conservation and water and energy efficiency projects, including system optimization, advanced water treatment, and water reuse (see also Title XVI water reuse program).</td>
<td>Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.); SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10364))</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)—provides financial and technical assistance to producers and land owners to plan and install structural, vegetative, and land management practices (including water conservation) on agricultural lands to alleviate natural resource problems.</td>
<td>Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, as §1240-§1240I of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)—a subprogram of EQIP that provides financial and technical assistance to producers and land owners to address water quantity concerns on agricultural land.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as §1240I of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-9)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) - encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by undertaking additional conservation activities and improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities, including water conservation.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as §1238D-§1238G of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3838h-3838n)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS, RMA, AMS</td>
<td>Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) Program - provides financial and technical assistance to producers to reduce operational risk through diversification and improve water management and irrigation structures.</td>
<td>Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 as §524(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1524(b))</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Conservation technical assistance provides conservation planning and implementation assistance to producers and land owners who voluntarily apply natural resource conservation systems on private and other nonfederal lands. This can include, among others, water-reducing conservation practices.</td>
<td>Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA indirectly provides funds for water reuse via the Drinking Water and Clean Water Act SRFS. EPA has also published guidelines for water reuse.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended, §104 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR is directed to undertake a water reclamation and reuse program to augment local water supplies, including groundwater reclamation and recharge. More than 50 projects have been authorized.</td>
<td>Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, as amended, Title XVI of P.L. 102-575 (43 U.S.C. 390h)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.

b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For more information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.

c. See also “Research and Planning”. In general, the federal government is not involved in ground water supply development but assists states and localities with data collection and monitoring.
d. Authority to receive mandatory funding expires September 30, 2014, subject to reauthorization. For more information, see CRS Report R42442, Possible Extension or Expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill, by Jim Monke, Megan Stubbs, and Randy Alison Aussenberg.
### Table 2. Drought and Flood Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drought Planning, Mitigation and Response</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>USACE may allow temporary water withdrawal from their reservoirs during drought for M&amp;I use. Administration policy limits application to governor-declared drought emergencies and up to 99 acre-feet.</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1944, as amended (33 U.S.C. 708)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>Construction of wells for and transport of water to drought-distressed farmers, ranchers, and political subdivisions. Non-transport costs are nonfederal.</td>
<td>Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 701n)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR may temporarily construct, manage, and finance water and conservation facilities. It may also facilitate water purchases, transfers, and contingency plans. BOR is authorized to provide permanent well construction.</td>
<td>Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991, as amended (43 U.S.C. 2201)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>Project water available for fish and wildlife impacts due to drought or the operation of a Reclamation project during drought conditions.</td>
<td>Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991, as amended (43 U.S.C. 2212)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>Emergency fund established to assure continuous operation of Reclamation facilities. Also, other site or drought specific authority.</td>
<td>Act of June 26, 1948, as amended (43 U.S.C. 502); P.L. 95-18, as amended (43 U.S.C. 502 note)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: RMA</td>
<td>Federal Crop Insurance Program—primary means of producer protection against adverse weather, including droughts and floods.</td>
<td>Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td>Noninsured Assistance Payments (NAP)—provides direct payments to crop producers who experience a significant crop loss, but are not eligible for federal crop insurance.</td>
<td>Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td>Emergency Loans—low-interest government loans to producers suffering from production and physical losses located in or adjacent to a county that has been declared a disaster by the President or USDA Secretary.</td>
<td>Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
<td>Primary Authorities</td>
<td>Committee Jurisdiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)</strong> - helps cover part of the deductible for crop insurance for damaged caused by adverse weather that occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Farmers are ineligible if they do not have crop insurance.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Livestock Forage Program</strong> - provides financial assistance to producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Tree Assistance Program (TAP)</strong> - provides financial assistance to qualifying nursery tree growers and orchardists to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters, including floods, occurring on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish</strong> - provides emergency relief for damaged caused by adverse weather that occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011 to producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish that are not covered under any other program.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)</strong> - Provides emergency funding and technical assistance to producers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters, including implementing emergency water conservation measures in response to severe droughts.</td>
<td>Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2201-2205)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><strong>Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)</strong> - provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster, including drought.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as §407 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2206)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Emergency Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOD: USACE</strong></td>
<td>Flood fighting assistance, and <em>Rehabilitation and Inspection Program</em> for repairs of damage at eligible levees and dams, also called P.L. 84-99.</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1944 (33 U.S.C. 701n)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOI: BOR</strong></td>
<td>BOR is authorized to use money from its emergency fund to finance costs associated with a host of emergencies, including floods.</td>
<td>Act of June 26, 1948 (43 U.S.C. 502); Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5171)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: NRCS</strong></td>
<td><em>Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program</em>—provides technical and financial assistance to reduce hazards to life and property in watersheds that have been damaged by natural disasters, including floods.</td>
<td>Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2203); and 33 U.S.C. 701b-1</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: FSA</strong></td>
<td><em>Noninsured Assistance Payments (NAP)</em>—provides direct payments to crop producers who experience a significant crop loss, but are not eligible for federal crop insurance.</td>
<td>Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: FSA</strong></td>
<td><em>Emergency Loans</em>—low-interest government loans to producers suffering from production and physical losses located in or adjacent to a county that has been declared a disaster by the President or USDA Secretary.</td>
<td>Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1961 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: RMA</strong></td>
<td><em>Federal Crop Insurance Program</em>—primary means of producer protection against adverse weather, including droughts and floods.</td>
<td>Federal Crop Insurance Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: FSA</strong></td>
<td><em>Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)</em>—helps cover part of the deductible for crop insurance for damaged caused by adverse weather that occurred on or before January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011. Farmers are ineligible if they do not have crop insurance.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: FSA</strong></td>
<td><em>Livestock Forage Program</em>—provides financial assistance to producers who suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: FSA</strong></td>
<td><em>Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)</em>—provides financial assistance to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather (including floods) that occurred on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><em>Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish</em> - provides emergency relief for damage caused by adverse weather that occurred on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011 to producers of livestock, honey bees, and farm-raised fish that are not covered under any other program.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><em>Tree Assistance Program (TAP)</em> - provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters, including floods, occurring on or after January 1, 2008, and before October 1, 2011.</td>
<td>Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2201-2205)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><em>Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)</em> - provides emergency funding and technical assistance to producers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters, including floods.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as §407 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2206)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td><em>Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)</em> - provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NICP) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster, including floods.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1531)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Flood Damage Reduction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
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<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>Cost-shared construction of riverine and coastal flood damage reduction projects (e.g., levees, dams, and coastal dunes and barriers).</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1936: project specific authorities in various statutes</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>Flood damage reduction provided through multi-purpose dams at full federal cost.</td>
<td>Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(b))</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State: IBWC</td>
<td>Authorized to construct levees and dams along the U.S.-Mexico border.</td>
<td>Rio Grande, Colorado and Tijuana Treaty of 1944</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td><em>Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations</em> (also known as P.L.-566 and the Small Watershed Program) - provides financial and technical assistance to local project sponsors for small flood damage reduction projects.</td>
<td>Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1000 et. seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag, House T&amp;I, Senate Ag, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>USDA may undertake flood prevention and related purposes in 11 specified projects (also known as P.L.-534 projects). The projects are similar to those under the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (see above) only much larger.</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1944, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1000 et seq.) and 33 U.S.C. 701b-1</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Flood Mitigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DHS: FEMA</td>
<td>Federal funds provided to reduce flood damages primarily through nonstructural measures.</td>
<td>Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.)</td>
<td>House HS Senate HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td><em>Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program</em>- provides technical and financial assistance to purchase floodplain easements on floodplain lands that have been impaired or that have a history of repeated flooding.</td>
<td>Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2203; and 33 U.S.C. 701b-1)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

- a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.
- b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
- c. Numerous departments and agencies have some drought planning, mitigation and response responsibilities; this report highlights activities of just a few agencies.
- d. Reauthorization subject to congressional action. For more information, see CRS Report RS21212, *Agricultural Disaster Assistance*, by Dennis A. Shields.
### Table 3. Hydropower and Navigation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency¹</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction*b</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal Hydropower Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR owns and operates numerous multipurpose dams and other facilities, some of which generate hydropower.</td>
<td>Town Sites and Power Development Act of 1906, (43 U.S.C. 561, 562, 566, 567), and site-specific authorities.</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE: BPA, SEPA, SWPA, WAPA</td>
<td>Four power marketing administrations market electricity generated in excess of irrigation needs at multipurpose federal dams operated by the USACE and BOR.</td>
<td>Department of Energy Organization Act of 1977 §302(a)(3); P.L. 95-91 (42 U.S.C. 7152(a)) and other authorities</td>
<td>House E&amp;C, House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nonfederal Hydropower Development</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR may grant nonfederal hydroelectric power development rights at BOR-owned facilities (i.e. &quot;lease of power privilege&quot;).</td>
<td>Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Navigation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>USACE may undertake federal studies and projects to improve navigation; many of the activities are cost-shared with nonfederal sponsors.</td>
<td>Various Rivers and Harbors Acts and Water Resources Development Acts</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR may allocate to navigation associated costs at multipurpose water resources projects.</td>
<td>Reclamation Project Act of 1939, as amended (43 U.S.C. 485h)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

¹ Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.

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* CRS-16
b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
Water Quality, Protection, and Restoration

Federal efforts to protect and improve water quality and water resources range from technical and financial assistance programs to help communities build sewage treatment and drinking water treatment works, to regulatory programs for preventing or controlling water pollution. Most federal programs focus on surface water quality, while states have a dominant role in matters related to groundwater protection. One exception is where Congress has established requirements to protect underground sources of drinking water from underground injection activities.

In addition to protecting and improving water quality, Congress has enacted numerous bills to manage, protect, and restore aquatic ecosystems—including estuaries, and wetlands. In the last 25 years, the United States has provided billions of dollars toward restoring some specific large aquatic ecosystems such as the Chesapeake Bay, the California Bay-Delta, the Everglades, and the Great Lakes. These ecosystems cover large areas and affect millions of people. Ecosystem restoration in a policy context has gone beyond just restoring the natural environment, and now encompasses other objectives such as improving water supply and conveyance, managing natural resources, and implementing watershed management. Ecosystem restoration legislation can be intricate and involve several agencies, and therefore involve multiple committees. Fisheries management and oversight of aquaculture also involve many committees.

Generally, Congress has acted where interstate issues arose (e.g., pollution of rivers), where significant gaps in protection existed among the states (drinking water quality), where funding needs were related to federal mandates (various water infrastructure funding programs), or where other national interests were perceived (e.g., conservation of agricultural lands and fisheries, and preservation of wild and scenic rivers).

This section focuses on federal activities related to water quality, and aquatic resource protection and restoration. The section includes two tables:

**Table 4** lists activities related to surface water quality, drinking water quality, groundwater quality, source water protection, nonpoint source pollution, and wastewater and drinking water quality infrastructure.

**Table 5** lists activities related to aquaculture, aquatic ecosystem protection and restoration, coastal zones and estuaries, fisheries, invasive species, wetlands, and wild and scenic rivers.
### Table 4. Water Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface Water Quality</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA employs regulatory and non-regulatory tools to reduce direct pollutant discharges into waterways, finance municipal wastewater treatment facilities, and manage polluted runoff.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Drinking Water Quality</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA issues regulations that set limits for contaminants in public drinking water supplies. States generally have primary enforcement authority and oversee public water system compliance with regulations.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHS: IHS</td>
<td>IHS, in cooperation with HUD and BIA, funds the provision of domestic and community potable water sanitation facilities supplies and facilities, drainage facilities, and sewage and waste-disposal facilities to Indian homes and communities.</td>
<td>Indian Sanitation Facilities Act of 1959 (42 U.S.C. 2004a); Indian Health Care Improvement Act of 1976 (25 U.S.C. 1632)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C House NR Senate IA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Groundwater Quality</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Programs to protect underground sources of drinking water (USDWs) include: (1) the Underground Injection Control Program—regulates underground injections of fluids to protect USDWs; (2) the Sole Source Aquifer Program—permits designation of an aquifer as a “sole source” which may limit federal funding for projects that could harm the aquifer; and (3) 50% grants for states to develop groundwater protection programs.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300h - 300h-8)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

#### Source Water Protection

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EPA</strong></td>
<td><strong>Source Water Assessment Program</strong> - states delineated areas of source waters serving public water systems and assessed susceptibility to contamination. Assessments can support a voluntary state <strong>Source Water Petition Program</strong>; entities may petition the state for assistance in developing a voluntary partnership to address the origins of contaminants.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300j-13 and 300j-14)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Nonpoint Source Pollution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EPA</strong></td>
<td>States, territories, and tribes receive grant money to develop and implement plans to manage nonpoint source pollution (i.e., polluted runoff from diffuse sources).</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended (§319) (33 U.S.C. 1329)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOC: NOAA, EPA</strong></td>
<td><strong>Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program</strong> - addresses nonpoint pollution problems in coastal waters. It requires states and territories with approved Coastal Zone Management Programs to develop Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs that describe how nonpoint source pollution controls will be implemented.</td>
<td>Coastal Zone Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (§217), P.L. 101-508 (16 U.S.C. 1451)</td>
<td>House NR House T&amp;I Senate EPW Senate CST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: NRCS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)</strong> - provides financial and technical assistance to producers and land owners to plan and install structural, vegetative, and land management practices on agricultural lands to alleviate natural resource problems, including water quality concerns.</td>
<td>Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996, as §1240-§1240I of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3839aa et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: NRCS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP)</strong> - a subprogram of EQIP that provides financial and technical assistance to producers and land owners to address water quality concerns on agricultural land.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as §1240I of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3839aa-9)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>USDA: NRCS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)</strong> - encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by undertaking additional conservation activities and improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities, including water quality concerns.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as §1238D-§1238G of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3838h-3838n)</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Chesapeake Bay Watershed Program- provides additional financial assistance through existing conservation programs for areas within the Chesapeake Bay watershed to improve water quality from agricultural operations.</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-246) as §1240Q of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3839bb-4)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td>Conservation Reserve Program- provides annual rental payments to producers to replace crops on highly erodible and environmentally sensitive land with long-term resource conserving plantings, including buffer and filter strips.</td>
<td>Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3831(a)-3835a)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>USDA provides conservation technical assistance including planning and implementation assistance to producers and land owners who voluntarily apply natural resource conservation systems on private and other nonfederal lands. This can include, among others, water quality conservation practices.</td>
<td>Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Water Quality Infrastructure: Wastewater and Drinking Water

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA provides grants to capitalize state Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs), which states use to make loans to local communities for wastewater projects.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended (title VI) (33 U.S.C. 1381-1387)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA provides grants to capitalize state Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (DWSRFs), which states use to provide loans and other assistance to public water systems for projects needed to comply with federal drinking water rules and to meet the law’s health protection goals. Indian tribes and territories receive direct project grants.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, §1452 (42 U.S.C. 300j-12)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: RUS</td>
<td>Water and Environment Program (WEP)- RUS provides grants and loans for water and wastewater projects in communities with populations of 10,000 or less.</td>
<td>Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, §306 (7 U.S.C. 1926)</td>
<td>House Ag (grants and loans), House Financial Services (loans), Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUD</td>
<td>Community Development Block Grant- funds are used by localities for a broad range of activities, including meeting water and waste disposal needs.</td>
<td>Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (title I) (42 U.S. C. 5301 et seq.)</td>
<td>House FS, Senate Banking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

- a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.
- b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A, Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
- c. Authority to receive mandatory funding expires September 30, 2014, subject to reauthorization. For more information, see CRS Report R42442, Possible Extension or Expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill, by Jim Monke, Megan Stubbs, and Randy Alison Aussenberg.
- d. Authority to receive mandatory funding expires September 30, 2012, subject to reauthorization. For more information, see CRS Report R42442, Possible Extension or Expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill, by Jim Monke, Megan Stubbs, and Randy Alison Aussenberg.
Table 5. Aquatic Resources Protection and Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aquaculture</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NIFA; DOC: NOAA; DOI: FWS</td>
<td>The National Science and Technology Council Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture coordinates activities and disseminates information among federal agencies with responsibilities for aquaculture. USDA is the lead federal agency.</td>
<td>National Aquaculture Act of 1980 as amended (16 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NASS</td>
<td>NASS conducts surveys and reports on agricultural production and supplies. This includes farmers and ranchers reporting aquaculture production through the national census of agriculture.</td>
<td>Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2204g)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC: NOAA</td>
<td>NOAA Aquaculture Program—supports coastal and offshore aquaculture development by conducting research, disseminating information, and coordinating with federal and state agencies.</td>
<td>National Sea Grant College Program (33 U.S.C. 1121-1131)</td>
<td>House SST, Senate CST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: FWS</td>
<td>National Fish Hatchery System—works with states, tribes, federal agencies, other FWS programs, and private interests to conserve fish and other aquatic resources. FWS operates 70 hatcheries in the system to enhance stocks, facilitate restoration, and mitigate fish losses.</td>
<td>Many statutes authorize or direct specific actions and apply to specific facilities</td>
<td>House NR, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>The Lower Snake River Fish and Wildlife Compensation Plan was established to offset fish and wildlife losses resulting from lower Snake River dams in Washington and Idaho. The plan is administered by the FWS under an agreement with USACE and NOAA.</td>
<td>Water Resources Development Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2917; P.L. 94-587)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aquatic Ecosystem Protection and Restoration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>USACE conducts federal cost-shared environmental protection and restoration projects, as well as cost-shared beneficial use of dredged material to restore aquatic ecosystems. The Corps also has geographically specific authorities to undertake restoration work in some areas, including areas that have been degraded by Corps and other projects.</td>
<td>Water Resources Development Acts of 1996 (33 U.S.C. § 2213, 33 U.S.C. 2330), 2007 (33 U.S.C. 2330a), and (33 U.S.C. 2326); and various other acts</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE; DOI</td>
<td>USACE and DOI are authorized to conduct ecosystem restoration projects in the Everglades through the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The law authorizes CERP as a framework for Everglades restoration and authorized an initial round of projects by USACE and DOI.</td>
<td>Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-541, 601)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program- is an example of an authority for a specific ecosystem. The purpose of this program is to plan, design, and construct projects to restore Great Lakes fisheries and their beneficial uses.</td>
<td>Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-541, 506; 42 U.S.C. §§1962d-22)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR may undertake activities to protect and restore aquatic and riparian environments affected by Reclamation project operations. Reclamation also has geographically specific authorities to undertake restoration work in some areas such as the Platte River and Lower Colorado River (e.g. California Bay-Delta, Platte River, and Colorado River).</td>
<td>The Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.); Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); Platte River Ecosystem Restoration (Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 (§515 of P.L. 110-229); and various other acts</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: DOD: USACE; EPA; USDA; DOC</td>
<td>San Francisco Bay Sacramento and San Joaquin River Delta Restoration Initiative (Bay-Delta)- is an ecosystem restoration initiative that involves several agencies with specific authorities for ecosystem restoration and other activities (e.g., water conveyance, watershed management, and levee construction).</td>
<td>Water Supply, Reliability, and Environmental Improvement Act (P.L. 108-361)</td>
<td>House NR House T&amp;I Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: FWS</td>
<td>Habitat Conservation Program- The FWS provides technical assistance in the use and development of the nation’s land and water resources, including restoration of aquatic species habitat.</td>
<td>Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Act of March 10, 1934 (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.); Endangered Species Act of 1973, (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>The EPA works with agencies to restore, protect and preserve aquatic ecosystems nation-wide. These include ecosystem restoration initiatives in the Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay, and Long Island Sound, among others.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1257 et. seq.); Great Lakes Restoration (33 U.S.C. 1268); Chesapeake Bay Restoration (33 U.S.C. 1267); Long Island Sound Restoration (33 U.S.C. 1269)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Coastal Zones and Estuaries

<p>|<em><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong>|</strong></strong>__<strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong><strong>|</strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></strong>|</strong></strong></strong></strong></strong></em>_________|
| EPA       | National Estuary Program (NEP)- is a place-based program to protect and restore water quality and ecological integrity of estuaries of national significance. Each NEP develops and implements a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, a long-term plan to address water quality, habitat, and living resources challenges. | Clean Water Act, as amended ($§320) (33 U.S.C. 1330) | House T&amp;I Senate EPW |
| EPA       | The EPA is the lead agency for several coastal and estuarine ecosystem restoration initiatives. The Chesapeake Bay Program is focused on restoring the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem. EPA awards implementation grants to the states of Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia to implement their commitments under the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. | Clean Water Act, as amended ($§117) (33 U.S.C. 1267) | House T&amp;I Senate EPW |
| DOC: NOAA | The National Estuarine Research Reserve Program- provides grants to states to assist with state-protected estuarine areas used for research and education programs, and to serve as laboratories for comparative studies among the major coastal biogeographical regions. | Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1461) | House NR Senate CST |
| DOD: USACE; NOAA, EPA, FWS, USDA | The Estuary Habitat Restoration Council is responsible for developing a national estuarine restoration strategy. The Secretary of the Army may carry out projects and provide technical assistance to meet the restoration goal. | Estuary Restoration Act of 2000, P.L. 106-457 (title I), as amended (33 U.S.C. 2901) | House NR House T&amp;I Senate EPW |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fisheries Management</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: Forest Service</td>
<td>The Forest Service has the responsibility to maintain and improve fishery habitat in national forests and grasslands, consistent with overall multiple-use objectives.</td>
<td>Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag; House NR; Senate Ag; Senate ENR; Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
<td>Primary Authorities</td>
<td>Committee Jurisdiction</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>Emergency fund established to assure continuous operation of Reclamation facilities. Also, other site or drought specific authority.</td>
<td>Act of June 26, 1948, as amended (43 U.S.C. 502); P.L. 95-18, as amended (43 U.S.C. 502 note)</td>
<td>House NR; Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: NPS</td>
<td>The NPS conducts programs designed to maintain and protect aquatic and marine resources within NPS units.</td>
<td>National Park Service Organic Act of 1916, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); Endangered Species Act of 1973, (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR; Senate ENR; Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FERC</td>
<td>FERC, in licensing nonfederal natural gas and hydroelectric projects, gives consideration to both protection and enhancement of aquatic resources and habitat affected by project construction and operation.</td>
<td>Title II of the Federal Power Act of 1935, as amended (16 U.S.C. 797(e))</td>
<td>House E&amp;C; House NR; Senate CST; Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BIA</td>
<td>Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation Program- responsible for the federal government trust responsibilities to Indians relative to aquatic resources, and funds tribal roles in aquatic resource management.</td>
<td>Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR; Senate CST; Senate IA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Invasive Species

| DOD: USACE          | As part of its responsibilities to study, build, and operate water resource projects, the Corps studies and carries out activities to control invasive aquatic species at these projects. The Corps also has project-specific authorities to control some invasive species. | Rivers and Harbors Act of 1958 (P.L. 85-500) and various other acts | House T&I; Senate EPW |
| DOI: BOR            | BOR conducts invasive species and other pest management research, including development and coordination of “Integrated Pest Management” techniques. | Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.) | House NR; Senate ENR |
| DHS: USCG; EPA; DOI: FWS; DOD: USACE; DOC: NOAA; and others | The Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force is a federal program to prevent the introduction and to control the spread of unintentionally introduced aquatic nuisance species. The Task Force consist of 13 federal agencies and is co-chaired by the FWS and NOAA. | Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.) | House NR; House T&I; Senate CST; Senate EPW |
### Department and Agency

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USDA: NRCS</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plant Materials Centers evaluate plants for conservation traits and make these materials available to commercial growers who provide plant materials to the public. Centers work to address the spread of plants that have been classified as noxious or invasive (including aquatic) through research, education, and outreach.</td>
<td>Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wetlands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOD: USACE; EPA</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Clean Water Act establishes a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands, through permits issued by the USACE in consultation with EPA.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, as amended (§404) (33 U.S.C. 1344)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: FWS</td>
<td>The FWS is authorized to make grants for wetland conservation projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.</td>
<td>North American Wetlands Conservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 4400)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: FWS</td>
<td>Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program- provides technical assistance and cost share incentives directly to landowners for wetland restoration projects on private lands through voluntary agreements.</td>
<td>Partners for Fish and Wildlife Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3771-3774)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE; DOI: FWS; EPA; DOC: NMFS; USDA</td>
<td>Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Program- is a comprehensive approach to restore and prevent the loss of coastal Louisiana wetlands. USACE allocates funds (federal share 75% of project costs) among task force members.</td>
<td>Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act of 1990, (16 U.S.C. 3951-3955)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)- provides technical and financial assistance to purchase long term and permanent easements and enter into restoration agreements with land owners to protect and restore wetlands.</td>
<td>Food, Agriculture, Conservation and Trade Act of 1990 as §1237-§1237F of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3837-3837f)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Wetland conservation (also referred to as Swampbuster)- is a provision that makes producers who convert wetlands to cropland ineligible for certain USDA program benefits.</td>
<td>Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3821-3824)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department and Agency</td>
<td>Activities and Programs</td>
<td>Primary Authorities</td>
<td>Committee Jurisdiction</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FSA</td>
<td>Farmable Wetlands Program- subprogram under CRP that restores farmable wetlands and associated buffers by improving the land’s hydrology and vegetation.(^d)</td>
<td>Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as §1231B of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3831b)</td>
<td>House Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program- provides technical and financial assistance to purchase floodplain easements for restoring, protecting, maintaining, and enhancing the functions and values of floodplains, including associated wetlands and riparian areas.</td>
<td>Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as amended (16 U.S.C. 2203); and 33 U.S.C. 701b-1</td>
<td>House Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td>Water Bank Program- provides annual payments to landowners for conserving and protecting wetlands and adjacent lands from adverse land uses and activities, such as drainage, that would destroy the wetland characteristics of those lands.</td>
<td>Water Bank Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1301-1311)</td>
<td>House Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wild and Scenic Rivers

DOI: NPS, BLM, FWS, BOR; USDA: USFS; DOD: USACE

Preserves designated rivers in their free-flowing condition and directs respective designated federal agencies to administer comprehensive management plans to ensure river protection.


House NR | Senate ENR

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

- a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.
- b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A, Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
- c. Many ecosystem restoration initiatives are regional and include advisory or leadership committees with representatives from many federal agencies and White House offices, and are often authorized by program specific authorities.
- d. Authority to receive mandatory funding expires September 30, 2012, subject to reauthorization. For more information, see CRS Report R42442, Possible Extension or Expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill, by Jim Monke, Megan Stubbs, and Randy Alison Aussenberg.
Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

Water Rights and Allocation

Although water rights and allocation traditionally are issues that are regulated by states, the federal government retains significant authority related to federal water resources management and federal water rights. Congress has broad authority under the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution to regulate interstate waterways and promote navigation throughout the nation’s waterways. Accordingly, though rarely exercised, Congress may allocate interstate waters directly. Alternatively, Congress may defer to states to reach an agreement (i.e., interstate compact) on the allocation of water in an interstate dispute, but Congress generally must provide its consent to such a compact before it may take effect. Congress also has provided for the establishment of river basin commissions, which typically include representatives from basin states and any relevant federal agencies.

In 1908, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized the creation of federal reserved water rights. The Court explained that when Congress creates an Indian reservation, it also implicitly reserves the water necessary to fulfill the purposes for which the reservation was established. These rights, sometimes referred to as tribal water rights, are often senior to other water users’ rights but are not quantified, which may lead to extensive litigation between tribes and other water users or settlement agreements that must be approved by Congress. The Court later held that the principle of reserved rights extended not only to reservations for tribal land but also to reservations for other federal purposes, including national forests, wildlife refuges, national parks, wild and scenic rivers, etc. Thus, congressional proposals to make additions to these systems implicate federal authority related to water resources.

Many federal laws also indirectly affect water allocation and use. For example, development of dam and diversion facilities have over time favored certain purposes or uses over others. Such development has sometimes resulted in unintended consequences, including in some cases, overallocation of water supplies. Implementation of laws aimed at addressing water quality and threatened and endangered species (e.g., the federal Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act) may indirectly affect water allocation. However, because such laws—like many other federal laws—are primarily related to federal project operations, they are not included in this section.

Table 6 lists activities related to water allocation and includes such topic areas as water allocation generally and river basin commissions.

Table 7 lists activities related to water rights and includes such topic areas as federal reserved water rights and tribal water rights.

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7 U.S. Const. art. I, § 8; see Gibbons v. Ogden, 22 U.S. 1 (1824).
8 U.S. Const. art. I, § 10, cl. 3.
11 Id.
13 Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).
### Table 6. Water Allocation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Congress has exercised its authority to allocate interstate waters on rare occasions in response to interstate compacts.</td>
<td>U.S. Const. art. I, §8; U.S. Const. art. VI, cl. 2; e.g. Boulder Canyon Project Act of December 21, 1928 (43 U.S.C. 617 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Judiciary House NR Senate ENR Senate Judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Congress generally must consent to agreements between and among states for the management of interstate waters, which may address allocation, pollution, etc.</td>
<td>U.S. Const. art. I, § 10, cl. 3</td>
<td>House Judiciary House NR House T&amp;I Senate ENR Senate EPW Senate Judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>For interstate water compacts, the USGS provides administrative support for the federal representative. Also, the USGS collects hydrologic data for 25 interstate compacts.</td>
<td>e.g. Arkansas River Compact of May 31, 1949, P.L. 81-82</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**River Basin Commissions**

| Various agencies | River basin commissions comprised of federal and/or state representatives may be established to manage and develop water resources within a particular river basin. Three presidentially declared river basin commissions coordinate plans for water and related land resources development in their respective basins (i.e. Delaware, Susquehanna, Potomac). | Water Resources Planning Act of 1965, P.L. 89-80 (42 U.S.C. 1962b et seq.); various legislation approving interstate compacts | House NR Senate ENR |

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

- a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.
- b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A, Appendix B and Appendix C the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
### Table 7. Water Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
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<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal Reserved Water Rights</strong></td>
<td>Reservation of land for a federal purpose (i.e., national forests, national wildlife refuges, wild and scenic rivers) includes accompanying water rights to achieve the purpose of the reservation.</td>
<td>Cappaert v. United States, 426 U.S. 128 (1976); various statutes reserving federal lands</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: USFS; DOI: BLM, FWS, NPS; Various agencies</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Tribal Water Rights**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOI</td>
<td>American Indian tribes may hold reserved water rights granted by the reservation of land to the tribe and derive from treaties, statutes, agreements, or executive orders.</td>
<td>Winters v. United States, 207 U.S. 564 (1908); various Indian water rights settlement acts</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR, Senate IA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.

b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A.
Research and Planning

Federal water research and planning authorities are spread across numerous federal agencies, and the congressional committees with oversight roles and responsibilities are also numerous. This division derives in part from the distinct roles that water plays in relation to each of these agencies’ missions and the committees’ jurisdictions. The evolution of federal water research authorities and planning activities generally mirrors the development of the water-related agencies and authorities discussed in earlier sections of this report.

Federal water research and planning began largely to support the development of navigation, flood control, and storage of water for irrigation. The 1960s saw federal research and planning expand to include reducing pollution problems. Efforts to coordinate water research and planning in the 1960s and 1970s were undertaken as part of broader efforts to coordinate federal water activities. Administrations of the 1980’s and 1990’s asserted a more limited federal role in water research and planning. Federal water planning was scaled back primarily to support federal projects and activities. Federal research funds were focused on topics closely connected to helping federal agencies meet their missions and to address problems beyond the scope of the states and private sector. One result has been that federal research in recent decades has principally supported regulatory activities (e.g., water quality research and monitoring of aquatic ecosystem and species), while federal research promoting economic growth through water development has decreased.15 In the last two decades, new technologies and data (e.g., water-related satellite and radar data) and concerns (e.g., climate trends, ecosystem health) have prompted both the involvement of new agencies and programs in federal water research and the expansion of authorities and topics covered by traditional water agencies.

This section focuses on federal authorities related to water research and planning and includes two tables:

**Table 8** lists authorities related to general water research; research on use, supply augmentation, efficiency, and engineering works; monitoring, data, and mapping; water resource assessments; water cycle, drought, and climate change; and water quality and treatment.

**Table 9** lists authorities related to planning for water development projects, watersheds, and water quality.

While these two tables are not exhaustive, they represent the cross-section of federal research and planning authorities.

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**Table 8. Research and Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water (General)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>Studies, programs, and scholarships for science and engineering.</td>
<td>National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1862 et seq.)</td>
<td>House SST, Senate CST, Senate HELP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC: NOAA</td>
<td>National Estuarine Research Reserve Program- provides grants to states to assist with state-protected estuarine areas used for research and education programs, and to serve as laboratories for comparative studies among the major coastal biogeographical regions.</td>
<td>Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1461)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate CST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>Hydrologic Research and Development Program conducts research on complex hydrological problems such as ecological and biochemical processes in the hydrological cycle and movement and availability of subsurface water to inform groundwater management decisions.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>The Cooperative Water Program allows USGS to partner with local, state, and tribal entities to provide joint monitoring and research capabilities. Efforts from this program lead to regulatory decision-making, and joint management actions, among other things.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR, Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use, Supply Augmentation, Efficiency, and Engineering Works**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USDA: ARS</td>
<td>ARS is USDA’s in-house research agency organized into 18 national programs that serve to coordinate over 800 ARS research projects. National program 211 addresses water availability and watershed management. Several research projects are conducted under this national program.</td>
<td>Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 added §1402 of the Food and Agricultural Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag, Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR undertakes water reclamation and reuse research.</td>
<td>Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act, as amended, Title XVI of P.L. 102-575 (43 U.S.C. 390h)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>Authorizes establishment of water resources research and technology institutes in each state, and grants for research and technology development on water supply, management, and quality.</td>
<td>Water Resources Research Act of 1983, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§10301-10309)</td>
<td>House SST Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE</td>
<td>Requires a program for research, development, demonstration, and commercial application to address energy issues related to water supplies and management, and water issues related to energy supply and use.</td>
<td>Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16319)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C House SST Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td>Provides water resources engineering research and development.</td>
<td>Flood Control Act of 1928, as amended (33 U.S.C. 702a)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Monitoring, Data, and Mapping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>Basin-scale and larger groundwater modeling; National Water Quality Assessment Program; groundwater monitoring, stream gaging; and aquatic resource monitoring, inventory, and analysis.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) - Collects streamflow data from streamgages throughout the country. The flow information is used for local, state, regional, and national needs.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>Data monitoring and collection on water quality, hydrology, riparian areas, and a host of other topics informs West-wide Climate Risk Assessments and other ongoing BOR initiatives, including project operations.</td>
<td>Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.); Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Title IX, Subtitle F, 42 U.S.C. 10363)</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: ARS, NASS, ERS</td>
<td>USDA has broad authority to collect data related to agricultural production and water management in rural areas.</td>
<td>Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 added §1402 of the Food and Agricultural Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.); Census of Agriculture Act of 1997, as amended (7 U.S.C. 2204g); Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, as amended</td>
<td>House Ag Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA has broad authority to collect data related to regulation of drinking water contaminants and protection of public water supplies. The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Program requires public water systems to test for contaminants that EPA might regulate.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, §1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j-4)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>House SST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Assessments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: FS</td>
<td>Periodic resource assessment and research of renewable resources on U.S. forests and rangelands, including water.</td>
<td>Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resource Planning Act of 1974, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.)</td>
<td>House Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS, NIFA, ERS, NASS, FSA</td>
<td>NRCS leads the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) which is carried out at the field, watershed and landscape scale and includes analysis of the cumulative effects and benefits of conservation practices on natural resources and the environment.</td>
<td>Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.), among others</td>
<td>House Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>Hydrologic Networks and Analysis program provides data and analysis on the quantity and quality of water in streams, lakes, and reservoirs. These data are used for planning, monitoring, and developing the nation’s water resources.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>Groundwater Resources Program provides information to assess and quantify the groundwater resources of the nation, such as groundwater availability in aquifer systems and characterization of natural and human factors that control groundwater availability in aquifers.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Cycle, Drought, and Climate Change</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI</td>
<td>The Secretary of the Interior is directed to establish a climate change adaptation program, coordinate with the Administrator of NOAA, USGS, and state water resource agencies; and, assess risks to water supply of selected river basins.</td>
<td>SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10363))</td>
<td>House NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>WaterSMART Program—may provide grants to universities, nonprofits, and other organizations with water or power delivery authority for development of tools to assess climate change impacts. Also provides grants for and partners on river basin studies to evaluate and address climate change impacts.</td>
<td>SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10364))</td>
<td>House NR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department and Agency</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities and Programs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Primary Authorities</strong></td>
<td><strong>Committee Jurisdiction</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
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<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>In coordination with the WaterSMART basin studies, BOR evaluates climate risk through West-wide Climate Risk Assessments and develops scientific information on climate change and other ecological stressors via Land Conservation Cooperatives.</td>
<td>SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10363)); Interior Department Secretarial Order #3289</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: USGS</td>
<td>National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) - provides streamflow information for local, state, regional, and national needs, including data related to climate variation and change.</td>
<td>Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.); SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10366))</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOE: PMAs</td>
<td>The Secretary of Energy, in consultation with the Administrator of each PMA, is charged with the risks of climate change and potential effects on federal hydro power projects.</td>
<td>SECURE Water Act (Subtitle F, Title IX of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C. 10365))</td>
<td>House NR Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Conducts and supports research on effects of climate change on water resources and the nation’s clean water and safe drinking water programs, including research to assist drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems to assess climate change impacts and develop adaptation strategies.</td>
<td>Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.); Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)</td>
<td>House E&amp;C House SST House T&amp;I Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC: NOAA</td>
<td>The Secretary of Commerce is charged with forecasting the weather, issuing storm warnings, weather and flood signals, gauging and reporting on river conditions, reporting temperature and rainfall conditions, distributing meteorological observations, and taking such meteorological observations as necessary to establish and record climatic conditions of the United States.</td>
<td>Weather Service Modernization Act (15 U.S.C. 313 et seq.)</td>
<td>House SST Senate CST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Water Quality and Treatment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Department and Agency</strong></th>
<th><strong>Activities and Programs</strong></th>
<th><strong>Primary Authorities</strong></th>
<th><strong>Committee Jurisdiction</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Selected Federal Water Activities: Agencies, Authorities, and Congressional Committees

#### DOI: USGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| DOI: USGS                         | National Water Quality Assessment Program—provides regional and national information on groundwater and stream quality conditions, and provides support for scientifically sound management, regulatory, and policy decisions. | Organic Act of March 3, 1879 (43 U.S.C. 31 et seq.) | House NR
Senate ENR |

**Source:** Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in [Appendix D](#).

b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see [Appendix A](#), [Appendix B](#), and [Appendix C](#) present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
## Table 9. Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water Development Project Planning</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td>BOR investigates federal water resource development projects using a general authority and performs feasibility studies using site-specific authorities.</td>
<td>Reclamation Act of 1902, as amended (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.), Reclamation Project Act of 1939 (43 U.S.C. 485h(a); and site-specific authorities</td>
<td>House NR; Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS; DOD: USACE</td>
<td>Joint-agency investigation of flood damage reduction and water development installations if authorized by Committee resolution.</td>
<td>P.L. 87-639 (16 U.S.C. 1009)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I; Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Watershed Planning</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>River Basin Commissions (Delaware, Susquehanna, Potomac)</td>
<td>Presidential declaration of river basin commissions for coordination of plans for water and related land resources development.</td>
<td>Water Resources Planning Act of 1965, P.L. 89-80 (42 U.S.C. 1962b et seq.)</td>
<td>House NR; Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA: NRCS</td>
<td><strong>Watershed Surveys and Planning Program</strong>- assists federal, state, and local agencies and tribal governments to protect watersheds from damage caused by erosion, floodwater, and sediment and to conserve and develop water and land resources.</td>
<td>Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1001-1008)</td>
<td>House Ag; Senate Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOI: BOR</td>
<td><strong>Cooperative Watershed Management Program</strong>- provides grants for development of locally led watershed groups and facilitates watershed projects.</td>
<td>Cooperative Watershed Management Act (Subtitle A, Title VI of P.L. 111-11, 16 U.S.C. 1015)</td>
<td>House NR; Senate ENR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD: USACE</td>
<td><strong>Planning Assistance to States</strong>- allows USACE to work with states on the preparation of comprehensive plans for the development, utilization, and conservation of water and related resources.</td>
<td>Water Resources Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 1962d-16)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I; Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Water Quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department and Agency</th>
<th>Activities and Programs</th>
<th>Primary Authorities</th>
<th>Committee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>EPA encourages a watershed approach as the most effective means of addressing water resource and water quality challenges, such as restoration of pollution-impaired waters and management of nonpoint source pollution.</td>
<td>Clean Water Act, (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.)</td>
<td>House T&amp;I, Senate EPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Source: Prepared by the Congressional Research Service.

a. Department, agency, and committee names and abbreviations are provided in Appendix D.

b. Committees are listed alphabetically by chamber. For information regarding committee jurisdiction and referral rules, see Appendix A. Appendix B and Appendix C present the official language from House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, respectively, as indicators of congressional jurisdiction over water resources.
Appendix A

Determining Committee Jurisdiction

Committee jurisdiction is determined by a variety of factors. Paramount are House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, which designate the subject matter within the purview of each standing committee. House Rule X and Senate Rule XXV, however, are both broadly written and the product of an era in which governmental activity was not as extensive, and relations among policies not as common or intertwined as now. Due to topic omissions and a lack of clarity, as well as overlaps among committees in areas of jurisdiction, the formal provision of the rules is supplemented by an intricate series of precedents and informal agreements governing the referral of legislation. In general, once a measure has been referred to a given committee, it remains the responsibility of that committee; if the measure is enacted into law, amendments to the law are presumed to be within the originating committee’s responsibility. Relatedly, bills which are more comprehensive than the measure they amend or supersede are presumed to be within the jurisdiction of the committee reporting the more comprehensive measure. The resultant accretions of subject responsibility greatly broaden the range or shift the scope of jurisdictional subjects assigned to each committee. Several other factors also should be considered in determining committee jurisdiction, although these are not formal or even acknowledged in rules or precedents. These factors may include the expertise of a measure’s sponsor, the timing of a bill, or the appropriations subcommittee that considers appropriations requests for the program authorized. Subcommittees are not officially authorized in either the rules of the House or the Senate. Subcommittees are creatures of the full committee that established them. Accordingly, determining official subcommittee jurisdictions is imprecise. Therefore, although some information regarding subcommittee jurisdiction is included in Appendix B and Appendix C, information on subcommittee jurisdiction is not uniformly provided in this report.

House Referral

In 1974, with the adoption of the Committee Reform Amendments, the House authorized the Speaker to refer measures to more than one committee, in a joint, split, or sequential manner. In 1995, with the rules changes adopted in the 104th Congress, the Speaker could no longer refer measures jointly; he was authorized instead to designate a primary committee. Split and sequential referrals were still allowed. Further, the Speaker could impose time limitations on any committee receiving a referral. In 2003, with the rules changes adopted in the 108th Congress, the Speaker was authorized to refer measures to more than one committee without designation of a primary committee under “exceptional circumstances.”

Senate Referral

A measure introduced in the Senate, or passed by the House and sent to the Senate, will likely be referred to a Senate committee. Measures are referred to Senate committees in accordance with their official jurisdictions in Senate Rule XXV, and precedents established by prior referrals. A series of formal agreements among committees over time also can supplement Rule XXV, and generally are regarded as setting precedent for future referrals. Ad hoc agreements may be made to govern the consideration of particular measures, but these are not binding on future referrals.
Referral of measures is formally the responsibility of the presiding officer of the Senate, but in practice the Senate parliamentarian advises on bill referrals. Under Senate Rule XVII, in general each measure is referred to a single committee based on “the subject matter which predominates” in the legislation. Predominance usually is determined by the extent to which a measure deals with a subject. However, there appear to be exceptions; most notably, a measure containing revenue provisions is likely to be referred to the Committee on Finance, even where the subject does not appear to predominate.

**Individual Jurisdictional Issues**

This section briefly discusses an example of water issues that are either within the jurisdiction of more than one committee or contested among committees. If the issue is clearly within the purview of one panel, it is not addressed in this section.

**Jurisdiction over Dams and Land Necessary for their Development**

House Rule X identifies several committees to which bills authorizing federal dam construction might be referred. The Natural Resources Committee has jurisdiction over “irrigation and reclamation, including water supply for reclamation projects, and easements of public lands for irrigation projects, and acquisition of private lands when necessary to complete water projects.” As such, it has jurisdiction over most activities of the Bureau of Reclamation (Department of the Interior). The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for “flood control and improvement of rivers and harbors... public works for the benefit of navigation, including bridges and dams (other than international bridges and dams)... water power.” Consequently, most activities of the Army Corps of Engineers fall under the jurisdiction of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The Committee on Agriculture has jurisdiction over “water conservation related to activities of the Department of Agriculture.”

Senate Rule XXV also identifies several committees for which bills authorizing federal dam construction might be referred. The Energy and Natural Resources Committee has jurisdiction over “hydroelectric power, irrigation, and reclamation projects,’ and, hence, most activities of the Bureau of Reclamation; whereas, the Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW) has jurisdiction over “public works, bridges, and dams” and “flood control.” Consequently, EPW has jurisdiction over most activities of the Army Corps of Engineers. Additionally, the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee has jurisdiction over “soil conservation... food from fresh waters... rural development, rural electrification, and watersheds.”

As is shown in Table 1, multiple committees in each chamber are principally involved in jurisdiction over dams, which is not readily apparent from perusal of the rules language alone. Private dams must be licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which is under the

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17 Ibid.
jurisdiction of the House Energy and Commerce and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committees. Further, several different executive branch departments and agencies are responsible for implementing the laws under the jurisdiction of these committees. This arrangement complicates management of river systems and resources comprising large watershed areas such as the Columbia and Colorado River Basins, and the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers’ delta confluence with San Francisco Bay, and even smaller systems, especially where anadromous fisheries (fish that live in both freshwater and marine environments) are involved.
Appendix B

Table 10 includes official excerpts from House Rule X.

Table 10. House Rule X

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Rule X Language</th>
<th>Parliamentarian Notes</th>
<th>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>Crop insurance and soil conservation</td>
<td>Bills to develop land and water conservation programs on private and non federal lands; The Committee on Natural Resources, and not this committee, has jurisdiction over a bill to convey land that is part of a National Forest created from the public domain</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy and Forestry (Soil, water, and resource conservation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inspection of … seafood and seafood products</td>
<td></td>
<td>Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry (Seafood… Inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities; Aquaculture)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Water conservation related to activities of the Department of Agriculture</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rural Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction indicates the jurisdictional committee that would handle bills related to the specified activities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Rule X Language</th>
<th>Parliamentarian Notes</th>
<th>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy and Commerce</td>
<td>Consumer affairs and consumer protection</td>
<td>This committee formerly had jurisdiction over bills proposing construction of bridges across navigable streams, which now are banned under clause 4 of rule XII if private</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade (Regulation of commercial practices (the Federal Trade Commission))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health and health facilities (except health care supported by payroll deductions)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Power (National energy policy generally, fossil energy, renewable energy resources and synthetic fuels, energy conservation, energy information, energy regulation and information; Interstate energy compacts; All laws, programs, and government activities affecting such matters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interstate energy compacts</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy (All matters relating to water contamination; The regulation of drinking water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interstate and foreign commerce generally</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Health (Public health and quarantine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exploration, production, storage, supply, marketing, pricing, and regulation of energy resources, including all fossil fuels, solar energy, and other unconventional or renewable energy resources</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Conservation of energy resources</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Energy information generally</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The generation and marketing of power (except by federally chartered or Federal regional power marketing authorities); reliability and generation facilities (except the installation of interconnections between Government waterpower projects)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>General Management of the Department of Energy and all functions of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National energy policy generally</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public health and quarantine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Affairs</td>
<td></td>
<td>The committee has broad jurisdiction over… bridges and dams on international waters</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Rule X Language</td>
<td>Parliamentarian Notes</td>
<td>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction¹</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organization and administration of the Department of Homeland Security</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Functions of the Department of Homeland Security relating to… border and port</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>security …. transportation security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judiciary</td>
<td>Interstate compacts, generally</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Rule X Language</td>
<td>Parliamentarian Notes</td>
<td>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction*</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Natural Resources</strong></td>
<td>Fisheries and wildlife, including research, restoration, refuges, and conservation</td>
<td>To transfer interest in a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration fisheries research laboratory; This committee, and not the Committee on Agriculture, has jurisdiction over a bill to convey land that is part of a National Forest created from the public domain; This committee, and not the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, has jurisdiction over a bill addressing a federal water project operated by the Bureau of Reclamation</td>
<td>Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands (Measures and matters related to the National Parks system and its units, including Federal reserved water rights; Wild and Scenic Rivers System …; Federal and nonfederal outdoor recreation plans, programs and administration including the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 and the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963; Public lands generally, including measures or matters related to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing, and Federal reserved water rights; Public forest lands generally, including measures or matters related to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing and Federal reserved water rights)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geological Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans, and Insular Affairs (Fisheries management and fisheries research generally, including the management of all commercial and recreational fisheries, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, interjurisdictional fisheries, international fisheries agreements, aquaculture, seafood safety and fisheries promotion; Wildlife resources, including research, restoration, refuges and conservation; Protection of coastal and marine environments, including estuarine protection; Oceanography; Ocean engineering, including materials, technology and systems; Coastal zone management; Marine sanctuaries; U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea; Sea Grant programs and marine extension services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International fishing agreements</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs (Bureau of Indian Affairs; Indian lands (including leasing, acquisition, and alienation of tribal lands and individual allotments); Energy, minerals, and timber issues; Land and water claims; Indian treaty rights)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parliamentarian Notes</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Committee Language on</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Subcommittee Jurisdiction</strong></td>
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<td>Committee</td>
<td>Rule X Language</td>
<td>Parliamentarian Notes</td>
<td>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Science, Space, and Technology</strong></td>
<td>All energy research, development, and demonstration, and projects</td>
<td>With four other committees, measures coordinating federal agencies research into ground water contamination, including that done by the Environmental Protection Agency; The committee on Natural Resources, and not this committee, has jurisdiction over a bill transferring interest in a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration fisheries research laboratory</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental research and development</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation (Surface and water transportation research, development, and demonstration programs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marine Research</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commercial application of energy technology</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Weather Service</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scientific research, development, and demonstration, and projects</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subcommittee on Energy and Environment (All matters relating to energy research, development and projects thereof, commercial application of energy technology, and environmental research including: Department of Energy research, Department of Energy laboratories, Department of Energy science activities, energy supply activities, … solar and renewable energy, and other advanced energy activities; Energy conservation research and development; energy aspects of climate change; Energy and environmental standards; Energy conservation including… distributed power systems and industrial process improvements; Environmental Protection Agency research and development programs; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including all activities related to weather, weather services, climate, and the atmosphere, and marine fisheries, and oceanic research; Risk assessment activities; Scientific issues related to environmental policy, including climate change)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Rule X Language</td>
<td>Parliamentarian Notes</td>
<td>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation and Infrastructure</td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation (U.S. coast Guard; Maritime transportation; Navigation, port and waterway safety; Maritime transportation regulatory activities, including the regulation of vessels and merchant seamen; Marine environmental protection, generally as related to vessel operation (oil and plastics pollution, invasive/aquatic nuisance species transported by vessels; Port security; Federal Maritime Commission and the regulation of ocean shipping; Non-national security aspects of the merchant marine)</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment (Water resources programs of the Army Corps of Engineers; Clean Water Act; Superfund (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act); Water infrastructure and watershed protection programs; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Ocean dumping; Oil pollution of navigable waters of the U.S.; Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA); Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; Small watershed program of the Natural Resources Conservation Service; Deepwater ports; invasive/aquatic nuisance species; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Natural resource damages provisions in Superfund and the Oil Pollution Act; Groundwater protection; Water resources policy)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Federal management of emergencies and natural disasters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Flood control and improvement of rivers and harbors</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inland waterways</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Inspection of merchant marine vessels</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Navigation and laws relating thereto, including pilotage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Merchant marine (except for national security aspects of merchant thereof)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Oil and other pollution of navigable waters, including inland, coastal, and ocean waters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marine affairs, including coastal zone management, as they relate to oil and other pollution of navigable waters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Public works for the benefit of navigation, including bridges and dams (other than international bridges and dams)</td>
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<td>Transportation, including water transportation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Water power</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Committee          | Rule X Language                              | Parliamentarian Notes                                                                 | Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ways and Means</td>
<td>Ports of entry and delivery</td>
<td>With the Committee on Natural Resources, amending the Fishermen’s Protective Act to authorize the President to prohibit the importation of any product from a country violating an international fishery conservation program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


a. Subcommittees are not officially authorized in either House or Senate rules; they are creatures of the full committee that created them. Accordingly, information on subcommittee jurisdiction is not uniformly provided. Subcommittees are listed here only where subcommittee descriptions have been stipulated in writing by the appropriate committee.
### Appendix C

Table 11 includes official excerpts from Senate Rule XXV.

**Table 11. Senate Rule XXV and Nominations Considered**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Rule XXV Language(^a)</th>
<th>Nominations Handled(^b)</th>
<th>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction(^b)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry | Crop insurance and soil conservation  
Food from fresh waters  
Plant industry, soils and agricultural engineering  
Rural development, rural electrification, and watersheds | USDA Secretary; Under Secretary for Rural Development | Subcommittee on Commodities, Markets, Trade and Risk Management  
(fresh water food production)  
Subcommittee on Conservation, Forestry and Natural Resources  
(conservation, protection and stewardship of natural resources and the environment)  
Subcommittee on Jobs, Rural Economic Growth and Energy Innovation  
(rural electrification; renewable energy production and energy efficiency improvement on farms and ranches in rural communities) | |
| Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs | Urban development | HUD Secretary; Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development | Subcommittee on Economic Policy  
(Flood insurance; Disaster assistance)  
Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development  
(Urban affairs and development; HUD; Indian Housing) | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Rule XXV Languagea</th>
<th>Nominations Handleda</th>
<th>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdictionb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commerce, Science, and Transportation</strong></td>
<td>Coast Guard</td>
<td>DOC Secretary; Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere/Administrator - NOAA; Assistant Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere/Deputy Administrator - NOAA; Chief Scientist of NOAA; Officer Corps—NOAA Department of Homeland Security - United States Coast Guard Officers</td>
<td>Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee</td>
<td>Rule XXV Language</td>
<td>Nominations Handled</td>
<td>Committee Language on Subcommittee Jurisdiction</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Environment and Public Works | Environmental Policy                   | DOI Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (shared with ENR Committee); Director of FWS; Council on Environmental Quality - Chair EPA: Administrator, Deputy Administrator, all assistant administrators TVA: nine members; Inspector General Mississippi River Commission: Commissioner, seven positions | Subcommittee on Clean Air, and Nuclear Safety (Tennessee Valley Authority)  
Subcommittee on Green Jobs and the New Economy (federal investment in technologies and practices that reduce the government’s carbon footprint or the emission of other pollutants, including technologies and practices that enhance energy efficiency, conservation, or renewable power sources)  
Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure (Water Resources Development Act (WRDA); National Dam Safety Program; Stafford Act and federal disaster relief programs; Mississippi River Commission)  
Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife (Clean Water Act; Safe Drinking Water Act; Coastal Zone Management Act; invasive species; Endangered Species Act (ESA); fisheries and wildlife; national wildlife refuges; outer continental shelf lands) |
|                            | Environmental research and development |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Fisheries and wildlife                  |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Flood control and improvements of rivers and harbors, including environmental aspects of deepwater ports |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Ocean dumping                           |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Environmental aspects of Outer Continental Shelf lands |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Public works, bridges, and dams         |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Water pollution                         |                                 |                                                  |
|                            | Water resources                         |                                 |                                                  |
| Health, Education, Labor and Pensions | Director and Deputy Director for the National Science Foundation |                                  |                                                  |
| Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs | Department of Homeland Security: Assistant Administrator for FEMA |                                |                                                  |
| Indian Affairs             | ... Indian land management               | HHS: Director for HIS; Commissioner for Administration for Native Americans | DOI: Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs |


- **b.** *Congressional Yellow Book*, vol. 37, n. 4 (Leadership Directories, Inc., Winter 2012). Subcommittees are not officially authorized in either House or Senate rules; they are creatures of the full committee that created them. Accordingly, information on subcommittee jurisdiction is not uniformly provided. Subcommittees are listed here only where subcommittee descriptions have been stipulated in writing by the appropriate committee.
Appendix D

Glossary of Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Agency/Department</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>Agricultural Marketing Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA</td>
<td>Alaska Power Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARS</td>
<td>Agricultural Research Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIA</td>
<td>Bureau of Indian Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLM</td>
<td>Bureau of Land Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOR</td>
<td>Bureau of Reclamation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPA</td>
<td>Bonneville Power Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHS</td>
<td>Department of Homeland Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOC</td>
<td>Department of Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOD</td>
<td>Department of Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOE</td>
<td>Department of Energy</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOI</td>
<td>Department of the Interior</td>
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<tr>
<td>DOJ</td>
<td>Department of Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDA</td>
<td>Economic Development Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPA</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>ERS</td>
<td>Economic Research Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEMA</td>
<td>Federal Emergency Management Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>FERC</td>
<td>Federal Energy Regulatory Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>FSA</td>
<td>Farm Service Agency</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTC</td>
<td>Federal Trade Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>FWS</td>
<td>Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHS</td>
<td>United States Department of Health and Human Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Ag</td>
<td>House Committee on Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House E&amp;C</td>
<td>House Committee on Energy and Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House FA</td>
<td>House Committee on Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House FS</td>
<td>House Committee on Financial Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House HS</td>
<td>House Committee on Homeland Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>House Judiciary</td>
<td>House Committee on the Judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House NR</td>
<td>House Committee on Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House SST</td>
<td>House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House T&amp;I</td>
<td>House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House W&amp;M</td>
<td>House Committee on Ways and Means</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUD</td>
<td>Department of Housing and Urban Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>IBWC</td>
<td>International Boundary and Water Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agency/Authority</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-----------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHS</td>
<td>Indian Health Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NASA</td>
<td>National Aeronautics and Space Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>NASS</td>
<td>National Agricultural Statistics Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIFA</td>
<td>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</td>
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<td>NMFS</td>
<td>National Marine Fisheries Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOAA</td>
<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPS</td>
<td>National Park Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRCS</td>
<td>Natural Resources Conservation Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
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<td>NWS</td>
<td>National Weather Service</td>
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<td>PMA</td>
<td>Power Marketing Administration</td>
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<td>RMA</td>
<td>Risk Management Agency</td>
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<td>RUS</td>
<td>Rural Utilities Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate Ag</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Banking</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs</td>
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<td>Senate CST</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation</td>
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<td>Senate ENR</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate EPW</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate Fin</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate FR</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Foreign Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate HELP</td>
<td>Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate HS</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate IA</td>
<td>Senate Committee on Indian Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Judiciary</td>
<td>Senate Committee on the Judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPA</td>
<td>South Eastern Power Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Department of State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWPA</td>
<td>South Western Power Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury</td>
<td>Department of the Treasury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TVA</td>
<td>Tennessee Valley Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USACE</td>
<td>United States Army Corps of Engineers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USCG</td>
<td>United States Coast Guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USDA</td>
<td>United States Department of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>USFS</td>
<td>United States Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USGS</td>
<td>United States Geological Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USTR</td>
<td>United States Trade Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAPA</td>
<td>Western Area Power Administration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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