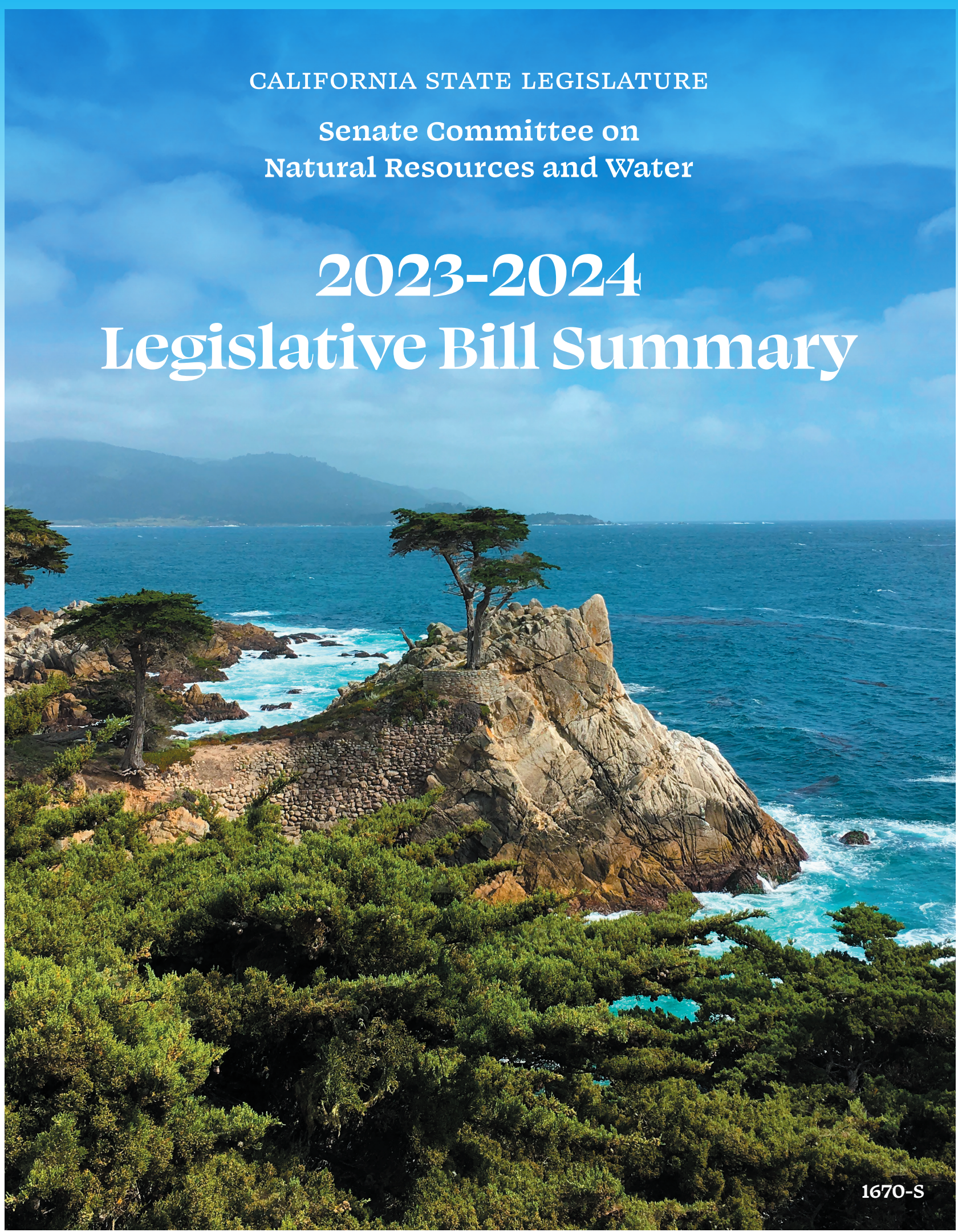


CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Committee on
Natural Resources and Water

2023-2024 Legislative Bill Summary



Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

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2023 - 2024 Legislative Bill Summary

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Index for Acronyms

CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CalGEM	Geologic Energy Management Division, California Department of Conservation
CalOES	The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
CEC	California Energy Commission*
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Coastal Commission	California Coastal Commission
CNRA	California Natural Resources Agency
CVFPB	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
DGS	California Department of General Services
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DPR	California Department of Pesticide Regulation
DSC	Delta Stewardship Council
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FGC	California Fish and Game Commission

OPC	Ocean Protection Council
OPR	The Governor's Office of Planning and Research**
SCC	State Coastal Conservancy
SGC	Strategic Growth Council
SLC	State Lands Commission
State Parks	California Department of Parks and Recreation
State Water Board	State Water Resources Control Board

*Formally the Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

**Now the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

Note on bill summaries and subjects

The summary description reflects the content of the bill as it was heard before this Committee or the final version of the bill. The subject lines for each bill are essentially as exported by the Committee Services program.

Biodiversity fish and wildlife

SB-256 (Dodd) - Parklands: City of Davis.

This bill authorizes the City of Davis to convey a conservation easement, lease, or license for a habitat conservation project, the geologic storage of carbon dioxide, and specified agricultural activities on parcels acquired by the City with funding from Proposition 70, as specified. The bill requires the City, in conveying the easement, lease, or license, to maintain the scenic, recreational, and wildlife values of the property.

Status: Chapter 305, Statutes of 2023

SB-286 (McGuire) - Offshore wind energy projects.

This bill establishes the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group to address offshore wind energy project impacts to certain fisheries and related interests, including the development of a statewide strategy to minimize impacts to ocean fisheries and providing for reasonable compensation to those affected, and requires the Coastal Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for new development associated with offshore wind energy projects and related transmission facilities, among other things.

Status: Chapter 386, Statutes of 2023

SB-337 (Min) - Environmental protection: biodiversity and conservation report.

This bill establishes a state goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030, which codifies this goal from Executive Order No. N-82-20.

Status: Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023

SB-371 (Ochoa Bogh) - Undomesticated burros.

This bill authorizes certain qualified nonprofit organizations to provide care to undomesticated burros, as provided, among other things.

Status: Chapter 149, Statutes of 2023

SB-500 (McGuire) - Fish and wildlife.

This bill enacts or amends multiple provisions of law relating to commercial fishing, including, among others, increasing the base fee for a sea urchin diving permit to raise

revenue for the California Sea Urchin Commission, requiring CDFW to adopt regulations regarding the marking and color coding of lines used in certain state fisheries, and extending the sunset on the risk assessment and mitigation program to limit marine life entanglement from the Dungeness crab fishery, among other fishery-related items.

Status: Chapter 876, Statutes of 2023

SB-579 (Umberg) - Fish: Annual Provisional Stocking Document.

This bill requires CDFW to make an updated “Annual Provisional Stocking Document” available on its website before January 1 of each year. This bill also requires the stocking document to include a specified disclaimer stating the fish plants are not completely certain to occur as planned, CDFW may not be able to adhere to the provisional stocking dates and places due to various unforeseen conditions, and the “Fish Planting Schedule” available on CDFW’s website provides more up-to-date and accurate information.

Status: Chapter 181, Statutes of 2023

SB-583 (Padilla) - Salton Sea Conservancy.

This bill creates the Salton Sea Conservancy, contingent upon passage of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.

Status: Chapter 771, Statutes of 2024

Governor's Message:

Governor's message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 583, which creates the Salton Sea Conservancy within the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to operate, maintain, and manage projects that are planned or built under the authority of the Salton Sea Management Program.

The Salton Sea Management Program is committed to building 30,000 acres of habitat and dust suppression projects around the Salton Sea to improve air quality and provide critical environmental habitat for birds along the Pacific Flyway. As the first projects are near completion, the state will need to transition to the operation and maintenance of completed projects. This bill will centralize the operation and maintenance of these

projects in a new, mission-focused conservancy, led by the state, with extensive local community involvement and partnership. Importantly, enactment of this bill is contingent upon passage by the voters of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, placed on the November 2024 ballot.

I support this approach, which balances the creation of a new, mission-focused conservancy with viable and stable funding sources. In signing this bill, I expect that this conservancy will remain focused on fulfilling its primary objective - operation, maintenance, and management of Salton Sea restoration projects - without placing undue pressure on the state's General Fund.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-649 (Hurtado) - California Endangered Species Act: incidental take permits.

This bill would have required CDFW to make the determination to issue an incidental take permit for an endangered or threatened species for a project based on a real-time monitoring system, rather than a calendar-based schedule, and to additionally consider the proximity of the endangered or threatened species relative to the operation of a facility subject to certain permit conditions and the known location of the population of the endangered or threatened species relative to the facility subject to the permit, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

SB-772 (Dahle) - Junior hunting licenses: age of eligibility.

This bill would have raised the eligible age to purchase annual junior hunting licenses by two years to those less than 18 years of age, required CDFW to report the bill's impact on participation in hunting, and made additional conforming changes, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1009 (Dahle) - Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery: lease.

This bill authorizes the Director of DGS, with the consent of CDFW, to lease to the Mt. Shasta Museum Association, at no cost, and subject to any other terms and conditions that DGS deems appropriate, a portion of the Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery in the County of Siskiyou, as specified.

Status: Chapter 127, Statutes of 2024

SB-1085 (Nguyen) - Offshore energy production: wildlife impacts: report.

This bill would have required CDFW to prepare a report on the environmental impact on marine mammals and wildlife from offshore energy production in state and federal waters off the California coast.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

SB-1163 (Dahle) - Wildlife-vehicle collisions: wildlife salvage permits.

This bill would have made various changes to the existing authorization for CDFW and FGC to implement wildlife-vehicle collision data collection and wildlife salvage pilot programs, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1226 (Cortese) - Hunting: navigable waters.

This bill modifies a section of the Fish and Game Code that prohibits the use of certain temporarily inundated lands for hunting without permission to clarify that this applies to non-navigable waters only, and authorizes the use of navigable waters for hunting, fishing, or other public purpose, as provided.

Status: Chapter 186, Statutes of 2024

SB-1402 (Min) - 30x30 goal: state agencies: adoption, revision, or establishment of plans, policies, and regulations.

This bill would have required all state agencies, boards, offices, commissions, and conservancies to consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, or regulations that directly affect the use of coastal waters or land, management of natural resources, or biodiversity conservation.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1520 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - Public resources.

This bill updates the common name of *Ptychocheilus lucius*, a fully protected fish, from Colorado squawfish to Colorado pikeminnow and repeals SB 50 (Allen, Chapter 535, Statutes of 2017).

Status: Chapter 139, Statutes of 2024

AB-80 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean research: West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity.

This bill would have established the West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity to assess the environmental impacts of offshore wind energy development, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-305 (Villapudua) - California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have placed a \$4.5 billion flood protection and dam safety improvement bond before the voters on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot, including \$1 billion to DWR for multibenefit flood protection projects, \$1 billion to DWR for projects to reduce urban flood risk, \$1 billion to DWR for improvement of dam safety, \$1 billion to DWR for flood management projects in the Central Valley, and \$500 million to DWR for levee rehabilitation projects, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-606 (Mathis) - California Endangered Species Act: accidental take: farms or ranches.

This bill extends the existing sunset to authorize accidental take at a ranch or farm of species protected pursuant to the California Endangered Species Act until January 1, 2029, as provided.

Status: Chapter 447, Statutes of 2023

AB-655 (Petrie-Norris) - Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: Caulerpa.

This bill expands the prohibition from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration from specific species of *Caulerpa*, a genus of salt water algae, to all *Caulerpa* species due to their invasive potential.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2023

AB-720 (Addis) - California Rangeland, Grazing Land, and Grassland Protection Program: grants for local programs.

This bill would have expanded the California Rangeland, Grazing Land, and Grassland Protection Program to include grants to enhance or restore California's private rangelands.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-809 (Bennett) - Salmonid populations: California Monitoring Program Fund.

This bill requires CDFW to establish the California Monitoring Program to collect comprehensive data on anadromous salmonid populations to inform salmon and steelhead recovery, conservation and management activities, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 455, Statutes of 2023

AB-859 (Gallagher) - Hunting: navigable waters.

This bill would have required that hunter trespass on private property is limited to lands and lands temporarily inundated by non-navigable waters and that the right of the public to use navigable waters for hunting, fishing, or other public purpose is protected, consistent with the California Constitution.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 859 without my signature.

This bill would modify existing law that prohibits the use of temporarily inundated lands for hunting without written permission to instead authorize the use of temporarily inundated navigable waters for hunting.

I support the intent of this bill to clarify the public's right to navigate temporarily inundated waterways for fishing, hunting, or other enjoyment, as guaranteed by the California Constitution. However, this bill contains overly broad language that could extend access rights beyond the public trust doctrine, thus impacting private property owners' rights. The bill also creates inconsistency with the definition of navigable waters in the Harbors and Navigation Code, which is likely to result in confusion in communities across California. I encourage the Legislature to refine these revisions in subsequent legislation.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-953 (Connolly) - Coastal resources: voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program.

This bill would have required the OPC to implement a statewide voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction and sustainable shipping program, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1008 (Bauer-Kahan) - California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018: personal information.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have established the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act which, among other provisions, would have prohibited any person or public agency from importing into the state, exporting out of the state, or taking, possessing, purchasing, or selling within the state, a western Joshua tree of any part or product of the tree, except as provided pursuant to existing law or by paying a specified fee. This bill would also have authorized CDFW to authorize, by permit, the taking of a western Joshua tree if specified conditions are met, including, but not limited to, that the permittee mitigates all impacts to, and taking of, the western Joshua tree, and provides for certain fees to be remitted to CDFW in lieu of mitigation, as provided.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to privacy and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. Chapter 802, Statutes of 2024

AB-1322 (Friedman) - Pesticides: second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide: diphacinone.

This bill bans the use of diphacinone in wildlife habitat areas, as defined, and prohibits the use of diphacinone in the state until DPR has completed a reevaluation and developed and adopted further restrictions with the CDFW, as specified. This bill makes changes to existing restrictions on the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides.

Status: Chapter 836, Statutes of 2023

AB-1407 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean recovery and restoration: large-scale restoration.

This bill requires the OPC to establish a Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework that has a goal of large-scale restoration of kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds by 2050, as provided.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1581 (Kalra) - The Restoration Management Permit Act.

This bill establishes the Restoration Management Permit Act through January 1, 2035, and incorporates federal conservation benefit agreements into the California State Safe Harbor Agreement Program Act.

Status: Chapter 681, Statutes of 2024

AB-1611 (Lowenthal) - Fish and Game Code: violations.

This bill makes violations of certain sections of the Fish and Game Code and related regulations mostly applicable to commercial fishing punishable as either an infraction or misdemeanor, as provided.

Status: Chapter 129, Statutes of 2023

AB-1760 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Fish and Game Code.

This bill makes numerous technical and non-substantive changes to the Fish and Game Code to improve organization and clarity, remove obsolete or redundant material, and

other technical clarifications and corrections, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 132, Statutes of 2023

AB-1828 (Waldron) - Personal income taxes: voluntary contributions: Endangered and Rare Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Species Conservation and Enhancement Account: Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund: covered grants.

This bill extends the sunset date for the Rare and Endangered Species Preservation Voluntary Tax Contribution Program to January 1, 2032, extends the sunset date for the Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund to January 1, 2031, and makes various changes to the administration of the California Wildlife Rehabilitation Fund.

Status: Chapter 360, Statutes of 2024

AB-1889 (Friedman) - Conservation element: wildlife and habitat connectivity.

This bill requires the conservation element of a local general plan to consider the impact of development on the movement of wildlife and habitat connectivity. This bill also requires a city or county, upon the next revision of one or more general plan elements on or after January 1, 2028, to update the conservation element to, among other things, identify and analyze wildlife passage features to ensure that planned development does not undermine the effectiveness of those features.

Status: Chapter 686, Statutes of 2024

AB-2060 (Soria) - Lake and streambed alteration agreements: exemptions.

This bill would have exempted a temporary urgency permit (a temporary water right permit) to divert water for underground storage from Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement requirements if the water diversion commenced before January 1, 2029 and the diversion met certain criteria, as provided.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-2196 (Connolly) - Beaver restoration.

This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature, codifies a program in CDFW to promote beaver restoration.

Status: Chapter 705, Statutes of 2024

AB-2285 (Rendon) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have directed the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature to aspire to recognize the coequal goals of the state's 30x30 goal and Outdoors for All initiative when distributing resources, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. Further, the bill would have required state funding agencies to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program's authorizing statutes, and the state's goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2298 (Hart) - Coastal resources: Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program.

This bill would have codified and provided for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2320 (Irwin) - Wildlife Connectivity and Climate Adaptation Act of 2024: wildlife corridors.

This bill, the Wildlife Connectivity and Climate Adaptation Act of 2024, would have incorporated the identification of and progress in implementing wildlife corridors into the state's 30x30 goal, among other related provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2330 (Holden) - Endangered species: incidental take: wildfire preparedness activities.

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species, if any, needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2330 without my signature.

The bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop and implement a program to assist local governments with the taking of threatened or engaged species as part of their wildfire preparedness planning efforts.

While I support efforts to increase the pace and scale of wildfire preparedness, this bill creates significant, ongoing costs that should be considered in the annual budget process. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2443 (Juan Carrillo) - Transactions and use taxes: Cities of Lancaster, Palmdale, and Victorville.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have modified the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act and additionally authorized CDFW to enter into an agreement with any county or city to delegate to the county or city the ability to authorize the taking of a western Joshua tree associated with developing commercial and industrial projects, as provided. This bill would have, relative to other project types subject to delegated local mitigation authority, limited the bases for commercial or industrial projects to pay

specified fees in lieu of satisfying the mitigation obligation, as provided.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to taxation and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. Chapter 961, Statutes of 2024

AB-2509 (Kalra) - Integrated pest management: invasive species: definitions.

This bill requires the Invasive Species Council of California to prioritize specified activities, including integrated pest management for controlling invasive species already established in the state, in all of its activities. The bill defines “integrated pest management” and “invasive species” for those purposes.

Status: Chapter 720, Statutes of 2024

AB-2610 (Garcia) - Protected species: authorized take: System Conservation Implementation Agreement.

This bill would have added the implementation of any System Conservation Implementation Agreement between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Imperial Irrigation District to implement the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program for the years 2024 – 2026, inclusive, to the existing authorization to take fully protected species under the Quantification Settlement Agreement, as provided, among other things.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-3162 (Bennett) - Octopus: aquaculture: sale: prohibition.

This bill makes it unlawful to engage in the aquaculture of octopus, and to sell, possess, or transport octopus resulting from or produced by aquaculture, as provided.

Status: Chapter 758, Statutes of 2024

AB-3220 (Papan) - Marine resources: Department of Fish and Wildlife: authority: mariculture.

This bill would have required CDFW to consider and, if appropriate, investigate whether and how to seek state certification authority for certain federal permits required for mariculture in state waters, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

ACR-210 (Bennett) - Conservation: Marine Protected Areas.

This resolution calls upon specified state agencies to prioritize, as supported by science, public process, and the adaptive management process, the expansion of California's Marine Protected Area Network following its first Decadal Management Review to achieve the state's 30x30 marine conservation goals.

Status: Resolution Chapter 210, Statutes of 2024

Climate adaptation and resilience

SB-39 (Laird) - Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Sierra Nevada Region: subregions: climate resilience and equity.

This bill expands the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's purposes to include supporting efforts that advance climate resilience and equity, and renames and revises the Conservancy's six subregions to include four counties per subregion, as specified.

Status: Chapter 70, Statutes of 2023

SB-272 (Laird) - Sea level rise: planning and adaptation.

This bill requires a local government in the coastal zone or within the San Francisco Bay to develop a sea level rise plan as part of either a local coastal program or a shoreline resiliency plan that includes certain information, including sea level rise adaptation strategies and recommended projects, requires local governments to comply by January 1, 2034, as specified, and prioritizes funding for implementation of sea level rise adaptation strategies in approved plans, among other things.

Status: Chapter 384, Statutes of 2023

SB-273 (Wiener) - Tidelands and submerged lands: City and County of San Francisco: Piers 30-32: mixed-use development.

This bill revises the terms of previous legislative grants related to the development of Pier 30-32 to reflect the most recent public/private development proposal, and authorizes the SLC to approve a mixed-use development that includes general office use if certain conditions are met, among other things, as provided.

Status: Chapter 385, Statutes of 2023

SB-286 (McGuire) - Offshore wind energy projects.

This bill establishes the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group to address offshore wind energy project impacts to certain fisheries and related interests, including the development of a statewide strategy to minimize impacts to ocean fisheries and providing for reasonable compensation to those affected, and requires the Coastal Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for new development associated with offshore wind energy projects and related transmission facilities, among other things.

Status: Chapter 386, Statutes of 2023

SB-306 (Caballero) - Climate change: Equitable Building Decarbonization Program: Extreme Heat Action Plan.

This bill requires CNRA to update the state's Extreme Heat Action Plan every three years. Additionally, this bill requires the CEC to report annually to the Legislature on the progress of the direct install program under the Equitable Building Decarbonization Program.

Status: Chapter 387, Statutes of 2023

SB-310 (Dodd) - Prescribed fire: civil liability: cultural burns.

This bill authorizes the Secretary of CNRA and local air districts to enter into written agreements with federally recognized California Native American Tribes to waive certain state requirements for cultural burns in ancestral territories, as specified, and expands the definition of burn boss for purposes of the qualified immunity provided prescribed fire and cultural burns in California, among other things.

Status: Chapter 666, Statutes of 2024

SB-337 (Min) - Environmental protection: biodiversity and conservation report.

This bill establishes a state goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030, which codifies this goal from Executive Order No. N-82-20.

Status: Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023

SB-438 (Caballero) - Carbon sequestration: Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program.

This bill would have established an exception from the ban on enhanced oil recovery from a carbon dioxide capture, removal, or sequestration project by providing that the incidental and unintentional production of residual oil from a geologic sequestration (i.e., “Class VI”) well does not violate the ban, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

SB-539 (Stern) - Sepulveda Basin: planning process: nature-based solutions.

This bill directs DWR and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to provide assistance the City of Los Angeles and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the extent requested, in order to integrate nature-based climate solutions into the planning process for the Sepulveda Basin.

Status: Chapter 490, Statutes of 2023

SB-605 (Padilla) - Wave and tidal energy.

This bill requires the CEC to include as part of the 2024 integrated energy policy report, an evaluation of the feasibility, costs, and benefits of using wave energy and tidal energy. This bill also requires the CEC to submit a report on the findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2025.

Status: Chapter 405, Statutes of 2023

SB-638 (Eggman) - Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by voters on the November 5, 2024 statewide election ballot, would have authorized \$6 billion in general obligation bonds for flood protection and climate resiliency projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held without hearing in the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1135 (Limón) - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: income taxes: credit.

This bill would have created a refundable tax credit to encourage composting activity in the state to divert organic waste from landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-45 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

This bill would have allowed the Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-80 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean research: West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity.

This bill would have established the West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity to assess the environmental impacts of offshore wind energy development, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-305 (Villapudua) - California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have placed a \$4.5 billion flood protection and dam safety improvement bond before the voters on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot, including \$1 billion to DWR for multibenefit flood protection projects, \$1 billion to DWR for projects to reduce urban flood risk, \$1 billion to DWR for improvement of dam safety, \$1 billion to DWR for flood management projects in the Central Valley, and \$500 million to DWR for levee rehabilitation projects, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-527 (Calderon) - Urban forestry: school greening projects: grants.

This bill would have required CAL FIRE to develop a competitive grant program to support school greening projects.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-720 (Addis) - California Rangeland, Grazing Land, and Grassland Protection Program: grants for local programs.

This bill would have expanded the California Rangeland, Grazing Land, and Grassland Protection Program to include grants to enhance or restore California's private rangelands.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-953 (Connolly) - Coastal resources: voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program.

This bill would have required the OPC to implement a statewide voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction and sustainable shipping program, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1008 (Bauer-Kahan) - California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018: personal information.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have established the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act which, among other provisions, would have prohibited any person or public agency from importing into the state, exporting out of the state, or taking, possessing, purchasing, or selling within the state, a western Joshua tree of any

part or product of the tree, except as provided pursuant to existing law or by paying a specified fee. This bill would also have authorized CDFW to authorize, by permit, the taking of a western Joshua tree if specified conditions are met, including, but not limited to, that the permittee mitigates all impacts to, and taking of, the western Joshua tree, and provides for certain fees to be remitted to CDFW in lieu of mitigation, as provided.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to privacy and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. Chapter 802, Statutes of 2024

AB-1407 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean recovery and restoration: large-scale restoration.

This bill requires the OPC to establish a Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework that has a goal of large-scale restoration of kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds by 2050, as provided.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1642 (Gipson) - School facilities: master plan for green schoolyards: recommendations.

This bill would have required the California Department of Education and CNRA to facilitate an interagency and stakeholder engagement process to develop recommendations for a master plan for green schoolyards.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1881 (Davies) - California Coastal Commission: scientific panel expertise: coastal erosion.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission to include a person with expertise and training in coastal erosion on a scientific panel convened by the Commission to provide it with advice, as provided.

Status: Chapter 88, Statutes of 2024

AB-1992 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon and teal carbon demonstration projects.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission and CNRA to authorize blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands, respectively, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1992 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission and the California Natural Resources Agency to facilitate the development of blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2023 alone, the State invested approximately \$9.6 billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022, which required the state to develop achievable carbon removal targets for natural and working lands. This same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart

Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across State agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solution climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2298 (Hart) - Coastal resources: Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program.

This bill would have codified and provided for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2320 (Irwin) - Wildlife Connectivity and Climate Adaptation Act of 2024: wildlife corridors.

This bill, the Wildlife Connectivity and Climate Adaptation Act of 2024, would have incorporated the identification of and progress in implementing wildlife corridors into the state's 30x30 goal, among other related provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2443 (Juan Carrillo) - Transactions and use taxes: Cities of Lancaster, Palmdale, and Victorville.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have modified the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act and additionally authorized CDFW to enter into an agreement with any county or city to delegate to the county or city the ability to authorize the taking of a western Joshua tree associated with developing commercial and industrial projects,

as provided. This bill would have, relative to other project types subject to delegated local mitigation authority, limited the bases for commercial or industrial projects to pay specified fees in lieu of satisfying the mitigation obligation, as provided.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to taxation and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. Chapter 961, Statutes of 2024

Coastal and Ocean Issues

SB-272 (Laird) - Sea level rise: planning and adaptation.

This bill requires a local government in the coastal zone or within the San Francisco Bay to develop a sea level rise plan as part of either a local coastal program or a shoreline resiliency plan that includes certain information, including sea level rise adaptation strategies and recommended projects, requires local governments to comply by January 1, 2034, as specified, and prioritizes funding for implementation of sea level rise adaptation strategies in approved plans, among other things.

Status: Chapter 384, Statutes of 2023

SB-286 (McGuire) - Offshore wind energy projects.

This bill establishes the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group to address offshore wind energy project impacts to certain fisheries and related interests, including the development of a statewide strategy to minimize impacts to ocean fisheries and providing for reasonable compensation to those affected, and requires the Coastal Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for new development associated with offshore wind energy projects and related transmission facilities, among other things.

Status: Chapter 386, Statutes of 2023

SB-337 (Min) - Environmental protection: biodiversity and conservation report.

This bill establishes a state goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030, which codifies this goal from Executive Order No. N-82-20.

Status: Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023

SB-360 (Blakespear) - California Coastal Commission: member voting.

This bill expands the list of entities that Coastal Commissioners could simultaneously serve on to include membership of a local area formation commission and joint powers authority, and makes an additional technical change.

Status: Chapter 108, Statutes of 2023

SB-378 (Gonzalez) - State parks: state beaches: expanded polystyrene food container and cooler ban.

This bill would have prohibited a person from bringing Styrofoam food containers or coolers on a state beach or in a unit of the state park system and from disposing of these containers or coolers in these areas, unless the disposal is made in an appropriate waste receptacle.

Status: This bill's hearing in this Committee was canceled at the request of the author.

SB-559 (Min) - Offshore oil drilling: leases.

This bill would require SLC to terminate its leases that authorize oil and gas production in state waters if voluntary relinquishment cannot be negotiated, including the payment of fair compensation, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-605 (Padilla) - Wave and tidal energy.

This bill requires the CEC to include as part of the 2024 integrated energy policy report, an evaluation of the feasibility, costs, and benefits of using wave energy and tidal energy. This bill also requires the CEC to submit a report on the findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2025.

Status: Chapter 405, Statutes of 2023

SB-689 (Blakespear) - Local coastal program: bicycle lane: amendment.

This bill provides that an application by a local government to convert an existing motorized vehicle travel lane into a dedicated bicycle lane, dedicated transit lane, or a pedestrian walkway shall not require a traffic study for a coastal development permit or an amendment to a local coastal program. This bill also requires that any amendment to a local coastal program to develop such a lane from an existing motorized vehicle travel

lane will be processed with minimal review, as provided.

Status: Chapter 445, Statutes of 2024

SB-704 (Min) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Act of 1976: industrial developments: oil and gas facilities: offshore wind.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission to seek scientific advice on offshore wind, and revise the coastal-dependent industrial use policies in the Coastal Act of 1976 to bar new or expanded oil and gas development and new or expanded refineries or petrochemical facilities from being considered a coastal-dependent industrial use and authorizes their permitting if all applicable Coastal Act provisions are complied with, among other things.

Status: Chapter 292, Statutes of 2023

SB-752 (Padilla) - Solid waste: collection service: disruptions.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have required the Coastal Commission to periodically review its regulations and procedures, as provided.

This bill was subsequently amended into another issue area relating to solid waste, withdrawn from this Committee without hearing, and re-referred to the Senate Judiciary and Environmental Quality Committees.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Judiciary Committee without hearing.

SB-782 (Limón) - Gubernatorial appointments: report.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have required the Coastal Commission to develop a public works plan for vegetation management in the coastal zone.

This bill was subsequently withdrawn from this Committee, amended into another issue area relating to state government by the author, and re-referred to the Senate Governmental Organization and Judiciary Committees.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-951 (Wiener) - California Coastal Act of 1976: coastal zone: coastal development.

This bill clarifies one of the bases to appeal a local jurisdiction's approval of a coastal development permit to the Coastal Commission, and authorizes local government notification of final action on a coastal development permit to the Coastal Commission by electronic mail, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 775, Statutes of 2024

SB-1077 (Blakespear) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: accessory and junior accessory dwelling units.

This bill requires the Coastal Commission, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development, to develop and provide guidance for local governments to facilitate the preparation of amendments to a local coastal program to clarify and simplify the permitting process for accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units in the coastal zone, as provided.

Status: Chapter 454, Statutes of 2024

SB-1085 (Nguyen) - Offshore energy production: wildlife impacts: report.

This bill would have required CDFW to prepare a report on the environmental impact on marine mammals and wildlife from offshore energy production in state and federal

waters off the California coast.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

SB-1092 (Blakespear) - Coastal resources: multifamily housing development: coastal development permits: appeals: report.

This bill would have required the Coastal Commission, on or by December 31, 2025, to provide a legislative report about appeals of local government coastal development permit actions between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2024, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1234 (Allen) - Coastal resources: local land use plan: zoning ordinances and district maps: modifications: ministerial approval.

This bill, when it was heard in this Committee, would have authorized a local government's planning director to adopt, through a ministerial approval process, modifications suggested by the Coastal Commission to the local government's local coastal program that, if adopted by the local government, would secure the Commission's automatic certification of the local coastal program.

Status: This bill's hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee was canceled at the request of the author.

SB-1324 (Limón) - California Ocean Science Trust: agreements.

This bill authorizes CNRA, CalEPA, or the departments, boards, commissions, or conservancies within these agencies to enter into a direct agreement with the California Ocean Science Trust for the delivery of peer reviews, technical guidance, or scientific reports and analyses, as specified.

Status: Chapter 470, Statutes of 2024

AB-3 (Zbur) - Offshore wind energy: reports.

This bill requires the CEC to: (1) develop a second-phase plan and strategy for seaport readiness, by December 31, 2026, that builds upon the recommendations and alternatives in the strategic plan for offshore wind energy developments that is due to the Legislature by June 30, 2023 (but has not been issued); and (2) conduct a study, by

December 31, 2027, in consultation with the California Workforce Development Board, on the feasibility of achieving specified in-state assembly and manufacturing and federally specified domestic content thresholds for offshore wind energy.

Status: Chapter 314, Statutes of 2023

AB-45 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

This bill would have allowed the Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-80 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean research: West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity.

This bill would have established the West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity to assess the environmental impacts of offshore wind energy development, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-584 (Hart) - California Coastal Act of 1976: coastal development: emergency waiver.

This bill expands the eligibility criteria for certain coastal zone projects requiring immediate action for an emergency waiver of permitting requirements by increasing the value of permanent structures erected under an emergency permitting waiver to \$125,000 from \$25,000, and authorizes the annual indexing of the cap on the value of these structures based upon the Consumer Price Index, as provided.

Status: Chapter 118, Statutes of 2023

AB-706 (Luz Rivas) - Leasing of public lands: minerals other than oil and gas.

This bill makes various changes to the statutes governing SLC's authority to grant permits and leases for mineral extraction and removal, including to make these statutes consistent with a prohibition on extracting or removing hard minerals, as defined, from state waters subject to tidal influence and to create a new type of permit for nonexclusive geological or geophysical exploration for minerals.

Status: Chapter 120, Statutes of 2023

AB-882 (Davies) - Coastal resources: State Coastal Conservancy: advance payments.

This bill authorizes, until July 1, 2025, the SCC to authorize advance payments under its contract or grant programs in accordance with the state's general law for advance payments.

Status: Chapter 817, Statutes of 2023

AB-953 (Connolly) - Coastal resources: voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program.

This bill would have required the OPC to implement a statewide voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction and sustainable shipping program, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-966 (Davies) - Division of Boating and Waterways: report to the Legislature: shoreline erosion control and public beach programs.

This bill would have directed the Division of Boating and Waterways in State Parks, in cooperation with SCC, to prepare and submit a joint report to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2025, on shoreline erosion control and public beach restoration programs.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 966 without my signature.

This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways and the State Coastal Conservancy to submit a report to the Legislature about shoreline erosion control efforts.

The cost of this one-time report is substantial. In addition, the 2022 and 2023 Budgets provide a combined total of \$930 million General Fund to the State Coastal

Conservancy for coastal resilience projects. While this funding is not specifically dedicated to coastal erosion, projects funded through these appropriations will address the concerns this measure intends to identify.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1407 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean recovery and restoration: large-scale restoration.

This bill requires OPC to establish a Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework that has a goal of large-scale restoration of kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds by 2050, as provided.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1686 (Grayson) - Ports and harbors: Martinez Marina.

This bill authorizes, commencing January 1, 2024, and until June 30, 2029, SLC, at its discretion, to relieve the City of Martinez of its obligation to transmit 20 percent of all

gross revenues generated from the city's trust lands to SLC so that the City of Martinez can take action to address deteriorated conditions at the city's marina, as specified.

Status: Chapter 143, Statutes of 2023

AB-1706 (Bonta) - Public trust lands: Encinal Terminals public trust lands: City of Alameda.

This bill grants public trust lands at the Encinal Terminals to the City of Alameda in trust, effective upon their conveyance to the city pursuant to this bill's authorization and in accordance with the Encinal Terminals exchange agreement.

Status: Chapter 130, Statutes of 2023

AB-1881 (Davies) - California Coastal Commission: scientific panel expertise: coastal erosion.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission to include a person with expertise and training in coastal erosion on a scientific panel convened by the Commission to provide it with advice, as provided.

Status: Chapter 88, Statutes of 2024

AB-1992 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission and CNRA to authorize blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands, respectively, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1992 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission and the California Natural Resources Agency to facilitate the development of blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2023 alone, the State invested approximately \$9.6 billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022, which required the state to develop achievable carbon removal targets for natural and working lands. This same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across State agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solution climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2214 (Bauer-Kahan) - Ocean Protection Council: microplastics.

This bill would have required the OPC to lead an interagency coordination group to recommend statutory changes needed to implement recommendations from the Statewide Microplastics Strategy and to adopt a workplan outlining which agencies would implement the recommendations.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2214 without my signature.

This bill requires the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) to lead an interagency coordination group to recommend statutory changes and adopt a work plan to implement recommendations from the 2022 Statewide Microplastics Strategy.

In 2018, Governor Brown signed Senate Bill 1263, requiring the OPC to develop a

Statewide Microplastics Strategy. The resulting Strategy, developed by the OPC in coordination with state agencies and external partners, provides a comprehensive and coordinated approach to identify early actions California can take to address microplastic pollution and advance existing microplastic research.

To date, the OPC has invested \$7 million in funding for plastic pollution projects, including \$3 million in funding specifically for microplastics. Recently funded projects are focused on examining the efficacy of microplastic removal from wastewater treatment plants; the use of low-impact development projects such as rain gardens and infiltration trenches; identifying sources and pathways of microplastics to stormwater; understanding ecological sensitivity to microplastics; and standardizing microplastic monitoring methods.

As scientific understanding advances, the OPC, alongside state agency partners, will evaluate the findings and lessons learned to provide policy recommendations to the Legislature by December 2025, per existing law. I believe this bill and the requirement for agencies to build out work plans ahead of the publishing of policy recommendations is premature.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2298 (Hart) - Coastal resources: Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program.

This bill would have codified and provided for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2393 (Dixon) - Tidelands and submerged lands: County of Orange and Newport Bay: franchises or leases.

This bill extends from 50 years to 66 years the maximum period for which Orange County may grant franchises or leases for the use of certain granted tidelands and submerged lands located in Newport Bay, for specified public trust purposes.

Status: Chapter 107, Statutes of 2024

AB-2537 (Addis) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill would have established the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local communities and tribal communities to support engagement in the process of offshore wind energy development in California, and would have continuously appropriated funding for this purpose, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2537 without my signature.

This bill would create the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local and tribal communities to support engagement on offshore wind (OSW) energy projects.

While I share the author's desire to ensure communities hosting OSW projects are resourced to constructively engage in their planning and development, this bill falls short of providing a viable funding stream to accomplish this very objective. I encourage the author and the OSW developers to collaborate further with communities to identify an approach that not only fosters capacity for engagement but considers community benefits from the development of these projects.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2560 (Alvarez) - Density Bonus Law: California Coastal Act of 1976.

This bill would have provided that any density bonus, concessions, or incentives that a development project applicant is entitled to under density bonus law are permitted, to the extent that they do not result in significant adverse impacts to coastal resources and public coastal access. This bill would have also required all local governments in the coastal zone to amend their respective local coastal programs to harmonize density

bonus law and the California Coastal Act of 1976, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-3220 (Papan) - Marine resources: Department of Fish and Wildlife: authority: mariculture.

This bill would have required CDFW to consider and, if appropriate, investigate whether and how to seek state certification authority for certain federal permits required for mariculture in state waters, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

ACR-210 (Bennett) - Conservation: Marine Protected Areas.

This resolution calls upon specified state agencies to prioritize, as supported by science, public process, and the adaptive management process, the expansion of California's Marine Protected Area Network following its first Decadal Management Review to achieve the state's 30x30 marine conservation goals.

Status: Resolution Chapter 210, Statutes of 2024

Conservation Corps and Local Corps

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

AB-1279 (Mike Fong) - California Conservation Corps: contracts: community conservation corps.

This bill makes permanent the California Conservation Corps' authority to contract with community conservation corps for specified projects or programs.

Status: Chapter 139, Statutes of 2023

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

Mining

SJR-15 (Bradford) - Alternatives to lithium and cobalt mined in Africa using child slave labor.

This measure would have urged the President and Congress of the United States to enact legislation that would halt the importation of lithium and cobalt, or any project using those materials, mined in Africa using child slave labor and to encourage the production of lithium, cobalt, and other critical minerals ethically sourced from within the United States.

Status: This resolution was held at the Assembly Desk.

AB-706 (Luz Rivas) - Leasing of public lands: minerals other than oil and gas.

This bill makes various changes to the statutes governing SLC's authority to grant permits and leases for mineral extraction and removal, including to make these statutes consistent with a prohibition on extracting or removing hard minerals, as defined, from state waters subject to tidal influence and to create a new type of permit for nonexclusive geological or geophysical exploration for minerals.

Status: Chapter 120, Statutes of 2023

Miscellaneous

SB-256 (Dodd) - Parklands: City of Davis.

This bill authorizes the City of Davis to convey a conservation easement, lease, or license for a habitat conservation project, the geologic storage of carbon dioxide, and specified agricultural activities on parcels acquired by the City with funding from Proposition 70, as specified. The bill requires the City, in conveying the easement, lease, or license, to maintain the scenic, recreational, and wildlife values of the property.

Status: Chapter 305, Statutes of 2023

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1135 (Limón) - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: income taxes: credit.

This bill would have created a refundable tax credit to encourage composting activity in the state to divert organic waste from landfills and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1448 (Hurtado) - Farm to Community Food Hub Advisory Committee: California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force.

This bill extends to January 1, 2034, the Farm to Community Food Hub Program within CDFA. The bill eliminates the Farm to Community Food Hub Advisory Committee and instead requires the Office of Farm to Fork to develop and consult with a working group comprising of at least 7 individuals who possess expertise in the operation of food hubs and other specified areas, as provided. The bill exempts the working group from the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and requires the program to prioritize the creation of new farm to community food hubs. Finally, the bill authorizes SGC, using existing or private funds, to provide public members of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force a reasonable per diem allowance, as specified.

Status: Chapter 917, Statutes of 2024

AB-552 (Bennett) - Agriculture: Regional Farmer Equipment and Cooperative Resources Assistance Pilot Program.

This bill would have established the Regional Farmer Equipment and Cooperative Resources Assistance Pilot Program until January 1, 2029. The bill would have required CDFA to provide financial and technical assistance to support regional farm equipment sharing and enhance cooperative benefits for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and, if funding were still available, for limited resource farmers and ranchers.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly

I am returning Assembly Bill 552 without my signature.

This bill directs the California Department of Food and Agriculture, upon appropriation, to establish the Regional Farmer Equipment and Cooperative Resources Assistance

Pilot Program and provide resource-limited farmers and ranchers with financial and technical assistance to share equipment.

While I support the author's goal to assist small-scale farmers and ranchers, this bill would create a new, unfunded grant program that should be considered as a part of the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1159 (Aguiar-Curry) - California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: natural and working lands: market-based compliance mechanisms.

This bill amends a provision of AB 1757 (C. Garcia, Chapter 341, Statutes of 2022) to only prohibit the specific greenhouse gas emissions reduced or removed as a result of state funding from generating credits for a market-based compliance mechanism, rather than prohibit any project receiving any and all state funds from generating credits for a market-based compliance mechanism.

Status: Chapter 358, Statutes of 2023

AB-1197 (Hart) - Agricultural Protection Planning Grant Program: local food producers: grant limits.

This bill would have authorized a nonprofit organization to apply to the DOC for a planning grant to assist in identifying and mapping local food producers, subject to appropriation from the Legislature. The bill would have authorized planning grants for maintaining local food producers through the protection of agricultural lands. Finally, the

bill would have authorized the development of public-private partnerships for the long-term protection and stewardship of local food producers.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1359 (Papan) - California Environmental Quality Act: geothermal exploratory projects: lead agency.

This bill authorizes a geothermal exploratory project proponent to request the county the project is located in to be lead agency under CEQA, and requires the county, when asked, to undertake those responsibilities, as provided.

Status: Chapter 678, Statutes of 2024

AB-1526 (Committee on Natural Resources) - Public resources.

This bill makes various technical, clarifying, and cleanup changes to the Public Resources Code, including to extend certain CalGEM deadlines, create a process to allow for more than one use of the one-time conversion exemption under the Forest Practice Act, add aerosol paint to the Architectural Paint Recovery Program, and adopt technical and clarifying amendments to Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54, Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022).

Status: Chapter 848, Statutes of 2023

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as

provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-2465 (Gipson) - Equity: socially disadvantaged groups and organizations: nonprofit organizations: grants.

This bill requires the Wildlife Conservation Board, DOC, CAL FIRE, State Parks, SCC, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and DWR to prioritize socially disadvantaged groups under various grant programs, as specified, and expands the definition of "socially disadvantaged group" to include "descendants of enslaved persons in the United States."

Status: This bill failed the concurrence vote in the Assembly.

AB-2552 (Friedman) - Pesticides: anticoagulant rodenticides.

This bill expands the existing prohibition on the use of anticoagulant rodenticides to include the use of the first-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (FGARs) chlorophacinone and warfarin, and imposes civil penalties for the unlawful use of FGARs and second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs), as specified.

Status: Chapter 571, Statutes of 2024

AB-2643 (Wood) - Cannabis cultivation: environmental remediation.

This bill requires CDFW to conduct a study to create a framework for cannabis site restoration projects and to submit a report on illicit cannabis cultivation; clarifies the definition of "controlled substance," and eliminates certain apportionments to the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund and the Fish and Game Preservation Fund, instead directing those moneys to the newly created Cannabis-Impacted Lands Restoration Fund.

Status: Chapter 839, Statutes of 2024

AB-2827 (Reyes) - Invasive species: prevention.

This bill would have declared that it is the primary goal of the state to prevent the introduction, and suppress the spread, of invasive species within its borders and would have required CDFA to develop and implement strategies to detect, control, monitor, and eradicate invasive species to protect the state's agriculture, environment, and

natural resources.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-3007 (Hoover) - California Environmental Quality Act: record of environmental documents: format.

This bill removes the requirement for county clerks and OPR to maintain paper and electronic documents received from CDFW that make up the administrative record under CEQA, and instead only requires an electronic copy.

Status: Chapter 583, Statutes of 2024

Museums and historical resources

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1009 (Dahle) - Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery: lease.

This bill authorizes the Director of DGS, with the consent of CDFW, to lease to the Mt. Shasta Museum Association, at no cost, and subject to any other terms and conditions that DGS deems appropriate, a portion of the Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery in the County of Siskiyou, as specified.

Status: Chapter 127, Statutes of 2024

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

Oil and gas-related

SB-275 (Grove) - State Oil and Gas Supervisor: Senate confirmation.

This bill would have made the appointment of the State Oil and Gas Supervisor, the leader of CalGEM in DOC, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 275 without my signature.

This bill would require appointment of the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to be subject to Senate confirmation. I share the Legislature's desire for appointments to be made effectively and transparently, especially when considering California's ambitious and time-sensitive clean energy and carbon neutrality goals.

However, an appointee to this position already undergoes an extensive and exhaustive

identification, evaluation, and selection process, a process that ensures the appointee is experienced and fully capable of carrying out our shared policy objectives of protecting public health, safety, and the environment. Additionally, this position falls under the direction and oversight of the Director of Conservation, a gubernatorial appointee that is subject to Senate confirmation.

For these reasons, I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-438 (Caballero) - Carbon sequestration: Carbon Capture, Removal, Utilization, and Storage Program.

This bill would have established an exception from the ban on enhanced oil recovery from a carbon dioxide capture, removal, or sequestration project by providing that the incidental and unintentional production of residual oil from a geologic sequestration (i.e., “Class VI”) well does not violate the ban, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

SB-559 (Min) - Offshore oil drilling: leases.

This bill would require SLC to terminate its leases that authorize oil and gas production in state waters if voluntary relinquishment cannot be negotiated, including the payment of fair compensation, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-704 (Min) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Act of 1976: industrial developments: oil and gas facilities: offshore wind.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission to seek scientific advice on offshore wind, and revise the coastal-dependent industrial use policies in the Coastal Act of 1976 to bar new or expanded oil and gas development and new or expanded refineries or petrochemical facilities from being considered a coastal-dependent industrial use and authorizes their permitting if all applicable Coastal Act provisions are complied with, among other things.

Status: Chapter 292, Statutes of 2023

SB-979 (Grove) - Oil and gas: operations: notices of intention: written response for denied notice.

This bill would require the State Oil and Gas Supervisor, the head of CalGEM in DOC that is the state's oil and gas well regulator, or certain subordinates to provide a written response to the operator within 10 working days from the date of receipt of the notice of intention to drill, redrill, or rework an oil or gas well that describes the legal basis for any decision not to approve the notice of intention, as specified.

Status: This bill was not heard in this Committee at the author's request.

SB-1304 (Limón) - Underground injection control: aquifer exemption.

This bill modifies the state process for submission of a Class II Underground Injection Control (UIC) program aquifer exemption proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, including requiring the State Water Board to determine in a public meeting whether a proposed aquifer exemption merits consideration, instituting certain public notice and comment requirements, and requiring an analysis of all conduits, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 467, Statutes of 2024

SB-1425 (Gonzalez) - Oil revenue: Oil Trust Fund.

This bill increases the amount that the Controller transfers to the Oil Trust Fund at the end of each month to \$5 million or 50% of certain remaining oil revenue from the City of Long Beach, as provided.

Status: Chapter 609, Statutes of 2024

SB-1433 (Limón) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program.

This bill would have established a pilot program—the Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program—to authorize the conversion of a limited number of plugged and isolated oil and gas wells to use for storing or generating energy by raising and lowering a weight within the well casing, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SJR-12 (Min) - Oil and gas leases: bankruptcy.

This resolution urges the President of the United States and the United States Congress (1) 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; and (2) to treat the plug and abandonment and lease restoration obligations as nondischargeable obligations.

Status: Resolution Chapter 174, Statutes of 2024

AB-631 (Hart) - Oil and gas: enforcement: penalties.

This bill enhances the authority of the state oil and gas regulator, CalGEM of DOC, to take certain actions or impose various penalties on oil and gas operators and property owners for violations of the state's oil and gas conservation laws and regulations, as specified.

Status: Chapter 337, Statutes of 2023

AB-1167 (Wendy Carrillo) - Oil and gas: acquisition: bonding requirements.

This bill requires a person who acquires the right to operate a well or production facility by purchase, transfer, assignment, conveyance, exchange, or other disposition, to file with the State Oil and Gas Supervisor an individual indemnity bond for the well or production facility or a blanket indemnity bond for multiple wells or facilities in an amount determined by the supervisor to be sufficient to cover, in full, all costs of plugging and abandonment, decommissioning, and site restoration, with certain exceptions, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 359, Statutes of 2023

Governor's Message:

Governor's message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1167, which creates a process requiring the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to approve transfers of marginal oil and gas wells only once the full cost of well plugging and abandonment and site restoration is covered by a bond or other financial assurance mechanisms.

I share the author's desire to minimize the risk that the state will be liable for costs of plugging and abandonment of orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells where

operators failed to provide sufficient financial assurances. This bill helps achieve this objective. However, increasing the financial assurances required for oil and gas well transfers also potentially creates risk of current oil and gas well operators deserting these hazardous wells. I look forward to working with the Legislature to enact legislation to make any necessary revisions to address this risk and otherwise align this law with programs that the Department of Conservation's Geologic Energy Management Division is already developing to address orphaned and abandoned wells.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1526 (Committee on Natural Resources) - Public resources.

This bill makes various technical, clarifying, and cleanup changes to the Public Resources Code, including to extend certain CalGEM deadlines, create a process to allow for more than one use of the one-time conversion exemption under the Forest Practice Act, add aerosol paint to the Architectural Paint Recovery Program, and adopt technical and clarifying amendments to Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54, Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022).

Status: Chapter 848, Statutes of 2023

AB-1866 (Hart) - Oil and gas: idle wells.

This bill increases idle well fees payable in lieu of filing an idle well management plan, and revises the requirements of an idle well management plan to increase the rate at which idle wells under the plan have to be either returned to service or plugged and abandoned, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 548, Statutes of 2024

AB-2716 (Bryan) - Oil and gas: low-production wells: sensitive receptors.

This bill prohibits the operation of low-production oil and gas wells, as defined, located in an oil field within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, requires CalGEM to identify these wells, imposes a \$10,000 per month penalty upon these wells if certain criteria are not met, and provides for penalty revenue to fund projects, such as park creation, to benefit the nearby community, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 549, Statutes of 2024

AB-3233 (Addis) - Oil and gas: operations: restrictions: local authority.

This bill authorizes a local entity, by ordinance, to limit or prohibit oil and gas operations or development in its jurisdiction, as provided, notwithstanding any other law or any notice of intention, supplemental notice, well stimulation permit, or similar authorization issued by CalGEM, as provided.

Status: Chapter 550, Statutes of 2024

Parks, open space, public land and outdoor recreation

SB-256 (Dodd) - Parklands: City of Davis.

This bill authorizes the City of Davis to convey a conservation easement, lease, or license for a habitat conservation project, the geologic storage of carbon dioxide, and specified agricultural activities on parcels acquired by the City with funding from Proposition 70, as specified. The bill requires the City, in conveying the easement, lease, or license, to maintain the scenic, recreational, and wildlife values of the property.

Status: Chapter 305, Statutes of 2023

SB-337 (Min) - Environmental protection: biodiversity and conservation report.

This bill establishes a state goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030, which codifies this goal from Executive Order No. N-82-20.

Status: Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023

SB-378 (Gonzalez) - State parks: state beaches: expanded polystyrene food container and cooler ban.

This bill would have prohibited a person from bringing Styrofoam food containers or coolers on a state beach or in a unit of the state park system and from disposing of these containers or coolers in these areas, unless the disposal is made in an appropriate waste receptacle.

Status: This bill's hearing in this Committee was canceled at the request of the author.

SB-632 (Caballero) - Vehicles: off-highway recreation: Red Rock Canyon State Park.

This bill authorizes State Parks, through January 1, 2030, to establish a pilot project to designate combined-use highways on roads in Red Rock Canyon State Park in order to link existing off-highway motor vehicle trails, trailheads, and recreational-use areas on federal Bureau of Land Management or United States Forest Service lands.

Status: Chapter 592, Statutes of 2024

SB-668 (Dodd) - State parks: operating agreements.

This bill eliminates the sunset on the State Park's authority to enter into an operating agreement with a qualified nonprofit organization for the development, improvement, restoration, care, maintenance, administration, or operation of a unit or units, or portion of a unit, of the state park system, as agreed to by the director.

Status: Chapter 183, Statutes of 2023

SB-708 (Jones) - Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles: off-highway motorcycles: sanctioned event permit.

This bill creates, beginning January 1, 2026, a "sanctioned event permit" that allows a California resident, upon payment of a fee, to operate certain off-road motorcycles at sanctioned events, as defined. The permit is valid for the calendar year issued for off-highway vehicle recreational special events approved by any agency, as specified.

Status: Chapter 446, Statutes of 2024

SB-772 (Dahle) - Junior hunting licenses: age of eligibility.

This bill would have raised the eligible age to purchase annual junior hunting licenses by two years to those less than 18 years of age, required CDFW to report the bill's impact on participation in hunting, and made additional conforming changes, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1332 (Allen) - The Conservation Stewardship Endowment Fund.

This bill would have established the Conservation Stewardship Endowment Fund to generate funding for the maintenance and stewardship of lands and facilities owned and managed by State Parks.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SJR-10 (Dodd) - Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act.

This Senate Joint Resolution would have urged the U.S. President and Congress to expand the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include the Walker Ridge (Molok Luyuk) addition.

Status: This resolution was not heard in the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee.

SJR-16 (Padilla) - Chuckwalla National Monument and the Joshua Tree National Monument

This Senate Joint Resolution urges the U.S. President to use the Antiquities Act of 1906 to establish the Chuckwalla National Monument, the Kw'atsán National Monument, and a

National Park Service-managed Joshua Tree National Monument adjacent to Joshua Tree National Park.

Status: Resolution Chapter 208, Statutes of 2024

SJR-17 (Allen) - The Sáttítla National Monument and the Kw'tsán National Monument.

This Senate Joint Resolution urges the President of the United States to use the Antiquities Act to establish the Sáttítla National Monument.

Status: Resolution Chapter 209, Statutes of 2024

AB-618 (Bauer-Kahan) - State parks: reservations.

This bill requires any contract entered into by State Parks to manage the department's reservation system to reflect certain rules, authorizations, and requirements, as specified. Further, the bill requires the department, by January 1, 2025, and through January 1, 2029, to implement a reservation drawing for up to five of the most popular units of the state park system and to report on the outcomes of the reservation drawing to the Legislature.

Status: Chapter 536, Statutes of 2023

AB-833 (Rendon) - Freeway caps.

This bill, when it was referred to this Committee, would have required State Parks to develop a plan to expand the Rio de Los Angeles State Park on lands along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to transportation and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. This bill's hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee was canceled at the request of the author.

AB-966 (Davies) - Division of Boating and Waterways: report to the Legislature: shoreline erosion control and public beach programs.

This bill would have directed the Division of Boating and Waterways in State Parks, in cooperation with the SCC, to prepare and submit a joint report to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2025, on shoreline erosion control and public beach restoration

programs.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 966 without my signature.

This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways and the State Coastal Conservancy to submit a report to the Legislature about shoreline erosion control efforts.

The cost of this one-time report is substantial. In addition, the 2022 and 2023 Budgets provide a combined total of \$930 million General Fund to the State Coastal Conservancy for coastal resilience projects. While this funding is not specifically dedicated to coastal erosion, projects funded through these appropriations will address the concerns this measure intends to identify.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1150 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Parks and recreation: omnibus.

This bill authorizes State Parks to enter into community access agreements, adds Native American tribes as entities eligible for competitive grants from the Recreational Trails Fund, separates the issuance and collection of registration and renewal fees for recreational vessels from the quagga and zebra mussel infestation and prevention fee, and makes other technical changes.

Status: Chapter 831, Statutes of 2023

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce

Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1937 (Berman) - State parks: Pedro Point.

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to sell and transfer certain surplus state property it owns in the City of Pacifica to State Parks for state park purposes.

Status: Chapter 365, Statutes of 2024

AB-2038 (Quirk-Silva) - State parks: outdoor equity programs.

This bill would have required State Parks to treat the use of a state park by an eligible entity providing outdoor equity programs to up to 30 participating visitors at once in the same manner as the use of the park by the public.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2038 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit the California Department of Parks and Recreation from requiring special event permits, and associated fees, for outdoor recreation programming within the State Park System for groups of up to 30 people, as specified.

This bill is premature given the legislation I signed last year, Assembly Bill 1150 (Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife, 2023), which expanded and enhanced access to the State Park System for underserved park users, including free and reduced-cost access through the use of "community access agreements" with nonprofit organizations.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2091 (Grayson) - California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: public access: nonmotorized recreation.

This bill exempts from CEQA, until January 1, 2030, a change in use approved by a lead agency that is a park district to allow public access exclusively for nonmotorized recreation to preexisting roads, trails, pathways, and disturbed areas, as specified.

Status: Chapter 377, Statutes of 2024

AB-2103 (Pellerin) - Department of Parks and Recreation: Big Basin Redwoods, Año Nuevo, and Butano State Parks.

This bill would have authorized, until January 1, 2030, State Parks to acquire land or real property for Big Basin Redwoods, Año Nuevo, and Butano State Parks, rather than acquire the land or real property through the State Public Works Board.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2103 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department), until January 1, 2030, to purchase real property for Big Basin Redwoods, Año Nuevo, and Butano state parks, without State Public Works Board's review. In addition, this bill would require the Department to comply with new public hearing requirements for acquisitions related to those state park units.

While the intent of this bill is to streamline the Department's acquisition process for park units impacted by the CZU Lightning Fire Complex, its public hearing requirements may slow the acquisition process and would significantly increase the Department's costs.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in

education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2285 (Rendon) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have directed the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature to aspire to recognize the coequal goals of the state's 30x30 goal and Outdoors for All initiative when distributing resources, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. Further, the bill would have required state funding agencies to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program's authorizing statutes, and the state's goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2440 (Reyes) - 30x30 goal: partnering state agencies: Department of Parks and Recreation.

This bill requires CNRA, in implementing the Pathways to 30x30 Report, to prioritize promoting and supporting partnering state agencies and departments that acquire and steward state land, including State Parks, in the acquisition of new state land and responsible stewardship of state land, as feasible.

Status: Chapter 716, Statutes of 2024

AB-2716 (Bryan) - Oil and gas: low-production wells: sensitive receptors.

This bill prohibits the operation of low-production oil and gas wells, as defined, located in an oil field within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, requires CalGEM to identify these wells, imposes a \$10,000 per month penalty upon these wells if certain criteria are not met, and provides for penalty revenue to fund projects, such as park creation, to benefit

the nearby community, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 549, Statutes of 2024

AB-2939 (Rendon) - Parks: counties and cities: interpretive services.

This bill makes certain uses of a local park by a nonprofit organization or Native American Tribe to be allowable public uses of the local park.

Status: Chapter 423, Statutes of 2024

AB-3182 (Lackey) - Land conservation: California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act: County of San Bernardino.

For the County of San Bernardino, this bill would have expanded the allowable uses of lands acquired with Proposition 70 funding from open-space and agricultural preservation purposes to include park and recreational purposes. This would have included playgrounds, recreational venues, sporting venues, amphitheaters, and preservation of historical resources as appropriate purposes. Further, this bill would have allowed the county to use revenues from the sale or exchange of lands acquired with Proposition 70 funding for improvements to any lands, within a specified area, that the county owns, has a conservation easement in or a deed restriction on, or leases from the federal government or a public entity for park, recreational, agricultural preservation, or open-space conservation purposes.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

Ports, public trust and school lands

SB-272 (Laird) - Sea level rise: planning and adaptation.

This bill requires a local government in the coastal zone or within the San Francisco Bay to develop a sea level rise plan as part of either a local coastal program or a shoreline resiliency plan that includes certain information, including sea level rise adaptation strategies and recommended projects, requires local governments to comply by January 1, 2034, as specified, and prioritizes funding for implementation of sea level rise adaptation strategies in approved plans, among other things.

Status: Chapter 384, Statutes of 2023

SB-273 (Wiener) - Tidelands and submerged lands: City and County of San Francisco: Piers 30-32: mixed-use development.

This bill revises the terms of previous legislative grants related to the development of Pier 30-32 to reflect the most recent public/private development proposal, and authorizes the SLC to approve a mixed-use development that includes general office use if certain conditions are met, among other things, as provided.

Status: Chapter 385, Statutes of 2023

SB-286 (McGuire) - Offshore wind energy projects.

This bill establishes the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group to address offshore wind energy project impacts to certain fisheries and related interests, including the development of a statewide strategy to minimize impacts to ocean fisheries and providing for reasonable compensation to those affected, and requires the Coastal Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for new development associated with offshore wind energy projects and related transmission facilities, among other things.

Status: Chapter 386, Statutes of 2023

SB-559 (Min) - Offshore oil drilling: leases.

This bill would require SLC to terminate its leases that authorize oil and gas production in state waters if voluntary relinquishment cannot be negotiated, including the payment of fair compensation, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and

resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1520 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - Public resources.

This bill updates the common name of *Ptychocheilus lucius*, a fully protected fish, from Colorado squawfish to Colorado pikeminnow and repeals SB 50 (Allen, Chapter 535, Statutes of 2017).

Status: Chapter 139, Statutes of 2024

AB-3 (Zbur) - Offshore wind energy: reports.

This bill requires the CEC to: (1) develop a second-phase plan and strategy for seaport readiness, by December 31, 2026, that builds upon the recommendations and alternatives in the strategic plan for offshore wind energy developments that is due to the Legislature by June 30, 2023 (but has not been issued); and (2) conduct a study, by December 31, 2027, in consultation with the California Workforce Development Board, on the feasibility of achieving specified in-state assembly and manufacturing and federally specified domestic content thresholds for offshore wind energy.

Status: Chapter 314, Statutes of 2023

AB-45 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

This bill would have allowed the Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-80 (Addis) - Coastal resources: ocean research: West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity.

This bill would have established the West Coast Offshore Wind Science Entity to assess the environmental impacts of offshore wind energy development, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-655 (Petrie-Norris) - Fish and wildlife: aquatic invasive species: *Caulerpa*.

This bill expands the prohibition from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration from specific species of *Caulerpa*, a genus of salt water algae, to all *Caulerpa* species due to their invasive potential.

Status: Chapter 119, Statutes of 2023

AB-706 (Luz Rivas) - Leasing of public lands: minerals other than oil and gas.

This bill makes various changes to the statutes governing SLC's authority to grant permits and leases for mineral extraction and removal, including to make these statutes consistent with a prohibition on extracting or removing hard minerals, as defined, from state waters subject to tidal influence and to create a new type of permit for nonexclusive geological or geophysical exploration for minerals.

Status: Chapter 120, Statutes of 2023

AB-859 (Gallagher) - Hunting: navigable waters.

This bill would have required that hunter trespass on private property is limited to lands and lands temporarily inundated by non-navigable waters and that the right of the public to use navigable waters for hunting, fishing, or other public purpose is protected, consistent with the California Constitution.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 859 without my signature.

This bill would modify existing law that prohibits the use of temporarily inundated lands for hunting without written permission to instead authorize the use of temporarily inundated navigable waters for hunting.

I support the intent of this bill to clarify the public's right to navigate temporarily inundated waterways for fishing, hunting, or other enjoyment, as guaranteed by the California Constitution. However, this bill contains overly broad language that could

extend access rights beyond the public trust doctrine, thus impacting private property owners' rights. The bill also creates inconsistency with the definition of navigable waters in the Harbors and Navigation Code, which is likely to result in confusion in communities across California. I encourage the Legislature to refine these revisions in subsequent legislation.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-953 (Connolly) - Coastal resources: voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program.

This bill would have required the OPC to implement a statewide voluntary Vessel Speed Reduction and sustainable shipping program, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1686 (Grayson) - Ports and harbors: Martinez Marina.

This bill authorizes, commencing January 1, 2024, and until June 30, 2029, SLC, at its discretion, to relieve the City of Martinez of its obligation to transmit 20 percent of all gross revenues generated from the city's trust lands to SLC so that the City of Martinez can take action to address deteriorated conditions at the city's marina, as specified.

Status: Chapter 143, Statutes of 2023

AB-1706 (Bonta) - Public trust lands: Encinal Terminals public trust lands: City of Alameda.

This bill grants public trust lands at the Encinal Terminals to the City of Alameda in trust, effective upon their conveyance to the city pursuant to this bill's authorization and in accordance with the Encinal Terminals exchange agreement.

Status: Chapter 130, Statutes of 2023

AB-1992 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon and teal carbon demonstration projects.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission and CNRA to authorize blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands, respectively, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1992 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission and the California Natural Resources Agency to facilitate the development of blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2023 alone, the State invested approximately \$9.6 billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022, which required the state to develop achievable carbon removal targets for natural

and working lands. This same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across State agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solution climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2298 (Hart) - Coastal resources: Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program.

This bill would have codified and provided for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2393 (Dixon) - Tidelands and submerged lands: County of Orange and Newport Bay: franchises or leases.

This bill extends from 50 years to 66 years the maximum period for which Orange County may grant franchises or leases for the use of certain granted tidelands and submerged lands located in Newport Bay, for specified public trust purposes.

Status: Chapter 107, Statutes of 2024

AB-2537 (Addis) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill would have established the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local communities and tribal communities to support engagement in the process of offshore wind energy

development in California, and would have continuously appropriated funding for this purpose, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2537 without my signature.

This bill would create the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local and tribal communities to support engagement on offshore wind (OSW) energy projects.

While I share the author's desire to ensure communities hosting OSW projects are resourced to constructively engage in their planning and development, this bill falls short of providing a viable funding stream to accomplish this very objective. I encourage the author and the OSW developers to collaborate further with communities to identify an approach that not only fosters capacity for engagement but considers community benefits from the development of these projects.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2560 (Alvarez) - Density Bonus Law: California Coastal Act of 1976.

This bill would have provided that any density bonus, concessions, or incentives that a development project applicant is entitled to under density bonus law are permitted, to the extent that they do not result in significant adverse impacts to coastal resources and public coastal access. This bill would have also required all local governments in the coastal zone to amend their respective local coastal programs to harmonize density bonus law and the California Coastal Act of 1976, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-3220 (Papan) - Marine resources: Department of Fish and Wildlife: authority: mariculture.

This bill would have required CDFW to consider and, if appropriate, investigate whether and how to seek state certification authority for certain federal permits required for mariculture in state waters, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

Resource Conservation Districts

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other

lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

State conservancies

SB-39 (Laird) - Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Sierra Nevada Region: subregions: climate resilience and equity.

This bill expands the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's purposes to include supporting efforts that advance climate resilience and equity, and renames and revises the Conservancy's six subregions to include four counties per subregion, as specified.

Status: Chapter 70, Statutes of 2023

SB-539 (Stern) - Sepulveda Basin: planning process: nature-based solutions.

This bill directs DWR and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to provide assistance the City of Los Angeles and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the extent requested, in order to integrate nature-based climate solutions into the planning process for the Sepulveda Basin.

Status: Chapter 490, Statutes of 2023

SB-583 (Padilla) - Salton Sea Conservancy.

This bill creates the Salton Sea Conservancy, contingent upon passage of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.

Status: Chapter 771, Statutes of 2024

Governor's Message:

Governor's message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 583, which creates the Salton Sea Conservancy within the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to operate, maintain, and manage

projects that are planned or built under the authority of the Salton Sea Management Program.

The Salton Sea Management Program is committed to building 30,000 acres of habitat and dust suppression projects around the Salton Sea to improve air quality and provide critical environmental habitat for birds along the Pacific Flyway. As the first projects are near completion, the state will need to transition to the operation and maintenance of completed projects. This bill will centralize the operation and maintenance of these projects in a new, mission-focused conservancy, led by the state, with extensive local community involvement and partnership. Importantly, enactment of this bill is contingent upon passage by the voters of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, placed on the November 2024 ballot.

I support this approach, which balances the creation of a new, mission-focused conservancy with viable and stable funding sources. In signing this bill, I expect that this conservancy will remain focused on fulfilling its primary objective - operation, maintenance, and management of Salton Sea restoration projects - without placing undue pressure on the state's General Fund.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-835 (Smallwood-Cuevas) - Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy: watershed and open-space plan: report.

This bill extends the deadline by which the Baldwin Hills and Urban Watersheds Conservancy must submit a report on a watershed and open-space plan to the Legislature from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2026.

Status: Chapter 78, Statutes of 2023

SB-841 (Dahle) - Sierra Nevada Conservancy: Sierra Nevada Region: definition.

This bill would have expanded the boundaries of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to include all of Modoc and Siskiyou Counties, and would require the Sierra Nevada Conservancy to report on the impacts of this and other recent expansions, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-2716 (Bryan) - Oil and gas: low-production wells: sensitive receptors.

This bill prohibits the operation of low-production oil and gas wells, as defined, located in an oil field within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy, requires CalGEM to identify these wells, imposes a \$10,000 per month penalty upon these wells if certain criteria are not met, and provides for penalty revenue to fund projects, such as park creation, to benefit

the nearby community, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 549, Statutes of 2024

Tribal Issues

SB-286 (McGuire) - Offshore wind energy projects.

This bill establishes the California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group to address offshore wind energy project impacts to certain fisheries and related interests, including the development of a statewide strategy to minimize impacts to ocean fisheries and providing for reasonable compensation to those affected, and requires the Coastal Commission to process a consolidated coastal development permit for new development associated with offshore wind energy projects and related transmission facilities, among other things.

Status: Chapter 386, Statutes of 2023

SB-310 (Dodd) - Prescribed fire: civil liability: cultural burns.

This bill authorizes the Secretary of CNRA and local air districts to enter into written agreements with federally recognized California Native American Tribes to waive certain state requirements for cultural burns in ancestral territories, as specified, and expands the definition of burn boss for purposes of the qualified immunity provided prescribed fire and cultural burns in California, among other things.

Status: Chapter 666, Statutes of 2024

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and

resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

AB-389 (Ramos) – Native American repatriation: California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001: California State University.

This bill, as it was heard in this Committee, would have exempted certain genealogical records of tribal members and cultural affiliation records received by Native American Heritage Commission under specified circumstances from the California Public Records Act. This bill was later amended to instead require the California State University to comply with various requirements relating to the handling, maintenance, and repatriation of Native American human remains and cultural items under the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001.

Status: Chapter 649, Statutes of 2023

AB-1284 (Ramos) - Tribal ancestral lands and waters: cogovernance and comanagement agreements.

This bill encourages CNRA and its departments, boards, conservancies, and commissions to enter into cogovernance and comanagement 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, as defined.

Status: Chapter 657, Statutes of 2024

Governor's Message:

Governor's message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 1284, which memorializes my policy directive on Native American Ancestral Lands in part by encouraging the California Natural Resources Agency, and its departments, to enter into cogovernance and comanagement agreements with federally recognized tribes in California.

Cogovernance and comanagement agreements are important tools for the State to acknowledge and address the historical displacement and dislocation of tribal nations from their ancestral lands, waters, and lifeways. These arrangements may take several

forms, including memoranda of understandings (MOUs), contracts, and other forms of agreements.

Tribes may seek to enter into agreements to share common powers with the State, pursuant to the Joint Powers Act, which is one of many paths available to achieving tribal cogovernance and comanagement under state law. Where tribes seek to utilize this type of power-sharing agreement, this legislation acknowledges the sovereign government authorities of federally recognized tribes. Specifically, by clarifying state law to reflect that such tribes and the State have like authorities, this bill removes potential legal barriers at times cited by state agencies and departments.

I am signing this bill to reflect my strong support of tribal-state collaboration as we work to create a healthier and more climate-adaptive California for future generations. My Administration will continue working with tribal governments and the Legislature to ensure we can collectively address outstanding issues or limitations in embracing and implementing these sovereign-to-sovereign agreements.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-2537 (Addis) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill would have established the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local communities and tribal communities to support engagement in the process of offshore wind energy development in California, and would have continuously appropriated funding for this purpose, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2537 without my signature.

This bill would create the Offshore Wind Community Capacity Funding Grant Account for the purpose of building capacity within local and tribal communities to support engagement on offshore wind (OSW) energy projects.

While I share the author's desire to ensure communities hosting OSW projects are resourced to constructively engage in their planning and development, this bill falls short of providing a viable funding stream to accomplish this very objective. I encourage the author and the OSW developers to collaborate further with communities to identify an approach that not only fosters capacity for engagement but considers community benefits from the development of these projects.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

Water

SB-23 (Caballero) - Water supply and flood risk reduction projects: expedited permitting.

This bill would have required CDFW and the State Water Board, for water supply projects and flood risk reduction products, to issue a final Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement or take final action on water quality certifications issued pursuant to either the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act or under the federal Clean Water

Act, respectively, within certain timeframes. The bill also would have required the State Water Board and regional water quality control boards to use an approved regional habitat conservation plan or natural communities conservation plan as a watershed plan for aquatic resources, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-231 (Hurtado) - Water measurement.

As it passed this Committee, this bill would have required the State Water Board, in collaboration with DWR and DSC, to update a report, by January 1, 2025, that evaluates the feasibility, estimated costs, and potential means of financing a coordinated water measurement database. The bill was subsequently amended to require DWR, by December 31, 2025, to establish a formal process for annually evaluating and improving the accuracy of its water supply forecasts, adopt a new water supply forecasting model that better addresses the effects of climate change, and implement formal policy and procedures for documenting its operational plans for the state's water supply and its rationale for its operating procedures. The bill also would have required DWR to present certain information at a public meeting, including operational decisions regarding the state's water supply.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-315 (Hurtado) - Groundwater: groundwater sustainability agencies: probationary basins.

This bill would have required the State Water Board, when designating a basin as a probationary basin for purposes of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, to take certain actions such as providing clear benchmarks and guidance for groundwater sustainability agencies, working with stakeholders to develop those benchmarks, collaborating with DWR and other technical experts to provide groundwater sustainability agencies with technical assistance, and identifying funding opportunities that would help groundwater sustainability agencies improve their groundwater management plans and projects. The bill also would have required the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program to allocate at least \$50,000,000 for the Critical Facilities Subsidence Mitigation subprogram.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-361 (Dodd) - Water resources: stream gages.

This bill would have made several changes intended to improve the state's stream gage network, including requiring DWR and the State Water Board to reactivate, upgrade, and install new stream gages, as specified, and to implement recommendations from the California Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan 2022.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-366 (Caballero) - The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

This bill would have revised and recast the contents of updates to the California Water Plan, requiring DWR to develop a long-term water supply planning target for 2050, establishing an interim target to develop an additional 9 million acre-feet of water by 2040, and requiring that each plan update include certain specified components.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 366 without my signature.

The bill would require the Department of Water Resources (DWR), as part of the 2033 update, to revise the contents of the California Water Plan to, among other provisions, focus on developing a long-term water supply planning target for 2050 to identify and create plans for future water needs of various water sectors.

The California Water Plan (Plan), updated every five years, is the state's guidance document for sustainably and equitably managing, developing, and stewarding the state's water resources. My Administration recently released the 2023 Plan to lay out a statewide vision promoting climate resilience across regions, water sectors, and natural and built infrastructure. This Plan update includes clear goals, watershed-based climate resilience planning, and regional and interregional infrastructure modernization strategies.

While I appreciate the author's intent, this bill would create substantial ongoing costs for DWR, the State Water Resources Control Board, and other state agencies and departments to assist in the development of water supply planning targets. A revision to the Plan of this magnitude, that creates such significant costs, must be considered in the context of the annual budget.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-389 (Allen) - State Water Resources Control Board: determination of water right.

This bill authorizes the State Water Board to investigate and ascertain whether or not a water right is valid, authorizes the State Water Board to issue an information order in furtherance of the investigation, and authorizes a diversion of use of water ascertained to be unauthorized to be enforced as a trespass.

Status: Chapter 486, Statutes of 2023

SB-470 (Alvarado-Gil) - Wildfires: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: grant eligibility: high fire hazard and very high fire hazard severity zones.

This bill would have codified the Urban Water Community Drought Relief program and the Small Community Drought Relief program at DWR. Further, the bill would have authorized these programs, upon appropriation, to fund projects that provide benefits in addition to drought relief, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfires for communities through water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes in high- and very high-fire hazard severity zones, among other things.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 470 without my signature.

This bill would codify two grant programs within the Department of Water Resources established by the Budget Act of 2021: the Urban Water Community Drought Relief Program and the Small Community Drought Relief Program. It also authorizes these programs to fund benefits in addition to drought relief, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfire.

I thank the author for the commitment to support under-resourced communities most at risk of wildfire, and the intent of this bill is in line with work currently underway within my Administration. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) recently launched the Prepare California Initiative, a grant program focused on building community resilience amongst vulnerable individuals living in high hazard risk communities.

However, the two programs this bill seeks to expand have exhausted all funding appropriated in the 2021 Budget and as such, it is unnecessary to formally establish the programs in statute.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-550 (Grove) - Water markets.

This bill would have required the Legislative Analyst, by January 1, 2025, in collaboration with DWR, the State Water Board, and other state agencies as described, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report on the water market.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-583 (Padilla) - Salton Sea Conservancy.

This bill creates the Salton Sea Conservancy, contingent upon passage of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024.

Status: Chapter 771, Statutes of 2024

Governor's Message:

Governor's message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 583, which creates the Salton Sea Conservancy within the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to operate, maintain, and manage projects that are planned or built under the authority of the Salton Sea Management Program.

The Salton Sea Management Program is committed to building 30,000 acres of habitat and dust suppression projects around the Salton Sea to improve air quality and provide critical environmental habitat for birds along the Pacific Flyway. As the first projects are near completion, the state will need to transition to the operation and maintenance of completed projects. This bill will centralize the operation and maintenance of these projects in a new, mission-focused conservancy, led by the state, with extensive local community involvement and partnership. Importantly, enactment of this bill is contingent upon passage by the voters of the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, placed on the November 2024 ballot.

I support this approach, which balances the creation of a new, mission-focused conservancy with viable and stable funding sources. In signing this bill, I expect that this conservancy will remain focused on fulfilling its primary objective - operation, maintenance, and management of Salton Sea restoration projects - without placing undue pressure on the state's General Fund.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-586 (Eggman) - Flood management: deadlines.

As it passed this Committee, this bill would have provided that the 2025 deadline to achieve urban level of flood protection necessary for development does not apply to the Mossdale Tract or West Sacramento as long as a flood management agency has an active federal project in the planning, design, construction, or project closeout phase, a completed federal feasibility study awaiting congressional authorization, or an authorized federal project awaiting the receipt of federal appropriations to advance design, construction, or project closeout activities. The bill was subsequently amended to instead extend the 2025 deadline to 2040 for the Mossdale Tract and the City of West Sacramento to achieve urban level of flood protection.

Status: Chapter 10, Statutes of 2024

SB-638 (Eggman) - Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by voters on the November 5, 2024 statewide election ballot, would have authorized \$6 billion in general obligation bonds for flood protection and climate resiliency projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held without hearing in the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee.

SB-649 (Hurtado) - California Endangered Species Act: incidental take permits.

This bill would have required CDFW to make the determination to issue an incidental take permit for an endangered or threatened species for a project based on a real-time monitoring system, rather than a calendar-based schedule, and to additionally consider the proximity of the endangered or threatened species relative to the operation of a facility subject to certain permit conditions and the known location of the population of the endangered or threatened species relative to the facility subject to the permit, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

SB-651 (Grove) - Water storage and recharge: California Environmental Quality Act: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009: exemptions.

This bill would have required challenges to the certification of an environmental impact report, or the granting of any project approvals, of groundwater recharge projects that implement a groundwater sustainability plan or an interim groundwater sustainability plan to be resolved within 270 days, as specified, and would have required the Judicial Council to adopt a rule of court establishing such procedures.

Status: This bill was held without hearing in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

SB-659 (Ashby) - California Water Supply Solutions Act of 2023.

This bill establishes the California Water Supply Solutions Act of 2023, requiring DWR, as a part of the 2028 update to the California Water Plan, and each subsequent update to the California Water Plan, to provide actionable recommendations to develop

additional groundwater recharge opportunities that increase the recharge of the state's groundwater basins.

Status: Chapter 624, Statutes of 2023

SB-687 (Eggman) - Water Quality Control Plan: Delta Conveyance Project.

This bill would have required the State Water Board to adopt a final update of the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary before the State Water Board may consider a change in point diversion or any other water rights permit or order for the Delta Conveyance Project or any other isolated Delta conveyance project. The bill would have further prohibited, if the State Water Board approves a change in point of diversion or other water rights permit or order approving for the Delta Conveyance Project, the Delta Conveyance Project from being operated until the water quality control plan is fully implemented.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-753 (Caballero) - Cannabis: water resources.

This bill makes it a felony for a person to plant, cultivate, harvest, dry, or process cannabis plants that would intentionally or with gross negligence cause substantial environmental harm to surface water or groundwater.

Status: Chapter 504, Statutes of 2023

SB-756 (Laird) - Water: unlicensed cannabis cultivation site: procedure.

This bill provides the State Water Board and the regional water quality control boards with new authority regarding the inspection of unlicensed cannabis cultivation and expands the method of notice of State Water Board and regional water quality control board decisions.

Status: Chapter 158, Statutes of 2023

SB-836 (Dahle) - Landowner: water right holder: jointly used conduits: County of Siskiyou.

This bill permits a landowner or water right holder, in the County of Siskiyou, to modify or replace segments of a conduit if the conduit either crosses the landowner's property or conveys water to which the water right holder has a right, the conduit is not under the authority of a public agency, and the modification does not impede the flow of water to a

water right holder. The bill requires the landowner or water right holder proposing a modification or replacement of a conduit to be liable for any damage to a private landowner's property that may occur during the replacement or modification.

Status: Chapter 889, Statutes of 2023

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1088 (Alvarado-Gil) - Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

This bill would have established the Rural Water Infrastructure for Community Wildfire Protection Program within CalOES to distribute state matching funds to communities within the Wildland Urban Interface in high- and very high- fire hazard severity zones for water system infrastructure improvement.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1110 (Ashby) - Urban retail water suppliers: informational order: conservation order.

This bill would have permitted the State Water Board to adopt a policy to guide its enforcement of urban water use objective regulations; delayed enforcement of the objectives by two years; consolidated reporting on urban water use; and allowed water

agencies to report on a calendar or fiscal year basis, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1139 (Ashby) - Flood protection: City of Sacramento: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency.

This bill would have extended the deadline for the City of Sacramento to meet the urban level of flood protection to 2030, and provided that the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency may be required to contribute its fair and reasonable share of any flood-caused property damage to any new development, as provided.

Status: This bill was held without hearing in the Senate Local Government Committee.

SB-1156 (Hurtado) - Groundwater sustainability agencies: financial disclosures.

This bill requires members of the board of directors and the executive of a groundwater sustainability agency, as defined by the bill, to file statements of economic interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission, as provided.

Status: Chapter 458, Statutes of 2024

SB-1185 (Niello) - Water conservation: water use objectives.

This bill would have made numerous changes to the state's framework for urban water use conservation, including authorizing self-certification of any variances, and establishing a cap on the reduction of water use due to improved conservation to 20%, among other provisions.

Status: This bill failed passage in the April 23, 2024 Committee hearing on a 3 - 8 - 0 vote.

SB-1218 (Newman) - Water: emergency water supplies.

This bill would have declared that it is state policy to encourage the development of emergency water supplies to be used during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1226 (Cortese) - Hunting: navigable waters.

This bill modifies a section of the Fish and Game Code that prohibits the use of certain temporarily inundated lands for hunting without permission to clarify that this applies to non-navigable waters only, and authorizes the use of navigable waters for hunting, fishing, or other public purpose, as provided.

Status: Chapter 186, Statutes of 2024

SB-1330 (Archuleta) - Urban retail water supplier: water use.

This bill would have delayed the State Water Board's authority to enforce the urban water use objective and impose penalties, required DWR to study water efficiency performance, required the Legislative Analyst's Office to complete a report, and made other changes to the urban water use objective statute, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1373 (Cortese) - Water data dashboard.

This bill would have required DWR to create a water data dashboard that includes specified data relating to the movement of water in the Central Valley Project and State Water Project and is accessible through its internet website.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1390 (Caballero) - Groundwater recharge: floodflows: diversion.

This bill would have modified the requirements for a diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge without an appropriative water right.

Status: This bill failed passage on the Assembly Floor.

AB-30 (Ward) - Atmospheric Rivers: Research, Mitigation, and Climate Forecasting Program.

This bill renames the Atmospheric Rivers program as the Atmospheric Rivers Research and Forecast Improvement Program: Enabling Climate Adaptation Through Forecast-

Informed Reservoir Operations and Hazard Resiliency Program and requires DWR to research, develop, and implement new observations, prediction models, novel forecasting methods, and tailored decision support systems to improve predictions of atmospheric rivers and their impacts on water supply, flooding, post-wildfire debris flows, and environmental conditions.

Status: Chapter 134, Statutes of 2023

AB-277 (Rodriguez) - Extreme Weather Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center.

This bill would have codified the State Federal Flood Operations Center in DWR and would have required DWR and CalOES to report on forecasting and data that would improve flood response.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-305 (Villapudua) - California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have placed a \$4.5 billion flood protection and dam safety improvement bond before the voters on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot, including \$1 billion to DWR for multibenefit flood protection projects, \$1 billion to DWR for projects to reduce urban flood risk, \$1 billion to DWR for improvement of dam safety, \$1 billion to DWR for flood management projects in the Central Valley, and \$500 million to DWR for levee rehabilitation projects, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-345 (Wilson) - Habitat restoration: flood control: advance payments.

This bill authorizes DWR and CVFPB to provide advance payments to local agencies for projects that either restore habitat for threatened and endangered species, improve flood protection, or both, and that meet specified requirements.

Status: Chapter 647, Statutes of 2023

AB-460 (Bauer-Kahan) - State Water Resources Control Board: water rights and usage: civil penalties.

This bill increases the penalties for certain violations of cease and desist orders and curtailment orders issued by the State Water Board, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 342, Statutes of 2024

AB-560 (Bennett) - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

This bill would have required the parties to an adjudication action regarding groundwater management, before filing a proposed settlement agreement with the court, to submit the proposed settlement agreement to the State Water Board for a nonbinding advisory determination as to whether the proposed settlement agreement will substantially impair the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the State Water Board, or DWR to achieve sustainable groundwater management, as provided. The bill would have required the determination to be provided no later than 120 days after the submission, and for it to contain specified findings, including how the proposed settlement agreement would affect small and disadvantaged groundwater users under the existing groundwater sustainability plan. The bill would have required the parties to submit the advisory determination to the court when filing the proposed settlement, and specified that a court is not bound to enter judgment in a manner consistent with the nonbinding advisory determination of the State Water Board.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-676 (Bennett) - Water: general state policy.

This bill would have provided that, for purposes of implementing state policy regarding the management of water resources, "domestic purposes" constitutes water use for human consumption, cooking, or sanitary purposes; care of household livestock and animals; care of household gardens; fire suppression and other safety purposes; purposes determined to be a domestic purpose established by common law; and deliveries of water for these purposes.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 676 without my signature.

Current law establishes, as state policy, the highest use of water shall be for domestic purposes. This bill would supplement that policy by specifying what constitutes domestic use, such as human consumption, household gardening and livestock care, and fire suppression.

While I appreciate the author's intent to clarify existing law, which has remained untouched since 1943, this bill has the potential to introduce unnecessary legal uncertainty. Courts have defined domestic use for nearly half a century, and codifying specific definitions now unnecessarily risks inadvertent omissions.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-682 (Mathis) - State Water Resources Control Board: online search tool: funding applications.

This bill requires the State Water Board, by January 1, 2025, to update its online search tool for funding applications to include, at a minimum, specified information relating to the status of water systems' funding applications including, among others, additional information required by the State Water Board and cause of any prolonged delays in the process.

Status: Chapter 340, Statutes of 2023

AB-706 (Luz Rivas) - Leasing of public lands: minerals other than oil and gas.

This bill makes various changes to the statutes governing SLC's authority to grant permits and leases for mineral extraction and removal, including to make these statutes consistent with a prohibition on extracting or removing hard minerals, as defined, from state waters subject to tidal influence and to create a new type of permit for nonexclusive geological or geophysical exploration for minerals.

Status: Chapter 120, Statutes of 2023

AB-748 (Villapudua) - California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program.

This bill would have established the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program to identify, prioritize, and fund, as specified, the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels from commercially navigable waters under the direction of a new task force that would have been established by the bill. Further, this bill would have generally prohibited a commercial vessel that is at-risk of becoming derelict from occupying, anchoring, mooring, or otherwise being secured in or on commercially navigable waters.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 748 without my signature.

This bill would establish the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program and a multi-agency task force to identify, prioritize, and fund the removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels across the state.

While I support the author's attempt to create a statewide approach to address abandoned and derelict commercial vessels in California that pose significant public health, safety, and environmental risks, this program was not accounted for in the 2023 Budget Act. Implementation across the relevant agencies is expected to cost about \$7.5 million in year 1 with ongoing General Fund impacts.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-754 (Papan) - Water management planning: water shortages.

This bill would have required water shortage contingency plans and drought plans, which are included in urban water management plans and agricultural water management plans, respectively, to include, if a single reservoir constitutes at least 50 percent of the total water supply for the urban water supplier or agricultural water supplier, an identification of the dam and description of existing reservoir management operations.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-755 (Papan) - Water: public entity: cost-of-service analysis.

This bill requires a public entity to conduct a "water usage demand analysis" before completing, or as part of, a cost-of-service analysis used to set fees and charges for water service pursuant to Proposition 218. The bill also requires the water usage demand analysis to identify the costs of water service for the highest users incurred by the public entity and the average annual volume of water delivered to high water users.

Status: Chapter 542, Statutes of 2023

AB-779 (Wilson) - Groundwater: adjudication.

This bill enacts various changes to the procedures governing comprehensive groundwater adjudication and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to address transparency in the adjudication process, ensure that the water use of small farmers and disadvantaged communities are considered by a court before judgement is entered, and specify that monitoring and reporting under an approved groundwater sustainability plan continues throughout the duration of the adjudication proceeding, unless otherwise specified by the court.

Status: Chapter 665, Statutes of 2023

AB-830 (Soria) - Lake and streambed alteration agreements: exemptions.

This bill would have exempt from lake or streambed alteration agreement requirements the temporary operation of existing infrastructure or temporary pumps to divert flood stage flows, or near-flood stage flows, to groundwater recharge if certain conditions are

met.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-833 (Rendon) - Freeway caps.

This bill, when it was referred to this Committee, would have required the Parks Department to develop a plan to expand the Rio de Los Angeles State Park on lands along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries.

Status: This bill was amended into another issue area relating to transportation and withdrawn from this Committee prior to hearing. This bill's hearing in the Senate Transportation Committee was canceled at the request of the author.

AB-876 (Robert Rivas) - Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project: environmental laws: exemptions.

This bill exempts the Pajaro River Project from lake or streambed alteration agreement requirements and certain waste discharge regulations, and deems a certain environmental assessment prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to the National Environmental Protection Act to meet the requirements of CEQA.

Status: Chapter 816, Statutes of 2023

AB-923 (Bauer-Kahan) - Flood plain restoration projects: Central Valley: study.

This bill would have required CVFPB, in coordination with DWR, to identify priority flood plain restoration or floodway expansion projects where increased flows are likely to overwhelm existing flood protection infrastructure and that provide certain public benefits, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1024 (Aguiar-Curry) - Water rights: small irrigation use: lake or streambed alteration agreements.

This bill would have exempt entities in certain Central and Northern California counties that have a registration for small domestic use, small irrigation, or livestock stockpond

water use from the requirement to have a lake or streambed alteration agreement.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1205 (Bauer-Kahan) - California State University students: California Promise: Finish in four and through in two.

This bill, as it was heard in this Committee, would have directed the State Water Board to conduct a study on the existence of speculation or profiteering by an investment fund in the sale, transfer, or lease of an interest in any surface water right or groundwater right previously put to beneficial use on agricultural lands, as specified.

The bill was subsequently amended outside of this Committee's jurisdiction to relate to the California Promise program, where California State University campuses pledge to support a qualifying transfer student earning a baccalaureate degree, as specified.

Status: Chapter 677, Statutes of 2024

AB-1272 (Wood) - State Water Resources Control Board: drought planning.

This bill would have required the State Water Board to develop a program, in consultation with CDFW, to adopt principles and guidelines for the diversion and use of water in specific coastal watersheds during times of water shortage with the purpose of enhancing drought preparedness and climate resiliency and allowing the development of locally generated watershed-level plans to protect public trust uses, public health and safety, and the human right to water.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1272 without my signature.

The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to adopt principles and guidelines for diversion and use of water in certain coastal watersheds during times of water shortage for drought preparedness and climate resiliency.

While I support efforts to protect coastal watersheds from the extreme dry conditions exacerbated by climate change, this bill creates significant, ongoing costs in the millions

of dollars that should be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closes a \$46.8 billion deficit in 2024-25 and a projected deficit of \$27.3 billion in 2025-26 through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1337 (Wicks) - State Water Resources Control Board: water diversion curtailment.

This bill would have authorized the State Water Board to issue a curtailment order for any diversion when water is not available under the diverter's priority of right, made failure to comply with the curtailment order a trespass, authorized the State Water Board to issue a cease and desist order when a water right holder fails to curtail diversions when water is not available under the water right holder's priority of right, expanded the instances when unauthorized diversion or use of water is considered a trespass, and made relevant legislative findings and declarations, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in this Committee but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

AB-1563 (Bennett) - Groundwater sustainability agency: groundwater extraction permit: verification.

This bill would have prohibited permitting agencies from approving permits for certain new groundwater wells or altering certain existing well permits in a critically over-drafted basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act unless certain conditions are met, including, among others, that the groundwater sustainability agency managing the basin verifies that the proposed well is not inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program, the proposed well would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin, and the permitting agency determines that extraction from the well is not likely to interfere with an existing nearby

well or cause subsidence. The bill would have declared that this finding is not a discretionary approval for purposes of CEQA.

Status: This bill was held without hearing in the Senate Local Government Committee.

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-1572 (Friedman) - Potable water: nonfunctional turf.

This bill phases out the use of potable water for irrigation of nonfunctional turf on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, as specified, and on properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations. The bill authorizes the State Water Board to create a form for compliance certification, authorizes the State Water Board to postpone the compliance deadlines, as specified, and imposes civil liabilities and penalties for noncompliance, as specified.

Status: Chapter 849, Statutes of 2023

AB-1573 (Friedman) - Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance.

This bill would have made changes to requirements of the Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance, which is developed by DWR, including requiring the use of more

nonnative plants that are non-invasive, provide pollinator benefits, and are low-water use, and native plants, and prohibiting the use of nonfunctional turf in nonresidential landscape projects.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-1631 (Schiavo) - Water resources: permit to appropriate: application procedure: mining use.

This bill would have required the State Water Board to issue a new notice of application and provide an opportunity for protest on any water rights application for a mining operation that has been pending for more than 30 years, except as specified.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1631 without my signature.

This bill requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to issue a notice for public participation for certain water right applications if it has not rendered a final determination within 30 years from the date the permit was filed. This would impact a single, current application for a project in the author's district that is long delayed.

While I appreciate the author's attempt to provide an opportunity to comment on the water right application in question, the State Water Board formally stated its intent to re-notice the application by the end of this year, rendering this bill unnecessary.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-1992 (Boerner) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon and teal carbon demonstration projects.

This bill authorizes the Coastal Commission and CNRA to authorize blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands, respectively, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1992 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission and the California Natural Resources Agency to facilitate the development of blue and teal carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and inland wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2023 alone, the State invested approximately \$9.6 billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022, which required the state to develop achievable carbon removal targets for natural and working lands. This same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across State agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solution climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2060 (Soria) - Lake and streambed alteration agreements: exemptions.

This bill would have exempted a temporary urgency permit (a temporary water right permit) to divert water for underground storage from Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement requirements if the water diversion commenced before January 1, 2029 and the diversion met certain criteria, as provided.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-2079 (Bennett) - Groundwater extraction: large-diameter, high-capacity water wells: permits.

This bill would have required greater interagency coordination and public notice regarding applications to drill water wells and would have prohibited a local agency from approving new “large-diameter, high-capacity” wells within one-quarter mile of domestic wells and areas of significant land subsidence, unless specifically exempted.

Status: This bill failed passage in the June 11, 2024 Committee hearing on a 5 – 6 - 0 vote.

AB-2610 (Garcia) - Protected species: authorized take: System Conservation Implementation Agreement.

This bill would have added the implementation of any System Conservation Implementation Agreement between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Imperial Irrigation District to implement the Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program for the years 2024 – 2026, inclusive, to the existing authorization to take fully protected species under the Quantification Settlement Agreement, as provided, among other things.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2799 (Alanis) - Sustainable groundwater management: small farms: fees.

This bill would have required a groundwater sustainability agency, when imposing or increasing fees, to consider the efforts of small farms that recharge groundwater into the basin upon which their property is located.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in this committee but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

AB-2875 (Friedman) - Wetlands: state policy.

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

Status: Chapter 579, Statutes of 2024

AB-2962 (Papan) - Wholesale Regional Water System Security and Reliability Act.

This bill extends the sunset date of the Wholesale Regional Water System Security and Reliability Act from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2036.

Status: Chapter 203, Statutes of 2024

AB-3121 (Hart) - Public utilities: incentive programs.

This bill, as it was heard in this Committee, would have delayed by two years each the State Water Board's ability to issue an informational order, written notice, or conservation order related to the efficient use of water by an urban retail water supplier to January 1, 2026, January 1, 2027, and January 1, 2028, respectively. This bill would have also required the Legislative Analyst's Office to evaluate the implementation of the urban water use efficiency regulations by the State Water Board, as provided.

This bill was amended into a different issue area relating to public utilities after being heard by this Committee.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communication Committee.

AB-3227 (Alvarez) - California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: stormwater facilities: routine maintenance.

This bill exempts from CEQA routine maintenance of public stormwater facilities that meet certain requirements.

Status: Chapter 761, Statutes of 2024

Wildfire and Forestry

SB-310 (Dodd) - Prescribed fire: civil liability: cultural burns.

This bill authorizes the Secretary of CNRA and local air districts to enter into written agreements with federally recognized California Native American Tribes to waive certain state requirements for cultural burns in ancestral territories, as specified, and expands the definition of burn boss for purposes of the qualified immunity provided prescribed

fire and cultural burns in California, among other things.

Status: Chapter 666, Statutes of 2024

SB-470 (Alvarado-Gil) - Wildfires: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: grant eligibility: high fire hazard and very high fire hazard severity zones.

This bill would have codified the Urban Water Community Drought Relief program and the Small Community Drought Relief program at DWR. Further, the bill would have authorized these programs, upon appropriation, to fund projects that provide benefits in addition to drought relief, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfires for communities through water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes in high- and very high-fire hazard severity zones, among other things.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 470 without my signature.

This bill would codify two grant programs within the Department of Water Resources established by the Budget Act of 2021: the Urban Water Community Drought Relief Program and the Small Community Drought Relief Program. It also authorizes these programs to fund benefits in addition to drought relief, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfire.

I thank the author for the commitment to support under-resourced communities most at risk of wildfire, and the intent of this bill is in line with work currently underway within my Administration. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) recently launched the Prepare California Initiative, a grant program focused on building community resilience amongst vulnerable individuals living in high hazard risk communities.

However, the two programs this bill seeks to expand have exhausted all funding appropriated in the 2021 Budget and as such, it is unnecessary to formally establish the programs in statute.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-504 (Dodd) - Wildfires: defensible space: grant programs: local governments.

This bill updates defensible space requirements and implementation timeframes for the ember-resistant zone. The bill also revises the Fire Prevention Grants Program at CAL FIRE, including activities eligible for funding.

Status: Chapter 982, Statutes of 2024

SB-571 (Allen) - Fire safety regulations: development projects: ingress and egress standards.

This bill would have required OPR to conduct a study and prepare a report, including recommendations, that evaluates potential improvements to state standards for ingress and egress and evacuation routes for development in the event of a natural disaster.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 571 without my signature.

This bill would require the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LUCI) to conduct a study, prepare recommendations, and produce a report that evaluates potential improvements to state standards for ingress and egress and evacuation routes for use in the event of a natural disaster.

My Administration understands and takes seriously the dangers that wildfires pose to our state. This is why I have worked with the Legislature, as well as through an Executive Order, to better prepare Californians against fire risk. I remain committed to advancing wildfire safety efforts; however, this bill requires ongoing funding and should be considered in the annual budget process.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering

bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

In addition, the regulatory authority for wildfire ingress and egress requirements lies with the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, which only recently updated the Minimum Fire Safety Regulations.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

SB-675 (Limón) - Prescribed grazing: local assistance grant program: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.

This bill directs the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to develop a strategic action plan to expand the use of prescribed grazing to support the state's efforts to increase the pace and scale of wildfire and forest resilience activities, among other goals. Further, this bill directs the Range Management Advisory Committee of the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop guidance for local or regional prescribed grazing plans. Finally, this bill authorizes grant funding for prescribed grazing projects under the Fire Prevention Grants Program administered by CAL FIRE.

Status: Chapter 772, Statutes of 2024

SB-782 (Limón) - Gubernatorial appointments: report.

This bill, as it was referred to this Committee, would have required the Coastal Commission to develop a public works plan for vegetation management in the coastal zone.

This bill was subsequently withdrawn from this Committee, amended into another issue area relating to state government by the author, and re-referred to the Senate Governmental Organization and Judiciary Committees.

Status: Senate-Vetoed.

SB-867 (Allen) - 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.

This bill enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, which authorizes a \$10 billion bond to be placed before the state's voters for approval, as provided, including \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs; \$1.5 billion for wildfire and forest resilience programs; \$1.2 billion for coastal resilience programs; \$450 million for extreme heat mitigation programs; \$1.2 billion for biodiversity protection and nature-based climate solution programs; \$300 million for climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands programs; \$700 million for park creation and outdoor access programs; and \$850 million for clean energy programs.

Status: Chapter 83, Statutes of 2024

SB-1014 (Dodd) - Wildfire safety: The California Wildfire Mitigation Strategic Planning Act.

This bill would have required the Office of the State Fire Marshal to prepare a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework and make this framework available as a planning tool for entities likely to engage in statewide wildfire risk mitigation actions.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1029 (Min) - Fire protection: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: reports.

This bill would have required DOC to submit a report to the Legislature that evaluates the impact and effectiveness of the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity program every five years, beginning December 31, 2028.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1088 (Alvarado-Gil) - Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

This bill would have established the Rural Water Infrastructure for Community Wildfire Protection Program within CalOES to distribute state matching funds to communities

within the Wildland Urban Interface in high- and very high- fire hazard severity zones for water system infrastructure improvement.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1101 (Limón) - Fire prevention: prescribed fire: state contracts: maps.

This bill streamlines contracting requirements for the provision of logistical support for large-scale prescribed fire operations by CAL FIRE. Further, the bill requires CAL FIRE to map a comprehensive network of potential operational delineations for strategic wildfire response or the proactive use of prescribed fire, and map the severity of wildfire impacts.

Status: Chapter 778, Statutes of 2024

SB-1159 (Dodd) - California Environmental Quality Act: roadside wildfire risk reduction projects.

This bill would have required, by January 1, 2026, OPR to evaluate and the Secretary of CNRA to consider creating a categorical exemption from CEQA for roadside projects no more than five road miles from a municipality or census-designated place if the project is solely for wildfire risk reduction.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1176 (Niello) - Wildfires: workgroup: toxic heavy metals.

This bill would have required, upon appropriation by the Legislature, CAL FIRE, CalOES, and DTSC to form a workgroup related to exposure of toxic heavy metals after a wildfire. The bill would have required the workgroup to, among other things, establish best practices and recommendations for wildfire-impacted communities and first responders to avoid exposure to heavy metals after a wildfire, and to report its findings the Legislature by January 1, 2026.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-57 (Kalra) - California Pocket Forest Initiative.

This bill would have established the California Pocket Forest Initiative in CAL FIRE until January 1, 2031.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 57 without my signature.

This bill would establish the California Pocket Forest Initiative in the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and require CAL FIRE to implement the initiative, as prescribed, with applicable reporting requirements.

This bill results in General Fund impacts not included in the 2023 Budget Act and likely significant ongoing General Fund cost pressure to support grants to complete projects funded through the initiative.

In partnership with the Legislature, we enacted a budget that closed a shortfall of more than \$30 billion through balanced solutions that avoided deep program cuts and protected education, health care, climate, public safety, and social service programs that are relied on by millions of Californians. This year, however, the Legislature sent me bills outside of this budget process that, if all enacted, would add nearly \$19 billion of unaccounted costs in the budget, of which \$11 billion would be ongoing.

With our state facing continuing economic risk and revenue uncertainty, it is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-297 (Vince Fong) - Wildfires: local assistance grant program: advance payments.

This bill makes permanent the authority of the director of CAL FIRE to authorize advance payments under the Fire Prevention Grants Program and makes other changes to that program related to prescribed grazing, as defined.

Status: Chapter 519, Statutes of 2023

AB-388 (Connolly) - Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan: implementation strategies: roadmap.

This bill would have required DOC to establish guidelines and regional investment strategies to support the goals and key actions identified in California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. Further, the bill would have authorized CNRA and its conservancies, departments, and boards to award regional block grants to implement regional priority strategies, among other plans, and multijurisdictional landscape-scale projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-527 (Calderon) - Urban forestry: school greening projects: grants.

This bill would have required CAL FIRE to develop a competitive grant program to support school greening projects.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-609 (Papan) - Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development: report on new technologies.

This bill would have required CAL FIRE to submit a report to the Legislature that assesses the feasibility to conduct an evaluation of innovative new aerial firefighting technologies, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-788 (Petrie-Norris) - Fire prevention: grant programs: reporting.

This bill would have required the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, on or before July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter, to compile and post on its internet website specified information relating to certain state and federal grant programs related to fire prevention, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1526 (Committee on Natural Resources) - Public resources.

This bill makes various technical, clarifying, and cleanup changes to the Public Resources Code, including to extend certain CalGEM deadlines, create a process to allow for more than one use of the one-time conversion exemption under the Forest Practice Act, add aerosol paint to the Architectural Paint Recovery Program, and adopt technical and clarifying amendments to Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB 54, Allen, Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022).

Status: Chapter 848, Statutes of 2023

AB-1567 (Garcia) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024 (Act), which, if approved by the voters on the March 5, 2024 primary ballot, would have authorized \$15.995 billion in general obligation bonds for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The Act would have included \$2.275 billion for wildfire prevention, \$1.655 billion for sea level rise, \$5.225 billion for safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection, \$1.5 billion for biodiversity protection, \$520 million for protecting farms and certain other lands from climate risk, \$1.59 billion for extreme heat protection and community resilience, \$1.2 billion for regional climate resilience, and \$2 billion for clean energy, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in this Committee without hearing.

AB-2276 (Wood) - Forestry: timber harvesting plans: exemptions.

This bill makes various changes to certain exemptions under the Forest Practice Act, including to consolidate the Small Timberland Owner Exemption and the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption under a new exemption called the Forest Resilience Exemption, revise the Oak Woodland Exemption, and extend specified exemption sunset dates.

Status: Chapter 388, Statutes of 2024

AB-2330 (Holden) - Endangered species: incidental take: wildfire preparedness activities.

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species, if any, needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2330 without my signature.

The bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop and implement a program to assist local governments with the taking of threatened or engaged species as part of their wildfire preparedness planning efforts.

While I support efforts to increase the pace and scale of wildfire preparedness, this bill creates significant, ongoing costs that should be considered in the annual budget process. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2469 (Committee on Emergency Management) - Emergency Management Assistance Compact: California Wildfire Mitigation Financial Assistance Program.

This bill extends the sunset dates for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and the California Wildfire Mitigation Financial Assistance Program, as specified.

Status: Chapter 402, Statutes of 2024

AB-2538 (Grayson) - Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: seasonal firefighters.

This bill would have required the California Department of Human Resources, the State Personnel Board, and any other relevant state agency to take various actions to ensure CAL FIRE may employ seasonal firefighters for more than 9 months in a consecutive 12-month period to address emergency fire conditions and personnel shortages.

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2538 without my signature.

The bill would, among other things, require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to employ seasonal firefighters (FFI) through the use of an employment list. This bill would also require the Department of Human Resources to coordinate with the State Personnel Board, and any other relevant State agency, to take the necessary actions to allow CAL FIRE to employ seasonal firefighters for longer than 9 months in a consecutive 12-month period.

Increasing CAL FIRE's capacity is an important objective, and with the introduction of the 66-hour work week for firefighters, my Administration will need to hire more than 2,000 new year-round firefighters, significantly increasing the department's capacity in the off-season. This bill is therefore unnecessary.

Additionally, this bill raises challenging questions about its compatibility with Article VII, Section 5 of the California Constitution, which provides generally that a temporary appointment may be made in the absence of an employment list, and no person may serve in one or more positions under a temporary appointment for longer than 9 months in a consecutive 12-month period. The seasonal firefighters that are the subject of this bill are hired into the Firefighter I classification, which is a temporary appointment.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-2968 (Connolly) - School safety and fire prevention: fire hazard severity zones: comprehensive school safety plans: communication and evacuation plans.

This bill requires, beginning the 2026-27 fiscal year, specified school safety plans to establish a procedure to identify appropriate refuge shelter for all pupils and staff to be used in the event of an evacuation order, as specified. The bill would require public schools serving more than 50 pupils in a high- or very high-fire hazard severity zone, as specified, the procedure to be coordinated with the operational area, and would also require, commencing with the 2026–27 fiscal year and as a part of the comprehensive school safety plans for these schools, the development of a communication and evacuation plan, to be used in the event of an early notice evacuation warning, as provided.

Status: Chapter 582, Statutes of 2024

AB-2983 (Rodriguez) - Office of Emergency Services: comprehensive wildfire mitigation program: impact on fire insurance.

This bill would have required the California Department of Insurance to be added to the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Board, as specified. The bill would have required the California Wildfire Mitigation Program, when reviewing projects or proposals, to assess the extent to which the project or proposal would increase the availability of insurance policies covering damage from fire, as specified..

Status: Assembly-Vetoed.

Governor's Veto Message:

Governor's veto message: To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2983 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Board (Board) to assess the extent to which projects or proposals would increase the availability of insurance policies covering damage from fire and would add the Department of Insurance to the Board.

While I appreciate the author's goal to add insurance considerations to the Board's work, this bill could lead to misleading expectations for homeowners as there is no guarantee that the additional assessments required by this bill would result in increased access to insurance. Further, the additional requirements for proposals or projects could

lead some communities to opt out of critical wildfire mitigation work that could help prevent a homeowner from ever having to file an insurance claim, which ultimately supports the market and market rate stability.

Finally, implementation of this bill would result in ongoing General Fund costs in the millions of dollars not included in the budget. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that avoids deep program cuts to vital services and protected investments in education, health care, climate, public safety, housing, and social service programs that millions of Californians rely on. It is important to remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

AB-3150 (Quirk-Silva) - Fire safety: fire hazard severity zones: defensible space: State Fire Marshal.

This bill would have required the State Fire Marshal to review and update fire hazard severity zones every five years, involve public agencies and other entities in fire hazard assessments, and adopt updated regulations for defensible space and fuel management. In addition, this bill would have shifted responsibilities for maintaining fire safety standards from the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to the State Fire Marshal and expanded the definition of a person responsible for maintaining defensible space in the state responsibility area to include public agencies.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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