

## **BLOCKING DRAFT RULES TO STRENGTHEN ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT IMPLEMENTATION**

Passed: 213-212

### **SUMMARY:**

The House passed an amendment to prohibit FWS from completing a rulemaking process to strengthen implementation of the Endangered Species Act. (*November 2, 2023, Roll Call No. 575*).

### **BACKGROUND:**

On June 22, 2023, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued for public comment two joint regulations under the Endangered Species Act. FWS also issued an additional proposed regulation. Collectively, the proposals would have reversed many weakening regulatory changes the ESA made during the Trump Administration.

During consideration of H.R. 4821, the Interior Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2024, Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.) introduced an amendment to prohibit FWS from completing the rulemaking process on the three proposed regulations. If enacted, the amendment would have prevented FWS from making final decisions on the proposed regulations, thus keeping in place harmful Trump-era regulations, and prohibiting the agency from implementing important updates to bring the rules back into conformity with the ESA and ensure robust decision-making firmly grounded in the law and the science.

### **OUTCOME:**

The House passed the amendment to H.R. 4821, 213-212. “Nay” was the pro-conservation vote.