

SB 1402

30x30: Land and Coastal Waters Conservation Goal Senator Dave Min, 37th District

SUMMARY

SB 1402 will require the consideration of the 30x30 goal in the adoption or revision of plans, policies, and regulations.

BACKGROUND

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. There is broad scientific consensus that we are in a sixth mass extinction, with extinction rates hundreds or thousands of times faster than what would naturally occur. A U.N. report estimates that a quarter of all species face extinction, many within decades.

According to some scientists, the extinction crisis is the most serious environmental threat to the persistence of civilization because extinctions are irreversible. Similar to climate change, this crisis is human-caused and represents an existential threat to humanity. Every time a species or population vanishes, the associated ecosystem's capacity to function and provide services upon which we depend erodes. These effects are expected to worsen over time.

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. Importantly, protections must be combined with restoration and management efforts to protect the function and services of the Earth's ecosystems. Further, conservation, restoration, and management can avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and sequester carbon, helping to advance climate goals.

In 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-82-20 to adopt a goal to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030. To ensure this goal remained a commitment for future administrations, SB 337 (Chapter 392, Statues of 2023) was enacted.

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.

THIS BILL

SB 1402 will require all state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions, and conservancies to consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, and regulations.

SUPPORT

None on file

OPPOSITION

None on file

STAFF CONTACT

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