

State Coastal Conservancy

October 17, 2019 Legislative Report

Signed by the Governor

[AB 65](#)

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

This bill establishes SCC's Climate Ready grant program in Division 21. The bill defines "natural infrastructure" and adds 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.

[AB 782](#)

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

This bill exempts 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 1680](#)

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

This bill requires the Commission, in collaboration with SCC, State Parks, and State Lands Commission to develop a new contemporary coastal access program for Hollister Ranch in Santa Barbara County that will replace the existing coastal access program for Hollister Ranch adopted by the Commission in 1982. The bill sets deadlines; establishes procedures and violations for obstructions to program implementation; contains right-of-entry provisions; and increases the Hollister Ranch access in-lieu fee from \$5,000 to \$33,000.

[SB 367](#)

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

This bill:

- Authorizes SCC to provide technical assistance to public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes to support and award grants for educational projects and programs.
- Authorizes education projects and programs for adults as well as students in grades K-12.
- Clarifies and defines the types of education projects and programs eligible for SCC funding.

- Allows grants for construction and improvement of facilities used for programs.
- Requires grantees to document outcomes; provide outreach to low-income, underserved, and non-coastal areas of the state; and maintain data for program evaluation.
- Caps SCC grant administration costs at 10%.

[SB 576](#)

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

This bill establishes SCC's Climate Ready grant program in Division 21.

[SB 690](#)

(Hueso, D) Coastal resources: Tijuana River Valley: funding prioritization

This bill *encourages* SCC, when expending any funds for the purposes of addressing cross-boundary flows and pollution in the Tijuana River Valley, to prioritize projects identified in the Tijuana River needs and opportunities assessment developed under the auspices of the Tijuana River Recovery Team.

[SB 785](#)

(Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water)

This omnibus bill makes minor amendments to the Fish and Game and Public Resources Codes, including Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.

- (1) The bill allows SCC to provide grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose may not be consistent with Division 21 purposes but whose activities will advance SCC and the state's mission relative to coastal resource conservation and public access.
- (2) The bill removes the requirement to establish the Nonprofit Organization Land Trust Account within the State Coastal Conservancy Fund and to deposit in it any funds collected from a nonprofit organization pursuant to a grant agreement. The bill eliminates reference to an account that has never been established, has no specified purpose, and is not needed.

Vetoed by the Governor

[AB 1511](#)

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

This bill would:

- Establish SCC as the agency that would provide administrative services to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission.
- 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.

2-year Bills

[AB 552](#)

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

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.

[SB 45](#)

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

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.

[SB 69](#)

(Wiener, D) Ocean Resiliency Act of 2019

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.
- 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.¹⁴⁰

[SB 140](#)

(Stern, D) Specialized License Plates: The Endless Summer

This bill would require SCC to apply to the DMV to sponsor "The Endless Summer" specialized license plate and would require the DMV, in consultation with SCC, to design the license plate, including a surfer design associated with the movie "The Endless Summer" and the slogan "The Endless Summer". The bill would require that the proceeds from those license plates, upon appropriation by the Legislature to the SCC, 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.

[SB 587](#)

(Monning, D) California Sea Otter Fund

This bill would extend the sunset date of the California Sea Otter voluntary tax-checkoff from January 1, 2021 to January 1, 2026.

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