



## Highlights from the California Coastal Commission's monthly meetings

### Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge and other staff provided an [update](#) on recent agency activities, including:

- A status report on Coastal Zone structures and resources damaged by the Palisades fire
- The public engagement process for the commission's 2026 – 2030 [Strategic Plan Update](#)
- California Natural Resources Agency "Coastal Commission 101" informational briefing in January
- Legislative [update](#) on new laws that took effect on Jan. 1
- [Whale Tail grants](#) totaling more than \$1.7 million for fiscal year 2024/2025

### Enforcement

Staff [presented](#) an overview of enforcement cases in 2024. The commission opened 109 new cases last year, including 73 involving unpermitted development.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the removal and replacement of an unpermitted fence in the city of Seal Beach. The decision follows an enforcement action against Surfside Colony Homeowners Association for the unpermitted fence and its encroachment onto public trust land at Surfside Beach. The association subsequently agreed to shorten the fence to within its beach property line and apply for the now-approved permit.

### Environmental Protection

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a two-year permit for the Big Bay Boom fireworks show on the Fourth of July in the city of San Diego. As part of the project, the Port of San Diego will study fireworks alternatives, such as those that use drones, to reduce environmental impacts in future events.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) improvements to support a new stormwater biofiltration system at Marina del Rey harbor in Los Angeles County. The project will include new check valves to treat stormwater runoff.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a consistency certification for the city of San Diego's secondary treatment waiver under the Clean Water Act regarding discharges from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. The waiver has allowed the city to continue pursuing a landmark water recycling project known as Pure Water San Diego.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the dredging and nearshore placement of sediment in King Harbor in the city of Redondo Beach.

### Housing

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes on two parcels in San Luis Obispo County from commercial to residential multifamily.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Laguna Beach to reflect new state housing laws, including for density bonus projects.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Dana Point to create the Victoria Boulevard Specific Plan, which would allow for a proposed 306-room apartment complex, including 46 affordable units.

The Coastal Commission [upheld](#) the local approval of a three-story commercial and residential mixed-use project in Ventura County.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Carlsbad to comply with state law regarding accessory dwelling units, or ADUs.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Carlsbad to establish objective design standards for multifamily housing projects.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Del Mar to allow for more multifamily housing that includes affordable units.

### Public Safety

The Coastal Commission [denied](#) a proposal by the city of Newport Beach to reconfigure public moorings in Newport Harbor for small crafts. The commission board rejected the proposal after hearing public testimony from boaters citing significant safety concerns.

### Flooding and Erosion Control

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a five-year beach management plan for Silver Strand in Ventura County, including the installation of new lifeguard towers and sand grooming.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the continued temporary closure of the Axel Lindgren Memorial Trail in the city of Trinidad for one year due to unsafe conditions and the need to develop short- and long-term repair options.

*\*All actions taken at the Coastal Commission's [public hearing](#) in Long Beach on Feb. 5 and 6, 2025.*

*\*\*Banner photo by Julie Freedman, submitted for the 2024 [California Ocean & Coastal Amateur Photography Contest](#).*

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