

# Staff Report 87

## PROPOSED ACTION:

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Consider adopting a support position on AJR 12 (Alvarez).

## DISCUSSION

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February 16 was the bill introduction deadline for the second half of the 2023-24 legislative session. Legislators introduced 2,214 bills, 674 of which are placeholder bills (481 spot bills and 193 intent bills). This means that about a third of the total bill introductions lack any substantive language. Spot bill amendments for Senate bills are due to the Senate Rules Committee by March 20. Spot bill amendments for Assembly bills are due to the Assembly Rules Committee by March 11.

Legislators introduced dozens of bills on issues relevant to the Commission—offshore wind energy, aquaculture, California's 30 x 30 goal, idle wells, plastic pollution, lithium production, and the Tijuana River transboundary pollution crisis—among others. Most of the offshore wind energy bills are placeholder bills that will have to be amended by the March deadlines.

Legislators introduced a [14-measure reparations bill package](#), including a [bill](#) that would require the state to apologize for “human rights violations and crimes against humanity on African slaves and their descendants.” Another [bill](#) would restore property taken by race-based eminent domain.

Later in this staff report is a list of legislation, organized by subject, that staff is tracking. Before that is a staff analysis and recommendation for [AJR 12 \(Alvarez\)](#), a resolution that would urge Congress to support President Biden's \$310 million supplemental funding request to address the Tijuana River transboundary pollution crisis. Staff recommends that the Commission adopt a support position on this Assembly Joint Resolution.

## **STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION FOR AJR 12 (ALVAREZ)**

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Assembly Joint Resolution 12 would urge the United States Congress to support President Biden's \$310 million supplemental funding request for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission owing to the ongoing impacts on public health, the environment, and the local economy caused by cross-border pollution in the Tijuana River Valley and would urge President Biden to declare a national emergency.

Last October, President Biden requested an allocation of \$310 million in emergency funding to support the ongoing design and construction at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant be included in a supplemental funding request. The \$310 million would supplement the \$300 million that Congress approved in 2021 to cover the expansion of the South Bay treatment plant. The funding is urgently needed to address the transboundary pollution from Mexico into the Tijuana River Estuary and the San Diego and Southern California coastline—a severe crisis that negatively impacts public health due to reduced air and water quality, damaging critical coastal and estuarine habitat, affecting border security and military personnel, and hurting local businesses and tourism.

Assembly Joint Resolution 12 dovetails with the Commission's action this past November to send a letter to Congress supporting President Biden's request to include the \$310 million in supplemental funding ([Item 02, November 2023](#)). Assembly Joint Resolution 12 is in the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee. A support position from the Commission is consistent with its past action and advocacy for a solution to abate the public health and environmental crises. A support position is also timely because recent atmospheric rivers have resulted in especially intense flooding and untreated sewage flows into the Tijuana River Estuary and the Southern California coastline. A support position is also consistent with the Commission's Strategic Plan and the common law public trust doctrine and is in the state's best interest.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

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It is recommended that the Commission adopt a support position on AJR 12 (Alvarez).

## TRACKED BILLS

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### 30 BY 30 GOAL

#### **AB 2440 (REYES D) 30x30 GOAL: PARTNERING STATE AGENCIES: DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require the California Natural Resources Agency to prioritize promoting and supporting partnering state agencies and departments in the acquisition and responsible stewardship of state land. Executive Order No. N-82-20 directed the Agency to combat the biodiversity and climate crises by, among other things, establishing the California Biodiversity Collaborative and conserving at least 30 percent of the state's lands and coastal waters by 2030. Current law, known as the 30 x 30 goal, provides that it is a state goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030,

#### **AB 2285 (RENDON D) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION: 30x30 GOAL: URBAN NATURE-BASED INVESTMENTS: PARITY.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would encourage the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature, when distributing resources for conservation and restoration goals during future budgetary deliberations, to ensure parity in allocations toward urban nature-based investments. The bill would require state funding agencies, including certain state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board, when programming and awarding funds to revise, modify, or amend guidelines to meet the 30x30 goal, to allow for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

#### **AB 2320 (IRWIN D) WILDLIFE CONNECTIVITY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION ACT OF 2024: WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to report to the Legislature annually on progress toward achieving California's 30 x 30 goals. This bill, the Wildlife Connectivity and Climate Adaptation

Act of 2024, would require the report to identify key wildlife corridors, connections between large blocks of natural areas and habitats, progress on protecting additional acres of wildlife corridors, and goals for wildlife corridor protection in the next 5 years.

**SB 1332 (ALLEN D) THE CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP FUND.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to accept donations and contributions from public and private entities that are for the specific purposes of supporting the maintenance and stewardship of lands owned and managed by the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Department of Parks and Recreation, or any state conservancy. The bill would require these funds to be deposited into the Conservation Stewardship Fund, which this bill would establish. The bill would continuously appropriate the money in the fund to the agency for the purposes described above. The bill would require the secretary to establish a governing body, consisting of specified members, including the Director of Parks and Recreation, to oversee the administration of the fund and fund distribution.

**SB 1402 (MIN D) 30x30 GOAL: STATE AGENCIES: ADOPTION, REVISION, OR ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Current law requires the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to prepare and submit, by March 31, 2024, and annually thereafter, a report to the Legislature on progress toward achieving California's 30 x 30 goals. This bill would require all state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions, and conservancies to consider California's 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, and regulations.

**AQUACULTURE**

**AB 3162 (BENNETT D) OCTOPUS: AQUACULTURE: SALE: PROHIBITION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would prohibit a person from engaging in an aquaculture activity that involves the propagation, cultivation, maintenance, or harvest of any species of octopus for human consumption. The bill would prohibit a business owner or

operator from selling octopus that is the result of an aquaculture activity that involves the propagation, cultivation, maintenance, or harvest of any species of octopus. The bill would define “aquaculture activity” as including the use of land-based recirculating aquaculture systems.

## **BLUE CARBON**

### **[AB 1992](#) ([BOERNER D](#)) **COASTAL RESOURCES: COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMITS: BLUE CARBON DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.****

**Status:** Assembly Natural Resources Committee

**Summary:** This bill would enable the California Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects to assess their carbon sequestration potential to help inform the state’s natural and working lands and climate resilience strategies. The bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to require an applicant with a project that impacts coastal wetland, subtidal, intertidal, or marine habitats or ecosystems to build or contribute to a blue carbon demonstration project.

## **BONDS**

### **[AB 1567](#) ([GARCIA D](#)) **SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, DROUGHT PREPARATION, FLOOD PROTECTION, EXTREME HEAT MITIGATION, CLEAN ENERGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOND ACT OF 2024.****

**Status:** 6/14/2023-Referred to Coms. on N.R. & W. and GOV. & F.

**Summary:** This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize a nearly \$16 billion dollar bond to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs.

### **[SB 638](#) ([EGGMAN D](#)) **CLIMATE RESILIENCY AND FLOOD PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2024.****

**Status:** Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

**Summary:** This bill would enact the Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize a \$6 billion dollar bond for flood protection and climate resiliency projects.

**[SB 867](#) ([ALLEN D](#)) **DROUGHT, FLOOD, AND WATER RESILIENCE, WILDFIRE AND FOREST RESILIENCE, COASTAL RESILIENCE, EXTREME HEAT MITIGATION, BIODIVERSITY AND NATURE-BASED CLIMATE SOLUTIONS, CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE, PARK CREATION AND OUTDOOR ACCESS, AND CLEAN ENERGY BOND ACT OF 2024.****

**Status:** Assembly Natural Resources and Water Committee

**Summary:** This bill would enact the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize a \$15,5 billion bond to finance projects for drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate smart agriculture, park creation and outdoor access, and clean energy programs.

## **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

**[AB 2560](#) ([ALVAREZ D](#)) **DENSITY BONUS LAW: CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT OF 1976.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** The California Coastal Act Density Bonus Law requires that any density bonus, concessions, incentives, waivers or reductions of development standards, and parking ratios to which an applicant is entitled under the Density Bonus Law be permitted in a manner consistent with the Coastal Act. This bill would provide that any density bonus, concessions, incentives, waivers or reductions of development standards, and parking ratios to which an applicant is entitled under the Density Bonus Law be permitted regardless of the Coastal Act.

**[AB 3192](#) ([MURATSUCHI D](#)) **MAJOR COASTAL RESORTS: COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMITS: AUDITS: WASTE.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would establish the Major Coastal Resorts Environmental Accountability Act and would define "major coastal resort" for these purposes. The

bill would require the California Coastal Commission, with the assistance of a consultant, to every 2 years audit a major coastal resort's compliance with specified provisions, including the coastal development permit. The bill would require the major coastal resort to compensate the consultant for the cost of the audit. The bill would require the California Coastal Commission to document the audit's investigation and findings in a public report. The bill would prohibit a major coastal resort from discriminating against or retaliating against any employee or applicant for employment for, among other things, participating in the audit, investigation, or the report.

## **EQUITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

### **SB 1050 (BRADFORD D) CALIFORNIA AMERICAN FREEDMEN AFFAIRS AGENCY: RACIALLY MOTIVATED EMINENT DOMAIN.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, which would be established within the California American Freedmen Affairs Agency as provided by SB 490 of the 2023–24 Regular Session, to create and update a database of people who have had property taken from them by the state without just compensation because of racially motivated eminent domain. The bill would define racially motivated eminent domain to mean when the state acquires private property for public use and does not distribute just compensation because of racist or discriminatory motives. The bill would authorize the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to distribute just compensation to a person in that database for the present-day fair market value of the property that was taken if the Chief Financial Officer determines that issuing just compensation would redress past acts of racial discrimination, prevent future acts of racial discrimination, and benefit the whole of the community and its general welfare.

## **GENERAL**

### **AB 2916 (FRIEDMAN D) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: FLOATING DEVICES: EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would prohibit a buoy, dock, pier, or other floating device that is comprised of expanded polystyrene from being installed, placed into, or used in

state waters, except when encased in another material that prevents the release of the expanded polystyrene into state waters or the environment. The bill would require a buoy, dock, pier, or other floating device that is installed, placed into, or used in state waters before January 2026, and that is repaired or maintained after that date, to comply with this requirement.

**[AB 3238](#) ([GARCIA D](#)) ***ELECTRICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: ENDANGERED SPECIES: NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANS.*****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would, for an electrical infrastructure project, require the Director of Fish and Wildlife to authorize the incidental take of a species under the terms and condition provided under federal law if the public utility undertaking the project has obtained an incidental take statement or incidental take permit under federal law.

**GRANTED LANDS**

**[AB 2393](#) ([DIXON R](#)) ***TIDELANDS AND SUBMERGED LANDS: COUNTY OF ORANGE AND NEWPORT BAY: FRANCHISES OR LEASES.*****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Current law grants Orange County all the right, title, and interest of the State of California in and to certain tide and submerged lands in Newport Bay, in trust, for certain purposes and subject to the Commission's oversight. Current law prohibits the county from granting franchises or leases for those tide and submerged lands for periods that exceed 50 years. This bill would extend to 66 years the maximum period for which the county may grant franchises or leases for the use of tide and submerged lands for trust purposes.

**[AB 2783](#) ([ALVAREZ D](#)) ***SAN DIEGO UNIFIED PORT DISTRICT.*****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** The bill would require the Port of San Diego to appoint an ethics board to provide independent ethics advice to the Port board. The bill would require the board to submit ethics complaints to the board of ethics, would prohibit a commissioner from lobbying, contracting with, or being employed by the board or the district for 2 years after serving as a commissioner, and limit commissioner terms.

The bill would require the board to fund infrastructure and capital projects that address maritime impacts by the port in cities with maritime terminals and dedicate a percent of the port's revenue to these and other projects. The bill would make the Commission the final arbiter of any disputes about project eligibility or approval.

**[SB 951](#) ([WIENER D](#)) **CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT OF 1976: COASTAL ZONE: CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would remove certain parts of San Francisco from the Coastal Zone and, among other things, establish rezoning standards for local coastal program updates for jurisdictions located within the coastal zone.

**INVASIVE SPECIES**

**[AB 2509](#) ([KALRA D](#)) **INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: INVASIVE SPECIES: DEFINITIONS.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would define integrated pest management for purposes of the Food and Agricultural Code to mean, among other things, a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks.

**[AB 2827](#) ([REYES D](#)) **INVASIVE SPECIES: PREVENTION.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would find and declare that it is a state goal to prevent the introduction, and suppress the spread, of invasive species within its borders. The bill would require state agencies to develop and implement strategies to detect, control, monitor, and eradicate invasive species to protect the state's agriculture, environment, and natural resources. The bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with relevant state agencies, to allocate funds, if available, to implement and enforce these provisions.

## OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY

### **AB 80 (ADDIS D) COASTAL RESOURCES: OCEAN RESEARCH: WEST COAST OFFSHORE WIND SCIENCE ENTITY.**

**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**Summary:** This bill, which the Commission has a support position on, would require the Ocean Protection Council to oversee the establishment of a nonprofit West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity for the purpose of directing comprehensive baseline and ongoing monitoring of California's ocean ecosystem as well as targeted research, and ensure that the research is available and used to inform state and federal decisions. The bill would require the entity to perform specified functions, including reviewing and incorporating existing research, monitoring, data standardization methods, and data portals.

### **AB 2204 (BENNETT D) COASTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY ASSISTANCE ACT.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law authorizes the California Natural Resources Agency Secretary, after consulting with the California Coastal Commission and the State Lands Commission, to award grants to coastal communities and cities to plan, implement, monitor, and enforce offshore energy development consistent with the requirements of the state's coastal management program. This bill would make non-substantive changes to that provision.

### **AB 2208 (ZBUR D) OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY PROJECTS: BOND ACT.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to submit to the voters a \$1 billion dollar bond for seaport infrastructure improvements to facilitate offshore wind energy projects off the California coast.

### **AB 2212 (LOWENTHAL D) ENERGY: OFFSHORE WIND GENERATION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would address the findings and recommendations from the AB 525 strategic plan for offshore wind energy development.

**AB 2235 (LOWENTHAL D) PUBLIC CONTRACTS: LOCAL AGENCIES: WIND INFRASTRUCTURE.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the City of Long Beach to procure contracts relating to the terminal development project at the Port of Long Beach, known as Pier Wind, and to use any alternative project delivery method, including progressive design-build, for purposes of any contract related to the project. The bill would require the city to prepare and issue solicitation documents to procure and award any contract.

**AB 2537 (ADDIS D) ENERGY: OFFSHORE WIND GENERATION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to adopt policies to ensure equity and justice in California's offshore wind energy development.

**SB 1085 (NGUYEN R) OFFSHORE ENERGY PRODUCTION: WILDLIFE IMPACTS: REPORT.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature by January 2029, regarding the environmental impact on marine mammals and wildlife from offshore energy production off the California coast.

## **OIL AND GAS**

**AB 1866 (HART D) OIL AND GAS: IDLE WELLS.**

**Status:** Assembly Natural Resources Committee

**Summary:** This bill would eliminate the schedule of fees for idle wells and would instead require an idle well operator to file a plan with the supervisor to provide for the management and elimination of all idle wells. The bill would require the plan to require the operator to consider specified factors when prioritizing idle wells for testing or plugging and abandonment. The bill would also require operators to restore the surface of the wellpad to as near a natural state as practicable if there are no remaining unplugged wells on the wellpad, or to a condition suitable for alternative use. The bill would make an operator who fails to comply with the plan

subject to an additional civil penalty equivalent to the average cost to plug a well, multiplied by the number of wells that the operator failed to plug.

**AB 3019 (BAINS D) IDLE WELLS: HAZARDOUS AND IDLE-DESERTED WELL ABATEMENT**

**FUND: LEGACY OIL AND GAS WELLS: SKILLED AND TRAINED WORKFORCE.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require CalGEM to make at least 25 percent of the funds in the Hazardous and Idle-Deserted Well Abatement Fund available to a county in which there are at least 100 legacy oil and gas wells and that attests to CalGEM that it can plug and abandon those wells more quickly than CalGEM can.

**AB 3155 (FRIEDMAN D) OIL AND GAS WELLS: HEALTH PROTECTION ZONES: CIVIL LIABILITY.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law prohibits CalGEM from approving any notice of intention to drill within a health protection zone, except for approvals of notices of intention necessary for specified purposes. Existing law defines a health protection zone as the area within 3,200 feet of a sensitive receptor, which includes a residence, education resource, health care facility, or live-in housing, among other places. This bill would make an operator or owner of an oil or gas production facility or well with a wellhead presumptively, jointly and severally liable for a respiratory ailment in a senior or child, a preterm birth or high-risk pregnancy, and a person's cancer diagnosis if specified requirements are met, including the senior, child, pregnant person, or person diagnosed with cancer domiciled more than 24 cumulative months in a health protection zone and was diagnosed after January 1, 2025. The bill would authorize certain affirmative defenses to be available to the operator or owner of an oil or gas production facility or well with a wellhead.

**SB 556 (GONZALEZ D) OIL AND GAS WELLS: HEALTH PROTECTION ZONES: CIVIL LIABILITY.**

**Status:** 2/1/2024-Returned to Secretary of Senate pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

**Summary:** This bill would, make an operator or owner of an oil or gas production facility or well with a wellhead presumptively, jointly and severally liable for a respiratory ailment in a senior or child, a preterm birth or high-risk pregnancy suffered by a pregnant person, and a person's cancer diagnosis if specified requirements are met, including the senior, child, pregnant person, or person diagnosed with cancer domiciled more than 24 cumulative months in a health protection zone, as defined, and was diagnosed after January 1, 2024. The bill

would authorize certain affirmative defenses to be available to the operator or owner of an oil or gas production facility or well with a wellhead.

**SB 559 (MIN D) OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING: LEASES.**

**Status:** Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee

**Summary:** This bill would require the Commission to terminate the state's remaining offshore oil and gas leases by December 2026 and provide fair compensation, if warranted, to the lessees.

**SB 1433 (LIMÓN D) OIL AND GAS: DESERTED WELLS AND PRODUCTION FACILITIES: COST OF PLUGGING AND ABANDONING.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the state's oil and gas supervisor to look seriatim to previous operators until an operator is found with the financial resources to cover the remaining portion of the cost to plug and abandon a well or decommission deserted production facilities that the supervisor was unable to recover from later operators.

**SJR 12 (MIN D) OIL AND GAS LEASES: BANKRUPTCY.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This resolution would urge the President of the United States and the United States Congress to modify bankruptcy rules to provide, in the event of liquidation and termination of oil and gas leases under the United States Bankruptcy Code, that priority is given to plug and abandonment and restoration obligations, to protect the environment, over all secured creditor claims. [Item 88](#) on this meeting agenda recommends that the Commission adopt a support position on this resolution.

## **PLASTIC POLLUTION**

**AB 2236 (BAUER-KAHAN D) SOLID WASTE: REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS: STANDARDS: PLASTIC FILM PROHIBITION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would revise the single-use carryout bag exception to include a bag used solely to contain or wrap specified uncooked foods and other specified

items to avoid contamination, prevent damage from moisture, or for sanitary, public health, or environmental protection purposes. The bill would revise the definition of recycled paper bag to require it be made from 100 percent postconsumer recycled materials, without exception.

**SB 1053 (BLAKESPEAR D) *SOLID WASTE: REUSABLE GROCERY BAGS: STANDARDS: PLASTIC FILM PROHIBITION.***

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would revise the single-use carryout bag exception to include a bag used solely to contain or wrap specified uncooked foods and other specified items to avoid contamination, prevent damage from moisture, or for sanitary, public health, or environmental protection purposes. The bill would revise the definition of recycled paper bag to require it be made from 100 percent postconsumer recycled materials, without exception.

**SB 1231 (ALLEN D) *PLASTIC POLLUTION PREVENTION AND PACKAGING PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ACT: ENVIRONMENTAL ADVERTISING.***

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** The Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act covers certain single-use packaging and plastic single-use food service ware. The Act requires producers of those covered materials to reduce and recycle the covered plastic material and to ensure that covered materials that are offered for sale, distributed, or imported in or into the state on or after January 1, 2032, are recyclable or compostable. The act authorizes the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to identify materials that are trending toward meeting specified requirements and criteria to be considered recyclable and requires those material types and forms to be considered and labeled as recyclable if the material types and forms meet certain requirements. This bill would instead authorize a producer or group of producers of products using covered materials to petition the department to identify material types and forms that meet those specified requirements and criteria to be considered as recyclable in the state.

**PUBLIC LANDS**

**AB 2196 (CONNOLLY D) *BEAVER RESTORATION.***

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to consult with beaver restoration program partners to develop a beaver restoration program. The bill would require the Department to expand the program by January 2026 to include developing a licensing scheme that includes the issuance and administration of permits for the capture, handling, transport, and release of beavers on public and private lands.

**[AB 2197](#) ([ADDIS D](#)) **PERSONAL INCOME TAXES: PROTECT OUR COAST AND OCEANS VOLUNTARY TAX CONTRIBUTION FUND.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would extend California's beach and coastal access voluntary tax contribution fund until January 2032.

**[AB 2298](#) ([HART D](#)) **COASTAL RESOURCES: VOLUNTARY VESSEL SPEED REDUCTION AND SUSTAINABLE SHIPPING PROGRAM.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would require the Ocean Protection Council to implement a 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.

**[SB 583](#) ([PADILLA D](#)) **SALTON SEA CONSERVANCY.****

**Status:** Senate Inactive File

**Summary:** Would establish the Salton Sea Conservancy within the Natural Resources Agency to oversee the operation, maintenance, and management of projects to fulfill certain obligations and to acquire, hold, and manage land or property rights within the Salton Sea after restoration projects are built. The bill would require the conservancy to be governed by a board of directors composed of designated membership. The bill would set forth the powers, duties, and limitations of the board of directors and the conservancy and would create the Salton Sea Conservancy Fund.

**[SB 782](#) ([LIMÓN D](#)) **GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS: REPORT.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Would require the Governor's office to maintain on its website a list of every state board and commission that includes, for each state board or commission, the membership list, stated purpose, duties, meeting frequency, website, and vacancies in the membership. The bill would require the Governor's office to create and publish a report containing aggregate demographic information of appointments made by the office during the past year.

**SB 1226 (CORTESE D) HUNTING: NAVIGABLE WATERS.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law makes it unlawful to enter land to discharge a firearm or take or destroy any mammal or bird on that land without permission from the land owner if either of the following applies: (1) the land belongs to, or is occupied by, another person and is either under cultivation or enclosed by a fence, or (2) there are signs forbidding trespass or hunting or displayed at certain intervals along exterior boundaries and at all roads and trails entering those lands, including land temporarily inundated by water flowing outside the established banks of a waterway. This bill would restrict the application of the provisions regarding land temporarily inundated by water flowing outside the established banks of a waterway to non-navigable waters. The bill would also state that these provisions do not restrict the public's right to use navigable waters for hunting, fishing, or other public purposes under the California Constitution.

**SALTON SEA**

**AB 1569 (GARCIA D) SALTON SEA GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE AREA: LITHIUM VALLEY OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT.**

**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

**Summary:** This bill would establish the Lithium Valley Office of Development in the Energy Commission. The bill would require the office to coordinate activities related to funding, economic development, construction, manufacturing, technical development, and reclamation of lithium located in the Salton Sea geothermal resource area.

**SB 974 (GROVE R) LITHIUM EXTRACTION TAX: FUND DISTRIBUTION.**

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law imposes a lithium extraction excise tax. This bill would, instead of depositing 20 percent of the revenue in the Lithium Extraction Excise Tax Fund into the Salton Sea Lithium Fund, deposit 20 percent of the revenues collected in Imperial County into the Salton Sea Lithium Fund. This bill would also distribute 20 percent of the revenue collected in Kern County to communities in Kern County that are most impacted by lithium extraction.

**[AB 2610](#) ([GARCIA D](#)) **PROTECTED SPECIES: AUTHORIZED TAKE: SALTON SEA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM: SYSTEM CONSERVATION IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would authorize the Department of Fish and Wildlife to authorize the take of species resulting from impacts attributable to the implementation of the Salton Sea Management Program or implementation of any System Conservation Implementation Agreement between the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the Imperial Irrigation District to implement the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program.

**[AB 2757](#) ([GARCIA D](#)) **SOUTHEAST CALIFORNIA ECONOMIC REGION.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Existing law requires the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the Office of Planning and Research, and GO-biz to administer an inter-agency leadership team focused on economic resiliency in communities. This bill would designate a Southeast California Economic Region to better align state and federal programs, services, and funding within communities most impacted by the extraction and processing of lithium and other minerals from the Salton Sea and clean energy development in the surrounding areas. The bill would require the Inter-Agency Leadership Team to prepare a list of state programs that use the Southeast California Economic Region designation for planning and funding purposes. The bill would authorize the Southeast California Economic Region to facilitate regional collaboration to develop a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development.

## **TIJUANA RIVER**

**[AJR 12](#) ([ALVAREZ D](#)) **TIJUANA RIVER: CROSS-BORDER POLLUTION.****

**Status:** Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee

**Summary:** This resolution would urge Congress to support President Biden's \$310 million supplemental funding request for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission owing to the ongoing impacts to public health, the environment, and the local economy caused by cross-border pollution in the Tijuana River Valley and would urge President Biden to declare a national emergency.

**[SB 1342](#) ([ATKINS D](#)) **CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT: INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** Current law authorizes the Governor to certify projects meeting certain requirements as infrastructure projects and provides those certified projects with CEQA streamlining benefits, This bill would include the San Vicente Energy Storage Facility project proposed by the San Diego County Water Authority and a project for the repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of the South Bay Sewage Treatment Plant in the County of San Diego, operated by the International Boundary and Water Commission, as infrastructure projects, providing CEQA streamlining benefits to those two projects.

**WETLANDS**

**[AB 2875](#) ([FRIEDMAN D](#)) **WETLANDS: STATE POLICY.****

**Status:** Awaiting referral

**Summary:** This bill would declare that it is state policy to ensure no net loss and long-term gain in the quantity, quality, and permanence of wetlands acreage and values in California.