

STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
MAY 26, 2016
LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Upcoming Legislative Deadlines:

05/27/2016: Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house.

Last day for fiscal committees to meet prior to June 6.

05/30/2016: Memorial Day observed.

05/31/2016 thru 6/3/2016: Floor Session Only. No committee may meet for any purpose.

06/03/2016: Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.

06/06/16: Committee meetings may resume.

06/15/16: Budget must be passed by midnight.

Parks Bond bill

[AB 2444](#), Garcia (Eduardo): California Water, Climate, and Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2016.

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File

If approved by voters on the November 2016 ballot, would authorize the issuance of **\$2.985 billion** of State General Obligation bonds to finance parks, water, climate adaptation, coastal protection, and outdoor access programs. The bill would allow up to 10 percent in each category to be used for planning, monitoring and technical assistance. Planning funds for projects in disadvantaged communities can exceed 10 percent if needed.

Of particular interest to SCC are the following allocations:

- **\$50 million** to Natural Resources Agency upon appropriation by the legislature for competitive grants for non-motorized infrastructure that promote “new or alternate access to parks, waterways, outdoor recreational pursuits, and forested or other natural environments.” Eligible grantees include state conservancies.
- **\$250 million** upon appropriation by the legislature to state conservancies, including **\$80 million** to SCC; not less than 40% of SCC’s allocation must be made available to the Bay Program.
- **\$545 million** for climate preparedness and habitat resiliency, including **\$100 million** for deposit into the Climate Resilience Account in the Coastal Trust Fund. Pursuant to existing statute that established the Account, 60% of these funds would be available to SCC and 20% each would be available to the Coastal Commission and Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

[AB 2185](#) (Gonzalez): State Coastal Conservancy: low-cost accommodations

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File

This bill would require SCC to develop, subject to funding availability, a program of loans or grants, to assist **private operators** of low-cost coastal accommodations to meet their operation and maintenance needs and to develop some kind of easement to support these expenditures. The bill would require the Conservancy in consultation with the Coastal Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, and other relevant coastal public land holders to identify potential low-cost accommodation projects in each region of the Coastal Zone. The bill would create the Low-Cost Accommodations Program Account in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund and provide that moneys in the fund are available upon appropriation by the Legislature to fund this program.

[AB 1555](#), Gomez: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

Location: Assembly Budget Subcommittee #3

This bill would appropriate \$800,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the 2016-17 fiscal year to various state agencies including SCC in specified amounts for various purposes including, among other things, low carbon transportation and infrastructure, clean energy communities, wetland and watershed restoration, and carbon sequestration. The bill would appropriate \$85 million to SCC for wetland and watershed restoration, and carbon sequestration. The bill also appropriates \$25 million to the Natural Resources Agency for local-climate-beneficial projects for urban greening, urban canopies, urban brownfield conversion, and other related projects and \$10 million for agricultural and rangeland carbon sequestration programs.

[SB 1363](#), Monning: Ocean Protection Council: Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Reduction Program

Location: Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File

SB 1363 requires, to the extent that funding is available, the Ocean Protection Council, in consultation with SCC and other relevant entities, to establish and administer the Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Reduction Program.

[SB 1386](#) (Wolk): Resource conservation: natural and working lands

Location: Assembly Natural Resources Committee

This bill declares it to be the policy of the state that the protection and management of natural and working lands, as defined, is a key strategy in meeting the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals, and would require all relevant state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection and management of natural and working lands.
