

Date of Hearing: June 25, 2024

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE

Diane Papan, Chair

SB 1402 (Min) – As Amended June 11, 2024

**SENATE VOTE:** 30-9

**SUBJECT:** 30x30 goal: state agencies: adoption, revision, or establishment of plans, policies, and regulations

**SUMMARY:** Requires all state entities to consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, and regulations that directly affect land use, management of natural resources, or biodiversity conservation.

**EXISTING LAW:**

- 1) Directs California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to combat the biodiversity and climate crisis by, among other things, establishing the California Biodiversity Collaborative and establishing the 30x30 goal, which is to conserve 30% of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030 (Executive Order No. N-82-20).
- 2) Codifies the 30x30 goal [Public Resources Code (PRC) § 71450].
- 3) Requires CNRA, in implementing actions to achieve the 30x30 goal, to prioritize specified actions. Requires the Secretary of CNRA to prepare and submit, beginning on or before March 31, 2024, and annually thereafter, a report to the Legislature on the progress made during the prior calendar year toward achieving that goal (PRC §§ 71451–71452).

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Unknown. This bill is keyed fiscal.

**COMMENTS:**

- 1) **Purpose of this bill.** This bill requires all state entities to consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, and regulations that directly affect land use, management of natural resources, or biodiversity. According to the author, “California is home to one of 25 global biodiversity hotspots, but its biodiversity is under threat from climate change, habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, disease, pests, and pollution. Conserving the Earth’s lands and waters is one of the best tools we have to prevent further extinctions and protect biodiversity and ecosystem services. By considering 30x30 goals as plans and policies are established and updated, agencies can align their actions with conservation, restoration, and management efforts that will keep California on track to achieve its goals in 2030 and beyond.”
- 2) **Background.** In October 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-82-20, which establishes a state goal of conserving 30% of California’s lands and coastal waters by 2030—known as 30x30. The 30x30 goal is intended to help conserve state lands and coastal waters through voluntary, collaborative action with partners across the state to meet three objectives: conserve and restore biodiversity, expand access to nature, and mitigate and build resilience

to climate change. The 30x30 goal was codified by SB 337 (Min), Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023.

CNRA released Pathways to 30x30 California in April 2022, which describes the key objectives and core commitments that are a part of California's 30x30 conservation framework; defines conservation for the purpose of California's 30x30 initiative and establishes a current baseline of conserved areas; outlines strategic actions necessary to achieve 30x30; and, introduces CA Nature, a suite of publicly available applications to identify conservation opportunities and track our collective progress.

As of May 2023, the state has conserved 24.4% of lands and 16.2% of coastal waters for 30x30. California's strategy to conserve an additional six million acres of land and half a million acres of coastal waters is organized into ten pathways that are specific state actions that will help achieve 30x30.

- 3) **Conflict with other pending legislation.** Two bills under consideration by the Legislature seek to amend PRC § 71450: this bill and AB 2320 (Irwin). The Committee may wish to direct the author address these chaptering out issues in the event that both these bills are signed into law by the Governor.
- 4) **Proposed committee amendments.** To more consistently reflect the 30x30 goal, the Committee may wish the author to consider the following amendments:
  - (c) All state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions, and conservancies shall consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, or and regulations that directly affect the use of coastal waters and land ~~land use~~, management of natural resources, or biodiversity conservation.
- 5) **Arguments in support.** Numerous environmental organizations write in support of this bill. They laud the goals of 30x30 and claim this bill will increase transparency in the state's efforts and progress to achieve 30x30.
- 6) **Double referral.** This bill was also been referred to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee where it passed by a vote of 6–3 on June 17, 2024.
- 7) **Related legislation.** AB 2320 (Irwin) of the current legislative session requires CNRA to annually report to the Legislature on progress made to achieve the 30x30 goal to include the identification of key wildlife corridors in the state, connections between large blocks of natural areas and habitats, progress on protecting additional acres of wildlife corridors, and goals for wildlife corridor protection in the next five years. AB 2320 is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2440 (Reyes) of the current legislative session requires CNRA, in implementing the strategies to achieve the 30x30 goal, to promote and support partnering state agencies and departments, including the Department of Parks and Recreation, in the acquisition and responsible stewardship of state land. AB 2440 is pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 337 (Min), Chapter 392, Statutes of 2023, codifies the 30x30 goal.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:****Support**

Audubon Society, Santa Clara Valley Chapter  
Audubon Society, Sea and Sage Chapter  
Bear Yuba Land Trust  
Big Sur Land Trust  
Bolsa Chica Land Trust  
California Association of Professional Scientists  
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts  
California Council of Land Trusts  
California Environmental Voters  
California Institute for Biodiversity  
California Native Plant Society, Alta Peak Chapter  
California Native Plant Society, Mojave Desert Chapter  
California State Parks Foundation  
Cleaneearth4kids.org  
Coastal Corridor Alliance  
County of Nevada  
County of Placer  
Defenders of Wildlife  
East Bay Regional Park District  
Eastern Sierra Land Trust  
Endangered Habitats League  
Environmental Center of San Diego  
Environmental Protection Information Center  
Feather River Land Trust  
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks  
Friends of The Inyo  
Friends of The River  
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County  
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust  
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District  
Mono Lake Committee  
Morongo Basin Conservation Association  
National Audubon Society  
Outdoor Outreach  
Pacific Forest Trust  
Peninsula Open Space Trust  
Placer Land Trust  
Planning and Conservation League  
Resource Renewal Institute  
Sempervirens Fund  
Sierra Business Council  
Sierra Club California  
Sierra Consortium  
Sierra County Land Trust  
Sierra Foothill Conservancy

Sierra Nevada Alliance  
The Wildlands Conservancy  
Truckee Donner Land Trust  
Tuleyome

**Opposition**

None on file

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