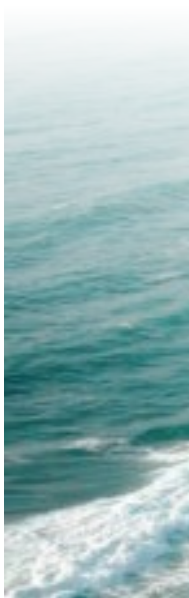




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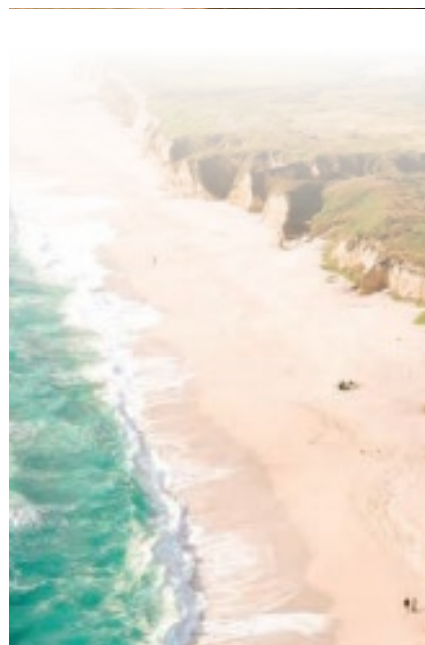
Wade Crowfoot | Secretary for Natural Resources | Council Chair
Yana Garcia | Secretary for Environmental Protection
Eleni Kounalakis | Lieutenant Governor
Ben Allen | State Senator
Dawn Addis | State Assemblymember
Alexis Jackson | Public Member
Megan Rocha | Public Member



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 25, 2023 – August 15, 2023

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



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Budget Update

The 2021 and 2022 Budget Acts originally committed \$1.6 billion for nature-based solutions and \$1.3 billion for coastal resilience over multiple years. After two remarkable years of budget surplus, the state faced an anticipated multibillion-dollar budget deficit in January of this year. To address this budget gap, Governor Newsom's proposed FY 2023-24 budget included reductions with proposed budget adjustments for OPC and coastal resilience programs:

- A reduction of \$15 million General Fund in FY2023/24 for protection of coastal and ocean ecosystems; and
- A reduction in \$64 million (\$54 million General Fund in FY2023-24 and \$10 million General Fund in FY2024-25) for local sea level rise (SLR) adaptation planning to implement Senate Bill 1 (Atkins, 2022).

Recognizing the impacts climate change on the coast and ocean, public and private property and infrastructure, ecosystem health, and California's coastal economy, the final FY 2023-24 Budget restored and maintains \$1.1 billion (86%) in investments over multiple years in programs and projects for coastal resilience. The Budget includes \$184 million of General Fund reductions across coastal protection and adaptation programs and restores \$102 million for coastal resilience programs, including \$65 million over two years (\$54.5 million General Fund in FY 2023-24 and \$10 million General Fund in FY 2024-25) to OPC for SB 1 implementation and the restoration of the proposed \$15 million cut from general appropriation funds for FY 2023/2024. The budget also included \$9.5 million to OPC for an Intertidal Biodiversity DNA Barcode Library.

Updates By Strategic Plan Goal

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

2023 California Sea-Level Rise Guidance Update

In June of 2022, OPC approved funding to [update the 2018 California Sea-Level Rise Guidance](#). In partnership with the Ocean Science Trust and a scientific Task Force, the updated Guidance will update sea-level rise scenarios based on the recent National SLR Technical Report and provide policy recommendations for translating that science for adaptation planning and projects. The draft Guidance is anticipated to be released for a 30-day public comment period in mid-September. Letters requesting tribal consultation (jointly coordinated with OPC's SB 1 Grant Program and CNRA's Climate Adaptation Strategy update) were mailed on August 4, with informational webinars and listening sessions to solicit feedback from tribal governments scheduled before and after the draft Guidance is released for public comment. The final Guidance

is expected to be brought to the Council for approval at its December 12 meeting. An [FAQ document](#) is available for further details.

Senate Bill 1 Technical Assistance Program Solicitation

After receiving [Council approval](#) at the April 2023 OPC meeting, OPC released a [solicitation](#) for applicants to develop an SB 1 Technical Assistance Program (SB 1 TA Program) to provide application support to local, regional, and tribal governments that represent Environmental Justice communities applying for SLR Adaptation Planning funding. An Informational Webinar was held on June 14, and full proposals were due July 13. Review of the full proposals is currently underway. The SB 1 TA Program is expected to launch concurrently with the SB 1 SLR Adaptation Planning Grant Program (SB 1 Grant Program) in Fall 2023.

NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

NOAA recently announced its [Climate Resilience Regional Challenge](#), which will provide \$575M in Inflation Reduction Act funds to support projects that build resilience for coastal communities to the impacts of climate change. Funding is directed in two tracks: Track 1 will support planning through new, regional-scaled collaboratives or advance existing efforts and Track 2 will fund implementation of adaptation projects. Leadership from CNRA, including OPC's Executive Director, has been working to coordinate state and external efforts to facilitate collaboration and maximize federal funding awarded for coastal resilience efforts in California. A working session with California climate leaders for those considering applying for this funding was held at the Climate Adaptation Forum on August 1, with a second session scheduled via webinar on August 7 at 3pm; [registration for the webinar can be done online](#).

New Coastal Resilience Resources

Two OPC-funded projects have recently released reports that offer resources to address coastal resiliency:

- The San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative's project: *Establishing a San Diego Regional Resilience Roadmap to Enable Project-based Action and Investment* ([Staff Recommendation, Item 5h](#)) completed the [San Diego Region Coastal Resilience Roadmap](#), a planning tool, rooted in equity, designed to build local capacity to move the needle on regional adaptation projects and address the impacts of SLR.
- UC Santa Barbara's Ocean and Coastal Policy Center's report: [Planning for Sea Level Rise on California's Coast: Status, Trends, and Recommendations](#), was funded by OPC in February 2021 ([Staff Recommendation, Item 5o](#)). This report updates the current status of SLR planning along the coast of California and recommends key actions to advance coastal

resiliency through sound planning and investments. As of June 2023, 61% of outer coastal jurisdictions have SLR vulnerability assessments, 29% have SLR adaptation plans, and 22% have Local Coastal Programs (LCPs) updated for SLR.

Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia

OPC staff participated in a workgroup of experts, including members from Oregon, California, Washington, and Alaska, to help the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) develop a 303d listing process for ocean acidification and hypoxia (OAH) with focused biological, chemical, and assessment sub-groups. This resulted in the release of a [Draft Methodology for Assessing Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Impacts in Oregon](#) for public comment from May 30, 2023 through July 7, 2023.

In response to the [OAH Modeling project](#) findings presented during a [State Water Resources Control Board \(State Water Board\) Information Item held March 21, 2023](#), the State Water Board held a [staff workshop on May 18, 2023](#) on statewide nutrient management. This workshop included presentations on the status of nutrient standards development for inland and ocean waters, the San Francisco Bay Nutrient Management Strategy and Nutrient Reduction Study, and Los Angeles County Sanitation District Nutrient Removal Planning. In June 2023, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) convened a Steering Committee comprised of representatives from OPC, the State Water Board, the San Diego Regional Water Board, publicly owned treatment works, science entities, and a non-governmental organization for an Independent Review Panel of the OAH Modeling Project.

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

Federal Ocean Justice Strategy

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) issued a [request for information \(RFI\)](#) on June 8, 2023 seeking voluntary input from all interested parties to inform the development of an Ocean Justice Strategy. The Ocean Justice Strategy will describe the vision, goals, and high-level objectives for coordinating and guiding ocean justice activities across the federal government. It builds on current Biden-Harris Administration activities and commitments aimed to advance environmental justice. The effort is led by the Ocean Policy Committee, a Congressionally mandated, cabinet-level interagency committee charged with coordinating federal ocean policy.

Through the RFI, the Ocean Policy Committee sought public input on what the vision and goals of the Ocean Justice Strategy should be and how the Federal Government can advance just and equitable access to, and management and use of, the ocean, the coasts, and the Great Lakes. The

California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot [submitted a letter](#) with support by OPC, the Office of Tribal Affairs, California Coastal Commission, California Fish and Wildlife Department, and California State Lands Commission to highlight existing California policies relevant to a federal Ocean Justice Strategy.

Tribal consultation on 30x30 and Indigenous Marine Stewardship Areas

In the coming months, OPC will initiate early consultation with tribes to solicit tribal input on its strategies for conserving 30% of California's coastal waters by 2030. In particular, OPC is seeking to consult with tribes on how Indigenous Marine Stewardship Areas (IMSAs), as outlined in the state's *Pathways to 30x30* document, can support tribal priorities and help protect coastal and marine biodiversity. OPC is currently developing a consultation strategy and timeline; requests for consultation will be released in late summer to early fall. More information is available in the Informational Item: [Implementation of 30x30 in Coastal Waters: Progress & Next Steps](#).

Equity Plan Implementation

Nearly a year ago, the Council adopted the OPC Equity Plan, marking a significant commitment to embed equity and prioritize environmental justice across OPC's ocean and coastal work. Since then, OPC staff have advanced the implementation of the Plan, making progress in various stages, including:

Equity Plan Implementation and Facilitation: OPC has embarked in a partnership with the Better World Group Advisors (BWG) to support Equity Plan implementation and facilitation of a staff-led Environmental Justice Advisory Board (EJ Advisory Board). The EJ Advisory Board will be comprised of public members representing EJ and tribal communities that can provide recommendations to help OPC best implement Equity Plan priorities (*Equity Plan, Strategy 3.3.2*) within the next three years. OPC staff will work collaboratively with EJ Advisory Board members to integrate their knowledge and expertise on key equity priorities, including but not limited to: community engagement approaches for OPC projects; informing research questions in scoping science/research projects; helping identify regional climate priorities and metrics for community health and resilience; co-developing statewide equity indicators to inform OPC's Annual Coast and Ocean Report; and reviewing grant evaluation and scoring criteria to improve funding accessibility and provide community benefits to environmental justice communities and tribes. The project is scheduled to kick-off in the coming weeks to begin recruitment of EJ Advisory Board members.

Environmental Justice Small Grants: OPC has partnered with grantee, Justice Outside, to support the development and administration of OPC's Environmental Justice Small Grants Program. This program will support investments for organizations to fulfill small and short-term projects across coastal regions that create positive impacts in California's EJ communities (*Equity Plan, Strategy*

1.3.7) and advance coastal and ocean conservation priorities in OPC's Strategic Plan. Justice Outside will work with OPC staff and EJ Advisory Board to design and administer this program which will include extensive and nontraditional outreach to priority communities, an accessible application process, technical assistance and capacity building for grantee partners, and opportunities to mobilize and join larger EJ networks in the state and across the country.

Prop 68 Grant Guidelines Revision: OPC staff is actively updating OPC's Prop 68 Grant Guidelines with the aim of promoting equitable access to OPC funds and enhancing clarity within the guidelines. Centering equity is at the forefront of this revision process. Major changes include refinements to the scoring criteria to re-assess prioritization of funding towards coastal resilience and biodiversity projects that provide significant and meaningful benefits to environmental justice and tribal communities. Minor changes include updates to application submittal process, utilizing community-centered terminology, and streamlining sections for overall clarity and user-readability.

Goal 3: Enhance Coastal and Marine Biodiversity

California's Water Supply Strategy: Seawater Desalination

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released the [Draft Seawater Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting](#) (Draft Report) developed by a Seawater Desalination Interagency Group in response to direction in [California's Water Supply Strategy: Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future](#). The Water Supply Strategy additionally commits state agencies to identify potential available mitigation sites by June 30, 2024.

The Seawater Desalination Interagency Group, headed by the State Water Board, includes representatives from the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, California Natural Resources Agency, Coastal Commission, Department of Water Resources, Ocean Protection Council, and Department of Fish and Wildlife, among others. Agencies identified criteria for siting cost-effective and environmentally appropriate seawater desalination projects to facilitate approval under existing regulatory requirements, as well as recommendations for potential changes to existing requirements to streamline permitting. The Draft Report has no regulatory force or effect but reflects interagency consensus regarding recommendations to clarify the permitting process while ensuring appropriate review of projects.

An [informational webinar](#) was held July 21, 2023 and the deadline for public comment was July 28, 2023.

Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC): Science Advisory Panel

The [Constituents of Emerging Concern \(CEC\) Science Advisory Panel for Aquatic Ecosystems \(Panel\)](#), facilitated by the Southern California Coastal Water Quality Project Authority (SCCWRP) and funded by OPC and the State Water Board, released the Final Technical Report, Monitoring Strategies for Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs) in California's Aquatic Ecosystems, Recommendations of a Science Advisory Panel in April 2023. The Final Technical Report resulted in:

- Guidance to structure, quality assurance and visualization of CECs covered by the existing State Water Board CEC dataset;
- Guidance to use other sources to inform a CEC monitoring program;
- An updated risk-based approach to assess and identify CECs for monitoring in California receiving waters; and
- A sound foundation for a state-wide and regional CEC monitoring program in California.

More information is available on the State Water Board Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) Program [webpage](#).

Once-Through Cooling: Interim Mitigation

OPC staff, in coordination with the State Water Board Division of Water Quality, initiated a project to update the interim mitigation costing since the analysis of the 2012 Expert Review Panel (ERP II) was completed in 2012, based on data derived from mitigation projects initiated since the ERP II and meet the statutory directive of Senate Bill 846 (Stats. 2022, ch. 239). The specific goals and objectives of this anticipated project are limited to the impingement and entrainment impacts associated with once-through cooling (OTC) intake consistent with the scope of Clean Water Act Section 316(b).

An informational item before the State Water Board is scheduled to be held on August 15, 2023 regarding the development of a proposed resolution to revise the interim mitigation calculation for the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (OTC Policy) based on this project. OPC and the State Coastal Conservancy will additionally provide an overview of OTC interim mitigation program investments to date. Following this informational item, the State Water Board, State Coastal Conservancy, and OPC will hold public listening sessions and tribal consultations, upon request, regarding the draft resolution in Fall 2023.

Ocean Dumpsites: Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT)

The Budget Act of 2022, Senate Bill 154 (Stats. 2022, ch. 43), appropriated \$5,600,000 to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to provide financial assistance for DDT cleanup near southern California. To advance this objective, four projects were selected through a competitive research solicitation administered by California and University of Southern California Sea Grant programs, on behalf of the State Water Board and in consultation with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and OPC:

- [Foundational Research for Deep Ocean Dumping of DDT+ Wastes: How much is out there, where is it, and what is it doing today?](#) Project Lead: David L. Valentine, University of California Santa Barbara.
- [The production and mobility of DDT metabolites within sediments as controlled by the local diagenetic environment.](#) Project Lead: William Berelson, University of Southern California.
- [Assessment of Highly Mobile Coastal Elasmobranchs as Vectors of DDT to Low-Income Communities.](#) Project Lead: Christopher Lowe, California State University Long Beach.
- [Hazard assessment of deep ocean DDT disposal: Defining biomagnified DDT+ chemical profiles and investigating the health impacts on sentinel wildlife species and humans.](#) Project Leads: Eunha Hoh, Karilyn Sant, and Nathan Dodder, San Diego State University.

These projects join a portfolio of research being conducted to assess the scope and impacts of deep ocean disposal of DDT+ in Southern California. The new research projects, focused on state information and management needs, will complement ongoing [federally-funded research at Scripps Institution of Oceanography.](#)

Tijuana River Sewage Flows

On June 30, Secretary for Natural Resources Wade Crowfoot and Secretary for Environmental Protection Yana Garcia sent a letter to California congressional leaders requesting support for federal funding to repair the South Bay International Treatment Plant in San Diego to address the ongoing human health and environmental impacts caused by sewage flows from the Tijuana River. This continued transboundary pollution has resulted in beach closures of all southern California beaches, up to and including Coronado, creating significant and unacceptable impacts to environmental justice communities located near the border, including the communities of Imperial Beach and the Tijuana River Valley.

Protecting and Restoring California's Kelp Forests

OPC staff, in collaboration with staff from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and Strategic Earth Consulting, have selected members for a community working group to inform the development of CDFW's Kelp Restoration and Management Plan. Over 90 applications for 24 seats were received; project staff conducted interviews in June and assembled the community working group for its first meeting on July 26. The working group is composed of representatives from constituencies spanning commercial kelp harvesting, commercial sea urchin harvesting, NGOs, and tribal governments, among others. Concomitant with the assembly of the community working group, OPC and CDFW staff worked with California Sea Grant to convene a Science Advisory Committee composed of academic researchers and scientists, including tribal scientists, whose research foci include kelp forest ecology, restoration and policy, and human dimensions. Members of this body will provide science needs assessments for the state and advise on research and monitoring activities in the KRMP. Finally, OPC and CDFW hosted two kelp-focused Tribal Listening Roundtable Sessions with representatives from tribal governments in June. These sessions facilitated an opportunity for tribal representatives to provide input on the early stages of the formation of the Kelp Restoration and Management Plan.

In June, a suite of six solutions-oriented kelp research projects concluded, and [reports were publicly released](#). The outcomes of these projects will directly inform kelp protection and restoration efforts in California. To address additional scientific, policy, and management questions related to kelp protection and restoration, OPC, CDFW, and California Sea Grant announced the release of \$5 million in new funding on July 10. The RFP, [Accelerating Kelp Research and Restoration in California](#), will support projects for up to two years in duration; three to eight projects are anticipated to be selected for funding. Projects supported through this new funding will directly restore kelp, help resource managers further develop solutions to the kelp crisis, and foster meaningful partnerships with tribes, community-based organizations, and impacted stakeholders.

Marine Protected Areas

OPC staff, in partnership with CDFW and California Sea Grant, facilitated three workshops with principal investigators from Sandy Beach, Estuary, and Kelp Forest habitat groups participating in the MPA long-term monitoring project. The goal of these workshops was to discuss the results of the [2022 final reports](#) from this project, discuss MPA monitoring priorities moving forward, and ultimately inform the 3-year monitoring package for 2024-2026 that is anticipated to be presented to the Council for approval in December. OPC staff is currently planning three more workshops for the remaining MPA long-term monitoring habitat groups: the California Collaborative Research Program, Mid-Depth Rocky Reefs, and Rocky Intertidal.

At the Fish and Game Commission Marine Resources Committee (MRC) meeting on July 20, CDFW presented a [prioritized list](#), developed with input from OPC staff, of 28 adaptive management recommendations and associated management actions originally laid out in [Table 6.1 of the Decadal Management Review](#). CDFW developed this prioritized list in response to feedback received at the March 16 MRC meeting. Overall, public response to this prioritized list was positive. Recommendations will be discussed at the Fish and Game Commission's August meeting, and following that discussion, OPC and CDFW will begin working with partner agencies, tribes, coastal communities, and others to implement near-term, medium-term, and long-term recommendations from the Decadal Management Review.

Conserving 30% of California's Coastal Waters by 2030 (30x30)

On April 28, OPC staff partnered with Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary to host a [30x30 webinar](#) focused on aligning the Sanctuary's management plan update (which is characterizing key natural resources and evaluating threats and vulnerabilities to these resources and potential increased biodiversity conservation) with the State's 30x30 efforts. Work is underway to develop a centralized inventory and map of spatial management measures in state waters to inform which areas beyond MPAs or National Marine Sanctuaries may meet the definition of a 30x30 conservation area. OPC staff will convene a working group of science and policy experts to translate the [Pathways to 30x30](#) definition of conservation into an objective standard/set of evaluation criteria for inclusion, following the completion of this inventory.

To support community engagement in 30x30 efforts, OPC is developing an engagement plan that will implement outreach and support strategies to connect OPC with key coastal communities with efforts underway to create a more accessible and easily navigable online hub to inform the public of upcoming meetings-of-interest. More information regarding OPC's current actions to advance 30x30 is available in Item 8 of the August 15 Council Meeting agenda: [Implementation of 30x30 in Coastal Waters: Progress and Next Steps](#).

Goal 4: Support Ocean Health Through Sustainable Blue Economy

Offshore Wind

Following the auction of the five lease areas in California conducted by the Bureau of Ocean Management (BOEM) last December, leases were signed and effective on June 1, 2023. California Energy Commission (CEC) continues to lead the efforts to develop a strategic plan for offshore wind, as required by AB 525, in close coordination with OPC and other state agency partners. To inform these efforts, a series of four public [workshops](#) were held in May and June 2023, addressing strategic plan topics including: seaports and workforce, transmission, sea space, and a permitting roadmap.

Following these workshops, CEC conducted two virtual and four in-person outreach sessions located in San Luis Obispo, Crescent City, Eureka, and Fort Bragg to solicit feedback from fishermen. In addition to offering and conducting formal government to government consultation to solicit input from California Native American tribes, CEC also hosted two tribal listening sessions in mid-May and has scheduled Central Coast and North Coast Intergovernmental Roundtables in August and September, respectively. CEC has also formed an offshore wind Tribal Working Group; this group had their first meeting at the end of July with OPC leadership participating.

The final AB 525 Strategic Plan is anticipated to be presented at the CEC's October Business meeting.

As required by California Coastal Commission (CCC)'s Consistency Determinations for the Humboldt and Morro Bay lease areas, CCC is forming the California Offshore Wind and Fisheries Working Group, commonly known as the Condition 7c Working Group. The primary objective of this group is to develop a comprehensive strategy to address potential impacts from offshore wind on fisheries. This group primarily comprises representatives from the fishing community, lessees, and California American Tribes with affected tribal fisheries. Government representatives, including OPC, are also part of the group serving in an advisory role. To ensure representation from key fishery sectors, CCC [released materials](#) to calling for nominations for representatives from the fishing community in late July and anticipates establishing the Working Group in September 2023. [OPC funding](#) is helping support fishermen participation in this Working Group.

OPC continues to play a key role in facilitating coordinated effort to identify research and monitoring needs to fill data and knowledge gaps. OPC's recent call for proposals to develop a [comprehensive environmental monitoring guidance](#) for offshore wind development in California closed on July 31; OPC received five proposals and has initiated review, with anticipated project selection in September 2023. OPC staff is working closely with CEC, NOAA and BOEM to identify and prioritize additional investments for research and monitoring.

Legislation

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

[ACR 46](#) (Pellerin): California Ocean Day. This measure declared April 11, 2023 as California Ocean Day. Chaptered by Secretary of State. (Res. Chapter 51, Statutes of 2023.)

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

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

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

[AB 655](#) (Petrie Norris): This bill would prohibit a person from selling, possessing, importing, transporting, transferring, releasing alive in the state, or giving away without consideration all saltwater algae of the genus *Caulerpa*, except possession for bona fide scientific research. Enrolled and presented to the Governor on July 25, 2023.

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

[AB 953](#) (Connolly): This bill would require OPC, in coordination and in consultation with various entities, to implement a statewide voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program for the California coast in order to reduce air pollution, the risk of fatal vessel strikes on whales, and harmful underwater acoustic impacts by January 1, 2026.

[AB 966](#) (Davies): This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways within the State Department of Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with the State Coastal Conservancy, to prepare and submit a joint Legislative report on shoreline erosion control and public beach restoration programs no later than January 1, 2025.

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

[AB 1407](#) (Addis): This bill would require OPC, on or before December 1, 2024, to establish acreage-based targets and Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework to restore kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds with the goal of achieving restoration by 2050. The bill would establish in the State Treasury the Ocean Restoration and Recovery Fund to be administered by OPC to develop and carry out large-scale restoration and enhancement projects.

[**AB 1567**](#) (Garcia): This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024, which if approved by voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$15,995,000,000.

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

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

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

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

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

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

[SB 337](#) (Min): This bill would state the goal to conserve at least 30% of state lands and coastal waters by 2030 (30x30).

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

[SB 638](#) (Eggman): This bill would enact the Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount \$6,000,000,000 for flood protection and climate resiliency projects.

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

[SB 704](#) (Min): This bill would prohibit new or expanded oil and gas development from being considered a coastal-dependent industrial facility and would only permit those developments if they are found to be consistent with all applicable provisions of the act.

[SB 867](#) (Allen): This bill would enact the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024, which if approved by voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$15,500,000,000.

Personnel Notes



Kaitlyn Kalua, *Deputy Director*

Kaitlyn has transitioned to a new role as OPC's Deputy Director. Kaitlyn joined OPC in November 2021 as Water Quality Program Manager, where she has led OPC's policy initiatives and programs to protect and improve coastal and marine water quality, including the adoption of the nation's first Statewide Microplastics Strategy, and has served as staff lead on legislation. Kaitlyn originally joined OPC with experience in water quality regulation and policy, equitable water access, coastal adaptation planning, and federal ocean policy. Kaitlyn received her J.D. and Environmental Law and Public Interest law certificates from the University of California, Davis School of Law.



Anh Diep, 30×30 Program Manager

Anh joined OPC in June 2023. As 30×30 Program Manager, Anh leads OPC's community/stakeholder and tribal engagement strategic priorities to help advance California's 30×30 goal in coastal waters. Anh also manages OPC's Tribal Small Grants Program as part of the Tribal Nature-Based Solutions (TNBS) Grant Program. Prior to joining OPC, Anh was a California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) Science Policy fellow at the California Natural Resources Agency, working on 30×30, with the Biodiversity and Habitat Team, and on the TNBS program with Tribal Affairs. Anh earned their PhD from UCM in Quantitative and Systems Biology, studying immune responses to Valley fever with the Hoyer Lab. Anh identifies as a queer, first-generation scholar and immigrant. Outside of work, you can find them reading in a cozy café, hosting elaborate dinner parties for friends/family, or thrifting another mug they don't have any space for.



Abby Mohan, 30×30 Program Manager

Abby Mohan joined OPC in June of 2023 as a 30×30 Program Manager. She has recently worked for a climate change research firm on the intersections between coastal use, coastal policy, coastal science, and best practices in communicating these complex issues to the public both locally in the San Francisco Bay Area and internationally. Abby has been active in the maritime community for 15 years and has served as the Chair of the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and as a maritime recreation representative. Now, she serves on the advisory council as CNRA's representative. Abby holds a BA in Geography and a MS in Marine Science from San Francisco State University. Abby is also a 100-ton licensed Captain and enjoys being out on the water every chance she can get. When not working, you can find her out on the water on her sailboat or out at the beach with her bernedoodle puppy, Finn.

In late June, Lindsay Bonito left OPC to join the California Department of Fish and Wildlife as a Senior Environmental Scientist. Lindsay worked with OPC as Marine Protected Areas Program Manager beginning in September 2020. We wish Lindsay the best in this new role and are thrilled she has not gone far.

Recruitment efforts are currently underway for two Environmental Scientist positions: Marine Protected Areas Program Manager and Water Quality Program Manager. The [Marine Protected](#)

[Areas Program Manager job posting](#) is currently open with applications **due August 17, 2023**. The Water Quality Program Manager position is anticipated to be posted in the coming weeks.

Calendar

August 17: [Showcase of MPA Outreach and Education Tools hosted by Coastal Quest](#) – Virtual
Coastal Quest is excited to host a webinar showcasing the Educational and Outreach products created by the grant recipients from the 1st and 2nd rounds of the Marine Protected Area Outreach and Education Small Grants program partially funded by OPC!

September 14: [Climate Resilience and California's MPA Network](#) – Virtual

This webinar will focus on a review of important take-aways from the Climate Resilience and California's MPAs document released by OPC and Ocean Science Trust in 2021. OPC and other key report staff will provide a presentation followed by a panel Q&A session. The webinar serves as an introduction to the MPA Collaborative Network's 14 Community Forums on Coastal Climate Change to be held in October and November.

September 15 – October 15: [California Latino Heritage Month](#)

Latino Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide as a time to recognize the contributions and influence of Latinos to our country and state's history, culture, and achievements. Latinos have played a critical, and often overlooked role, in California's conservation and environmental history and movement. Their contributions have been significant in shaping the state's environmental policies and protecting its natural resources. At CNRA and OPC we celebrate the actions Latinos are taking now and for our future, and recognize their contributions that continue to lead towards a more comprehensive and equitable approach to conservation and environmental protection for the state. Visit the agency's [Latino Heritage Month webpage](#) to learn more about this month's series of public events and programming that aim to highlight Latino advocates and communities dedicated to natural resource conservation and stewardship in California.

September 23: [California Coastal Cleanup Day](#) – Statewide

California Coastal Cleanup Day will take place in person on September 23, 2023 at hundreds of sites across California. Please refer to the [Coastal Commission webpage](#) to find a site near you.

September 28: [Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks 30x30 Workshop #6](#) – Virtual

This public webinar will feature a panel of speakers to highlight conservation mechanisms from the Pathways to 30x30 document. Speakers will cover how to accelerate regionally led conservation, how to increase voluntary easements, and how to enhance conservation within existing conserved areas. The speakers include Cameron Yee from CAUSE, Kay Ogden from the Eastern Sierra Land Trust, and Anh Diep from Ocean Protection Council. Anh will highlight the 4 approaches to OPC's

30x30 coastal waters strategy and provide an agency perspective as well as highlight funding opportunities. Registration is open now.

October 11 & 12: [30x30 Partnership Gathering](#)

This gathering of the 30x30 Partnership will provide an opportunity for attendees to: connect with biodiversity lovers, be inspired, share knowledge, and learn how 30x30 is becoming a reality in different regions; celebrate community stories from across California about how lands and coastal waters are being conserved and cared for through 30x30 efforts; and co-create new tools, partnerships, and approaches to build solutions we need. Registration opens August 1.

November: [Native American Heritage Month](#)

Native American Heritage Month is a time to honor the rich ancestry, traditions, and contributions of Native Americans. California Native Americans are the original stewards of the lands that now constitute California and continue to make essential and unique contributions to our state. OPC is excited for the opportunity to connect with tribal communities and celebrate the amazing traditions and contributions of California Native Americans. OPC will participate alongside fellow CNRA state agencies at the California Tribal Leaders Alliance event on Sept. 27 for California Native American Day. At this event, state partners and local orgs will table and connect with community members on ongoing opportunities and projects for California Native Americans.

December 12: [OPC Quarterly Public Meeting](#) – Sacramento & Virtual