

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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June 28, 2021

TO: California Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report, July 2021

Transportation Unit partners with UC Berkeley's Department of City and Regional Planning Summer Research Program

This summer, the Commission's Statewide Transportation Program is partnering with four Masters of City Planning students from UC Berkeley's College of Environmental Design. The students will be providing research assistance on two important topics: 1) a review of case studies in nature-based adaptation solutions and how they might be applied on the California coast, which will build on recent work by the Commission's Statewide Planning unit; and 2) analysis of coastal ecosystems that are most at risk of experiencing 'coastal squeeze,' or an inability to migrate inland as sea level rises, as a result of adjacent state highway infrastructure. This research is being conducted in collaboration with Caltrans Coastal Program staff and will inform the next iteration of Caltrans' State Highway System Management Plan, a ten-year capital improvement needs assessment and investment plan. Staff are grateful for the contributions that the students will make to these two important research topics.

Public Education

Annual Coastal and Ocean Amateur Photo Contest

The 22nd Annual Coastal and Ocean Amateur Photo Contest is now open. Participants can submit their photos of the scenic coast of California, people and the California coast, and coastal and ocean wildlife, through July 17, 2021. You can view and vote for your favorites through July 30 at 5 pm, at mycoastalphoto.com. Winners will be announced in mid-August.

Coastal Access Film

A PBS Special about coastal access in California, titled “[California Coast: Within Sight, Scent and Sound of the Ocean](#)” by Rigler Creative, was nominated for an LA Area Emmy Award. It can be viewed on the [CCC Education Program's YouTube page](#). This one hour documentary is the culmination of a project funded by the Whale Tail® License Plate Grant program, which includes a [series of short videos on coastal access themes](#), and the [California Coastal Trail video series](#).

Coastal Cleanup Day

Coastal Cleanup Day is back. California Coastal Cleanup Day will be on September 18th this year from 9 am to noon at beaches and waterways throughout the state. In addition, we will continue the neighborhood cleanup model started last year, with volunteers invited to participate through the month of September by cleaning neighborhoods, parks, other local areas. We will provide additional information later.