

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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**W6c**

DATE: February 8, 2023

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: Kate Huckelbridge, Executive Director
 Sarah Christie, Deputy Director for Legislation
 Sean Drake, Legislative Analyst

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2023

CONTENTS: This report provides a summary of the results of the California coastal legislative races following the November 8, 2022 General Election, as well as the 2022 New Laws Memo. This report can also be accessed through the Commission's homepage at www.coastal.ca.gov.

2023 Legislative Calendar

Jan 1	Statutes take effect.
Jan 4	Legislature reconvenes.
Jan 10	Budget Bill must be submitted by the Governor.
Jan 20	Last day to submit bill requests to Legislative Counsel.
Feb 17	Last day for bills to be introduced.
Mar 30	Spring Recess begins upon adjournment.
April 10	Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess.
April 28	Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills.
May 5	Last day for policy committees to hear and report non-fiscal bills.
May 12	Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 5.
May 19	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills to the Floor.
June 2	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.
June 5	Committee meetings may resume.
June 15	Budget Bill must be passed by midnight.
July 14	Last day for policy committees to meet. Summer Recess begins on adjournment.
Aug 14	Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.
Sept 1	Last day for fiscal committees to meet and report bills.
Sept 5-14	Floor session only.
Sept 8	Last day to amend bills on the floor.
Sept 14	Last day for each house to pass bills. Recess begins upon adjournment.
Oct 14	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills.

2022 ELECTION RESULTS

COASTAL SENATE AND ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

The November 8, 2022 General Election was the first statewide election held since the drawing of the new legislative and congressional district maps following the updated population data from the 2020 U.S. Census. The newly elected legislators were sworn in on December Eighty California Assembly seats are now represented by members elected entirely by voters from within the new Assembly district boundaries. However, only half of the 40 Senate seats (the even-numbered districts) were included in the November election.

Odd-numbered Senate seats will be up in 2024. As a result, some Senate seats will continue to be represented by members whose districts straddle both the old and new districts for the next 2 years, until the 2024 General Election. Both houses will retain their Democratic Supermajorities. The Senate consists of 32 Democrats and 8 Republicans, and the Assembly has 62 Democrats and 18 Republicans.

Prior to the 2010 Census, the majority party in the Legislature redrew the electoral maps every 10 years. In 2011, California's legislative maps were drawn for the first time by an independent, non-partisan commission, the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC), without regard for party registration, a change approved by voters through the initiative process in 2008 (Proposition 11). Following last year's redistricting, the number of coastal Assembly districts remained steady at 26, while the number of coastal Senate seats dropped from 17 to 16. Although California lost one Congressional seat due to declining population growth, the number of state legislative seats always remains constant at 40 Senators and 80 Assemblymembers.

This analysis takes a look at the 2022 General Election through a coastal lens. Thirteen new coastal members were elected across both houses. For the purpose of this analysis, "coastal districts" include all Senate and Assembly districts that touch either the Pacific Ocean or a coastal bay. Although the Coastal Commission's jurisdiction does not include San Francisco Bay, which is subject to BCDC's authority, the Bay Area districts look, feel, and self-identify as "coastal" districts, and their constituencies have much in common with districts fronting the Pacific Ocean.

The current Assembly and Senate district maps are included on pages 6 and 7 of this report. Because Senators from odd-numbered districts are still representing areas that have since been re-numbered and redrawn, the Senate map includes the names of *only* those coastal members who were elected in the current district boundaries.²

¹ AD 47 (Wallis/Holstege), SD 16 (Hurtado/Shepard)

² For instance, for the last 10 years, SD 39, represented by Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins, encompassed the San Diego coast from Solana Beach to Imperial Beach. Most of that geography is now within SD 38,

ASSEMBLY OUTCOMES: Coastal Assemblymembers elected in 2022

*Newly elected +SF Bay Area

The following members will make up the 2023-24 Assembly Coastal Caucus:

Jim Wood (D) AD 2	*Dawn Addis (D) AD 30
+Lori Wilson (D) AD 11	*Gregg Hart (D) AD 37
*Damon Connolly (D) AD 12	Steve Bennett (D) AD 38
+Buffy Wicks (D) AD 14	Jacqui Irwin (D) AD 42
+Matt Haney (D) AD 17	*Rick Zbur (D) AD 51
+Mia Bonta (D) AD 18	Tina McKinnor (D) AD 61
Phil Ting (D) AD 19	Mike Gipson (D) AD 65
*+Liz Ortega (D) AD 20	Al Muratsuchi (D) AD 66
*+Diane Papan (D) AD 21	*Josh Lowenthal (D) AD 69
+Marc Berman (D) AD 23	*Diane Dixon (R) AD 72
+Alex Lee (D) AD 24	Laurie Davies (R) AD 74
+Evan Low (D) AD 26	Tasha Boerner Horvath (D) AD 77
*Gail Pellerin (D) 28	David Alvarez (D) AD 80

The Assembly Coastal Caucus will be welcoming ten new members in 2023; nine who are newly elected to the Legislature and one inland incumbent who now represents a coastal district, **Mike Gipson**. Some coastal Assembly districts, such as AD 2 on the North Coast, represented by Assemblymember **Jim Wood**, and AD 66, Assemblymember **Al Muratsuchi's** South Bay Los Angeles district, remained largely unchanged. On the other hand, formerly coastal Assemblymembers **Cottie Petrie-Norris** (D-Laguna Beach) and **Christopher Ward** (D-San Diego), both of whom represented extensive areas of Southern California coast and authored Coastal Act bills in previous sessions, stood for re-election in entirely inland districts. The Orange County coastal cities of Laguna Beach, Newport Beach, and Huntington Beach, which were formerly represented by Democrat **Petrie-Norris**, will now be represented along with Seal Beach by newly elected Republican Assemblymember **Diane Dixon**, the former Mayor of Newport Beach.

Other coastal Assembly districts such as the new AD 30, AD 43, and AD 77, now represented by Assemblymembers **Dawn Addis** (D-Morro Bay), **Jacqui Irwin** (D-Ventura) and **Tasha Boerner-Horvath**, respectively, encompass greater areas of coastline than the previous district boundaries. For instance, AD 30, which previously featured Big Sur as its only coastline, has been extended north to pick up the entire Monterey Bay shoreline and south to include all of San Luis Obispo County. Assemblymember **Jacqui Irwin's** new district, AD 42, now extends from Ventura County south to include Malibu and Pacific Palisades, formerly represented by Assemblymember **Richard Bloom** (D-Santa Monica). Assemblymember **Boerner-Horvath**, who chairs the Select Committee on Sea Level Rise, was re-elected to the

which just elected Catherine Blakespear, while the new SD 39 is much smaller with minimal frontage on San Diego Bay.

new AD 77, which expanded her former district to include almost all of coastal San Diego County in what was some of Assemblymember **Ward's** old district.

One Assemblymember who formerly represented an inland district is now representing a coastal area for the first time. Assemblymember **Mike Gipson**, who was initially elected to serve inland Los Angeles County (AD 64), now represents a long, narrow district that stretches from Compton to San Pedro in the new AD 65.

The boundaries of Assemblymember **David Alvarez's** district, AD 80, previously included only San Diego Bay shoreline cities of National City, Chula Vista, and southern San Diego. The new SD 80, which he was re-elected to serve, now also includes the coastal city of Imperial Beach.

Newly-elected Assemblymember **Gregg Hart** (D-Santa Barbara) joined the ranks of former Coastal Commissioners elected to the Legislature, representing the County of Santa Barbara's AD 37, which includes the Channel Islands. **Josh Lowenthal**, son of former Commissioner **Alan Lowenthal**, who represented the Long Beach area in both the Assembly and Senate as well as Congress, has replaced termed- out Assemblymember **Patrick O'Donnell** in AD 69.

Former Coastal Commissioners **Mark Stone** (D-Scotts Valley) and **Richard Bloom** (D-Santa Monica) were both eligible to run for a final 2-year term in the Assembly before hitting their term limits in 2024, but both decided not to run in their newly drawn districts. They will both be succeeded by the candidates they endorsed: former Santa Cruz County Clerk **Gail Pellerin** in AD 28, and attorney **Rick Zbur** in AD 51. Both Assemblymember **Stone** and **Bloom** were consistently supportive of coastal protection and the environment generally, and both served on the important Assembly Natural Resources Committee, where all Coastal Act bills are heard. Assemblymember **Stone** also reactivated the Coastal Caucus and served as it's Chair for several years, while Assemblymember **Bloom** served as Chair of Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3 for all of his 10 years in Sacramento, where he championed critical increases to the Commission's budget. Their first-hand knowledge of the Coastal Program will be missed, but as they both endorsed their successors, we look forward to a new generation of coastal champions in coming years.

Final election results for all Assembly races can be accessed [here](#).

New Assembly District maps can be accessed [here](#).

SENATE OUTCOMES: Coastal Senators elected in 2022

*Newly elected +SF Bay Area

Coastal Senators elected and re-elected to the Senate include:

Mike McGuire (D) SD 2
*+Aisha Wahab (D) SD 10
*Steve Padilla (D) SD 18
Ben Allen (D) SD 24
*Janet Nguyen (R) SD 36
*Catherine Blakespear (D) SD 38

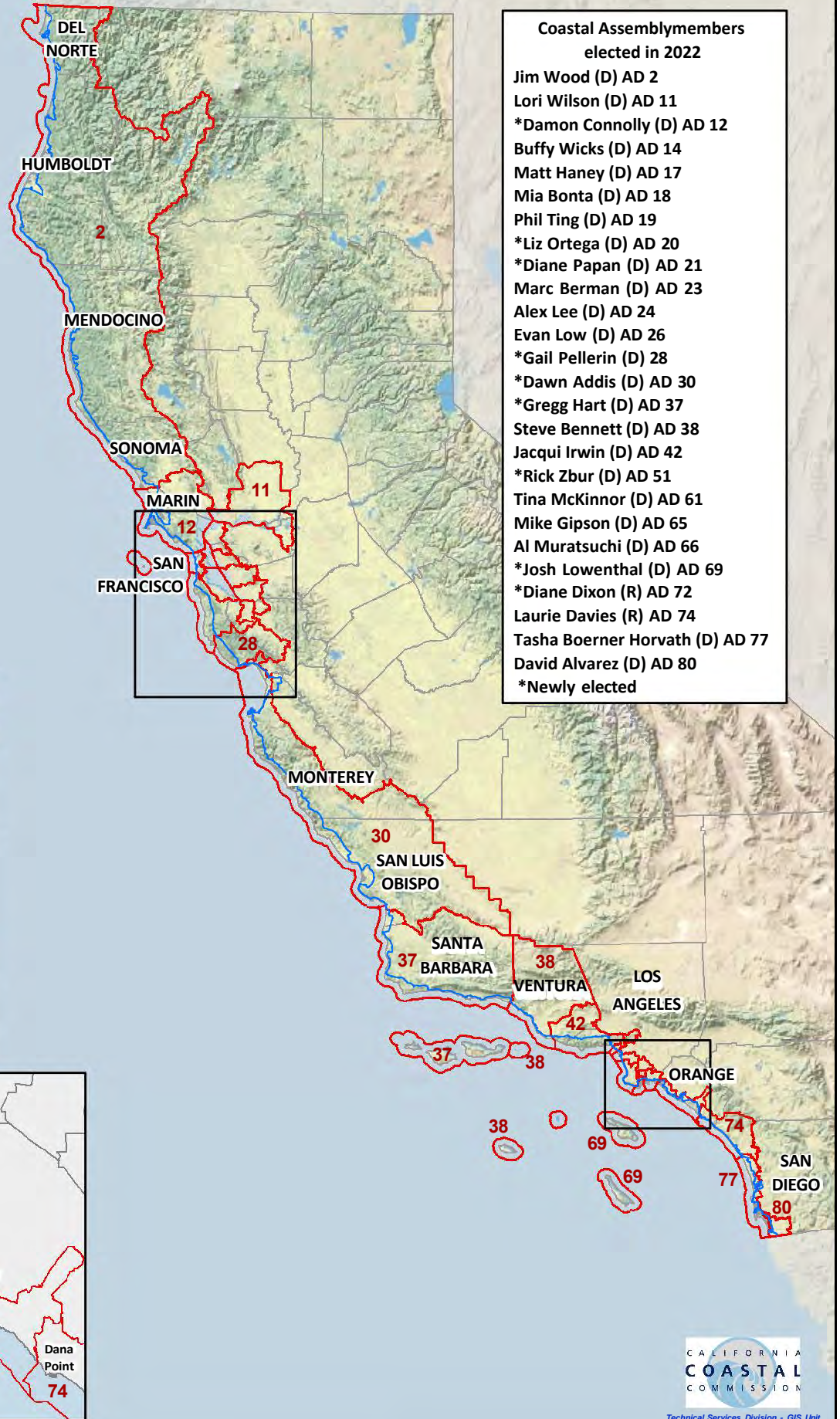
Redistricting decreased the overall number of California's coastal Senate seats from 17 to 16. Because 10 of those 16 districts are odd-numbered seats, the 2022 ballot features only 6 coastal Senate races. Of the two incumbents, Senate Majority Leader **Mike McGuire** (D-Healdsburg) was re-elected to a largely unchanged North Coast district that extends from Del Norte County into Marin County. In contrast, Senator **Ben Allen** was re-elected to represent the new SD 24, which essentially combined the coastal areas from his former SD 26 with parts of the former SD 27 for a new district that extends from the Los Angeles-Ventura County line to Rancho Palos Verdes. The district also includes Malibu and much of the Santa Monica Mountains, which now has 2 senators temporarily, as Senator **Henry Stern** will continue to represent areas of the former SD 27 until the 2024 election.

Newly elected coastal Senators include former Coastal Commission Chair and Mayor of Chula Vista **Steve Padilla**. He will represent SD 18, a sand-to-sea district that includes El Centro, the Salton Sea, portions of the Anza Borrego Desert, and the coastal border city of Imperial Beach. Community organizer-turned Hayward City Councilmember **Aisha Wahab** replaces Senator **Bob Wieckowski** representing the Bay Area's SD 10, prevailing in the only coastal Senate race that featured two Democrats in the General Election. Former Encinitas Mayor **Catherine Blakespear** will represent coastal San Diego from Camp Pendleton to Carlsbad in the new SD 38. And former Assemblymember **Janet Nguyen** (R-Garden Grove) returns to the Senate representing the new SD 36 after having been previously elected in 2014 to represent SD 36. She returns to replace former Senate Minority Leader **Patricia Bates** (R-Laguna Niguel).

Final election results for all Senate races [here](#).

New Senate maps by district [here](#).

California Coastal Assembly Districts 2022



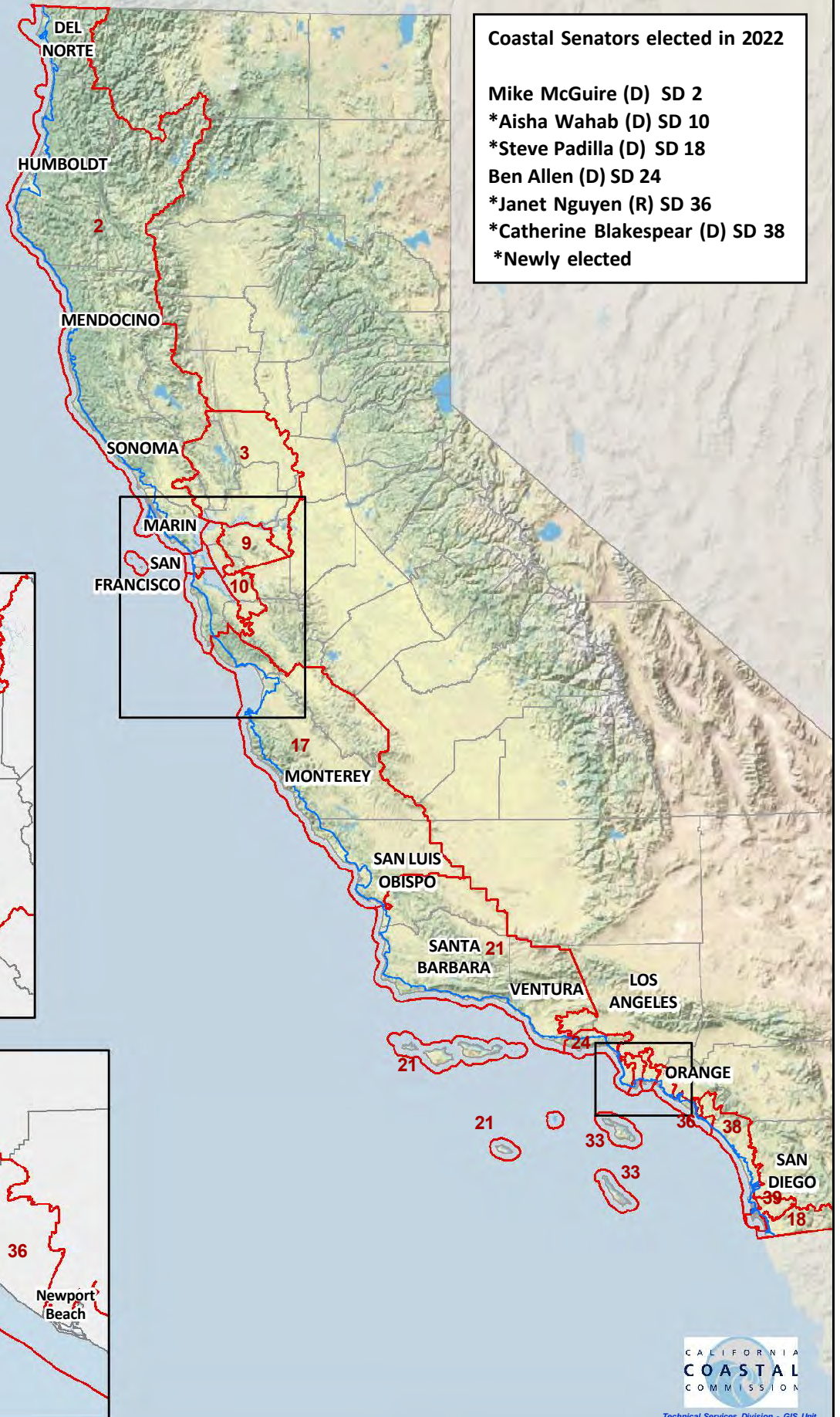
- Coastal Assemblymembers elected in 2022**
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 - *Diane Dixon (R) AD 72
 - Laurie Davies (R) AD 74
 - Tasha Boerner Horvath (D) AD 77
 - David Alvarez (D) AD 80
 - *Newly elected



California Coastal Senate Districts 2022

Coastal Senators elected in 2022

- Mike McGuire (D) SD 2
- *Aisha Wahab (D) SD 10
- *Steve Padilla (D) SD 18
- Ben Allen (D) SD 24
- *Janet Nguyen (R) SD 36
- *Catherine Blakespear (D) SD 38
- *Newly elected



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DATE: December 1, 2022

TO: Coastal Commission and Interested Persons

FROM: Legislative Unit and Legal Division

SUBJECT: Coastal Act: 2022 Chaptered Legislation

The 2022 California legislative session resulted in two pieces of chaptered legislation that directly amend the Coastal Act, AB 2160 (Bennett) and SB 1497 (Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee). These new laws will take effect January 1, 2023. This memo reviews these statutory changes and describes how the Commission will implement and/or comply with this legislation. Relevant language is provided below, with new language marked in *underlined italics* and removed language in ~~striketrough~~. The full text of each measure is digitally available through the links provided, and also at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>.

2022 COASTAL ACT AMENDMENTS

1. [AB 2160 \(Bennett, Ch. 280, Stats. 2022\) Coastal resources: coastal development permits: fees](#)

This legislation adds 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 proposed by a non-profit organization or a public agency, at the request of the applicant. If a city or county rejects the request, the legislation authorizes the applicant to submit the coastal development permit application directly to the Coastal Commission. For a coastal development permit application submitted directly to the Commission under this section, the legal standard of review would be the applicable Local Coastal Program.

Implementation: Implementation of this bill will require new procedures for processing coastal development permit applications from applicants who were denied a fee waiver or reduction request by a local government. Coastal Commission staff will work internally to determine a clear process for handling such applications. Once an application is received, the Coastal Commission already has the authority to waive or reduce the coastal development permit fee for a project, and Coastal Act Section 30620(c)(3) requires the Commission to give extra consideration to fee waiver requests by non-profit organizations for public access or habitat restoration projects.

Statutory language:

SEC. 1. Section 30600.6.1 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

30600.6.1.

(a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall apply:

(1) "Applicant" means a public agency or a nonprofit organization, as that term is defined in Section 31013.

(2) "Habitat restoration project" means a project proposed for the sole purpose of restoring or enhancing the ecological function, biodiversity, or resiliency of native habitat.

(3) "Public access project" means a project with the primary purpose of creating, enhancing, expanding, or restoring public amenities that provide access to or along the coast.

(b) At the request of an applicant for a coastal development permit, a city or county may waive or reduce a coastal development permit fee for a public access project or habitat restoration project. If a city or county rejects a fee waiver or fee reduction request, the applicant may, notwithstanding Section 30519, submit the coastal development permit application directly to the commission.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impact, address, or change a local coastal plan or program.

2. [SB 1497 \(Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, Ch. 97, Stats. 2022\) California Coastal Act](#)

This legislation makes 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.

Implementation: The purpose of this legislation is to bring the language of the Coastal Act into alignment with the state’s modern statutory language conventions. The amendments enacted by the legislation are non-substantive in nature, so no implementation is required.

Statutory language: This legislation makes minor changes to numerous sections of the Coastal Act. Specifically, the legislation amends 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 to remove gendered language referring to specific state officials or members of the public. The legislation amends Coastal Act Sections 30170, 30233, 30265.5, 30404, 30418, and 30420 to update references to the Department of Fish and Game (now the Department of Fish and Wildlife) and the Division of Oil and Gas (now the Geologic Energy Management Division). The full text of the legislation can be found at the link above.