

**STAFF REPORT
INFORMATIONAL
56**

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**INFORMATIONAL UPDATE ON EFFORTS TO DEVELOP
THE COMMISSION'S 2021-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

INTRODUCTION:

The Commission is developing a new five-year Strategic Plan that will guide our work in the coming years. Public access, climate change and sea-level rise, environmental justice, tribal relations, sustainable economic development, and environmental protection are among the key issues the plan will cover. In the coming months, the Commission will be seeking public comment about what to address in our Strategic Plan. Staff will use that insight to create a draft by summer 2020 that will be circulated for public review and comment.

California has an abundance of rivers, lakes, and streams, and a spectacularly scenic coastline. The Commission manages much of these public lands on behalf of the people of California. Established in 1938, the Commission manages 4 million acres of tide and submerged lands and the beds of navigable rivers, streams, lakes, bays, estuaries, inlets, and straits. These lands stretch from the Klamath River and Goose Lake in the north to the Tijuana Estuary in the south, and the Pacific Coast 3 miles offshore to world-famous Lake Tahoe and the Colorado River, and includes California's two longest rivers, the Sacramento and San Joaquin. The Commission also manages state-owned school lands in the desert and the forested areas of California to support public schools. And it oversees waterfront land and coastal waters legislatively granted to cities and counties, including land underlying California's major ports and harbors. The Commission regulates large oceangoing vessels to protect state waters from marine invasive species introductions and minimizes the risk of oil spills by providing the best achievable environmental protection at marine oil terminals, offshore oil platforms and production facilities. The Commission applies the best available science and embraces public participation and intergovernmental coordination in its decision making.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission adopted its first [Strategic Plan](#) at its December 18, 2015 public meeting ([Item 117](#)). The Plan was the culmination of robust stakeholder input and collaboration and guides the Commission's stewardship of public lands and resources and promoting public access.

STAFF REPORT NO. 56 (CONT'D)

The Strategic Plan contains the following Strategic Goals:

- Lead Innovative and Responsible Land and Resource Management
- Meet the Challenges of Our Future
- Engage Californians to Help Safeguard Their Trust Lands and Resources
- Cultivate Operational Excellence by Integrating Technology

The Commission manages millions of acres of state-owned lands and resources. Its primary responsibilities are to manage the use and protection of these lands and resources through leases and other agreements, prevent oil spills at offshore facilities and marine oil terminals, and protect state waters from the introduction of marine invasive species. The Strategic Plan enables the Commission to adapt to emerging challenges, while creating a meaningful and rich framework to effectuate state policy goals, promote public access, generate revenue for the state's General Fund and for benefit of California's State Teachers' Retirement System, and enforce the protections of the Public Trust Doctrine. Annual updates on the plan's implementation can be found on the Commission's [website](#).

UPDATE:

On February 4, 2020, the Commission held a [special public meeting](#) to facilitate a public discussion and solicit input and engagement from various stakeholders to help inform the Commission's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. The Commission received insights and suggestions from Mark Gold, Ocean Protection Council Executive Director and California Natural Resource Agency Deputy Secretary, and various tribal governments. Through a panel discussion, the Commission engaged with various lessees, port representatives, environmental protection representatives, and environmental justice advocates. The robust panel discussions provided a wealth of information, perspectives, and priorities for the Commission's consideration.

The Commission is in the process of retaining a consultant to assist in the development of the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. The scope of work for the consultant includes:

- Providing outreach and facilitate meetings to seek input from lessees, grantees, affected industries, Native American nations, environmental justice communities, and other stakeholders and interested parties
- Interviewing Commissioners and staff for input
- Preparing a draft Strategic Plan for review by the Commission
- Circulating a draft Strategic Plan for public comment
- Receiving public comment, analyzing input received, consulting with Commission staff, and revising the draft Strategic Plan
- Making presentations on the status of the new strategic plan at regularly-scheduled publicly-noticed Commission meetings

STAFF REPORT NO. 56 (CONT'D)

- Preparing a final Strategic Plan and making a presentation at a publicly noticed Commission meeting
- Developing goal tracking metrics and a system for tracking them.

Staff hopes to have the consultant on board by mid-March.

Staff plans to develop a draft 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and circulate it for public comment during the 3rd quarter of 2020 with potential adoption by the Commission in December 2020.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

The public's voice, insight, and experience are important to the development of its Strategic Plan. Specifically, the Commission wants to hear perspectives on what should be eliminated, changed, or added to the next Strategic Plan? What will the Commission's biggest challenges be? How can the Commission balance sustainable economic growth, including revenue generation for the state, with environmental protection through the lens of equity and climate change?

Thoughts and suggestions on the next Strategic Plan shared at (916) 574-1800 or email at StrategicPlan@slc.ca.gov.

Additionally, there will be more opportunities this year for those interested to help shape the Commission's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. In addition to the February 28th meeting, stakeholders are encouraged to attend another of our meetings this year, all of which will include ample opportunity for public input and engagement to help inform our new strategic plan.

The Commission's tentative 2020 Public Meeting Schedule is as follows:

- April 29, 2020 – Northeastern California
- June 23, 2020 – Central Coast
- August 20, 2020 – Central Valley
- October 22, 2020 – Riverside County
- December 17, 2020 – Northern California

Specific meeting locations will be announced as they become available. All meetings are scheduled to start at 1 p.m. unless otherwise noted.