

Highlights from the California Coastal Commission's monthly public hearings

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge and other staff provided an update on recent agency activities, including:

- The Coastal Commission joined State Lands Commission, Coastal Conservancy and State Parks for a series of public workshops last month on planning efforts to provide public coastal access at Hollister Ranch in Santa Barbara County.
- The 26th annual California Ocean & Coastal Amateur Photography Contest winners were announced last month.
- The Coastal Commission published its Environmental Justice Year in Review 2024. The report highlights how efforts to protect and enhance the coast are made equitably, with consideration for all communities.
- The Coastal Commission approved the agency's 2026
 2030 Strategic Plan.
- The Coastal Commission and city of San Diego provided an update on efforts to prevent visitors to La Jolla Cove from harassing sea lions. (video)

Public Access

The Coastal Commission approved continued operations at Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in San Luis Obispo County on the condition that, among other things, 4,500 acres of land surrounding the plant be placed in a conservation easement and 25 miles of new hiking trails be established for the public.

The Coastal Commission approved an outdoor dining area for a restaurant in Hermosa Beach, as well as the creation of new parking spaces for bicycles and monthly transit passes for employees.

The Coastal Commission approved the construction of a new 25-foot-long staircase providing beach access at Leo Carrillo State Park in Malibu.

Sea Level Rise

The Coastal Commission approved the removal of a 50-foot-long seawall and rock revetment in the city of Del Mar.

Housing

The Coastal Commission approved a 122-unit housing development for low-income households in Santa Monica. Units will be deed restricted in perpetuity.

The Coastal Commission approved an oceanfront duplex in Dana Point on the condition that, among other things, unpermitted shoreline armoring be removed.

The Coastal Commission approved 11 single-family homes in San Pedro, including one restricted for a low-income household.

The Coastal Commission approved changes to the city of Grover Beach's local coastal program to, among other things, encourage more housing construction in accordance with state law.

The Coastal Commission cleared the way for a single-family home and ADU in San Mateo County.

The Coastal Commission approved major renovations of a four-unit apartment building in Hermosa Beach, including the addition of an ADU.

The Coastal Commission approved two ADUs in Laguna Beach and San Clemente.

The Coastal Commission approved three ADUs in Solana Beach.

Drought

The Coastal Commission approved a 12-month pilot project deploying a floating wave-powered desalination system off the coast of the city of Fort Bragg, including associated moorings and pipelines to an existing wastewater treatment plant.

*All actions taken at the Coastal Commission public hearing in Imperial Beach on Dec. 10 to 12, 2025. (video)

**Banner photo by Mike Long, submitted for the 2025 California Ocean & Coastal Amateur Photography Contest.