

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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DATE: May 11, 2022

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: John Ainsworth, Executive Director
Sarah Christie, Legislative Director
Sean Drake, Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR May 2022

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

Note: Information contained in this report is accurate as of May 4, 2022. Bills added since the previous report are marked by an *asterisk. Substantive amendments are summarized in *italics*. Bill text, votes, analyses, and the current status of any bill may be viewed on the California Legislature's homepage at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>. This report can also be accessed through the Commission's homepage at www.coastal.ca.gov.

2022 Legislative Calendar

Jan 1	Statutes take effect.
Jan 3	Legislature reconvenes.
Jan 10	Budget Bill must be submitted by Governor.
Jan 14	Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills introduced in their house during the 2021 session.
Jan 21	Last day for any committee to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in that house during the 2021 session. Last day to submit bill requests to Legislative Counsel.
Jan 31	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house during the 2021 session.
Feb 18	Last day for bills to be introduced.
March 16	Gut and amend deadline
April 7	Spring Recess begins upon adjournment.
April 18	Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess.

April 29	Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills introduced in their house.
May 6	Last day for policy committees to hear and report non-fiscal bills introduced in their house.
May 13	Last day for policy committees to meet prior to May 31.
May 20	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house.
May 23-27	Floor session only.
May 27	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.
May 31	Committee meetings may resume.
June 15	Budget Bill must be passed by midnight.
June 30	Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the November 8 General Election ballot.
July 1	Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills. Summer Recess begins upon adjournment.
Aug 1	Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
Aug 12	Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills.
Aug 15-31	Floor session only.
Aug 25	Last day to amend bills on the floor.
Aug 31	Last day for each house to pass bills. Final Recess begins upon adjournment.
Sept 30	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills.

PRIORITY LEGISLATION

COASTAL ACT AMENDMENTS

[SB 1423 \(Stern\) Coastal resources: industrial developments: oil and gas facilities](#)

This bill would amend the Coastal Act to specify that new or expanded oil and gas facilities shall not be considered a coastal-dependent industrial use and may only be permitted if found to be consistent with Chapter 3. The bill also revises the statutory findings in Coastal Act Section 30001.2 to eliminate existing references to offshore oil and gas facilities, liquefied natural gas, electrical generating facilities, and refineries, and adds a reference to renewable energy facilities.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

[SB 1497 \(Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee\) California Coastal Act](#)

This bill would amend the Coastal Act to remove gendered language from the Act and make various non-substantive amendments.

Introduced 03/21/22
Status Assembly Natural Resources Committee

[AB 2160 \(Bennett\) Coastal resources: coastal development permits: fees](#)

This bill would add Section 30600.6.1 to the Coastal Act, authorizing a city or county to waive or reduce the permit fee for a restoration or public access project, at the request of the applicant. If a city or county rejects the request, the bill would authorize the applicant to submit the coastal development permit application directly to the commission. *Amendments of 03/29/22 specify that the provisions of the bill apply only to non-profits and public agencies.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 03/29/22
Status Assembly Third Reading
Position Support

[AB 2593 \(Boerner Horvath\) Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon projects: new development: greenhouse gas emissions](#)

This bill would add Section 30275 and 30276 to the Coastal Act, requiring the Commission to place a requirement on applicants seeking a coastal development permit for any public project to mitigate greenhouse gas emission by building or contributing to a blue carbon project, where feasible. A blue carbon project is defined as the creation or restoration of coastal wetland, intertidal, or marine habitats or ecosystems, including, but not limited to, kelp forests, seagrasses, and wetlands, that capture carbon. State grant programs may be used to contribute toward the project. *Amendments of 04/18/22 amend Section 30253 to require that new development mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.*

Introduced 02/18/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Senate Rules Committee

PUBLIC ACCESS AND RECREATION

[ACR 116 \(Nguyen\) California Surfing Day](#)

This measure would recognize September 20 of every year as California Surfing Day.

Introduced 01/03/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

[AB 1645 \(Petrie-Norris\) State parks: concession contracts: Crystal Cove SP](#)

This bill would authorize the existing concession agreement at Crystal Cove State Park to be replaced with a new concession agreement that may be awarded for up to 55 years in length for the construction, development, and operation of overnight visitor-serving facilities at Crystal Cove State Park. This bill has an urgency clause. *Amendments of 02/14/22 make technical, clarifying changes.*

Introduced 01/12/22
Last Amended 02/14/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

AB 1789 (Bennett) Outdoor recreation: California Recreational Trails System Plan: California Trails Commission: Trails Corps Program: grant program

This bill would create the California Trails Commission to promote policies and investment opportunities that maximize the public health and social benefits of trails; create the Trails Corps Program to provide training, education, and skills for designing, building, and managing sustainable trails; appropriate \$75,000,000 from the General Fund for competitive grants; and provide \$15,000,000 from the General Fund for the program annually after June 30, 2023. At least 40% of those grant moneys directly benefit under resourced communities. *Amendments of 04/06/22 require DPR to provide a full update of the California Recreational Trail System Plan to the Legislature by January 1, 2024, and a report to the Legislature every three years after that.*

Introduced 01/05/22
Last Amended 04/06/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2177 (Irwin) Coastal recreation: designated state surfing reserves

This bill would establish a process and criteria for the establishment of “surfing reserves” that would feature protected waves, surf zones, and surrounding environments, and the area’s environmental, cultural, and historical significance. *Amendments of 03/24/22 relocate the program from the Coastal Act to Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, pertaining to the State Coastal Conservancy, and set a deadline of July 1, 2023 for the Conservancy to establish criteria for the program.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 03/24/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2975 (Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee) Department of Parks and Recreation: community access agreements: interpretive services and visitor services

This bill would authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into community access agreements with non-profit organizations to provide interpretive and visitor services to underserved populations at state parks. It would authorize a community access agreement to offer free or reduced-cost access to members of the public participating in interpretive services and visitor services offered by the organization.

Introduced 03/24/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

NATURAL AND MARINE RESOURCES

SB 1036 (Newman) California Conservation Corps: California Ocean Corps Program

This bill would authorize the Orange County Conservation Corps to establish the California Ocean Corps to provide opportunities for young people to develop technical skills related to ocean conservation work in Orange County, and appropriate \$40,000,000 from the General Fund for implementation. *Amendments of 03/23/22 shift responsibility for establishing the California Ocean Corps to the California Conservation Corps, and change the purpose of the California Ocean Corps to providing competitive grants to local conservation corps in coastal communities to develop skills and professional preparation to pursue careers in coast and ocean conservation.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 03/23/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

SB 1077 (Bates) Coastal resources: Climate Ready Program: nonnative and invasive plants: removal and restoration

This bill would require the Resources Agency to identify drought-tolerant native plant species within coastal hazard mitigation zones. The bill would also appropriate \$7 million from the General Fund for grants to remove nonnative species from coastal bluffs and to replace them with appropriate native species. Priority would be given to projects where nonnative species threaten coastal bluffs. *Amendments of 03/23/22 relocate the bill from the Coastal Act to the Climate Ready Program in Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, pertaining to the State Coastal Conservancy.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 03/23/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2109 (Bennett) White sharks: prohibition on use of attractants

This bill would prohibit the use of bait, lures, chum, or chemical attractants in ocean waters where white sharks are present, except when permitted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife for scientific, educational or propagation purposes.

Introduced 02/14/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SEA LEVEL RISE

SB 852 (Dodd) Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms

This bill would authorize local governments and special districts to form climate resilience districts to raise and allocate funds for capital projects that address sea level rise, extreme heat and cold, wildfire and flood risk, and drought. Eligible projects to address sea level rise include sea walls, levies, erosion control and wetland restoration. *Amendments of 03/09/22 deem the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection*

Authority to be a climate resilience district with all the legally available powers. Amendments of 05/02/22 add project priorities, including that projects utilize natural infrastructure, and authorize districts to establish additional priorities.

Introduced 01/18/22
Last Amended 05/02/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee

[SB 867 \(Laird\) Sea level rise planning: database](#)

This bill would extend the sunset date of the Planning for Sea Level Rise data base, from January 1, 2023, to January 1, 2028.

Introduced 01/24/22
Status Senate Floor

[SB 989 \(Hertzberg\) Climate Change Preparedness, Resiliency, and Jobs for Communities Program: climate-beneficial projects: grant funding](#)

This bill would establish the Climate Change Preparedness, Resiliency, and Jobs for Communities Program, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council, requiring the council to fund grants for multi-benefit, community-level, climate-beneficial projects to support community and landscape resiliency and workforce development. Joint Powers Authorities, Tribes, Special Districts, and NGOs would be among the entities eligible to apply for competitive grants. *Amendments of 04/18/22 prioritize grants for projects in underresourced communities, as defined, and make other clarifying changes.*

Introduced 01/18/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee

[SB 1078 \(Allen\) Sea level rise: revolving loan pilot program](#)

This bill would establish the Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Fund and direct the OPC to develop the Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program to provide low-interest loans to local governments for the purchase of coastal properties vulnerable to sea level rise in communities of color, low-income and tribal communities, and other disproportionately affected communities and populations who bear the brunt of impacts from climate changes. Subject to a “vulnerable coastal property plan,” local jurisdictions would be able to lease the properties out for the useful life of the structure in order to repay the loan. The bill requires the OPC to adopt guidelines and eligibility for the program in consultation with several other departments, including the Coastal Commission. *Amendments of 03/23/22 make technical, non-substantive changes.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 03/23/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 1640 (Ward) Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans

This bill would authorize public entities and Tribes to establish regional climate networks. The bill would authorize a regional climate network to engage in activities to address climate change, and to develop regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans. The bill would require OPR to develop guidelines on how eligible entities may establish regional climate networks and how governing boards may be established within regional climate networks on or before July 1, 2023. *Amendments of 03/23/22 authorize a regional climate network to develop a regional climate adaptation and resilience action plan.*

Introduced 01/12/22
Last Amended 03/23/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 1902 (Aguiar-Curry) Resource conservation: resource conservation districts

Relevant to the Commission, this bill would expand the authorized role of resource conservation districts to include, among other things, planning, preparing for, and addressing sea level rise, storm surge, beach and bluff erosion, saltwater intrusion, and flooding to preserve and enhance coastal wetlands and natural lands, and to conserve biodiversity. *Amendments of 03/22/22 renumber the bill and authorize RCDs to enter into interagency agreements with a state agency and to administer and manage specified projects. Amendments of 04/04/22 authorize RCDs to construct on privately or publicly owned lands any necessary works for the protection, conservation, restoration, or enhancement of natural resources, adaptation or resilience to climate change, or mitigation or sequestration of carbon emissions; and to develop projects and programs for these purposes.*

Introduced 02/09/22
Last Amended 04/04/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2348 (Mullin) Sea level rise planning: database

This is a spot bill would make a non-substantive change to the Public Resources Code, relating to sea level rise.

Introduced 02/16/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

AB 2362 (Mullin) Environmentally beneficial projects: interagency coordination: permits

As amended, this bill would require the Natural Resources Agency to evaluate applicant and agency staff perspective on existing interagency collaboration, and would require the Agency to provide, at the request of an applicant of an environmentally beneficial project, a preapplication consultation that includes permit analysts from all state agencies with permitting authority over the project. The bill would further require the Agency to prepare guidance for meeting all statutory and regulatory permit requirements, and to develop and administer an online permit portal that allows

applicants of environmentally beneficial projects to submit and track all relevant state agency permits.

Introduced 02/07/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

[AB 2734 \(Petrie-Norris\) Coastal resources: research: landslides: advanced warning system: County of Orange](#)

This bill would require the Scripps Institute to conduct research on coastal bluff erosion and flooding, including the feasibility of an early warning system. The bill would be operative upon appropriation and would require a report to the Legislature on the findings by January 1, 2027.

Introduced 02/18/22
Last Amended 03/30/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

ENERGY AND OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS

[AJR 24 \(Nguyen\) Oil spill: unified command centers: location](#)

This measure would request that the United States government locate an oil spill unified command centers based on proximity and access to the spill, to make the center easily accessible to local agencies and local governments directly affected by the oil spill.

Introduced 01/14/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

[AJR 25 \(Nguyen\) Regulation of vessel anchorages](#)

This measure would request Congress and the President to increase resources for the enforcement of regulating vessel anchorages for regulating the backlog of cargo ships and preventing future oil spills related to anchor strikes.

Introduced 01/14/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

[SB 953 \(Min\) Oil and gas leases: state waters: State Lands Commission](#)

As amended, this bill would require the State Lands Commission (SLC) to conduct an amortization study by December 31, 2023 of its oil and gas leases in state waters in order to determine the market value of the leases and to provide recommendations to phase out the production of oil and gas production. The bill would also require SLC, before completing the study, to initiate negotiations with the lessees toward reaching an agreement for voluntary relinquishment of the leases and termination of all associated oil and gas production. If SLC is unable to reach an agreement with the lessees before December 31, 2024, the bill would require SLC to terminate the leases and provide fair compensation, as calculated by the study.

Introduced 02/09/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 1274 (McGuire) Environmental quality: environmental leadership development projects: clean energy transmission projects: offshore wind

This bill would provide that a clean energy transmission project that upgrades existing transmission infrastructure to bring renewable energy from an offshore wind project located within or adjacent to the County of Humboldt is qualifies for CEQA streamlining measures as an “Environmental Development Leadership Project” pursuant to PRC Section 21180.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

AB 1611 (Davies) Oil spills: potential casualties with submerged oil pipelines: vessels: reporting

This bill would require a person to notify state and federal entities that a vessel has hit or likely hit to a pipeline in waters of the state, within 24 hours. The bill would subject a person to civil penalties of up to \$50,000 for failure to comply. *Amendments of 3/15/22 make a vessel operator who fails to report a collision or possible collision to a submerged oil pipeline subject to civil penalties of \$10,000 to \$1 million. Amendments of 04/06/22 require a court to consider specific factors when determining the amount of civil penalty to assess.*

Introduced 01/05/22
Last Amended 04/06/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 1657 (Nguyen) Oil spills: reporting: waters of the state

This bill would require any party responsible for the discharge or threatened discharge of oil in waters of the United States to report the discharge immediately to the Office of Emergency Services. Failure to do so would be a crime. *Amendments of 03/14/22 limit the bill to waters of the state, and further define a “threatened discharge” of oil. Amendments of 04/28/22 limit the scope of the bill to offshore oil facilities.*

Introduced 01/14/22
Last Amended 04/28/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

AB 1658 (Nguyen) Oil spill response and contingency planning: oil spill elements: area plans

This bill would require the Office of Spill Prevention and Response to develop best practices create and post on its internet website best practices, which may include, but are not limited to, a model ordinance, for local jurisdictions that would like to adopt a local oil spill response plan. *Amendments of 03/15/22 delete the requirement for oil spill*

response plans to also be consistent with LCPs, the California Oil Spill Contingency Plan, and the National Contingency Plan.

Introduced 03/15/22
Last Amended 04/28/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

AB 1832 (L. Rivas) Waters subject to tidal influence: hard mineral extraction

This bill would repeal the State Lands Commission's authority to authorize leases or permits for the extraction or removal of hard minerals, such as metals, precious metals, gemstones, ores, and other types of hard minerals from tidelands and submerged lands of the state. This does not include rock, gravel, sand, silt, hydrocarbons, or coal. *Amendments of 04/28/22 revise the scope of the bill to state waters subject to tidal influence, and exclude waters east of the Carquinez Bridges.*

Introduced 02/07/22
Last Amended 04/28/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

***AB 2140 (Muratsuchi) Once-through cooling policy: powerplants**

This bill would prohibit the State Water Resources Control Board from granting an operator of a powerplant a time extension to comply with the Board's once-through cooling policy if a local government with jurisdiction over the powerplant objects to the extension. *Amendments of 04/18/22 add the requirement that an advisory committee convened by the Board determine that the extension is not necessary to ensure electricity reliability. Amendments of 05/02/22 remove the requirement that the Board, the Public Utilities Commission, the Energy Commission, and the California Independent System Operator collaboratively identify alternatives to offset the powerplants that cease operation as a result of the once-through cooling policy.*

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 05/02/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2257 (Boerner Horvath) State lands: oil and gas leases: cost study

This bill would direct the State Lands Commission to develop a cost study to determine the fiscal impact of a voluntary lease buy-out of all active offshore oil and gas leases as of January 1, 2023, and appropriate \$1 million from General Fund to cover the cost of the study. *Amendments of 03/21/22 specify a deadline of December 31, 2024 for the study.*

Introduced 02/17/22
Last Amended 03/21/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

[AB 2609 \(Petrie-Norris\) Oil: facility response plan](#)

This bill would require the State Lands Commission to post on its website all Facility Response Plans provided by onshore or offshore facilities that pose a risk of discharging oil into the environment, and to hold at least two public hearings on the plans to receive public comment.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

HOUSING

[SB 897 \(Wieckowski\) Accessory dwelling units: junior accessory dwelling units](#)

This bill would increase the minimum height of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to 25 feet; provide that the construction of an ADU does not constitute an occupancy change; prohibit the construction of an ADU from triggering the installation of fire sprinklers; prohibit a local government from denying a permit for a constructed, but unpermitted ADU because it is in violation of building standards unless it endangers the health and safety of the occupants, and require the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a grant program to fund the construction of ADUs and junior ADUs (JADUs). *Amendments of 03/14/22 require local governments to use objective standards when establishing regulations for ADUs and prohibit requirements for applicants to post notices when demolishing a detached garage to construct an ADU. Amendments of 04/18/22 limit the increased minimum height standard to ADUs within ½ mile of a major transit stop or transit corridor and ADUs attached to a primary dwelling.*

Introduced 02/01/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

[SB 930 \(Wiener\) Housing Accountability Act](#)

As amended, this bill would clarify that specified existing provisions of the Housing Accountability Act which currently apply to very low, low, or moderate-income households also apply to extremely low-income households.

Introduced 02/07/22
Last Amended 04/18/22
Status Senate Third Reading

[SB 1292 \(Stern\) Land use: development restriction: fire hazard severity zones](#)

As amended, this bill would authorize local governments to restrict new development in moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones if they adopt a plan to at least double the amount of potential lost housing in other areas.

Introduced 02/18/22
Last Amended 03/16/22
Status Senate Housing Committee

SB 1369 (Wieckowski) Adaptive reuse projects: by-right: funding

This bill would specify that an adaptive reuse project, defined as converting any commercial, public, industrial, or office building with an occupancy rate of 25% or less into a mixed use or residential housing development project, shall be considered a use by right regardless of zoning. A local government would not be able to require additional on-site parking beyond what is already available, and the applicant could add one additional story to the roof of the existing structure.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Senate Governance and Finance Committee.

AB 1910 (Garcia) Publicly owned golf courses: conversion: affordable housing

This bill would authorize a public agency to convert a publicly owned golf course into affordable housing and public open space. The bill would direct the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop and administer a program to provide grants to projects that meet the specifications of the bill, including that 25% of the units shall be occupied by lower income households; no more than 1/3 of the property shall be used for non-residential purposes; affordable rental and ownership units shall be deed restricted for 55 and 45 years, respectively; and at least 15% of the development shall be publicly accessible open space.

Introduced 02/09/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee
Position Support

AB 2097 (Friedman) Residential and commercial development: remodeling, renovations, and additions: parking requirements

This bill would prohibit a public agency from imposing minimum parking standards on residential or commercial development if it is located on a parcel within ½ mile of public transit. The bill would not reduce or eliminate requirements to provide handicapped parking or EV charging equipment.

Introduced 02/14/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2430 (Grayson) Tiny homes

This bill would add “tiny homes on wheels” to the definition of an ADU. A tiny home on wheels is defined as a recreational, tow-behind vehicle on a wheeled chassis that provides living facilities for one or more persons and is no larger than 400 square feet. *Amendments of 04/06/22 modify the subject of the bill from “tiny homes on wheels” to “movable tiny homes.”*

Introduced 02/18/22
Last Amended 04/06/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee.

[AB 2762 \(Bloom\) Housing: parking lots](#)

This is an intent bill that would authorize local governments to build affordable housing on parking lots that serve parks and recreational facilities.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

WATER AND MARINE DEBRIS

[SB 890 \(Nielsen\) Department of Water Resources: Water Storage and Conveyance Fund: water shortage and conveyance](#)

This bill would establish the Water Storage and Conveyance Fund, to be managed by the Department of Water Resources. This measure is an urgency statute.

Introduced 01/31/22
Status Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. Failed passage.

[SB 1065 \(Eggman\) California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program](#)

This bill would create a new program administered by the State Lands Commission to identify, prioritize, and fund the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels from waters of the state. The Commission would also be required to create a plan to prevent, reduce and remove abandoned and derelict commercial vessels.

Introduced 02/15/22
Last Amended 04/28/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee

[AB 1690 \(L. Rivas\) Tobacco products: single-use electronic cigarettes](#)

This bill would prohibit the sale, purchase, or conveyance of cigarettes with single-use filters, or the sale purchase or conveyance of detachable single-use device for the filtration of tobacco products, or the sale, purchase or conveyance of single use-cigarettes, or vaping devices, punishable by a \$500 civil fine. *Amendments of 4/20/22 limited the scope of the bill to single-use electronic cigarettes.*

Introduced 01/25/22
Last Amended 04/20/22
Status Assembly Third Reading

AB 1724 (Stone) State-owned washing machines: microfiber filtration

This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2024, that all new washing machines sold in California contain a microfiber filtration system. The bill would also require all state-owned washing machines to contain a microfiber filtration system. *Amendments of 04/21/22 remove the requirement regarding sale of washing machines, and specify that all state-owned washing machines contain a filtration system with a mesh size of 100 microns or smaller.*

Introduced 01/27/22
Last Amended 04/21/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2016 (Bauer-Kahan) State Water Resources Control Board: desalination plants: feasibility study

As amended, this bill would amend the Water Code to delete an obsolete reporting requirement related to the opportunities and impediments to seawater desalination, and instead request the California Council on Science and Technology, in consultation with the SWRCB, to complete a feasibility study of the desalination of ocean water, brackish water, and groundwater and the potential impact of desalination plants along the San Francisco Bay and inland lakes and streams by January 1, 2025, if the California Council on Science and Technology agrees to undertake and complete the study.

Introduced 02/14/22
Last Amended 03/31/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2026 (Friedman) Recycling: plastic packaging and carryout bags

This bill would prohibit online retailers that ship purchased items into the state from using single-use plastic or polystyrene packaging. The bill would also establish the At-Store Recycling Program, which allows customers to return clean plastic carryout and single-use plastic bags. *Amendments of 04/06/22 revises the definition of “primary packaging” and “reusable,” and exempts materials used in the shipping of fresh meat and produce.*

Introduced 02/14/22
Last Amended 04/06/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2740 (Dahle) Water resources: desalination

This bill would repeal a provision of the Water Code that required the SWRCB to produce a report by July 1, 2044, on the existing impediments to seawater and brackish water desalination projects. It would also eliminate the Water Desalination Task Force.

Introduced 02/18/22
Status Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee

TRANSPORTATION

SB 894 (Jones) Off-highway vehicles

This bill would make multiple changes to the rules, requirements, and fee structure for the licensing of competition motorcycles and ATVs operated on public lands.

Introduced 01/03/22
Last Amended 03/28/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2344 (Friedman) Wildlife connectivity: transportation projects

This bill would require CDFW, in coordination with Caltrans, to develop a wildlife connectivity action plan by January 1, 2024. Among other requirements, the plan must include input from relevant state and federal agencies. The bill would also require Caltrans, in consultation with CDFW, to develop by January 1, 2024 a list of wildlife passage projects where the implementation of wildlife passage features would reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and enhance wildlife connectivity. Further, the bill would require Caltrans to develop a programmatic environmental review process with state and federal regulatory agencies for remediating barriers to wildlife movement.

Amendments of 04/06/22 add a reference to the 2020 California Wildlife Barriers Report.

Introduced 02/16/22
Last Updated 04/06/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2438 (Friedman) Transportation funding: alignment with state plans and greenhouse gas emissions reduction standards

This bill would require all transportation projects funded at the local or state level to align with the California Transportation Plan and the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure. *Amendments of 03/21/22 modify the scope of this requirement to projects funded by specified state funding programs, and requires specified transportation agencies to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2025 that evaluates aligning funding programs with the goals of those plans.*

Introduced 02/17/22
Last Amended 03/21/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 2719 (Fong) CEQA exemptions: highway safety improvement projects

This bill would exempt state or local "highway safety projects" from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Introduced 02/07/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

ADMINISTRATION

SB 1122 (Allen) San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy: territory

This bill would authorize the State Coastal Conservancy to elect a vice-chair by a majority vote of the Board. *Amendments of 03/07/22 change the subject matter of the bill to expanding the boundary of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to include the Dominguez Channel watershed, and the coastal watersheds of Manhattan Beach and the Palos Verdes Peninsula.*

Introduced 02/16/22
Last Amended 03/07/22
Status Senate Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 1795 (Fong) Open meetings: remote participation

This bill would require state bodies to provide an opportunity for participants to address the body both in-person and remotely in any public meeting.

Introduced 02/07/22
Status Failed deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). Last location was Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.

AB 1996 (Cooley) State government: administrative regulations: review

This bill would require all state agencies to review and identify any regulations that are duplicative, overlapping, inconsistent, or out of date, revise those identified regulations, and report to the Legislature and Governor, by January 1, 2026.

Introduced 02/10/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2370 (Levine) Public records: state agency retention

This bill would require all state agencies to retain every public record subject to the Public Records Act, including emails, for a period of at least 2 years.

Introduced 02/16/22
Last Amended 03/23/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee, Suspense File

AB 2387 (E. Garcia) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Bond Act

This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7,430,000,000 to finance eligible projects. *Amendments of 03/21/22 move the election date of the bond from June 7 to November 9.*

Introduced 02/17/22
Last Amended 03/21/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1733 (Quirk) State bodies: open meetings

This bill would make changes to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act related to remote participation and public notice requirements for teleconferenced meetings of state agencies. It would require all state body open meetings to be held by teleconference, without the need to make the remote locations of each board member accessible to the public. In addition to providing for the public to participate remotely, the bill would also require agencies to provide a physical location for members of the public to observe, hear and participate remotely in the meeting. If the ability to provide remote participation fails during a meeting and cannot be restored, the bill would require the state agency to adjourn the meeting and notify the public of when it plans to reconvene. The bill would allow for closed sessions to be conducted remotely.

Introduced 01/03/22
Status Assembly Government Organization Committee

AB 1655 (Jones-Sawyer) State holidays: Juneteenth

This bill would add June 19, known as “Juneteenth,” to the lists of state holidays.

Introduced 01/14/22
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee

PRIORITY LEGISLATION: TWO-YEAR BILLS

SB 6 (Caballero) Local planning: housing: commercial zones

This bill would deem a housing development an allowable use in retail commercial zoning that is not adjacent to an industrial use, if certain density requirements are met. This bill is a re-introduction of SB 1385 (Caballero) from 2020. *Amendments of 3/8/21 sunset the provisions of the bill on January 1, 2029. Amendments of 8/23/21 require the developer to certify that all contractors and sub-contractors will pay prevailing wage.*

Introduced 12/09/20
Last Amended 08/23/21
Status Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee

SB 12 (McGuire) Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires

This bill would require local governments to amend their land use plans to include maps of any very high fire hazard areas within its jurisdictions upon each revision of its housing element after July 1, 2024. Within 12 months of any update, the local government must adopt a very high fire hazard risk overlay zone or otherwise amend its zoning ordinance to be consistent with the land use plan. *Amendments of 5/4/21 require the State Fire Marshal to adopt wildfire risk reduction standards for developments in very high fire risk areas. Amendments of 7/1/21 narrow the bill to apply to residential structures only, as opposed to “development” generally.*

Introduced 12/07/20

Last Amended 07/01/21
Status Failed passage in Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee. Reconsideration granted.

SB 17 (Pan) Office of Racial Equity

This bill would establish the Office of Racial Equity, and task the office with developing strategies for advancing racial equity across state agencies. The office would be required to develop a statewide Racial Equity Framework, in coordination with other agencies, to provide guidelines for inclusive policies and practices that reduce racial inequities, and to establish goals and strategies to advance racial equity and address structural racism. The bill would direct the Secretary of each state agency to adopt and implement a Racial Equity Action Plan and would require the office to provide technical assistance to agencies and to approve each agency's Racial Equity Action Plan.

Amendments of 7/1/21 add a requirement for the Office to develop a Statewide Racial Equity Framework and to establish a Chief Equity Officer appointed by the Governor.

Introduced 12/07/20
Last Amended 07/01/21
Status Assembly Appropriations Committee. Hearing cancelled at request of author.

AB 30 (Kalra) Outdoor access to nature: environmental equity

As amended, this bill would establish a state policy that all Californians have safe and affordable access to nature and its benefits. The bill would require all relevant state agencies and departments, including the Natural Resources Agency and its respective departments, boards, and commissions to incorporate this state policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, and grant criteria.

Introduced 12/07/20
Last Amended 01/24/22
Status Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

SB 54 (Allen) Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act

This bill would prohibit producers of single-use, disposable packaging or single-use, disposable food service ware products from selling or distributing such products that are after January 1, 2032, unless they are recyclable or compostable.

Introduced 12/07/20
Last Amended 02/25/21
Status Assembly Rules Committee

SB 307 (McGuire) North Coast Railroad Authority: County of Humboldt: state moneys

As amended, this bill would prohibit use of state moneys for any project designed to rehabilitate, maintain, or repair an existing rail facility, including any rail terminal or other rail infrastructure, on the North Coast Railroad Authority's right-of-way north of the City of Willits in Mendocino County. The bill also specifically prohibits state moneys from being spent for any new bulk coal terminal project in Humboldt County.

Introduced 02/04/21
Last Amended 01/03/22
Status Assembly Rules Committee

AB 343 (Fong) California Public Records Act Ombudsperson

This bill would create a Public Records Act Ombudsperson within the office of the State Auditor. The Ombudsperson's office would receive requests to investigate cases where a member of the public believes a Public Records Act request has been improperly denied. The Ombudsman would have the authority to require the release of records found to be improperly denied. Agencies found to have improperly withheld records would be required to reimburse the Ombudsman's office for its expenses. The bill would require the Ombudsperson to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2023. *Amendments of 5/24/21 revise the deadline for submitting the report to January 1, 2024.*

Introduced 01/28/21
Last Amended 05/24/21
Status Senate Judiciary Committee

SB 396 (Dahle) Forestry: electrical transmission or distribution lines: clearance: notice and opportunity to be heard

As amended, this bill would authorize utility line operators, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to access private property to trim, cut or fell any hazardous trees to maintain safe clearance. The bill would also require the utility to notify the landowner, provide an opportunity to protest, preserve timber value of felled trees if possible, and leave wood on site unless asked to remove it. The bill would also require the California Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, by July 1, 2024, to develop standardized landowner notice materials, and would require utilities to make a good faith effort to communicate with landowners about trimming activities.

Introduced 02/02/21
Last Amended 09/03/21
Status Assembly Third Reading

AB 500 (Ward) Local planning: coastal development: affordable housing

This bill would have amended Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 30213 to reinstate the Commission's previous authority over housing for people of low and moderate income; add PRC Section 30252.2 to preserve and enhance higher density residential development in non-hazardous areas of the coastal zone; repeal PRC Section 30500.1 prohibiting the inclusion of housing policies and programs in LCPs; and add PRC

Section 30514(f) to require local governments to amend their LCPs to include streamlined measures for approving ADUs, JADUs, and supportive housing projects by January 1, 2024. *Amendments of 8/31/21 limit the scope of the bill to only require LCP amendments, and to add 100% affordable housing project, transitional housing, and low barrier navigation centers to the housing types to be included.*

Introduced	02/09/21
Last Amended	08/31/21
Status	Senate Inactive File
Position	Support

[AB 897 \(Mullin\) Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: climate adaptation and resilience action plans](#)

This bill would authorize local jurisdictions to establish regional climate networks, in consultation with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR). It would also require OPR to develop guidelines for regional climate networks prepare regional climate adaptation action plans by July 1, 2022. The bill would direct OPR to establish geographic boundaries for regional climate networks, and publish guidelines on its website, and to provide technical assistance to regional climate networks in developing regional climate adaptation action plans. *Amendments of 04/19/21 require a regional climate network to develop an action plan and submit it to OPR for review and comment. Amendments of 07/14/21 broaden the scope of the required plans to also include climate resilience and hazard mitigation planning, require OPR’s responsibilities under the bill to be carried out in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, add tribes as entities eligible to participate in regional climate networks, add definitions of “under-resourced community” and “vulnerable community,” and make various technical amendments.*

Introduced	02/17/21
Last Amended	07/14/21
Status	Senate Appropriations Committee

[AB 916 \(Salas\) Zoning: accessory dwelling units: bedroom addition](#)

This bill would prohibit a local government from requiring a public hearing for adding an additional bedroom to a single-family structure. It would require a local government to ministerially approve and application for not more than two ADUs on a lot with an existing multi-family building, with a height limit of 18 feet, provided the units are not attached to the main building.

Introduced	02/01/21
Last Amended	01/03/22
Status	Senate Housing Committee

AB 923 (Ramos) Government-to-Government Consultation Act: state-tribal consultation

This bill would require the Executive Branch to consult on a government-to-government basis with a Tribe within 60 days of a request. It would require Agency directors to consider the need for tribal consultation before approving any agency policy. The bill would specify who is authorized to represent the state in Tribal consultation, and would require a training to be developed by June 1, 2023 on government-to-government consultations for agency directors, chairs, executive officers, and chief counsels. Training would be completed by January 1, 2024.

Introduced 02/17/21
Last Amended 01/24/22
Status Senate Governmental Organization Committee

AB 989 (Gabriel) Housing Accountability Act: appeals: Office of Housing Appeals

This bill would create the Housing Accountability Committee within the Housing and Community Development Department. It would authorize the committee to hear appeals of proposed housing developments, and to vacate a local denial if it finds that the local agency disapproved or conditioned the project in violation of the Housing Accountability Act *Government Code Section 65598.5. Amendments of 7/5/21 provide that the measure would sunset on January 1, 2029; specify that the appeal hearings shall be heard by a panel of 5 administrative law judges; provide that panel decisions are subject to judicial review; and specify the procedures for filing an appeal of a local agency action. Amendments of 8/18/21 limit the bill to housing developments of 5 units or more; specify that the statute of limitations does not begin until the final administrative action; reduce the size of the panel to 3 administrative law judges; and require the panel to render a written decision within 14 days of the appeal hearing.*

Introduced 02/18/21
Last Amended 08/18/21
Status Senate Inactive File

AB 1279 (Muratsuchi) Coastal resources: sustainable kelp

This bill would require the Ocean Protection Council to work with private and non-profit entities to promote sustainable kelp projects, and to review and assess data from ongoing research and pilot projects to identify knowledge gaps related to kelp forest ecosystems.

Introduced 02/19/21
Last Amended 03/25/21
Status Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee. Hearing cancelled at request of author.

AB 1323 (Chiu) Department of Technology: modernization: state information technology contracts

This bill would require state agencies and entities to submit their IT service contracts to the Department of Technology by May 1, 2022. The Department would be required to analyze the contracts to identify candidates for statewide contracts for common uses and would prioritize legacy IT system modernization efforts across state government. It would require the Department to work with the Legislature and the Legislative Analyst's Office to modernize state government IT project approval and oversight.

Introduced 02/19/21
Last Amended 03/26/21
Status Senate Governmental Organization Committee

AB 1384 (Gabriel) Resiliency Through Adaptation, Economic Vitality, and Equity Act of 2022

This bill would require the Strategic Growth Council to develop a strategic resiliency framework that makes recommendations and identifies actions that are necessary to prepare the state for the most significant climate change impacts. The bill would require state agencies to engage with regional entities to implement regional solutions, and to proactively engage vulnerable communities who have been disproportionately impacted by climate change. The bill would authorize the Treasurer, and the financing authorities that the Treasurer chairs, to assist state agencies by leveraging public and private capital investment to help with loans and other incentives to attain the goals identified in the strategic resiliency framework. *Amendments of 07/14/21 reassign the requirements of the bill from the Strategic Growth Council to the Natural Resources Agency in coordination with the Office of Planning and Research, require the Natural Resources Agency to develop timetables and metrics for measuring the state's progress in implementing the Safeguarding California Plan, and require agencies to prioritize equity in climate change adaptation expenditures. Amendments of 08/26/21 require CNRA to release an updated draft of the Safeguarding California plan by January 1, 2017, and update it every 3 years thereafter, and to identify opportunities to improve policy and budget coordination across jurisdictions.*

Introduced 02/19/21
Last Amended 08/26/21
Status Senate Third Reading



CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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BILL ANALYSIS **SB 1497 (SNRWC)**

As Introduced 3/21/22

SUMMARY

This bill would make various non-substantive changes to multiple sections of the Coastal Act, including removing gendered pronoun references, updating the names of various state agencies, and other clarifying, technical changes.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move the Commission **Support** SB 1497, and I recommend a **Yes** vote.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to bring the language of the Coastal Act into alignment with the state's modern statutory language conventions.

EXISTING LAW

Coastal Act Sections 30301.5, 30304, 30312, 30314, 30319.5, 30322, 30327, 30327.6, 30335, 30340.5, 30354, 30400, 30600.5, 30610.6, and 30801 currently use gendered language to refer to specific state officials or members of the public.

Coastal Act Sections 30170, 30233, 30265.5, 30404, 30418, and 30420 currently contain outdated references to the Department of Fish and Game (now the Department of Fish and Wildlife) or the Division of Oil and Gas (now the Geologic Energy Management Division).

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The California Coastal Commission was the product of a movement by the people of California to protect the coast for current and future generations. The Coastal Act, the statute that created and guides the Commission in this mission, is a law inherently grounded in the principle of equity. The Coastal Act begins with the declaration that the California coast "is a distinct and valuable natural resource of vital and enduring interest to all the people..." (emphasis added).

Since its enactment, the Coastal Act has been amended multiple times to further advance equity in the statute. For example, in 2016, the Commission worked to pass [AB 2616 \(Ch. 578, Stats. 2016\)](#), which amended the Coastal Act to allow the Commission to consider environmental justice impacts in its decisions. In 2019, [AB 467 \(Ch. 276, Stats. 2019\)](#) added Section 30615 requiring that any coastal development permit for a competition that awards prize money must do so equally for each gendered category. As part of ensuring equitable coastal access for "all the people," the Commission continues to pursue initiatives that undo systemic inequity through its statute and operations.

ANALYSIS

SB 1497 is a committee bill that makes non-substantive amendments to multiple sections of the Coastal Act. Changes include removing gendered pronoun references, updating the names of various state entities, and other clarifying, technical changes. These types of non-substantive amendments have traditionally been made on an ad hoc basis as part of substantive policy bills. However, in recent years there has been growing recognition in state government that gendered language should be proactively removed from the codes in order to make clear that state law applies equally to all individuals regardless of their gender identify. For example, [AB 378 \(Ch. 50, Stats. 2021\)](#) removed gendered references to various governor’s administration officials from numerous code sections, including the reference to the Director of the Office and Planning and Research in Coastal Act Section 30415.

The Coastal Act still contains multiple gendered references, including to Coastal Commissioners, the agency’s Executive Director, and others. SB 1497 would replace each of these references with the relevant official position, if applicable, or a non-gendered pronoun. Additionally, the bill updates several references to agencies that have been renamed, and makes minor simplifications to the wording and organization of several sections. Cumulatively, while non-substantive, these amendments bring the Coastal Act into alignment with the state’s modern statutory language conventions, and make the Act more inclusive and accessible to the public.

CONCLUSION

SB 1497 would make various non-substantive amendments to the Coastal Act, including making the Act more inclusive by removing gendered language.

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

RECOMMENDED POSITION

Staff recommends the Commission **Support** SB 1497.

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BILL ANALYSIS
AB 2975 (AWPWC)
As Introduced 3/24/22

SUMMARY

This bill would authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) to enter into community access agreements with qualified non-profit organizations to provide interpretive services and visitor services at state parks to underserved populations. The bill is operable until January 1, 2028, by which date State Parks is required to submit a report to the Legislature on implementation of the bill.

RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move the Commission **Support** AB 2975, and I recommend a **Yes** vote.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to increase and enhance the ability of underserved populations to access natural open spaces by making it easier for non-profit organizations to provide targeted interpretive services and visitor services at state parks.

EXISTING LAW

Public Resources Code Section 5009.3 authorizes State Parks to enter into various agreements, including agreements with non-profit organizations or other private entities, to assist State Parks in its efforts to secure long-term private funding sources for any and all units of the state park system and to ensure that they are preserved and open for public use and enjoyment.

Public Resources Code Section 513 authorizes State Parks to enter into cooperative agreements with a non-profit organization engaged in educational or interpretive work in a state park system unit.

Coastal Act Section 30001.5(c) states, in relevant part, regarding public access:

“The Legislature further finds and declares that the basic goals of the state for the coastal zone are to: ...

...

(c) Maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone consistent with sound resources conservation principles and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners.

...

(e) Encourage state and local initiatives and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the coastal zone.”

Coastal Act Section 30012 states, in relevant part, regarding public education:

“(a) The Legislature finds that an educated and informed citizenry is essential to the well-being of a participatory democracy and is necessary to protect California's finite natural resources, including the quality of its environment. The Legislature further finds that through education, individuals can be made aware of and encouraged to accept their share of the responsibility for protecting and improving the natural environment...”

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

One of the highest priorities of the California Coastal Act is public access to the coast. Section 30001.5(c) of the Coastal Act declares that it is a basic goal of the State to “maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone consistent with sound resource conservation principles and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners.” Consistent with the principles of environmental justice, the Coastal Commission is committed to expanding access to the coast for all, with a particular emphasis on historically underserved populations.

Access to the coast and other natural open spaces provides numerous benefits to the community, environment, and economy. Public health studies have shown that people of all ages and abilities enjoy higher levels of health and well-being when they have natural open spaces nearby in parks, gardens, greenways, playgrounds, and natural landscaping around homes and workplaces. Access to nature has also been related to lower levels of mortality and illness, higher levels of outdoor physical activity, relief from stress, and a greater sense of wellbeing.

To date, California has established 279 state park units with the intention of providing Californians with convenient, meaningful access to natural open space. Yet, it is an ongoing challenge to provide equitable access to the state’s parklands. Historical and continuing inequities, such as lack of access to transportation, fees for parking and park use, and the degraded conditions of some park facilities are just some of the barriers to parks and open space access. In 2021, the Trust for Public Land (TPL) found that one in three Americans do not live within a 10-minute walk to a quality park. According to the TPL, California cities such as Riverside, Los Angeles, Chula Vista, Stockton, Bakersfield, Santa Ana, and Fresno rank among the bottom third for parks access among the 100 most populated cities in the United States. Inequitable access to parks is experienced disproportionately by people of color. A 2020 report by the Hispanic Access Foundation and Center for American Progress found that 55 percent of Hispanic or Latino populations in California lack access to open space, and significantly fewer acres of green space are present in many Black, Hispanic, and Latino neighborhoods when compared to predominantly white neighborhoods.

AB 2975 (AWPWC) Analysis

The State has made numerous efforts in recent years to increase access to state parks and counteract these inequities. Many of these efforts rely on grants to non-profit organizations that offer outdoor experiences to underserved populations. For example, the California State Parks Outdoor Equity Grants Program was created in 2019 to increase the ability of underserved and at-risk populations to participate in outdoor environmental educational experiences at state parks and other public lands. In February 2022, the Coastal Commission award 91 Whale Tail Grants totaling more than \$3 million to community organizations that provide opportunities for inland, rural, and historically excluded communities to experience and learn about the coast ocean, including at state beaches and coastal state parks. Through these and similar programs, non-profits play a critical role as the conduit through which underserved populations travel to and have meaningful experiences at California's state parks.

Currently, community-based non-profit organizations seeking to provide programming on State Parks property must typically apply for a Special Event permit. This permit is generally intended for large, one-time events such as festivals, music concerts, and sports competitions. As such, the cost and administrative burden associated with securing a Special Event permit can be prohibitive for local non-profit organizations seeking to provide smaller-scale, recurring programming to underserved populations on state park lands, such as community organizations that offer surfing and water safety lessons to disadvantaged youth at California state beaches. This burden limits the frequency of these organizations' activities, which in turn limits the impact of the programming they provide.

ANALYSIS

AB 2975 would authorize State Parks to enter into community access agreements with qualified non-profit organizations to provide interpretive services and visitor services to underserved populations. It would allow community access agreements to include free or reduced cost for the organization and participants to access the park. Compared to the State Parks Special Event permit, developing a community access agreement is a simpler process that can be tailored to the specific interpretive or visitor-serving activities provided by a non-profit. This suitability will reduce the cost and administrative burden on non-profits and State Parks in making arrangements for providing meaningful access for underserved populations to California's spectacular state park lands.

The bill contains multiple provisions to ensure it is implemented for the collective benefit of State Parks, non-profit organizations, and underserved populations. State Parks is able to use its discretion in deciding when a community access agreement is appropriate, and the bill prescribes criteria for a non-profit organization to be eligible to participate. These measures will help ensure that community access agreements are utilized for interpretive and visitor-serving programming that provides underserved populations with meaningful access to state park lands. The bill further provides that all revenues generated by an organization's programming are retained by the organization. This practice will maximize the effectiveness of community access agreements by minimizing the cost and complexity to participate and by re-investing revenue in the organizations uplifting California's underserved populations.

AB 2975 (AWPWC) Analysis

AB 2975 would sunset at the end of 2027, by which time State Parks would submit a report to the Legislature on implementation of the legislation to date. At that juncture, the Legislature would have the opportunity to extend the legislation with any refinements needed to best fulfill the objective of providing underserved populations with greater access to state park lands.

CONCLUSION

AB 2975 would provide a more effective tool for State Parks to permit the critical programming performed by non-profits to connect underserved populations with their state park lands, including California's state beaches and coastal parks.

SUPPORT

Active San Gabriel Valley	Adventure Risk Challenge
Anza-Borrego Foundation	Asian Pacific Islander Forward Movement
Azul	Backcountry Horsemen California, San Diego
Bay Area Ridge Trail Council	Brown Girl Surf
Cal. Outdoor Recreation Partnership	California State Parks Foundation
City Heights Comm. Development Corp.	City Surf Project
Community Nature Connection	Environmental Center of San Diego
Groundwork San Diego Chollas Creek	Inclusion Outdoors
Latino Outdoors	Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Los Angeles Waterkeeper	National Wildlife Refuge Association
Nature Collective	Nature for All
Ocean Connectors	Ocean Discovery Institute
Orange County Environmental Justice	Outdoor Alliance California
Outdoor Outreach	Outward Bound Adventures
Pacoima Beautiful	Parks Now
Pogo Park	Pueblo Unido CDC
Runners for Public Lands	San Diego Canyonlands
San Diego Coastkeeper	San Diego Green Infrastructure Consortium
Surfrider Foundation	San Diego Mountain Biking Association
Trust for Public Lands	Wilderness Society
Treepeople	Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association
Un Mar de Colores	Wildcoast
YMCA of San Diego	

OPPOSITION

None on file.

RECOMMENDED POSITION

Staff recommends the Commission **Support** AB 2975.