

CALIFORNIA WATERSHED COALITION

California Watershed Network
Sacramento River Watershed Program
Salmonid Restoration Federation
Sierra Nevada Alliance
Sonoma Ecology Center
California Urban Streams Partnership
Northern California Council of the
Federation of Fly Fishers International
California Association of Resource
Conservation Districts

2020 STATE BILLS OF INTEREST

1. SB 45 – Allen (D-Santa Monica) **CWN Supports**
Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

Amended on 1-23-20 in Senate and passed/sent to Assembly.

This bill would enact the Wildfire, Drought, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an unspecified amount pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects to restore fire damaged areas, reduce wildfire risk, create healthy forest and watersheds, reduce climate impacts on urban areas and vulnerable populations, protect water supply and water quality, protect rivers, lakes, and streams, reduce flood risk, protect fish and wildlife from climate impacts, improve climate resilience of agricultural lands, and protect coastal lands and resources.

2. SB 54 – Allen (D-Santa Monica) **CWN Supports**
Single-use plastic waste: reduction.

Ordered to the Inactive File in Assembly on 1-23-20.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would significantly reduce the amount of single-use plastic waste entering California's waste stream, polluting our oceans, littering our local communities and beaches, and costing local governments millions of dollars in cleanup costs.

3. SB 902 – Wiener (D-San Francisco)
Planning and zoning: neighborhood multifamily project: use by right: density.

Set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Housing on May 26.

This bill is the Senator's update from last year's SB 50 to force upzoning densities in residential communities. This bill would provide that a neighborhood multifamily project is a use by right in zones where residential uses are permitted if the project is not located in a very high fire severity zone, does not demolish sound rental housing or housing that has been placed on a national or state historic register, follows specified local objective criteria, and meets specified density requirements. The bill would define use by right to mean that the local government's review of the housing development may not require a conditional use permit, planned unit

development permit, or other discretionary local government review or approval that would constitute a project for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

This bill would additionally authorize a local government to pass an ordinance to zone any parcel for up to 10 units of residential density per parcel, at a height specified by the local government in the ordinance, if the parcel is located in a transit-rich area, a jobs-rich area, or an urban infill site. The bill would specify that an ordinance adopted under these provisions is not a project for purposes of CEQA.

4. SB 1028 – Dodd (D-Napa) **CWN Supports**
Agriculture: Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: Environmental Farming Incentive Program.

Amended on 3-19-20 and re-referred to the Senate Agriculture Committee.

This bill would require the panel to assist government agencies to incorporate the conservation of natural resources and ecosystem services practices into agricultural programs. The bill would require the program to support on-farm practices seeking to optimize environmental benefits while supporting the economic viability of California agriculture by providing incentives to farmers or ranchers who want to pursue adopting management practices that contribute to wildlife habitat and result in on-farm activities that provide multiple conservation benefits, as prescribed.

5. SB 1372 – Monning (D-Carmel) **CWN Supports**
Wildlife corridors and connectivity: Wildlife and Biodiversity Protection and Movement Act of 2020.

Amended on 3-25-20 and re-referred to the Senate Transportation Committee.

This bill would require the Department of Fish and Wildlife to investigate, study, and identify impacts to those wildlife corridors from state infrastructure projects, including transportation and water projects, large-scale development projects not covered by an existing natural community conservation plan or habitat conservation plan, and planned or potential land conversions. The bill would also require the department to prioritize wildlife movement and habitat data development in those areas of the state that are most essential as wildlife corridors and habitat linkages.

6. AB 168 – Aguiar-Curry (D-Napa)
Housing – Streamlined Approvals.

Ordered to the Inactive File in the Senate.

This bill would require the objective planning standards include a requirement that the development not be located on a site that is a tribal cultural resource.

7. AB 352 – Garcia (D-Coachella)
Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

In the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

An act to add Division 47 (commencing with Section 80200) to the Public Resources Code, relating to a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program, by providing the funds necessary therefor through an election for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of California and for the handling and disposition of those funds.

8. AB 933 – Petrie-Norris (D-Costa Mesa) **CWN Supports**
Ecosystem resilience: watershed protection: watershed coordinators.

Stalled in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

This bill would authorize the department, to the extent funds are available, to establish and administer the Ecosystem Resilience Program to fund watershed coordinator positions, and other necessary costs, throughout the state for the purpose of achieving specified goals, including the goal of developing and implementing watershed improvement plans aligned with multiple statewide and regional objectives across distinct bioregions. The bill would authorize the department to develop performance measures and accountability controls to track progress and outcomes. The bill would require, on or before January 31, 2022, and every 3 years thereafter, the department to track and report outcomes to the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature.

9. AB 1672 – Bloom (D-Santa Monica)
Solid waste: nonwoven disposable products.

Passed out of the Assembly to the Senate.

This bill would require, commencing January 1, 2021, except as provided, certain nonwoven disposal products to be labeled clearly and conspicuously to communicate that they should not be flushed.

10. AB 1788 – Bloom (D-Santa Monica) **CWN Supports**
Pesticides: the use of anticoagulants.

Stalled in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

This bill would expand this prohibition [of the use of anticoagulant pesticides] to the entire state. The bill would also authorize the use of a pesticide containing a specified anticoagulant if the State Department of Public Health determines that there is a public health emergency due to a pest infestation and the Department of Pesticide Regulation determines that controlling or eradicating the pest infestation requires the use of a pesticide containing an anticoagulant, or if the California Environmental Protection Agency determines that there is an environmental emergency due to a pest infestation and the Department of Pesticide Regulation determines that controlling or eradicating the pest infestation requires the use of a pesticide that contains an anticoagulant. The bill would also prohibit the use of any pesticide that

contains one or more specifically identified anticoagulants on state-owned property. The bill would provide that this provision does not apply to the use of pesticides for agricultural activities, as defined.

11. AB 1839 – Bonta (D-Alameda)

Economic, environmental, and social recovery: California COVID-19 Recovery Deal. (formerly "Climate change: California Green New Deal.")

In the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

This bill would enact the California COVID-19 Recovery Deal. The bill would make a series of legislative findings and declarations pertaining to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and various economic, environmental, and social conditions in the state. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature that the state adopt a policy framework with principles and goals committed to accomplish specified economic, environmental, and social objectives and priorities as part of the state's COVID-19 recovery spending.

12. AB 2021, as amended, Chen (R-Yorba Linda)

State park system: Chino Hills State Park: expansion.

In the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This bill would require the department to provide all necessary assistance for the state's acquisition and acceptance of 3 specified parcels from willing sellers that are adjacent to the Chino Hills State Park.

13. AB 2502 – Quirk (D-Hayward)

Groundwater sustainability plans: impacts on managed wetlands.

In the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

This bill would [require analysis of] impacts to managed wetlands, as specified, to the additional analyses or components that a groundwater sustainability plan is required to contain, when appropriate.

14. AB 2518 – Wood (D-Napa)

Voluntary stream restoration landowner liability.

CWN Supports

In the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

This bill would exempt a landowner who voluntarily allows land to be used for such a project to restore fish and wildlife habitat from civil liability for property damage or personal injury resulting from the project if the project is funded, at least in part, by a state or federal agency that promotes or encourages riparian habitat restoration, unless the property damage or personal injury is caused by willful, intentional, or reckless conduct of the landowner or by a design, construction, operation, or maintenance activity performed by the landowner.

15. AB 3256 – Garcia (D-Coachella)

Economic Recovery, Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2020.

In the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

This bill would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,980,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for an economic recovery, wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.

16.

Here is the link to the CA Legislation website: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>

2015 Community Volunteer Bill Signed into Law:

AB 327 was authored by Rich Gordon to extend the exemption for volunteers to be volunteers (!) on restoration projects that have all or partial state funding. It was approved by the Governor and chaptered on 7-6-15. "This bill would extend those provisions until January 1, 2024, at which date those provisions would be repealed."

2017 Riverine and Riparian Stewardship Improvements Bill Signed into Law:

SB 667 was authored by Toni Atkins to guide the Department of Water Resources in establishing a program to implement watershed-based riverine and riparian stewardship improvements by providing technical and financial assistance. The bill requires the program to support the purposes of and be coordinated with the Urban Stream Restoration Program, fish passage improvements, and other similar programs.