



30x30 CALIFORNIA NEWSLETTER

Hitting the Ground Running in 2024!

Sharing stories of 30x30 in action, highlighting funding opportunities, and connecting with each other to inspire new partnerships.

The momentum of 30x30 California continues to build with partners from across the state hitting the ground running in 2024! Seeing new partnerships forming and grassroots efforts pushing this initiative forward brings us so much excitement and hope as we look toward the future of conservation.

Exciting new things are also happening here at the California Natural Resources Agency! Join us as we warmly welcome Meghan Hertel as the new Deputy Secretary of Biodiversity and Habitat. Please come to our next [30x30 Partnership webinar on March 4th from 2-3pm PT](#) to get to know Meghan and the 30x30 California team.

30x30 in Action

Highlighting conservation successes that will help us reach 30x30.



Grassland valleys extending toward south end of a newly conserved property in San Luis Obispo County.

It has been an incredible start to the new year, with significant public funding awarded to support 30x30 projects throughout California. In just the last two weeks, the Wildlife Conservation Board approved nearly **\$100 million in grants to 31 habitat conservation and restoration projects**, and they are just one of several State entities working with partners to make great things happen on the ground! These grants support our 30x30 goal and will protect biodiversity, expand access, and address climate change. Here are few examples of these newly funded projects.

[California Council of Land Trusts \(CLCT\)](#) – The Wildlife Conservation Board awarded \$5 million to CLCT for their *The California Onward Capacity Building and Grant Program: Accelerating Conservation to Reach 30x30*. These funds will support capacity-building and other work by California's land trusts and will result in an additional one million acres of land conserved over the next three years – contributing directly towards our 30x30 goal!

[Conservation Strides in San Luis Obispo County](#) – The Wildlife Conservation Board and State Coastal Conservancy awarded funds to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County to conserve 27,500 acres of habitat for 299 native animal species and 250 native plant species. This project will connect protected land, open space, and wildlife corridors extending from Carrizo Plain National Monument to the south and Big Sur to the north.

[Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Swap](#) – Land swaps can be an effective tool to expand 30x30 conservation areas. On February 15, 2024, The State Coastal Conservancy approved a transfer of five acres that can be developed in exchange for the conservation and restoration of a 150-acre land parcel that protects wetlands, maintains open space, and provides public access opportunities in the City of Long Beach.

[San Geronimo Golf Course Restoration](#) – California is a part of a nationwide trend to rewild former golf courses for conservation. Renamed "San Geronimo Commons" after acquisition by the Trust for Public Land, this former golf course in the Northern Bay Area is now durably protected for biodiversity and public access. Restoration is underway, with plans to reconnect floodplains for migratory species and breeding grounds for endangered coho salmon and threatened steelhead trout.

[Whale Tail Grant Winners](#) – The California Coastal Commission awarded \$2.3 million to 60 nonprofit organizations, local and tribal governments, and schools for projects and programs that provide educational experiences focused on coastal protection, public access, and environmental justice.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Sharing voices from partners across California committed to the 30x30 goal.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA **Wildlife Conservation Board** Year in Review | 2023

[Wildlife Conservation Board Releases 2023 Year in Review](#) – WCB released its [2023 Year in Review](#), highlighting conservation and restoration efforts throughout California that were supported by the approximately \$496 million that they contributed to 127 projects last year.

[New Technical Advisory Panel Will Provide Scientific Guidance on 30x30 for Coastal Waters](#) – California's coast and ocean are threatened by the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss. To ensure that conservation results in meaningful benefits for both biodiversity and people, the Ocean Protection Council is committed to taking a science-informed approach to 30x30 and has convened a new Technical Advisory Panel to help provide scientific guidance for meeting this initiative's goals.

Funding Opportunities

A space to share funding opportunities that will support 30x30.



COASTAL STORIES!

GRANT NOW OPEN **PRE-APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 31ST**

CREATE STORYTELLING INSTALLATIONS LIKE SIGNAGE, MURALS, GUIDES, OR MONUMENTS THAT REPRESENT COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE BEEN HISTORICALLY EXCLUDED IN OUTDOOR SPACES SUCH AS THE CALIFORNIA COAST AND PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE LANDS.

[The Coastal Stories 2024 Grant Program](#) – The Coastal Conservancy seeks to fund projects that plan, develop, and implement storytelling installations or materials that represent communities and voices that have been historically excluded in the storytelling of California's coast and publicly accessible lands. **Pre-applications due March 31st.**

[2024 Adventure Pass Program](#) – Parks California, in partnership with California State Parks, is excited to announce the second round of the Adventure Pass Grants Program. Applications must be submitted by a nonprofit organization proposing programs and activities to connect 4th graders and their families to participating California State Parks. Partnerships are highly encouraged and recommended. **Applications due March 15th.**

[America the Beautiful 2024](#) – Intended to streamline grant funding opportunities for new conservation and restoration projects around the U.S., the America the Beautiful Challenge consolidates funding from multiple federal agencies and the private sector to enable applicants to conceive and develop large-scale projects that address shared funder priorities and span public and private lands. **Pre-proposals are due April 4th.**

[North American Wetlands Conservation Act \(NAWCA\) Grants: U.S. Standard](#) – This grant program supports public-private partnerships carrying out projects that further the goals of the [North American Wetlands Conservation Act](#) (NAWCA). Projects must involve long-term protection, restoration, and/or enhancement of wetlands and associated uplands habitats for the benefit of all wetlands-associated migratory birds. **Proposals are due July 11th.**

California Biodiversity Network (CBN) News

Bringing together environmental experts and community leaders to conserve



[Indigenous Co-Stewardship of Public Lands: Lessons for the Future](#) – A convening of Tribal leaders, Indigenous culture bearers, and public land management agencies, took place on February 21–22, 2024. Learnings will be published next year through the University of California, Berkeley Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity.

[CBN Listserv, Equity Forum, and Roundtables](#) – Sign up to receive CBN updates and participate in their equity forum and collaborative roundtables prioritizing biodiversity protection, stewardship, environmental education, and scientific inquiry.

Take Action

In partnership with California Volunteers, we're sharing opportunities to work on projects to protect communities against the harshest impacts of climate change while improving quality of life and access to green spaces.



[Native Plant Nursery Day](#) – Join [The Watershed Project](#) for a Native Plant Nursery Day in Richmond, California on Wednesday, **March 20th** from 9:30am–12pm. Take part in a day of weeding and fun at the Watershed Project's shadehouse

and greenhouse. Pull weeds, collect native seeds, and learn about urban greening efforts!

[Save the Date for Community Climate Action Day Oakland](#) – Celebrate Earth Day by volunteering in Oakland, California with California Volunteers and [HandsOn Bay Area](#). Join a community project on Saturday, **April 20th**. Project details and sign up coming soon.

Stay Connected

Find more information and reach out to us.



30x30
PARTNERSHIP
WEBINAR
Welcoming Deputy
Secretary for Biodiversity
and Habitat Meghan Hertel
March 4th 2-3pm PT
Join us for a virtual meet and greet with
Meghan Hertel and the 30x30 California Team.



[You're Invited!](#) – Join us March 4th from 2–3pm PT as we warmly welcome Meghan Hertel as the new Deputy Secretary of Biodiversity and Habitat!

[If you missed it:](#) Check out the recording of our [Pathway 4 In Focus Webinar: Enhancing Conservation of Existing Public Lands and Coastal Waters](#). Learn from four tribal and nonprofit leaders who are working on expanding and designating new National Monuments in California.

[Connect](#) – Check out our 30x30 California Instagram Account [@30x30CA](#)

[Continue the dialog](#) on our 30x30 California Twitter account [@30x30CA](#)

[Share Your News!](#) – Do you have a conservation story that you want to highlight? [Let us know!](#)

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