

Senate Resolution calling for a National Biodiversity Strategy

A diverse and thriving ecosystem is essential to the security, health, and well-being of people, not only within the United States, but around the globe. Species biodiversity contributes to pollination for food and flowers, water filtration, soil replenishment, production of medicinal products, and creation of a natural buffer for zoonotic disease.

Due to a plethora of factors, including climate chaos, pollution, and the introduction of invasive species, the world is facing an unprecedented biodiversity crisis – *with more than one million species currently threatened around the world.* Without a wide range of animals, plants, and microorganisms, healthy ecosystems – which we rely on to provide us with the air we breathe, the food we eat, and the water we drink – cannot function properly.

Currently, there is no overarching coordinating strategy to maximize the effectiveness of the Federal Government's conservation efforts and collaboration with States, local governments, Tribes, private landowners, and other nongovernmental stakeholders.

This resolution would express the need for the United States to establish a national biodiversity strategy to protect species biodiversity. Such a strategy would:

- Encourage federal agencies to identify and pursue a full range of actions within existing laws and policies while encouraging the consideration of new ones; and
- Establish a new four-year assessment to monitor the progress in addressing the biodiversity crisis.

The bipartisan House version of this resolution (H.Res.195) is sponsored by Reps. Neguse and Huffman. This resolution and broader efforts to create a National Biodiversity Strategy are supported by over 120 organizations, including:

- Defenders of Wildlife
- Sierra Club
- The Association of Zoos and Aquariums
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Trust for Public Land
- National Audubon Society
- World Wildlife Fund

- Natural Resources Defense Council
- National Parks Conservation Association
- Leage of Conservation Voters
- The Wilderness Society
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- Great Old Broads for Wilderness
- Oregon Wild