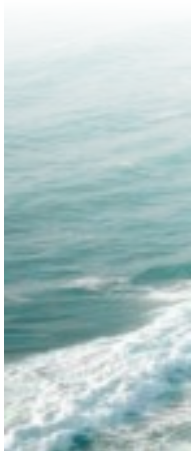




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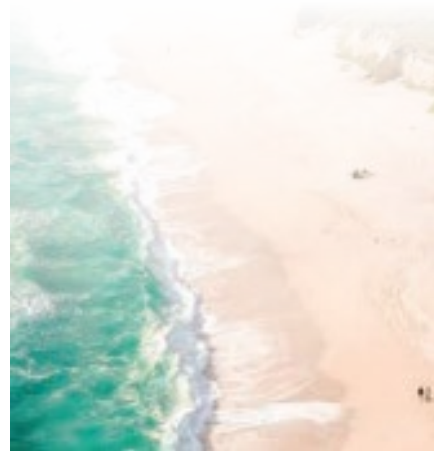
Wade Crowfoot | Secretary for Natural Resources | Council Chair
Yana Garcia | Secretary for Environmental Protection
Eleni Kounalakis | Lieutenant Governor
Ben Allen | State Senator
Dawn Addis | State Assemblymember
Alexis Jackson | Public Member
Megan Rocha | Public Member



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 24, 2023 – April 24, 2023

*Providing an update on outcomes
and accomplishments since the
previous OPC Meeting.*



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Updates By Strategic Plan Goal

Goal 1: Safeguard Coastal and Marine Ecosystems and Communities in the Face of Climate Change

Coastal Profile Tool (OPC Dashboard) Launch

In partnership with San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), OPC completed the design and launch of an online dashboard (Coastal Profile Tool) to track progress toward multiple OPC strategic targets. The Coastal Profile tool is a stand-alone public source of summary information on the current distribution, abundance, diversity and condition of surface waters (including beach, dune, eelgrass, and rocky shore) for user-defined areas of the California coast. It is available on [EcoAtlas](#).

Development of SLR Adaptation Planning Grant Program

OPC is working to develop a program structure and grant selection criteria for the launch of the SLR Adaptation Planning Grant program with \$37.5 million of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds. This program will provide funding to local and regional governments to develop SLR adaptation plans to begin implementation of Senate Bill 1 (Atkins, 2021). Grant selection criteria will include minimum standards for statewide SLR adaptation plans. The Working Group of the SLR State and Regional Support Collaborative created in SB 1 (formerly referred to as the SLR Leadership Team), will meet on April 27 to discuss the development of the criteria. A recommendation for funding to create a Technical Assistance program to support this grant program is on the April 24 Council agenda (see [Item 4](#)).

Ocean Acidification & Hypoxia Modeling

Executive Director Jenn Eckerle presented at the [March 21, 2023 State Water Resources Control Board \(State Water Board\) meeting](#) on an informational item regarding preliminary findings of ocean acidification modeling project funded by OPC and performed by the Southern California Coastal Water Project Authority (SCCWRP), the University of California, Los Angeles, and Princeton University. The project centers on three questions within the Southern California Bight:

- What is the effect of anthropogenic nutrients on algal blooms, oxygen, and pH?
- What are the biological effects of these changes?
- What are the effects of nitrogen management alone or in combination with potable water recycling?

Preliminary findings from the modeling indicate that human sources of nutrients cause measurable changes in ocean chemistry (reduce subsurface pH and oxygen, and production of persistent algal blooms) and that these changes cause compression of ocean habitat by up to 30% over 25% of the Southern California Bight (approximately 278,400 km² in size) during 3 months of the year in late summer to early fall. The findings of this project provide the basis for proposed incentives for nutrient removal funding under the State Revolving Fund Policy and the development of nutrient standards for inland and ocean waters. A [staff workshop on statewide nutrient management](#) is scheduled to be held by the State Water Board on May 18, 2023 to solicit public input on immediate actions the State Water Board could take to incentivize wastewater agencies to evaluate the feasibility of nutrients in their discharges as part of their future planning or facility upgrades including recycled water projects.

Goal 2: Advance Equity Across Ocean and Coastal Policies and Actions

Advancing Equity Plan Implementation

Following the adoption of OPC's Equity Plan in October 2022, staff has been making strides towards the Plan's implementation. At the April 24 Council meeting (see [Item 6](#)), OPC staff recommends Council approval for funding to support Equity Plan implementation through a continued partnership with the Better World Group Advisors (BWG). Through this partnership, BWG and OPC will focus on discrete implementation priorities that will inform the Plan's biennial assessment, next steps to identify specific equity-related investments, and engage local and regional partners to provide recommendations that ensure ongoing and sustainable Plan implementation occurs beyond 2024. In addition, staff continues to work towards identifying a qualified partner to help with administration, design, and development of OPC's environmental justice pilot program. Additional work is anticipated to kick off this summer.

Internally, OPC staff has participated in CNRA-hosted equity-focused trainings related to public engagement and technical assistance. Both trainings aim to provide guidance for state employees to 1) better address barriers that impede meaningful engagement with public constituents, including priority communities, 2) provide tools needed to develop and implement robust community engagement plans, and 3) understand various approaches to providing technical assistance and addressing capacity-building needs for under-resourced communities who face multi-faceted challenges. OPC plans on embedding the resource knowledge shared from these trainings into standard practice to ensure equity is at the forefront of all OPC's work with and for the public.

Goal 3: Enhance Coastal and Marine Biodiversity

Conserving 30% of California's Coastal Waters by 2030

OPC has launched a dedicated [30x30 page](#) on its website and has developed a public-facing [fact sheet](#) to summarize the strategies and opportunities for conserving coastal waters that are detailed in *Pathways to 30x30*. In March, OPC hosted the first in a series of virtual workshops to publicly share OPC's approaches to achieving 30x30. This workshop, [Conservation Beyond MPAs](#), explored existing spatial management measures in California state waters apart from formal marine protected areas (MPAs), and provided an opportunity for discussion on the potential contributions of these areas to the 30x30 target. This workshop was followed by an in-person meeting on April 13 with scientists and agency partners to develop a centralized, up-to-date inventory of spatial management measures in state waters, which will ultimately be used by OPC to make case-by-case, science-based determinations regarding which of these areas, if any, may count toward 30x30.

On April 28, OPC will host a second virtual workshop to discuss the role of National Marine Sanctuaries in achieving 30x30. In particular, this discussion will focus on efforts to align the state's 30x30 initiative in coastal waters with the management plan update for Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and will feature remarks by Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent Maria Brown.

Decadal Management Review of California's Marine Protected Area Network

Nearly 300 participants representing state agencies, California Native American tribes, researchers, environmental groups, commercial and recreational fisheries, and others joined together in Monterey on March 15 to discuss the first ten years of California's globally recognized Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network. The Management Review Forum, hosted by CDFW and OPC, provided a venue for attendees to participate in lively discussions across the four pillars of the MPA Management Program, which include research and monitoring, enforcement and compliance, outreach and education, and policy and permitting. The discussions at the Management Review Forum were considered at the Marine Resources Committee meeting of the California Fish and Game Commission the following day, where the public provided reflections on the review and recommendations. On April 20, the Commission will begin considering which adaptive management recommendations from the review and the public will be prioritized for the next 10 years of the adaptive management review cycle.

Microplastics Sample Collection Method Evaluation & Standardization

With support by OPC and the State Water Board, SCCWRP initiated the evaluation of microplastic sample collection methods by convening a workshop on March 8-9 comprised of state, national, and international microplastics science experts to design a method evaluation study for microplastics sample collection in stormwater, surface water, sediment, and biological tissues for the purpose of developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) for monitoring environmental microplastics. The workshop resulted in the identification of methods for evaluation and draft study designs to understand the performance, uncertainties, cost, and limitations of individual methods.

California's International Leadership on Biodiversity

OPC and CNRA are working with the Government of Quebec to collaboratively lead the High Ambition Coalition Subnational Task Force, which was officially launched at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in Montreal in December of last year. This Task Force aims to promote effective, meaningful implementation of the 30x30 target at the subnational government level, and through this new partnership, California will have an opportunity to showcase its leadership on biodiversity conservation while simultaneously learning from others in a global community of practice. California and Quebec have convened one meeting of the Task Force since COP 15, and discussion has focused on progress toward 30x30 among the subnational partners, challenges, and opportunities.

United Nations High Seas Treaty

In March, after nearly two decades of planning and negotiation, more than 190 countries reached a historic agreement to protect the “high seas” – areas of the ocean outside national jurisdictions. The high seas comprise nearly two-thirds of the global ocean, but only 1% of this area is currently protected. The new treaty creates a legal framework for establishing MPAs in international waters, protecting habitats and species from threats such as overfishing, shipping traffic, and deep sea mining. There is much work ahead; countries will now need to ratify the treaty before it can be implemented. However, the treaty is an important step toward achieving the global target to conserve 30% of the planet's lands and waters by 2030.

Goal 4: Support Ocean Health Through Sustainable Blue Economy

Offshore Wind Updates

Following the first-ever lease sale for offshore wind (OSW) development in California in December 2022, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is expected to issue leases in April 2023. Additionally, BOEM published [a Renewable Energy Modernization Rule proposal](#) in January, which aims to update regulations related to OSW development.

At the state level, efforts related to [AB 525](#) are making progress. The California Energy Commission is collaborating with other state partner agencies, including OPC, to coordinate fisheries and tribal outreach, which is anticipated to take place in April and May 2023. The outreach goals include providing updates on AB 525 efforts and inviting input on perspectives and concerns from fishing communities and tribes. Individual AB 525 working groups are also working on their chapters in the strategic plan. OPC staff have also participated in several coordination meetings with industry representatives from the five companies that won leases in the recent auction.

OPC is playing a crucial role in funding projects and coordinating efforts that support OSW development in California. OPC supports the development of comprehensive environmental monitoring guidance and is recommending that the Council approve funding for guidance development that will provide a framework for monitoring and evaluating potential environmental impacts of OSW development (see [Item 9](#)).

Increasing Presence of Whales Elevates Risk of Whale Entanglements and Prompts Early Closure of Dungeness Crab Season

On March 30, CDFW director Charlton H. Bonham announced that the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in Fishing Zones 3, 4, 5 and 6 (Sonoma/Mendocino County line to the U.S./Mexico border) will close on April 15 due to elevated entanglement risk as assessed under the Risk Assessment Mitigation Program (RAMP). Director Bonham is also continuing the Fleet Advisory for the commercial and recreational fisheries in Zones 1-6 for the time being. This season closure is being implemented to minimize entanglement risk for humpback whales as they return to forage off the coast of California and in response to several entanglements that occurred during March and April of 2022. Based on historical migration patterns, CDFW anticipated humpback whales would begin arriving in mid-April and determined closing the fishery was needed to avoid entanglements during the same period that occurred last season (when several juvenile humpback whales were entangled in Dungeness crab fishing gear in Monterey Bay and near Half Moon Bay in mid-March). The early season closure and subsequent economic impact highlights the need for continued research and monitoring to better understand how changing ocean conditions are

affecting whale movements along the California coast, as well as development of gear innovations to allow fishing to continue without additional risk to whales.

Poor Conditions Prompt Recommendation to Close California's 2023 Salmon Fishery

On April 6, the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) acted unanimously to recommend a full closure of California's commercial and recreational ocean salmon season. This action followed recent projections showing Chinook salmon abundance off California is at historic lows. It is expected that the National Marine Fisheries Service will take regulatory action to enact the closure, effective in mid-May. In addition, at its May 17 meeting, the California Fish and Game Commission will consider whether to adopt a closure of inland salmon fisheries. Following the PFMC's recommendation of a full closure, Governor Gavin Newsom [announced his administration's request](#) for a Federal Fishery Disaster Declaration to support impacted communities.

A combination of prolonged and historic drought, severe wildfires and associated impacts to spawning and rearing habitat, harmful algal blooms, and ocean forage shifts have resulted in some of the lowest stock abundance forecasts on record for Sacramento River Fall Chinook and Klamath River Fall Chinook. The low ocean abundance forecasts, coupled with low 2022 returns, led the PFMC to recommend full closure of California's commercial and recreational ocean salmon fisheries. These low returns and abundance forecasts are due, in part, to difficult environmental factors faced by these salmon on their initial journey out to the ocean three years prior (2019-2020). However, on a positive note, these same patterns indicate that salmon returning three years from now will benefit from the ample precipitation California has experienced this year.

Projects Approved by the Executive Director's Delegated Authority

Grantee	Project	Amount	Description
University of California, Santa Cruz	Once-Through Cooling Interim Mitigation Costing Update	\$45,659	This project seeks to evaluate and inform an update to the costing for the Once-Through Cooling (OTC) interim mitigation calculation to reflect recent data. The scope of this project includes: (i) default cost of entrainment; (ii) site-specific cost of entrainment for the Diablo Canyon Power Plant, consistent with Senate Bill 846; (iii)

			<p>the costing multiplier for impingement; and (iv) an update the annual inflation escalator consistent with federal and/or state inflation rates. This project is limited to evaluating and identifying recommendations to appropriately update the multipliers used in the annual interim mitigation calculation, not an evaluation of the calculation framework itself.</p>
<p>The Nature Conservancy</p>	<p>Improving data driven decision-making to protect whales and sea turtles</p>	<p>\$192,484</p>	<p>This project will develop two pilot programs designed to fill existing data gaps and work cooperatively with the fishing industry, to fulfill monitoring requirements and inform decision-making. (1) Fishing industry-led whale surveys: transitioning current fishing industry-led monitoring from a pilot project to a durable cooperative research program. (2) Electronic vessel location monitoring: This project will help inform the application of a cost-effective and scalable electronic vessel location monitoring program to provide CDFW with expanded and improved data on fishing activity to improve monitoring and mitigation of whale entanglement risk.</p>

Completed Projects

Grantee	Project	Outcome
Humboldt County Resource Conservation District	Connecting a Tributary in the Salt River Coastal Watershed	Restoration of approximately two miles of the Salt River channel and 26 wetland acres to improve fish passage and restore salmonid rearing habitat.
State Coastal Conservancy	Cardiff Beach Living Shoreline Project	Restoration of a dune system at Cardiff State Beach to serve as a SLR adaptation strategy to protect a vulnerable segment of the Pacific Coast Highway.

Personnel Notes



Ben Dorfman, *California Sea Grant Fellow*

Ben Dorfman joined OPC in February as the 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow in the Climate Change Program. Ben was born and raised in Santa Cruz, CA, where he fell in love with the ocean and the outdoors. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 2019. He then worked with California State Parks for a few years before going back to school to get a Master's degree in International Environmental Policy from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies in Monterey (MIIS). His research at MIIS focused on coastal resilience, climate change adaptations, and the blue economy throughout the west coast of the U.S. and Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS). He is currently based out of San Francisco with his fiancé and two cats.



Katie Cieri, California Sea Grant Fellow

Katie Cieri joined the Ocean Protection Council's Biodiversity Program in March as a 2023 California Sea Grant State Fellow. Katie is primarily involved in supporting efforts related to marine protected areas, kelp protection and restoration, and the 30x30 initiative. Prior to joining OPC, Katie completed her Master's in Marine Science at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. For her Master's thesis she assessed the composition and distribution of fish assemblages in Cap de Creus Natural Park, a marine protected area on the Mediterranean coast of Spain. She was involved in many projects designed to assess nearshore fish populations and monitor marine protected areas including the Monitoring & Evaluation of Mid-Depth Rocky Reef Ecosystems Project, the Benthic Observation System Survey (BOSS), and the California Collaborative Fisheries Research Program (CCFRP). Katie also holds a B.S. in Biology from the University of Virginia. She is passionate about outreach and inclusion, and she continues to explore avenues to make marine science more accessible. In her free time, she enjoys kayaking, scuba diving, hiking, and adventures with her husband and dog.



Pike Spector, Biodiversity Program Manager

Pike will join the Ocean Protection Council as the Biodiversity Program Manager starting May 1st with a background in kelp forest ecology and marine science, as well as experience working with fishermen and tribes. He will help lead our work to protect and restore coastal and marine ecosystems and comes to OPC after working as a marine scientist for Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary in Washington State. Prior to this position, Pike was a California Sea Grant Fellow with Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and then a contractor for the sanctuary's research team. He earned a Masters of Science from San Diego State University, and a BS from UC Santa Cruz. When not in, on, or under the water for work, Pike enjoys surfing, rock climbing, hiking with his dog, playing banjo, and riding his motorcycle.

2023 Summer Interns

We are thrilled to welcome six interns to join our staff this summer. Veronica Whaley (Sacramento City and Consumnes River College), Alyssa Ng (University of Southern California), Nathan Lee (UC Davis), Bella Carreon (Pomona College) and Azura Haley (UCLA) were selected through OPC's competitive Summer Internship Program. Audrey Jung is joining us through a merit-based award from the Haas Center for Public Service's Undergraduate Fellowships Program at Stanford

University, the sixth year of an ongoing partnership between OPC and Stanford. We look forward to having them as members of our team.

Calendar

April 20: [California Fish and Game Commission Meeting](#) – Fresno, Zoom option available

On April 20, as part of its regular quarterly meeting, the California Fish and Game Commission will receive a CDFW summary of the MPA Day Management Review Forum, held on March 15. The Commission will discuss next steps in considering results and adaptive management recommendations from the first decadal management review of the MPA network.

April 28: [Strengthening Biodiversity Protections in California's National Marine Sanctuaries](#) – Zoom

California's federally-managed National Marine Sanctuaries cover close to 41% of state waters and help protect our state's diverse wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources. Through regulations, resource protection, research, and education, Sanctuaries help to conserve marine ecosystems while encouraging access and sustainable use. State and federal conservation goals offer a unique opportunity to assess top threats to biodiversity within Sanctuaries – such as land-based pollution, ship strikes to whales, and kelp loss – and for state and federal managers to work together to implement strengthened protections to address these threats. Join OPC and special guest Maria Brown, Superintendent of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, to discuss the efforts to align the state's 30x30 initiative in coastal waters with the management plan update for Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

August 15: [OPC Quarterly Public Meeting](#) – Sacramento

Legislation

The following is an update on coastal and ocean-related legislative proposals tracked by OPC staff this legislative session:

[ACA 1](#) (Aguiar-Curry): This constitutional amendment would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing; public infrastructure includes projects that provide protection of impacts from sea level rise.

[ACA 2](#) (Alanis): This constitutional amendment would establish the Water and Wildfire Resiliency Fund and would require the State Treasurer to annually transfer an amount equal to 3% of all state revenues that may be appropriated from the General Fund. Would allocate 50% of moneys for water supply and water recycling projects, including desalination and habitat restoration projects.

[ACR 46](#) (Pellerin): This measure would declare April 11, 2023 as California Ocean Day.

[AB 3](#) (Zbur): This bill would require the California Coastal Commission, in consultation with the State Lands Commission, to develop a 2nd-phase plan and strategy for seaport readiness for offshore wind energy developments.

[AB 45](#) (Boerner Horvath): This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as defined, in order to demonstrate and quantify the carbon sequestration potential of these projects to help inform the state's natural and working lands and climate resilience strategies.

[AB 80](#) (Addis): This bill would require OPC to establish and oversee, in coordination with other unspecified state agencies, a West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity.

[AB 234](#) (Bauer-Kahan): This bill would enact the Synthetic Polymer Microparticles in Cosmetic and Cleaning Products Prevention Act to prohibit a synthetic polymer microparticle from being placed on the market in California as a substance on its own or in mixtures in a concentration equal to or greater than 0.01% by weight.

[AB 343](#) (Muratsuchi): This bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency, on or before March 31, 2024 until January 1, 2028, to hold a minimum of 4 public meetings per year on the agency's efforts to study and mitigate DDT and other chemical waste located at Dumpsite-1 and Dumpsite-2 off the coast of Los Angeles, and to report policy recommendations to the Legislature by June 30, 2026.

[AB 344](#) (Wood): This bill would expressly authorize electrical corporations, electric service providers, and community choice aggregators to jointly enter into agreements to procure electricity generated from offshore wind facilities.

[AB 655](#) (Petrie Norris): This bill would prohibit a person from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration all saltwater algae of the genus *Caulerpa*, except possession for bona fide scientific research.

[AB 753](#) (Papan): This bill would create the Waterway Recovery Account within the Waste Discharge Permit Fund and annually transfer monies from the State Water Pollution Cleanup and

Abatement Account for restoration projects that improve water quality standards, to increase water quality monitoring and to create a community capacity program to increase disadvantaged and tribal community participation in state board and regional board outreach and regulatory processes.

[AB 756](#) (Papan): This bill would require the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the State Water Board and other stated agencies, to develop a programmatic environmental review process to prevent 6PPD and 6PPD-quinone from entering salmon and steelhead trout bearing surface waters and require a pilot project to study the effectiveness of installing and maintaining bioretention and biofiltration to control the discharge of microplastics from state highways into surface waters of the state.

[AB 809](#) (Bennett): This bill would require the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish the California Monitoring Program to collect data on anadromous salmonid populations, in coordination with relevant federal and state agencies, to inform salmon and steelhead recovery, conservation, and management activities. The bill would additionally establish the California Monitoring Program Fund in the State Treasury to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, support the program.

[AB 953](#) (Connolly): This bill would require OPC, in coordination and in consultation with various entities, to implement a statewide voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program for the California coast in order to reduce air pollution, the risk of fatal vessel strikes on whales, and harmful underwater acoustic impacts by May 1, 2025.

[AB 966](#) (Davies): This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways within the State Department of Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with the State Coastal Conservancy, to prepare and submit a joint Legislative report on shoreline erosion control and public beach restoration programs, the need for continued projects and program application requirements, and identification of state beaches that contain a critically eroded shoreline, no later than January 1, 2025.

[AB 1272](#) (Wood): This bill would require the State Water Board, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to adopt principles and guidelines for diversion and use of water in coastal watersheds, including the development of watershed-level plans to support public trust uses, public health and safety, and the human right to water in times of water shortage.

[AB 1284](#) (Ramos): This bill would encourage and authorize the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to enter into agreements with federally recognized tribes for the purposes of shared

responsibility, decisionmaking, and partnership in resource management and conservation within a tribe's ancestral lands and waters.

[AB 1290](#) (L. Rivas): This bill would prohibit a person from manufacturing, selling, offering for sale, or distributing in the state plastic packaging that contains certain chemicals, pigments, or additives beginning January 1, 2026.

[AB 1407](#) (Addis): This bill would require OPC to establish a Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework that has a goal of restoring by 2050 a specified number of acres of kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds. The bill would establish in the State Treasury the Ocean Restoration and Recovery Fund to be administered by OPC to develop and carry out large-scale restoration and enhancement projects.

[AB 1453](#) (Dixon): This bill would require the State Coastal Conservancy to establish a 5-year program to provide grants for specified activities, including funding regular cleanups of beaches and the waterways that empty into them by January 1, 2025.

[AB 1567](#) (Garcia): This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024, which if approved by voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$1,510,500,000.

[AB 1590](#) (Friedman): This bill would establish the Major Coastal Resorts Environmental Accountability Act, prohibit the use of any nonorganic pesticide or fertilizing material at a major coastal resort, and prohibit a major coastal resort from providing to guests single-use plastic bottled beverages.

[AB 1596](#) (Alvarez): This bill would require the State Water Board to identify and implement projects to improve beach access and address ocean water quality on public beaches that experience significant restrictions of use due to bacteria levels that exceed public health standards, whether the source is from urban runoff or transboundary flows.

[AB 1628](#) (McKinnor): This bill would require, on and after January 1, 2029, all new washing machines offered for sale in California for residential, commercial, and state use contain a microfiber filtration system with a mesh size not greater than 100 micrometers.

[AB 1692](#) (Dixon): This bill would require the Natural Resources Agency Secretary to post to the internet website an annual written report that is required to be completed by the Ocean Science Trust under existing law.

[SB 23](#) (Caballero): This bill would expedite permitting, by the Department of Fish and Wildlife and State Water Board, for water supply or flood risk reduction projects in which flood protection or sea level rise is a primary objective of the project.

[SB 224](#) (Hurtado): This bill would authorize the Office of Emergency Services to compile an annual report regarding foreign ownership of the total amount agricultural land, water rights, water desalination facilities, and energy production, storage, or distribution facilities in California.

[SB 261](#) (Stern): This bill would annually require, beginning on or before December 31, 2024, a business with annual revenues over \$500 million and that does business in California, to prepare a climate-related financial risk report disclosing the entity's climate-related financial risk and measures adopted to reduce and adapt to climate-related financial risk.

[SB 272](#) (Laird): This bill would require all local governments in the coastal zone or San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) jurisdiction to address sea level rise planning and adaptation through a Local Coastal Program (LCP) or Regional Shoreline Plan (RSP) by 2034. The bill would additionally require the California Coastal Commission, BCDC, and OPC to establish minimum guidelines to achieve consistency in SLR planning and prioritize local governments with plans in place by 2029 for sea level rise implementation funding.

[SB 273](#) (Wiener): This bill would authorize the State Lands Commission to approve a mixed-use development on the San Francisco waterfront at Piers 30-32 if the State Lands Commission finds, at a properly noticed public meeting, that the mixed-use development is designed to attract the statewide public to the waterfront, increase public enjoyment of the San Francisco Bay, encourage public trust activities, and enhance public use of trust assets and resources.

[SB 286](#) (McGuire): This bill would establish the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group, to be convened by the California Coastal Commission, in coordination with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, by January 1, 2025, for the purpose of developing a statewide strategy, by January 1, 2026, to ensure that offshore wind energy projects avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to ocean fisheries to the maximum extent possible.

[SB 303](#) (Allen): This bill would amend the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act relating to Producer Responsibility Organization oversight and authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to adopt regulations, standards, and criteria that prioritizes benefits to the environment and minimizes risks to public health and worker health and safety.

[SB 337](#) (Min): This bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to prepare an annually report to the Legislature, beginning March 31, 2024, on the progress made in the prior

calendar year toward achieving the state goal to conserve at least 30% of state lands and coastal waters by 2030 (30x30).

[SB 378](#) (Gonzalez): This bill would impose a punitive fine of up to \$25 for a person to bring an expanded polystyrene food container or cooler on a state beach, or in a unit of a state park system, and for improper disposal.

[SB 500](#) (McGuire). This bill would require the Fish and Game Commission to adopt regulations related to commercial sea urchin diving permits, and to the vessels used to commercially fish for sea urchin, for the purpose of better managing the number of permits issued.

[SB 559](#) (Min). This bill would require the State Lands Commission to seek to initiate negotiations with the lessees for the active oil and gas leases in state waters, with the goal of reaching an agreement for the voluntary relinquishment of the leases and termination of all oil and gas production associated with these leases.

[SB 605](#) (Padilla): This bill would require OPC and the California Energy Commission, on or before February 1, 2024, to commence a comprehensive, collaborative study to evaluate the feasibility and benefits of using wave energy and tidal energy.

[SB 638](#) (Eggman): This bill would enact the Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount \$6 million for flood protection and climate resiliency projects.

[SB 665](#) (Allen): This bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency, by January 1, 2025, to establish a working group of specified state agencies, including OPC, to establish a framework for evaluating novel material types as they are developed to inform state policy decisions.

[SB 704](#) (Min): This bill would prohibit new or expanded oil and gas development from being considered a coastal-dependent industrial facility and would only permit those developments if they are found to be consistent with all applicable provisions of the act. The bill would additionally encourage existing ports to pursue development that contributes to the construction and deployment of offshore wind energy generation facilities, consistent with the Coastal Act.

[SB 867](#) (Allen): This bill would enact the Drought and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, and Park Creation and Outdoor Access Bond Act of 2023, which if approved by voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount.

Budget

[AB 221 Budget Act of 2023](#). This bill would appropriate \$50,000,000 to OPC for grants or expenditures for resilience projects that conserve, protect, and restore marine wildlife and healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems.

[SB 72 Budget Act of 2023](#). This bill would appropriate \$50,000,000 to OPC for grants or expenditures for resilience projects that conserve, protect, and restore marine wildlife and healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems.

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