

State Coastal Conservancy

May 27, 2021 Legislative Report

UPCOMING DEADLINES

05/31/2021 Memorial Day

06/01/2021 June 1-4 Floor session only. No committee may meet for any purpose except Rules Committee, bills referred pursuant to A.R. 77.2, and Conference Committees (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

06/04/2021 Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(a)(8))

Bond Bills

SB 45

(Portantino, Allen, Hurtado, Stern, D) *Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022.*

Last amended: 04/08/2021

Location: Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File

SB 45 would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of *\$5,595 billion* to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.

SB 45 allocates \$900 million to SCC, including: \$100 million to SCC for projects that are consistent with the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority Act; \$700 million for purposes of Division 21; and \$100 million for restoration of former fossil fuel powerplant sites.

AB 1500

(Garcia, D Mullin, D) *Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022.*

Last amended: 4/14/2021

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

AB 1500 would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters at the *June 7, 2022 statewide primary election*, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of *\$6,955 billion* to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.

The bill allocates \$1 billion to SCC for grants or expenditures consistent with Division 21, including \$300 million for purposes of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority; *\$100 million* for the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program; *\$40 million* for the Santa Ana River Conservancy program; \$100 million for demonstration and pilot projects that use natural infrastructure to promote climate resilience and protect critical infrastructure from sea level rise; and \$65 million for dam removal and to upgrade related downstream infrastructure to enhance sediment transport, wildlife passage ,

and public recreation. The balance of \$395 million may be used for general Division 21 purposes, including ADA-compliant public access improvements and outdoor recreation.

Other Legislation

AB 30

(Kalra, D) Parks: access to nature.

Last amended: 03/22/2021

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

This bill states that it is established policy of the state that access to nature and access to the benefits of nature is a human right. The bill would require that all relevant state agencies and their boards and commissions to incorporate this state policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, and grant criteria, or making expenditures, pertinent to the uses of outdoor access to nature, as provided.

AB 67

(Petrie-Norris, D) Sea Level Rise: working group: economic analysis.

Last amended date: 04/05/2021

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

This bill would require the Ocean Protection Council, in consultation with a multi-agency working group of state agencies and the Office of Planning and Research, to:

- Develop a standardized methodology and template for conducting economic analyses of sea level rise and other climate-related flood risks and impacts; and
- Develop and publish a class-specific infrastructure resilience plan to prepare critical public infrastructure for projected sea level rise and inform state agency infrastructure funding decisions.

AB 72

(Petrie-Norris, D) Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: coastal adaptation projects: sea level rise: regulatory review and permitting report.

Location: Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would enact the Coastal Adaptation Permitting Act of 2021. The bill would require the Natural Resources Agency to explore, and authorize it to implement, options within the agency's jurisdiction to establish a more coordinated and efficient regulatory review and permitting process for coastal adaptation projects. The bill would require the agency to submit, by July 1, 2023, a report to the Legislature with suggestions and recommendations for improving and expediting the regulatory review and permitting process for coastal adaptation projects.

AB 339

(Lee, Cristina Garcia, D) Local government: open and public meetings.

Last amended: 05/04/2021

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

This bill no longer impacts the Conservancy.

AB 620

(Mullin, D) Unified online environmental permit application.

Location: In print. Held.

This bill expresses the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation creating a unified online environmental permit application and process for state agencies to simplify the submittal and tracking of environmental permits for permit applicants and state agencies and supports interagency coordination.

[AB 826](#)

(Bennett, D) Beach Erosion: South Central California Coast: Point Conception to Point Mugu.

Last amended: 04/19/2021

Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee

This bill would establish the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment Account in the Coastal Conservancy and would authorize the Conservancy to expend monies upon appropriation for land acquisition, capital improvements, and support of the program's operations. The requires compliance with the Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

[AB 1219](#)

(Berman, D) Income taxes: Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000.

Location: Assembly Appropriations Suspense File

This bill would renew The Natural Heritage Preservation Tax Credit Act of 2000 for qualified contributions on or after January 1, 2021, and no later than June 30, 2026. The Act requires the Wildlife Conservation Board to implement a program under which property may be contributed to the state, any local government, or to any non-profit organization designated by a local government to provide for the protection of wildlife habitat, open space, and agricultural lands.

[AB 1570](#)

(Committee on Natural Resources) Public resources: omnibus bill.

Location: Senate Rules Committee

This bill includes a section requiring Coastal Conservancy to include in its required triennial report to the Legislature a discussion of the agency's progress in implementing its Lower Cost Coastal Accommodations Program.

[SB 69](#)

(McGuire, D) North Coast Railroad Authority: right-of-way: Great Redwood Trail Agency: Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District.

Last amended: 04/26/2021

Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

This bill would rename the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA) the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA) and establish a new governance structure and trail mandate for the agency. The bill authorizes the agency to contract with the Coastal Conservancy, another state agency, or another organization to staff the agency.

[SB 83](#)

(Allen, D) California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank: Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program.

Last amended: 04/29/2021

Location: Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 83 would require the Ocean Protection Council to create the Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program in consultation with the Coastal Conservancy. The amended bill would authorize local public agencies to apply for and be awarded a low-interest loan from the Conservancy if the local jurisdiction develops and submits to the Conservancy a vulnerable coastal property plan. The bill would require the Conservancy to review the plans to determine whether they meet the required criteria and guidelines for vulnerable coastal properties to be eligible for participation in the program. The California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) would administer the loan program in the previous bill version.