

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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

**W6a**

March 1, 2019

TO: California Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report, March 2019

---

Significant reporting items for the month. [Strategic Plan](#) (SP) reference provided where applicable:

**LCP Program Status – Los Angeles County (SP Goal 4)**

Los Angeles (LA) County includes 135 miles of mainland shoreline (including the ports) as well as Santa Catalina Island (65 shoreline miles) and San Clemente Island (57 shoreline miles). The coastal zone area totals approximately 276 square miles of the County's 4,751 square miles of total land area and includes portions of the County of Los Angeles and 12 incorporated cities. These cities are: Malibu, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, Torrance, Palos Verdes Estates, Rancho Palos Verdes, Long Beach and Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island 22 miles off the coast. The coastal zone in LA County also includes the Port of Los Angeles and Port of Long Beach.

The County includes the resources of the Santa Monica Mountains in the northwest, a series of broad sandy beaches in several beach cities extending around Santa Monica Bay, the hills, rocky beaches and coves of the Palos Verdes Peninsula to industrial harbor complexes at San Pedro Bay and sandy beaches from Long Beach to Alamitos Bay. There are also thousands of recreational and commercial boating slips at facilities throughout the county. Over 10 million residents (around 26% of the state) reside in the County and cities in Los Angeles, and the area is among the most diverse in the state. The coastal jurisdictions support significant urban development, beaches, visitor and commercial recreation and varied natural resources.

With the certification of the Santa Monica Mountains Local Coastal Program (LCP) segment in 2014, the County of Los Angeles LCP now has 3 of 4 segments certified. The remaining uncertified segment is the Playa Vista A segment. The remaining Playa Vista A segment consists of lands that were transferred to the State in 2003 to be managed by the Wildlife Conservation Board. Management and/or restoration plans have not been developed and thus no LCP is currently being developed.

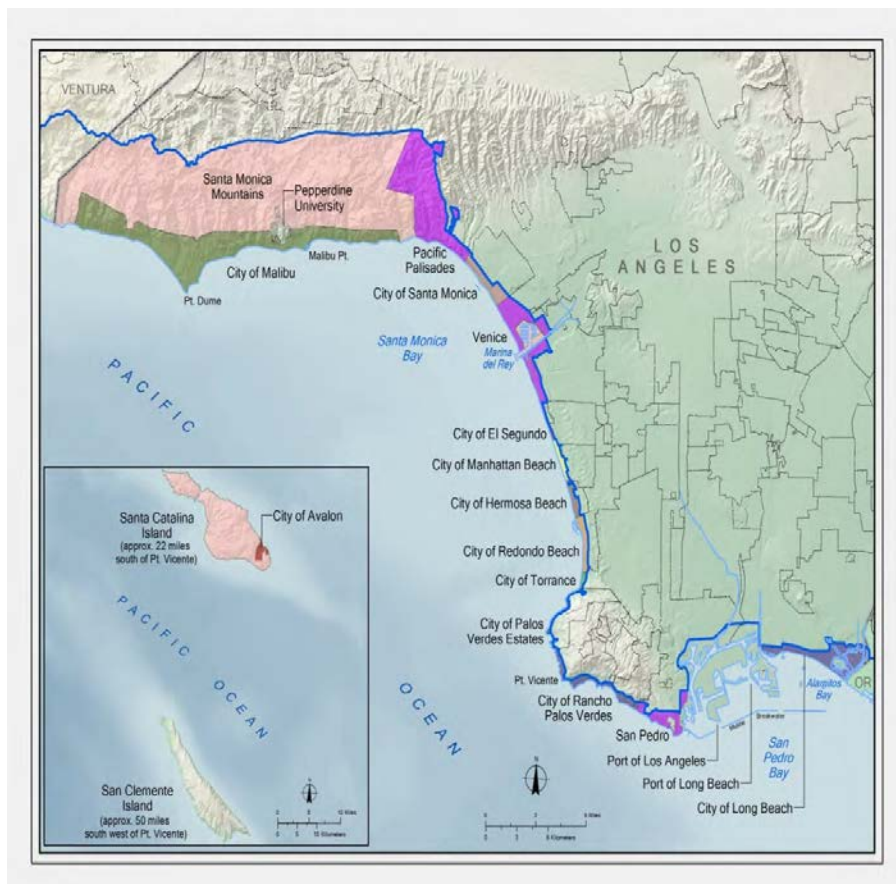
The City of Los Angeles has six segments, all of which are uncertified. The Commission awarded LCP grants in FY 13/14 (Round 1) and FY 14/15 (Round 2) to the City of Los Angeles to work toward certification of the Venice LCP segment; to date, the City has submitted all but one of the draft Land Use Plan chapters for Commission staff review. The Cities of Santa Monica and Hermosa Beach are also uncertified but both have also received LCP grants to complete their LCPs. Under the Round 2 LCP Grant program, the City of Santa Monica has produced a draft Land Use Plan, which was adopted by the City Council in October 2018. The Land Use Plan was submitted to the Coastal Commission for certification at the end of November 2018. In addition, under the Round 3 LCP Grant program, the City of Santa Monica will produce an administrative draft of their Implementation Plan, and will move it through public review, local adoption, and Commission certification outside of the Round 3

grant term. Hermosa Beach received an LCP Grant in FY 13/14 (Round 1) and completed a draft Land Use Plan as well as draft Implementation Ordinances; under its Round 3 LCP Grant, the City of Hermosa Beach will complete additional technical studies and finalize its LCP.

The City of Torrance is also uncertified. LCPs were certified for the other jurisdictions in the county: the City of Malibu (2002), the City of El Segundo (1982), the City of Manhattan Beach (1995), the City of Redondo Beach (2010), the City of Palos Verdes Estates (1991), the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (1983), the City of Long Beach (1980 - one of the earliest) and the City of Avalon on Santa Catalina Island (1981). The City of Avalon has been awarded an LCP Grant in FY 16/17 (Round 3) to fund the completion of a sea level rise vulnerability assessment that will support a targeted LCP amendment. The City of Manhattan Beach has been awarded an LCP Grant in FY 19/20 (Round 5) to fund the completion of a sea level rise vulnerability assessment, adaptation plan, and comprehensive update to its LUP. Port Master Plans were certified for both the Port of Long Beach (1978) and the Port of Los Angeles (1980).

In addition to the planning underway to achieve certification of new LCPs, some work is underway in the City of Long Beach to update portions of its LCP. The City is currently working on completing the LCP for the Los Cerritos Wetlands area and updating the Southeast Area Development and Improvement Plan (SEADIP), including related parts of the LCP (see [http://www.lbds.info/seadip\\_update/](http://www.lbds.info/seadip_update/)). The Port of Los Angeles updated its Port Master Plan in February 2014, although this update primarily involved reformatting and making the document more user-friendly.

**Figure 1. Los Angeles County Coastal Zone LCP Jurisdictions**



## Meetings and Events

### Legislative Meetings

On February 12 and 13, we completed our legislative meetings in Sacramento which focused on challenges around sea level rise adaptation planning and other matters. I very much appreciate the participation of our legislative sub-committee members Chair Bochco and Commissioner Brownsey. On February 13, Commissioner Lueveno joined Commission staff in several meetings with legislators including the Speaker of the Assembly, Anthony Rendon. In January and February, we met with a total 40 legislators over the course of 5 days.

### West Marin Town Hall Meeting

On February 21, North Central Coast District staff I attended the West Marin Town Hall in Point Reyes Station hosted by Marin County Supervisor Dennis Rodoni, State Senator Mike McGuire, and the Villages of West Marin. This Town Hall meeting was a follow up to the Town Hall held in February 2017 to discuss the progress made by the working group (consisting of State, County and Federal Agencies and the Alliance of Coastal Marin Villages) to tackle the issues of traffic, parking, waste and signage. Jeannine Manna, North Central Coast District Manager participated in a panel with representatives from Caltrans, Marin Sheriff's Office, California Highway Patrol, and Point Reyes National Seashore, to provide residents with an update on progress and to answer any questions.

## Public Education

### King Tides Project

The 2018/2019 King Tides season completed at the end of January. More than 650 photos contributed by community members may be viewed on an online story map on the Commission's website <https://arcg.is/1reHua>. More than 2,060 people participated in organized, local King Tides events and California State Parks hosted a live online event reaching 15,000 people.



**Sharp Park, Pacifica**



**Isla Vista, Santa Barbara County**

### **State Parks Interpreters Training**

On February 14, staff participated in the California State Parks District Interpreters Training on at the Marconi Center. Staff presented on public education outreach strategies and partnerships.

### **Whale Tail® License Plate Marketing Contract**

Public Education staff went through a Request for Proposals process for a contractor to develop and implement a marketing and public awareness campaign for the Whale Tail® License Plate. The top-ranked proposal was submitted by Radley, an integrated marketing, content, and design studio located in Los Angeles. Once the contract process is completed, staff will begin working with Radley on a new Whale Tail® campaign.

### **Hollister Ranch Access Program Update**

Commission staff and our agency partners (The Coastal Conservancy, The State Lands Commission and California State Parks) have completed a collaboration agreement (**Attachment A**) which will guide our coordination efforts to develop the Hollister Ranch Access Program. We are also currently working on a public outreach strategy to solicit input on what should be included in the new Access Program. The Coastal Conservancy has agreed to provide funding to hire a professional facilitator to help us develop and implement the public outreach plan. In addition, the four agency Directors and Chair Bochco have a meeting scheduled with representatives from the Hollister Ranch Owners Association Board of Directors on Thursday, March 28. Finally, attached to my report (**Attachment B**) is a letter to the Commission and Coastal Conservancy from Assembly member Limón indicating she has introduced Assembly Bill 1680, which declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation related to coastal access at Hollister Ranch. She further states in her letter, *“It is my intent to continue to work with all stakeholders, including ranch owners, so that this year AB 1680 includes a comprehensive plan that builds on the fundamental principal that access to our parks, beaches and public resources should be available for everyone to enjoy regardless of their zip code”*.

### **South Coast District Office Move.**

The Commission's South Coast District office in Long Beach has moved into our new office space in Long Beach. The office address is 301 E. Ocean Blvd., Suite 300, Long Beach.



## **Collaboration Agreement for the Development of a Contemporary Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program**

California's iconic coastline is fundamental to the high quality of life we enjoy in the nation's most populous state. The coast is home to many of California's precious natural, cultural, and historic resources; it underpins our thriving economy, is our primary recreational outlet, and draws more and more people to settle here each year. The public policy of protecting, expanding, enhancing, and promoting public access to the State's coast, tidelands, and waterways is embodied in California's Constitution, numerous statutes and regulations, and the common law. California's Constitution specifically directs the Legislature to enact such laws as will give the most liberal construction to the right of the people to access the waters of the State so that access to these waters shall always be attainable to the people.

California is a world leader in protecting its coast and advancing the right of all people to access and enjoy our beaches and ocean. Article X of the California Constitution, Section 4 guarantees that:

"No individual, partnership, or corporation claiming or possessing the frontage of tidal lands of a harbor, bay, inlet, estuary, or other navigable water in this State, shall be permitted to exclude the right of way to such water whenever it is required for any public purpose . . . ; and the Legislature shall enact such laws as will give the most liberal construction to this provision, so that access to the navigable waters of this State shall always be attainable to the people thereof."

Hollister Ranch (the **Ranch**) is a 14,500-acre subdivision that includes 8.5 miles of publicly owned shoreline along the Santa Barbara Channel, in Santa Barbara County, with no land-based coastal access for the public. The Gaviota Coast, of which Hollister Ranch is a significant part, is the least accessible stretch of coast in California, with less than 2 miles of publicly accessible shore in more than 60 miles of coastline.

This inter-agency Collaboration Agreement (**Agreement**) is entered into among the staffs of the California Coastal Commission, the California Department of Parks and



Recreation, the California State Coastal Conservancy, and the California State Lands Commission to further the State of California's public policy of responsibly expanding and enhancing the public's access to and along the coast and the public's cultural, educational and recreational experiences at the **Ranch**.

Each signatory is a **Party**, and they are collectively the **Parties**.

### **Recitals**

- A. The California Coastal Commission (**CCC**) plans and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone. CCC is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations and maximizing public access to and along the coast.
- B. The California Department of Parks and Recreation (**DPR**) advances the right of all people to access and enjoy the outdoors, including our beaches and ocean. The Department is the state's largest coastal landowner, managing and protecting the rich natural and cultural resources of nearly a quarter of California's coastline. Through a variety of programs, the Department along with the network of partners and volunteers supports rich cultural, recreational, and educational experiences to connect visitors with the coastal landscape--inspiring a future generation of stewards to protect these special places for future generations.
- C. The California State Coastal Conservancy (**SCC**) works with partners to implement projects that protect and restore the California coast, and increase public access to it. In its 40 years, SCC has put over \$1.3 billion to work protecting open space, restoring wetlands, constructing coastal trails and accessways, and creating opportunities for all Californians to experience and enjoy their coastline.
- D. The California State Lands Commission (**SLC**) is committed to expanding and enhancing public use and access to the public's tide and submerged lands along California's coast. The SLC protects and manages the State's approximately 4 million acres of public-trust lands, including the tide and submerged lands waterward of the ordinary high water mark, as measured by the mean high tide line, except for areas of fill or artificial accretion. SLC champions environmentally sustainable public land management and balanced resource protection for the benefit and enjoyment of all current and future generations of Californians.

- E. Each Party has distinct jurisdiction and authority, but the Parties share a mutual imperative in expanding and enhancing meaningful, safe, environmentally sustainable and operationally feasible public access to and along the coast at the Ranch.
- F. Over 35 years ago, in 1982, the CCC adopted a Hollister Ranch Public Access Program. This 1982 access program has never been implemented.
- G. In 2018, Assembly Member Limón authored a bill, AB 2534, that, among other things, would have clarified existing law and created additional funding opportunities to provide public access to the public’s tide and submerged lands within the Ranch. Governor Brown vetoed AB 2534 stating, “this bill relies on the implementation of a coastal access program adopted in 1982. . . it is now outdated.” Governor Brown asked that state agencies “work together to craft a sensible and fiscally responsible plan.”
- H. The Coastal Act (PRC Section 30610.3) requires the CCC to prepare and adopt the Public Access Program and the SCC, pursuant to its authority, to implement the Program.
- I. The Parties acknowledge, respect and are informed by the 1982 Public Access Program and process that preceded its adoption. The Parties are committed to developing a contemporary Public Access Program that is informed by broad and comprehensive public outreach and engagement, reflects the values of current and future generations of all Californians, respects the unique and treasured resources, attributes and opportunities at the Ranch, and is consistent with the law and in furtherance of the policies of the State.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a framework for effective and efficient communication and collaboration among the Parties to develop a contemporary Public Access Program (**Program**) informed by meaningful and comprehensive public outreach and stakeholder engagement in a timely manner.

## **Agreement Among the Parties**

1. The Parties shall work in cooperation to develop the Program.
2. The Parties shall work collaboratively to identify public access and recreational, cultural and educational experience opportunities and constraints; research, analyze and incorporate environmental, cultural resource, and other publicly available site-specific data; solicit comprehensive public input and stakeholder engagement; and synthesize other information as appropriate into the Program in a timely manner.
3. Because interagency participation and collaboration is essential to the effective implementation of meaningful access at Hollister Ranch, the Parties shall work in good faith to achieve consensus agreement on the elements of the Program.
4. The CCC, as the agency that will formally adopt the Program pursuant to PRC Section 30610.3, will lead the Program development and will take responsibility for:
  - a. Organizing and hosting a twice-monthly conference call among the Parties;
  - b. Generally coordinating the Program development schedule to include meaningful public outreach and engagement, research and analysis, data and analysis sharing, and document routing and review among the other Parties.
5. The DPR, SCC, and SLC agree to provide input consistent with their areas of expertise:
  - a. The DPR will provide input on land management and operations including but not limited to maintenance, interpretive programs, cultural resource programs, law enforcement and visitor services, and will consider integration with its other park properties.
  - b. The SCC will provide an assessment of the feasibility of implementation for the Program and input on possible funding sources or collaborative public or private partnerships to enable development of the Program.
  - c. The SLC will provide input on land title, ownership and boundary issues, surveying and mapping, and land and resource management.



- d. In addition to the foregoing, all Parties shall collaboratively provide input on environmental and cultural impacts, goals, feasibility, costs, and scope.
6. The Parties are committed to seeking early and meaningful public and stakeholder input to guide and inform the Program development. Towards that end, the Parties shall develop, organize, facilitate, and implement a public-outreach and engagement process to solicit meaningful input and perspective on public-access opportunities within the Ranch.

### **Other Provisions and Limitations**

1. This Agreement becomes effective on execution by each of the Parties, which may be done in counterparts. The Agreement has a term of one year or adoption by the CCC of the Program, whichever comes first.
2. A Party may withdraw from this Agreement by sending written notice to the other Parties. The withdrawal of a Party does not terminate this Agreement.
3. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to require any Party to expend funds for any particular project or purpose. The Parties also acknowledge that any expenditures of funds for the execution of the Program are subject to appropriation. Each Party retains full discretion to direct the work of its staff.
4. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to or shall be construed to limit or affect in any way the authority, jurisdiction or legal responsibilities of the Parties.

### **Contacts**

The primary contacts for each Party are:

- CCC: John Ainsworth, Executive Director and Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director
- DPR: Lisa Mangat, Director and Liz McGuirk, Chief Deputy Director
- SCC: Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer and Mary Small, Deputy Executive Officer
- SLC: Jennifer Lucchesi, Executive Officer and Colin Connor, Assistant Executive Officer

California Coastal Commission

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_


Name: John Ainsworth  
Title: Executive Director  
Date: February 28, 2019

California Department of Parks and Recreation

  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

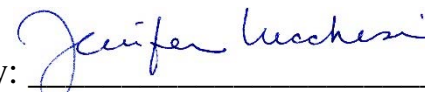
Name: Lisa Mangat  
Title: Director  
Date: March 1, 2019

California State Coastal Conservancy

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Sam Schuchat  
Title: Executive Officer  
Date: March 1, 2019

California State Lands Commission

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Jennifer Lucchesi  
Title: Executive Officer  
Date: March 1, 2019

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0037  
(916) 319-2037  
FAX (916) 319-2137

DISTRICT OFFICES  
101 W. ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE A  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
(805) 564-1649

89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA STREET, SUITE F  
VENTURA, CA 93001  
(805) 641-3700

# Assembly California Legislature



**MONIQUE LIMÓN**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEES**  
CHAIR: BANKING AND FINANCE  
BUDGET  
HEALTH  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
**SUBCOMMITTEE**  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #2 ON  
EDUCATION FINANCE

February 27, 2019

California Coastal Commission  
45 Fremont St #1900  
San Francisco, CA 94105

California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Coastal Commission and Coastal Conservancy:

I am writing to inform you that I have introduced Assembly Bill 1680, which declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation related to coastal access at Hollister Ranch.

Public access at this 8.5 mile section of the coast has not been achieved for the past 36 years. This contradicts the clear legislative intent that envisioned a phased-in access program.

We have heard from constituents and thousands of individuals from across the state concerned with the lack of coastal access, and it is clear that Californian's want the State to assist in reaching an equitable outcome.

As you know, AB 2534 (Limón, 2018) sought to take important steps towards removing barriers that have prevented the public from accessing and enjoying an 8.5 mile stretch of the coast. In his veto message, Governor Brown called on all relevant state agencies to work together to craft a sensible and fiscally responsible update to the 1982 coastal access program.

It is my intent to continue to work with all stakeholders, including ranch owners, so that this year AB 1680 includes a comprehensive plan that builds on the fundamental principal that access to our parks, beaches, and public resources should be available for everyone to enjoy regardless of their zip code.

I look forward to working with you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monique Limón".

MONIQUE LIMÓN  
Assemblymember  
Assembly District 37