

Opening Statement
The Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs
Thursday, April 7, 2011

**Legislative Hearing on H.R. 306, *the Corolla Wild Horses Protection Act*;
H.R. 588/S. 266, *To redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge*; and
H.R. 258, *the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2011***

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Congressman Jones, thank you for being here with us today. I look forward to hearing about your bill, H.R. 306, the Corolla Wild Horses Protection Act, which I understand would statutorily direct the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to formally enter into an agreement with other governmental and non-governmental partners to ensure a long-term sustainable wild horse herd on the Currituck Outer Banks in North Carolina. The management of non-native wildlife is always a challenge, including in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, so I will be interested to hear the different perspectives of our witnesses.

We appreciate you being here as well, Congressman Harper, to testify on your bill, H.R. 588, which would redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge. Although I never had the chance to meet Director Hamilton, it is abundantly clear that everyone who worked with him during his three plus decades of public service had the utmost respect and admiration for him. His lifelong commitment to conservation and restoration of some of the Nation's most important species and ecosystems started at Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge and it is fitting that this place is memorialized in his honor.

Finally, I look forward to hearing about a bill introduced by our Subcommittee colleague, Congressman Wittman. H.R. 258, the Chesapeake Bay Accountability and Recovery Act of 2011 would increase coordination and accountability by requiring a crosscut budget and adaptive management for all restoration activities in the Bay. I appreciate my colleague's efforts to improve accounting and oversight over these restoration activities, which will enhance and recover the resources of the Bay.

With that, I look forward to hearing from our witnesses today and learning more about these issues.