

State Coastal Conservancy

May 16, 2019 Legislative Report

[AB 65](#)

(Petrie-Norris, D) Coastal Protection: climate adaptation: project prioritization

Amended 3/18/2019

This bill would add Section 31114 to Division 21 requiring SCC to do all the following when allocating Proposition 68 funding for coastal climate change adaptation projects:

- Prioritize projects that use natural infrastructure to help adapt to climate change.
- Prioritize projects that provide multiple public benefits, including, but not limited to, protection of communities, natural resources, and recreational opportunities.
- Consider funding projects in a variety of ecosystems along the state's coastline.
- Ensure projects are consistent with Division 21 climate authorities.

The bill would require SCC to provide information to OPR on any projects funded pursuant to the bill for inclusion in the clearinghouse for climate adaptation information.

[AB 552](#)

(Stone, D) Coastal resources: Coastal Adaptation, Access, and Resilience Program

Amended 4/30/2019

This bill would establish the Coastal Adaptation, Access, and Resilience Program (Division 20.8) in the Public Resources Code for the purpose of helping the state address coastal climate change and sea level rise. The bill would also establish a corresponding new fund in the State Treasury, the Coastal Adaptation, Access, and Resilience Fund.

The bill would require that, beginning with FY 2020/21, not less than 30% of tidelands oil revenues collected by the State Lands Commission and deposited in the General Fund be transferred to the new fund for appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act. Funds may be spent by California Natural Resources Agency, Coastal Commission, Ocean Protection Council, State Parks, State Lands Commission, and SCC. Funds may be used to provide technical assistance and other necessary and eligible planning costs.

[AB 782](#)

(Berman, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: public agencies: land transfers

Amended 4/2/2019

This bill would exempt from CEQA the acquisition, sale or other transfer of interest in land by a public agency for certain purposes, or the granting or acceptance of funding by a public agency for those purposes, if the public agency conditions those transaction on environmental review in accordance with CEQA before making physical changes to the transferred land before making those changes.

[AB 1300](#)

(Kamlager-Dove, D) State Coastal Conservancy: Explore the Coast Program

AB 1300 would establish SCC's Explore the Coast Program in statute as a new chapter in Division 21, Chapter 11. The bill would authorize SCC to award grants to public agencies,

nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes to carry out projects to help achieve program goals, which are to increase the recreational, educational, and stewardship opportunities for people to explore the state's coastal resources, especially people that face barriers to access and enjoying the coast. Eligible projects would include those providing transportation, physical activity programming, resource interpretation, education, multi-lingual translation, or communication for purposes of providing access to and enjoyment of coastal resources.

AB 1300 would revise the definition of nonprofit organization in Division 21 to eliminate the requirement that an organization have purposes that are consistent with Division 21. It would also require SCC to prioritize grants for projects that provide youth with opportunities to visit the coast for the first time.

[AB 1511](#)

(Bloom, D) Coastal Resources: Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

Amended 3/26/2019

This bill would:

- Establish SCC as the agency that would provide administrative services to SMBRC and would require SCC to enter into the MOU with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, Secretary of Cal EPA, and SMBRC.
- Specify that the purpose of the commission is to promote, support, and achieve the restoration and enhancement of Santa Monica Bay and its watershed.
- Prescribe specified restoration and enhancement goals for the bay and its watershed including, but not limited to, the protection, enhancement, and improvement of the Bay and its watershed; water supply and quality improvements; mitigation of negative impacts and increased resiliency relating to climate change; and the improvement of monitoring and the ability to assess the effectiveness of actions relating to the restoration and enhancement of Bay and watershed.

[AB 1680](#)

(Limon, D) Coastal lands: coastal access plan: Hollister Ranch

Amended 3/25/2019

This bill would require the Coastal Commission, SCC, State Lands Commission, and State Parks to update the 1982 public access plans for the Hollister Ranch near Gaviota State Park. The bill would require the access plan to be developed by April 1, 2020 or, if not completed by that time, the State Lands Commission, in cooperation with other agencies, is to implement the existing 1982 plan.

[SB 45](#)

(Allen, D) Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020

Amended 4/04/20

This bill would enact the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by voters at an unspecified election, would authorize issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4.3 billion for bill purposes. Dollar amounts have been allocated to the chapters, but the current bill version generally does not allocate funds to specific agencies. Most of the chapters have the potential to make new funding available for appropriation by the Legislature to SCC, which has the authorities to undertake specified activities.

- \$1 billion for reducing wildfire risk
- \$600 million for creating healthy forests and watersheds

- \$300 million for reducing climate impacts on urban areas and vulnerable populations
- \$600 million for protecting water supply and water quality
- \$300 million for protecting rivers, lakes, and streams
- \$300 million for multi-benefit flood management projects, as specified.
- \$300 million for protecting fish and wildlife and natural resources from climate impacts
- \$200 million for improving climate resilience of agricultural lands
- \$300 million for protecting coastal lands, waters, natural resources, and wildlife
- \$150 million for improving regional climate resilience

Only the first two chapters currently specify state conservancies as eligible administrative entities. Chapter 11 of the bill (Protecting Coastal Lands, Resources, Waters, and Wildlife) requires projects to be consistent with the sea level rise guidelines established by the Coastal Commission and SCC.

[SB 69](#)

(Wiener, D) Ocean Resiliency Act of 2019

Amended 4/29/19

This bill would:

- Require Natural Resources Agency to inventory the state’s existing coastal wetlands resources and prepare a study, in coordination with SCC and CA Department of Fish and Wildlife; to submit that study to the legislature by January 1, 2023; and to perform updates every five years.
- Require SCC to submit a report to legislature by December 31, 2022 on the Redwood City Harbor beneficial reuse of sediment pilot program.
- Direct SCC to develop a beneficial reuse program in partnership with U. S. Army Corps of Engineers to reuse dredge sediment for coastal wetlands restoration projects upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature.
- If directed by the CNRA Secretary, and upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature, require SCC to develop and implement a climate resiliency grant program in coordination with other state conservancies and the State Water Resources Control Board.
- Authorize CNRA to coordinate with state conservancies and others regarding development of a Blue Carbon Strategy.

[SB 140](#)

(Stern, D) Specialized license plates: The Endless Summer

Introduced 1/17/19

This bill would require the State Coastal Conservancy to apply to the DMV to sponsor “The Endless Summer” specialized license plate. The bill would require that the proceeds from those license plates, upon appropriation by the Legislature to the State Coastal Conservancy, be used to fund projects and programs that promote exposure to, and preservation of, surfing, its cultural heritage, and the coastal resources upon which the surfing environment depends. The bill would also require that projects and programs funded by these provisions be accessible to youth from low- and middle-income households lacking access to coastal resources and to youth with disabilities.

[SB 367](#)

(Hueso, D) State Coastal Conservancy: grants: educational projects and programs

Amended 4/22/2019

This bill would:

- Authorize SCC to provide technical assistance to public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes to support and award grants for educational projects and programs.
- Authorize education projects and programs for adults as well as students in grades K-12.
- Clarify and define the types of education projects and programs eligible for SCC funding.
- Allow grants for construction and improvement of facilities used for programs.
- Require grantees to document outcomes; provide outreach to low-income, underserved, and non-coastal areas of the state; and maintain data for program evaluation.
- Cap SCC grant administration costs at 10%.

[SB 474](#)

(Stern, D) The California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990: Habitat Conservation Fund

Amended 4/22/19

This bill would require the Controller to continue to annually transfer \$30,000,000 from the General Fund, less any amount transferred from other specified accounts and funds, to the Habitat Conservation Fund until June 30, 2050, and would continuously appropriate that amount on an annual basis to the same entities in the same proportions as in current statute.

The California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 (Proposition 117) created the HCF. The HCF guaranteed \$30 million annually for 30 years to “acquire, enhance, or restore” certain specified types of lands for wildlife or open space. Special preference is given to land protection projects that facilitate the movement of wildlife populations from one area to another. The HCF sunsets in 2020 without this legislation.

Proposition 117 specified how the monies are to be expended. Specifically:

- \$4.5 million goes to the Department of Parks and Recreation,
- \$1.5 million goes to projects located in the Santa Lucia mountain range in Monterey County,
- \$1 million must be expended for acquisitions in and adjacent to units of the state parks system, and
- \$2 million must be used for 50% matching grants to local agencies for projects that meet the requirements of Proposition 117, and for the acquisition of wildlife corridors, urban trails, nature interpretative programs, and other programs designed to bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas.

Additionally, annual appropriations to the following agencies are required:

- \$4 million to SCC
- \$10 million to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (“SMMC”) until 1995 after which that amount goes to the Wildlife Conservation Board (“WCB”),
- \$500,000 to the Tahoe Conservancy, and
- the balance goes to the WCB.

[SB 576](#)

(Umberg, D) State Coastal Conservancy: coastal climate change adaptation, infrastructure, and readiness program

Amended 4/23/19

This bill would require SCC to develop and implement a coastal climate adaptation, infrastructure, and readiness program designed to improve coastal climate change resiliency; to coordinate development and implementation of best climate adaptation practices in coastal areas with specified state conservancies and other state entities; and to participate in, facilitate or host an international conference on coastal climate change not less than once every two years.

For more information on this legislation, go to <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

UPCOMING DEADLINES

05/17/2019	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house
05/27/2019	Memorial Day.
05/28/2019 - 05/31/2017	Floor Session Only. No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose
05/31/2019	Last day for bills to be passed out of the house of origin
06/03/2019	Committee meetings may resume