

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000
 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
 VOICE (415) 904-5200
 FAX (415) 904-5400
 TDD (415) 597-5885

**W6b**

DATE: June 10, 2015

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: Charles Lester, Executive Director
 Sarah Christie, Legislative Director

SUBJECT: **LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR JUNE, 2015 – updated 6/9/15**

CONTENTS: This report provides summaries and status of bills affecting the Coastal Commission and California’s Coastal Program, and coastal-related legislation identified by staff.

Note: Information contained in this report is accurate as of June 9, 2015. Recent amendments are summarized in *italics*. An asterisk* denotes a new measure not included in the previous month’s report. Changes in the status of some bills may have occurred between the date this report was prepared and the presentation date.¹ Bill text, votes, committee analyses and current status of any bill may be viewed on the California Senate Homepage at www.senate.ca.gov. This report can also be accessed through the Commission’s Homepage at www.coastal.ca.gov

 2015 Legislative Calendar

Jan 5	Legislature reconvenes
Jan 10	Budget Bill must be submitted by Governor
Jan 30	Last day to send bill requests to Office of Legislative Counsel
Feb 27	Last day for bills to be introduced
Mar 26	Spring Recess begins upon adjournment
Apr 6	Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess
May 1	Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills
May 15	Last day for policy committees to report non-fiscal bills to the Floor
May 22	Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 8
May 29	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills to the Floor
June 1-5	Floor session only
June 5	Last day to report bills out of house of origin
June 15	Budget Bill must be passed by midnight
July 17	Last day for Policy committees to report bills. Summer Recess begins upon adjournment
Aug 17	Legislature reconvenes from summer recess
Aug 28	Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills to the Floor
Sep 4	Last day to amend bills on the Floor
Sep 11	Last day to pass bills. Interim recess begins upon adjournment
Oct 11	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills

¹Terms used in this report relating to bill status: 1) “Held in committee” means bill was not heard in the policy committee prior to deadline. 2. “On Suspense” means a bill has been held in Appropriations due to potential costs to the state. 3) “Failed passage” means a bill was heard by policy committee but failed to get a majority vote. 4) “Inactive file” means the bill is on the Floor, but not scheduled for a vote. 5) “Enrolled” means the Legislature has passed the bill, but the Governor has not yet acted. 6) “Chaptered” means the bill has been signed into law by the Governor, and Chaptered by the Secretary of State.

PRIORITY LEGISLATION

AB 103 (Weber) Budget Act of 2015

This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Introduced 01/09/15
Last Amended 05/27/15
Status Assembly Budget Committee

AB 192 (Allen) Specialized license plates: coastal conservancy awareness

As amended 4/20, this bill would establish a specialty license plate, depicting a surfer design, to promote Coastal Conservancy Awareness. A portion of funds derived from sales of the plate would be deposited into the Coastal Conservancy Awareness Fund, which would be created by the bill, for specified purposes. *Amendments of 5/28 specify additional uses for the funds.*

Introduced 01/28/15
Last Amended 05/28/15
Status Senate Rules Committee

AB 300 (Alejo) Safe Water and Wildlife Protection Act of 2015

This bill would enact the Safe Water and Wildlife Protection Act of 2015, requiring the State Coastal Conservancy to establish and coordinate the Algal Bloom Task Force. The task force would be made up of comprised of a representative of the State Department of Public Health, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Coastal Conservancy, and other relevant agencies. It would require the task force to review the risks and negative impacts of toxic blooms and microcystin pollution, consult with the EPA Secretary, and to submit a summary of its findings and recommendations to the Resources Secretary by January 1, 2017. *Amendments of 05/28 add the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account as a source of grant funds.*

Introduced 02/12/15
Last Amended 05/28/15
Status Senate Rules Committee

AB 309 (Mathis) Senior research grant

As amended, this bill would require the Department of Water Resources to create and administer the Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, Sr. Research Grant to provide a 1-year grant of \$145,000 to a UC or CSU research project to expand California's water portfolio. The bill would make a \$145,000 appropriation from the General Fund, and requires a 2/3 vote.

Introduced 02/12/15
Last Amended 04/23/15
Status Assembly Rules Committee

AB 435 (Chang) Natural Resources Agency: webcast of meetings and workshops

This bill would require all boards, departments and commissions within the Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency to provide live webcasts of all public meetings in a manner that enables listeners to and viewers to ask questions and provide public comment by phone or electronic communication. The bill would require all agencies to archive the webcasts for later viewing by the public. *Amendments of 05/28 specify that the bill does not apply to workshops or meetings held at “non-agency sites”, and specify that archived meeting videos must be made available to the public for a period of three years.*

Introduced 02/19/15
Last Amended 05/28/15
Status Senate Rules Committee

AB 694 (Rendon) Public Resources Code: California Coastal Commission: fees: low-cost accommodations

As amended 04/08, this bill creates the Low-cost Accommodations Account within the State Coastal Conservancy Fund, and directs the Conservancy to establish a program, subject to available funding, to administer grants, low-interest loans and easements to private entities for operation and maintenance costs associated with low-cost visitor serving accommodations. The bill also directs the Conservancy to prepare a list of potential low-cost accommodation projects in the coastal zone in consultation with the Coastal Commission and State Parks. The bill directs the Commission to refer to the list when considering mitigation for development that impacts lower-cost accommodations.

Introduced 02/25/15
Last Amended 04/23/15
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File. Held under submission.

AB 729 (Atkins) San Diego Unified Port District

This is a spot bill pertaining to state lands granted and conveyed in trust to the San Diego Unified Port District.

Introduced 02/25/15
Status Assembly Rules Committee

AB 888 (Bloom) Waste management: plastic microbeads

This bill would prohibit the sale of personal care products containing more than 1 part per million (ppm) by weight of plastic microbeads, as defined, in the state of California after January 1, 2020.

Introduced 02/25/15
Last Amended 04/22/15
Commission Position: Support
Status Senate E.Q. and Judicial Committees

AB 988 (Stone) Outdoor Environmental Education and Recreation Grants Program

This bill would require the Department of Parks and Recreation to establish an Outdoor Environmental Education and Recreation Grants Program for the purpose of increasing the ability of underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor recreation and educational experiences by awarding grants to public organizations, nonprofit organizations, or both. The bill would require that all moneys received for the purposes of the program be deposited into the California Youth Outdoor Education Account, which would be created by the bill and would be continuously appropriated. Any bond funds made available through the program would be awarded to programs that meet the criteria of the State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Act. *Amendments of 06/01 specify that priority will be given to grant applications that primarily serve students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, or pupils of limited English proficiency.*

Introduced 02/26/15
Last Amended 06/01/15
Status Senate Rules Committee

AB 1268 (Steinorth) Coastal resources: California Environmental Quality Act

Originally a spot bill making a technical change related to Local Coastal Programs. As amended on 03/26, this bill has a new author and a new subject area. Current law provides a statutory exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for housing projects, if certain requirements are met. As amended 03/26, this bill would eliminate the requirement that in order to qualify for a CEQA exemption, a housing project must not be located within the boundaries of a state conservancy. Introduced version was a spot bill dealing with local coastal programs. *Amendments of 05/05 make technical, non-substantive changes.*

Introduced 02/27/15
Last Amended 05/05/15
Status Assembly Natural Resources Committee. Hearing cancelled at authors request

AB 1274 (Stone) Public lands: geological or geophysical surveys

This bill would authorize the State Lands Commission (SLC) to issue permits for geological or geophysical surveys on granted and ungranted tidelands and submerged lands, subject to terms and conditions as specified by the commission to ensure public safety and protection of the environment, and would require the commission to adopt regulations to implement those provisions and promote compliance. The bill would require that the permittee make available to the SLC all logs and records resulting from the operations under the permit. The bill would specify that the SLC shall not require a permit for geophysical surveys required in conjunction for dredging activities on granted tidelands.

Introduced 02/27/15
Last Amended 04/15/15
Status Senate Rules Committee

AB 1312 (O'Donnell) Ballast water management

This bill would amend the Marine Invasive Species Act to require an owner, operator or agent of a vessel capable of carrying ballast water that has been operating outside the waters of the state, to notify the State Lands Commission (SLC) at least 24 hours prior to arrival in a California port of call. The bill would revise the deadline by which vessel operators may apply to install, and the SLC may approve, an experimental ballast water treatment systems from January 1, 2016 to January 1, 2020. The bill would make other technical changes to the Act and delete an obsolete reporting requirement.

Introduced 02/27/15
Last Amended 04/15/15
Status Senate Natural Resources and Water, and Environmental Quality Committees

AB 1500 (Mainschein) California Environmental Quality Act: priority housing projects: exempt

This bill would exempt affordable housing projects, as defined, from the requirements of CEQA.

Introduced 02/27/15
Last Amended 04/16/15
Status Assembly Natural Resources Committee

ACR 18 (Gordon) Parks Make Life Better! Month

This measure would recognize the importance of access to local parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health and development of all Californians and would declare the month of July 2015 as "Parks Make Life Better!" Month.

Introduced 02/04/15
Last Amended 05/14/15
Status Senate Third Reading

SB 17 (Monning) Sea Otter Fund

This bill would extend the authorization of the California Sea Otter fund to remain on the state tax forms to January 1, 2021.

Introduced 12/01/14
Status Assembly Rev and Tax Committee

SB 69 (Leno) Budget Act of 2015

This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Introduced 01/09/15
Last Amended 05/27/15
Status Senate Budget Committee

SB 141 (McGuire) Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District Act: land use

This bill corrects an ambiguity in existing law (granting statutes), clarifying that the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District has the authority to sell or transfer non-granted lands purchased with revenues generated from its granted trust lands.

Introduced 01/26/15
Last Amended 05/13/15
Status Assembly Desk

SB 233 (Hertzberg) Marine resources and preservation

This bill would amend the California Marine Resources Legacy Act in the Fish and Game Code, related to artificial reef conversion of offshore oil and gas facilities. The bill designates the Department of Fish and Wildlife as the lead agency for environmental review under CEQA for an application to partially remove an offshore structure. The bill requires the Department to determine the cost savings of partial removal compared with full removal, as well as make the determination of whether partial removal provides a net environmental benefit. The bill includes consideration of greenhouse gas emissions as part of the analysis of net environmental benefit. The bill makes changes to the application process, and changes to the timing of the distribution of funds. This bill designates the State Lands Commission as the lead agency under CEQA, requires the applicant to provide sufficient funds for all agencies to perform the responsibilities proscribed by the bill, and gives the Ocean Protection Council the responsibility of determining the appropriate weight to be given to adverse impacts to the marine environment versus greenhouse gas emissions. The bill repeals and leaves blank the time frames for application submittal to achieve various levels of state subsidies for partial decommissioning. *Amendments of 06/02 would allow the first applicant to partially remove an offshore platform to pay startup and other costs associated with processing the application as determined by the department.*

Introduced 02/13/15
Last Amended 06/02/15
Status Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 246 (Wiekowski) Climate change adaptation

This bill would codify the Climate Action Team (CAT), as originally created by Executive Order, under the direction of the Secretary for Environmental Protection and consisting of Cabinet Secretaries and representatives from specified state agencies, that would be responsible for coordinating the state's climate policy to achieve the state's climate change goals. The bill would require the CAT to update the 2009 California Adaptation Strategy no later than January 1, 2019, and authorize the CAT to form multiagency staff working groups to provide technical support and research. The bill also creates a 15-member advisory panel to the Office of Planning and Research. *Amendments of 05/05 eliminate the requirement to update the Safeguarding California Plan. Amendments of 06/02 eliminate the Climate Action Team and instead direct the Natural Resources Agency to update the Climate Adaptation Strategy, and the Office of Planning and Research to update the Adaptation Planning Guide.*

Introduced 02/18/15
Last Amended 06/02/15
Status Assembly Desk

SB 317 (De Leon) The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act

This bill would enact the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2016, which, if adopted by the voters at the November 8, 2016, statewide general election, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe neighborhood parks, rivers, and coastal protection program. The bill would authorize a total bond issuance amount of \$2,450,000,000. Of that amount, \$350,000,000 would be specified for coast and ocean protection, and \$370,000,000 for rivers, lakes and streams. This bill has an urgency clause. *Amendments of 05/05 up to 10% of funds allocated for each chapter may be used for project planning and monitoring, and specify that no more than 5% of funds allocated to a grant program may be used for administrative costs.*

Introduced 02/23/15
Last Amended 05/05/15
Status Senate Third Reading

SB 379 (Jackson) Land use: general plan: safety element

This bill would require cities and counties, when undertaking the next revision or mandatory update of their General Plan Housing Element on or after January 1, 2017, to also review and update the General Plan Safety Element to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies. The update shall include goals, policies, and objectives based on a vulnerability assessment identifying the risks posed to the jurisdiction by climate change, based on specified state and federal information sources. *Amendments of 05/05 require the update to include the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts. Amendments of 06/01 strike the reference to the “housing element,” and replace it with “hazard mitigation plan.”*

Introduced 02/24/15
Last Amended 06/01/15
Status Assembly Desk

SB 414 (Jackson) Oil Spill Response

As Amended 06/03, this bill would require the Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) Administrator to develop a program to allow immediate response to an oil spill by contracted fishing vessels and crews; to submit a report to the Legislature assessing best available technology and equipment by July 16, 2016; adopt regulations pertaining to best achievable protection standards; prohibit the use of chemical dispersants unless specific actions are taken; require the Coastal Commission to conduct a federal consistency determination for federal policy authorizing the use of chemical dispersants; purchase and station at least two skimmers and an emergency tow tug off of the Santa Barbara coast; and limit the length of time to 2 weeks in which an a party can seek a reduction of penalties for the amount of oil recovered from the spill.

Introduced 02/25/15
Last Amended 06/03/15
Status Assembly Judiciary Committee

SB 657 (Monning) Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2: independent peer review panel

As Amended 04/21, this bill would require the Public Utilities Commission to convene an independent review panel to review seismic studies and surveys of the Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2, including the surrounding area and spent fuel storage areas. This bill has an urgency clause, and if chaptered, would take effect immediately.

Introduced 02/27/15

Last Amended 04/21/15

Commission Position Support

Status Senate Energy, Utility and Communications Committee. Hearing set for 6/17.

SB 718 (Leno) Hazardous Materials Response and Restoration Sub-account

As Amended 04/07, this bill would authorize the OSPR Administrator to loan up to \$500,000 annually from the Oil Spill Response Trust Fund to the Hazardous Materials Response and Restoration Sub-account for the purpose of reimbursing wildlife rescue and rehabilitation organizations for costs incurred from wildlife rescue activities associated with “non-oil material” spill events. *Amendments of 05/11 prohibit the Administrator from making the loan if the total amount of monies made from these loans that has not been repaid exceeds \$2,500,000.*

Introduced 02/27/15

Last Amended 05/11/15

Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

SB 788 (McGuire) California Coastal Protection Act of 2015

This bill would repeal Section 6422 of the Coastal Sanctuary Act, which currently authorizes the State Lands Commission (SLC) to enter into a lease for the extraction of oil or gas from state-owned tide and submerged lands in a California Coastal Sanctuary if SLC determines that the oil or gas deposits are being drained by producing wells on adjacent federal lands, and the lease is in the best interest of the state. The effect of this would be to prohibit any on or offshore drilling into oil reserves known as Tranquillon Ridge offshore Santa Barbara County. This bill is a reintroduction of SB 1096 (Jackson) from the previous legislative session. *Amendments of 06/02 make technical, non-substantive changes.*

Introduced 05/04/15

Last Amended 06/02/15

Status Assembly Desk

SB 790 (Allen) State Coastal Conservancy: state policy

This is a spot bill relating to findings and declarations in the State Coastal Conservancy Act.

Introduced 02/27/15

Status Senate Rules Committee

SB 798 Committee on Natural Resources and Water

This is a Committee-sponsored code maintenance bill. In relevant part to the Commission, the bill would amend Public Resources Code Section 30315(a) relating to meeting frequency, and repeal Section 30310.5 relating to public member appointments. The practical effect of this would be that the Commission would have the flexibility to schedule 10, 11 or 12 meetings per year, and the doctrine of incompatible offices would apply to public member appointments.

Introduced 04/09/15
Last Amended 05/06/15
Status Assembly Desk

SJR 3 (McGuire) Smith River Watershed Protection Act

This measure would urge the President of the United States and Congress to permanently safeguard the North Fork of the Smith River watershed in Oregon from any mining activities that would have the potential impacts on water supplies, economies, or the environment in California's portion of the Smith River watershed in Del Norte County. Amendments of 03/17 make technical, non-substantive changes. *Amendments of 04/06 add various co-authors.*

Introduced 01/21/15
Last Amended 04/06/15
Status Assembly Desk

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