



## 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:

- The Coastal Commission is launching a [public engagement process](#) for the agency's 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan update.
- Commission staff released its first annual [Key Metrics Report](#), highlighting emerging trends in planning, permitting and workload numbers in 2024. The report shows processing times in all categories are steadily decreasing since the Covid-19 pandemic. ([video](#))
- The Coastal Commission's statewide transportation team participated in the [Broadband for All Permitting Roundtable](#) hosted by the California Department of Technology and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development in February.
- The [2025 Dockwalker Program](#) kicked off its annual virtual and in-person trainings, running March through June. The program educates volunteers on safety and environmental safeguards for boaters.
- Commission staff gave an [update](#) on the legislative calendar for this year, including more than a dozen proposed bills that could impact the Coastal Act.

### Habitat Restoration

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) an ecological restoration project at the Alila Ventana Big Sur resort in Monterey County, including vegetation treatments to create defensible space around structures and power lines.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a beach management plan by the city of Santa Cruz for an additional five years, including kelp removal, sand sifting, concessionaires, educational activities, beach hours and more.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the restoration of former oil drilling areas in the Los Cerritos Wetlands in Seal Beach in Orange County. The project aims to restore salt marsh and upland habitat, while remediating contaminated soil and boosting public access.

### Transportation

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the repair and realignment of the Marvin Braude Bicycle Trail along Will Rogers State Beach in the city of Los Angeles.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the removal and or replacement of road signs on Highway 1 along roughly 55 miles of the Big Sur coast. This Caltrans project will reduce overall signage and lower traffic speeds along this highly scenic byway.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) Caltrans' restoration of the Mud Creek Landslide area in Big Sur, including habitat restoration, intertidal species monitoring and public access. The permit serves as the follow-up approval for multiple emergency shoreline armoring structures built by Caltrans since the slide occurred in 2017.

### Sea Level Rise

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a \$938,960 local assistance grant for Monterey County to update its Moss Landing Community plan and the Monterey County Coastal Implementation Plan to address sea level rise and coastal hazards.

The Coastal Commission [concurred](#) with a plan by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dredge navigation channels in Humboldt Bay and place roughly 300,000 cubic yards of sand offshore to create a berm to slow down shoreline erosion.

The Coastal Commission [voted to review](#) the proposed stabilization of a public access stairway in the city of Carlsbad using shoreline armoring and filling sea caves with concrete. The commission will hold a de novo hearing on the project at a future date.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) a 10-year extension to the city of Encinitas' beach replenishment program. Efforts focus on obtaining beach-quality sand from upland or dredging projects for placement at Batiquitos and Moonlight beaches.

### Housing

The Coastal Commission [cleared the way](#) for the addition of 10 new prefabricated mobile homes and related upgrades to a mobile home park in Los Osos in San Luis Obispo County.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) land-use and zoning changes in the city of Trinidad in Humboldt County to allow for the conversion of a church into a two-bedroom residence and accessory dwelling unit.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) land-use changes in the city of Carlsbad in San Diego County to establish streamlined, objective design standards for multifamily housing in the Coastal Zone.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) land-use changes in the city of Del Mar in San Diego County to encourage the construction of accessory dwelling units.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the construction of a more than 3,600-square foot single family residence in the city of Solana Beach in San Diego County, including conditions to ensure bluff stability and protection of sensitive habitat.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) the conversion of an eight-car garage to three income-restricted accessory dwelling units within an existing 12-unit apartment building in the Venice neighborhood of the city of Los Angeles.

The Coastal Commission [approved](#) zoning changes in the city of Carpinteria in Santa Barbara County to encourage the construction of new housing in the Coastal Zone through the use of objective design standards.

*\*All actions taken at the Coastal Commission's [public hearing](#) in Santa Cruz on March 12 to 14 2025.*

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