

Everyone keep your eyes on this.
They won't stop until we have no place to play.....

Senate Plans Lame-Duck Session for Land Bills Blocked by Coburn

(Note: The price of freedom is truly eternal vigilance, for the foxes will always lust for the henhouse and its contents.)

October 2, 2008

No author provided at originating website address/URL.

CQ Today Midday Update / Congressional Quarterly, Inc.

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Get ready for another "Tomnibus."

Senate Majority Leader [Harry Reid](#) has warned his colleagues to prepare for a lame-duck session the week of November 17, when they'll be in Washington anyway for the biennial meetings to elect party leaders.

The lame ducks will vote on a massive package of public land bills that couldn't get through the Senate individually because of a single persistent foe: Sen. [Tom Coburn](#) .

Coburn, R-Okla., has a variety of objections. In some cases, he has concerns about preventing oil and gas development or the loss of revenue for the Treasury.

Democratic Sens. **Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico and Ken Salazar of Colorado** have combined 150 measures into a single package, and have offered it as an amendment to a wilderness bill.

Bingaman believes more than 60 senators will vote to approve the bill over Coburn's objections, a committee spokesman said. But pre-election time ran short to go through the process of filing cloture, voting to limit debate and then voting on the bill itself. **"The clock ran out,"** spokesman Bill Wicker said.

The bill would designate wilderness areas, national heritage areas, wild and scenic rivers and historic sites.

The lame duck is being scheduled for a time when senators will be in Washington for their routine organizational meetings.

If there is no change in the balance of power, the Senate meetings should be routine.

By spending several days dealing with the lands bill, the lame-duck session offers an opportunity for other senators to try and move legislation, too.

For example, Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., said Thursday he would propose to extend unemployment benefits by 13 weeks through legislation Republicans have blocked.

But House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer, D-Md., and Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., have said they oppose a post-election House session.

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