

## COASTAL CONSERVANCY

Staff Recommendation  
November 30, 2017

To: Members of the Coastal Conservancy

From: Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer  
Amy Hutzal, Deputy Executive Officer

CC: Oversight Legislators

Re: Adoption of Strategic Plan, 2018-2022

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Adoption of State Coastal Conservancy's Strategic Plan, 2018-2022.

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### *EXHIBITS*

Exhibit 1: [State Coastal Conservancy's Strategic Plan, 2018-2022](#)

Exhibit 2: [Public Comments on Draft Strategic Plan](#)

Exhibit 3: [Response to Comments Table](#)

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### **RESOLUTION AND FINDINGS:**

Staff recommends that the State Coastal Conservancy adopt the following resolution pursuant to Sections 31000 et seq. of the Public Resources Code:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby adopts the Strategic Plan attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 1.”

### **SUMMARY:**

Every five years, the Conservancy adopts a Strategic Plan that lays out the agency's priorities and specific, quantified objectives. The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to communicate the Conservancy's overall vision and the specific goals it seeks to achieve. The current Strategic Plan, 2013-2018, was adopted by the Conservancy on December 6, 2012 and a Strategic Plan update was adopted on June 25, 2014.

The Conservancy board discussed preparation and progress on development of the Strategic Plan at the February 2, April 27, and June 15, 2017 board meetings, and reviewed the draft Strategic Plan at the September 28, 2017 board meeting. Board input, as well as feedback from a stakeholder survey conducted in May of 2017, helped shape the key drivers and goals and objectives in the draft Strategic Plan.

The draft Strategic Plan was posted on the Coastal Conservancy website with a public comment period of approximately six weeks. Letters were sent to all the tribes within the Coastal Conservancy's jurisdiction and emails were sent to everyone on the Conservancy's email list. The Conservancy received 19 written public comments, attached as Exhibit 2. Many of the comments were supportive of the plan, expressed support for specific identified priorities, or asked for further clarification of proposed priorities. Conservancy staff responded to the comments and made changes to the Strategic Plan where appropriate. The response to comments is attached as Exhibit 3.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH CEQA**

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a "project" consists of an action that can cause either a direct physical change or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment; and that is an activity directly undertaken or funded by a public agency, or an activity that involves the issuance of a permit or other entitlement. (Public Resources Code Section 21065). The CEQA Guidelines further define the term "project" and confirm that it does not include administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (14 Cal Code Regs. Section 15378(b)(5)). Adoption of the Coastal Conservancy's Strategic Plan is an administrative activity that does not have the potential to cause a physical change to the environment. Accordingly, adoption of the Coastal Conservancy's Strategic Plan does not constitute a project for purposes of CEQA.