

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2019

Natural Resources Democrats are working to make a lasting, positive impact on the health of our planet and improve quality of life for all Americans. **Under the leadership of Chair Raúl M. Grijalva, the Natural Resources Committee held 106 hearings, including 22 hearings focused on climate change this year.** This document highlights the top accomplishments from the first year of the 116th Congress.

91* BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW INCLUDING

**Expected enactment of S. 1790 and H.R. 1865 within the year*

- The Committee's massive **public lands package**, the John Dingell Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, which protects 1.3 million acres of new wilderness and permanently reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva's **Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan** that preserves water for the Southwest and the 40 million Americans who live there and is supported by all seven Colorado river basin states and regional tribes.

129 BILLS PASSED BY THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING

- Legislation to put people over polluters: bills to **protect the Grand Canyon** from new uranium mining and safeguard Chaco Canyon from the harmful impacts of oil and gas development.
- Legislation to protect 19 million acres that make up the sacred Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, home to the Gwich'in people.
- Legislation to permanently ban offshore drilling off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.
- A **package of bills** to protect the ocean and vulnerable coastal and Great Lakes communities impacted by the climate crisis.
- Legislation to permanently protect **400,000 acres of public lands** in Colorado.
- Legislation to protect long held trust lands and respect the sovereignty of tribes.

72 BILLS ORDERED REPORTED

- Legislation to **promote wildlife conservation efforts** and ensure the long-term health of American fish and wildlife.
- Legislation to **reauthorize programs** and improve the prevention, investigation, treatment and prosecution of family violence, child abuse and child neglect involving Native children and families.
- Legislation to **expand the jurisdiction** of tribal courts to prosecute non-Native perpetrators who commit crimes of sexual violence on tribal lands.

HISTORIC FIRSTS

- The Committee held the first climate change hearings in nearly a decade and took action to fight the climate crisis.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva attended the United Nations climate talks in Madrid, Spain known as COP25, with Speaker Nancy Pelosi.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and Committee leaders introduced #OurClimateSolution to slash carbon emissions by a quarter and move away from coal, oil and gas extraction.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and Rep. A. Donald McEachin hosted a historic congressional convening with **environmental justice** advocates and **launched an initiative** to work with community members to develop comprehensive environmental justice legislation.
- The Committee held the **first ever hearing** to address the silent crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women and passed legislation to strengthen the Violence Against Women Act and combat violence against native women.
- Vice-Chair Rep. Deb Haaland became the first Native American woman to chair a committee hearing.

FIGHTING FOR THE PEOPLE

- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva **traveled to Puerto Rico** twice to hear directly from the people on issues facing the island and held hearings on Puerto Rico and insular affairs issues.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva denounced Trump's border wall spanning in his district, and hosted a hearing to listen to expert witnesses on why the wall would be **destructive** to the public lands that the wall cuts in pieces.
- Chair Raúl M. Grijalva fought the culture of corruption at Trump's Department of the Interior as our Oversight team investigated the history of obstruction, a loss of scientific integrity, unexplained reorganizations and constant disinformation at the Department of Interior, including hosting a hearing for members to question Interior Secretary David Bernhardt face-to-face.