

**PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE
DIVISION 20
CALIFORNIA COASTAL ACT
(2025)**

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CHAPTER 1 FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

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Section 30000 Short title

This division shall be known and may be cited as the California Coastal Act of 1976.

Section 30001 Legislative findings and declarations; ecological balance

The Legislature hereby finds and declares:

(a) That the California coastal zone is a distinct and valuable natural resource of vital and enduring interest to all the people and exists as a delicately balanced ecosystem.

(b) That the permanent protection of the state's natural and scenic resources is a paramount concern to present and future residents of the state and nation.

(c) That to promote the public safety, health, and welfare, and to protect public and private property, wildlife, marine fisheries, and other ocean resources, and the natural environment, it is necessary to protect the ecological balance of the coastal zone and prevent its deterioration and destruction.

(d) That existing developed uses, and future developments that are carefully planned and developed consistent with the policies of this division, are essential to the economic and social well-being of the people of this state and especially to working persons employed within the coastal zone.

(Amended by Ch. 1090, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30001.2 Legislative findings and declarations; economic development

The Legislature further finds and declares that, notwithstanding the fact electrical generating facilities, refineries, and coastal-dependent developments, including ports and commercial fishing facilities, offshore petroleum and gas development, and liquefied natural gas facilities, may have significant adverse effects on coastal resources or coastal access, it may be necessary to locate such developments in the coastal zone in order to ensure that inland as well as coastal resources are preserved and that orderly economic development proceeds within the state.

Section 30001.3 Legislative findings and declarations; offshore wind energy generation

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Offshore wind energy generation is an important component of California's renewable energy portfolio.

(b) While offshore wind energy generation can provide significant climate and economic benefits, industrial scale development and deployment of offshore wind

energy will also have impacts on coastal and ocean resources, fisheries, and coastal communities that are not yet fully understood.

(c) The urgency of the climate crisis and the importance of ocean health to maintaining a livable planet necessitate expeditious development of offshore wind energy generation facilities and associated infrastructure in a manner that also avoids, minimizes, and mitigates impacts to ocean and coastal resources to the maximum extent practicable.

(d) Through science-based monitoring and mitigation, meaningful engagement with affected communities, adaptive management, and equitable workforce development, California can be a world leader in the rapid, just, and environmentally sustainable generation of renewable energy from offshore wind.

(Added by Ch. 386, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30001.5 Legislative findings and declarations; goals

The Legislature further finds and declares that the basic goals of the state for the coastal zone are to:

(a) Protect, maintain, and where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the coastal zone environment and its natural and artificial resources.

(b) Ensure orderly, balanced utilization and conservation of coastal zone resources taking into account the social and economic needs of the people of the state.

(c) Maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone consistent with sound resources conservation principles and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners.

(d) Ensure priority for coastal-dependent and coastal-related development over other development on the coast.

(e) Encourage state and local initiatives and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the coastal zone.

(f) Anticipate, assess, plan for, and, to the extent feasible, avoid, minimize, and mitigate the adverse environmental and economic effects of sea level rise within the coastal zone.

(Amended by Ch. 1090, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1617, Stats. 1982; Ch. 236, Stats. 2021.)

Section 30002 Legislative findings and declarations; implementation of plan

The Legislature further finds and declares that:

(a) The California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission, pursuant to the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (commencing with Section 27000), has made a detailed study of the coastal zone; that there has been extensive participation by other governmental agencies, private interests, and the general public in the study; and that, based on the study, the commission has prepared a plan for the orderly, long-range conservation, use, and management of the natural, scenic, cultural, recreational, and manmade resources of the coastal zone.

(b) Such plan contains a series of recommendations which require implementation by the Legislature and that some of those recommendations are appropriate for immediate implementation as provided for in this division while others require additional review.

Section 30003 Compliance by public agencies

All public agencies and all federal agencies, to the extent possible under federal law or regulations or the United States Constitution, shall comply with the provisions of this division.

Section 30004 Legislative findings and declarations; necessity of continued planning and management

The Legislature further finds and declares that:

(a) To achieve maximum responsiveness to local conditions, accountability, and public accessibility, it is necessary to rely heavily on local government and local land use planning procedures and enforcement.

(b) To ensure conformity with the provisions of this division, and to provide maximum state involvement in federal activities allowable under federal law or regulations or the United States Constitution which affect California's coastal resources, to protect regional, state, and national interests in assuring the maintenance of the long-term productivity and economic vitality of coastal resources necessary for the well-being of the people of the state, and to avoid long-term costs to the public and a diminished quality of life resulting from the misuse of coastal resources, to coordinate and integrate the activities of the many agencies whose activities impact the coastal zone, and to supplement their activities in matters not properly within the jurisdiction of any existing agency, it is necessary to provide for continued state coastal planning and management through a state coastal commission.

Section 30005 Local governmental powers; nuisances; attorney general's powers

No provision of this division is a limitation on any of the following:

(a) Except as otherwise limited by state law, on the power of a city or county or city and county to adopt and enforce additional regulations, not in conflict with this act, imposing further conditions, restrictions, or limitations with respect to any land or water use or other activity which might adversely affect the resources of the coastal zone.

(b) On the power of any city or county or city and county to declare, prohibit, and abate nuisances.

(c) On the power of the Attorney General to bring an action in the name of the people of the state to enjoin any waste or pollution of the resources of the coastal zone or any nuisance.

(d) On the right of any person to maintain an appropriate action for relief against a private nuisance or for any other private relief.

Section 30005.5 Local governmental powers; construction

Nothing in this division shall be construed to authorize any local government, or to authorize the commission to require any local government, to exercise any power it does not already have under the Constitution and laws of this state or that is not specifically delegated pursuant to Section [30519](#).

(Added by Ch. 744, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30006 Legislative findings and declarations; public participation

The Legislature further finds and declares that the public has a right to fully participate in decisions affecting coastal planning, conservation and development; that achievement of sound coastal conservation and development is dependent upon public understanding and support; and that the continuing planning and implementation of programs for coastal conservation and development should include the widest opportunity for public participation.

Section 30006.5 Legislative findings and declarations; technical advice and recommendations

The Legislature further finds and declares that sound and timely scientific recommendations are necessary for many coastal planning, conservation, and development decisions and that the commission should, in addition to developing its own expertise in significant applicable fields of science, interact with members of the scientific and academic communities in the social, physical, and natural sciences so that the commission may receive technical advice and recommendations with regard to its decisionmaking, especially with regard to issues such as coastal erosion and geology,

agriculture, marine biodiversity, wetland restoration, sea level rise, offshore wind development, desalination plants, and the cumulative impact of coastal zone developments.

(Added by Ch. 965, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 168, Stats. 2019; Ch. 292, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30007 Housing; local government

Nothing in this division shall exempt local governments from meeting the requirements of state and federal law with respect to providing low- and moderate-income housing, replacement housing, relocation benefits, or any other obligation related to housing imposed by existing law or any law hereafter enacted.

Section 30007.5 Legislative findings and declarations; resolution of policy conflicts

The Legislature further finds and recognizes that conflicts may occur between one or more policies of the division. The Legislature therefore declares that in carrying out the provisions of this division such conflicts be resolved in a manner which on balance is the most protective of significant coastal resources. In this context, the Legislature declares that broader policies which, for example, serve to concentrate development in close proximity to urban and employment centers may be more protective, overall, than specific wildlife habitat and other similar resource policies.

Section 30008 Division as coastal zone management program

This division shall constitute California's coastal zone management program within the coastal zone for purposes of the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.\)](#) and any other federal act heretofore or hereafter enacted or amended that relates to the planning or management of coastal zone resources; provided, however, that within federal lands excluded from the coastal zone pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, the State of California shall, consistent with applicable federal and state laws, continue to exercise the full range of powers, rights, and privileges it now possesses or which may be granted.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978.)

Section 30009 Construction

This division shall be liberally construed to accomplish its purposes and objectives.

Section 30010 Compensation for taking of private property; legislative declaration

The Legislature hereby finds and declares that this division is not intended, and shall not be construed as authorizing the commission, port governing body, or local government acting pursuant to this division to exercise their power to grant or deny a

permit in a manner which will take or damage private property for public use, without the payment of just compensation therefor. This section is not intended to increase or decrease the rights of any owner of property under the Constitution of the State of California or the United States.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30011 Requirements of [Government Code Section 65590](#); review of local government's application; evidence of compliance; information concerning status of action to apply

Nothing in this division shall authorize the commission to review a local government's application of the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#) to any development. In addition, the commission shall not require any applicant for a coastal development permit or any local government to provide certification or other evidence of compliance with the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#). The commission may, however, solely in connection with coastal development permit applications described in subdivision (c) of Section [30600.1](#), require information about the status of a local government's action to apply the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#). This information shall be used for the purpose of determining time limits for commission action on these applications as provided in that subdivision (c).

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30012 Legislative findings and declarations; public education program

(a) The Legislature finds that an educated and informed citizenry is essential to the well-being of a participatory democracy and is necessary to protect California's finite natural resources, including the quality of its environment. The Legislature further finds that through education, individuals can be made aware of and encouraged to accept their share of the responsibility for protecting and improving the natural environment.

(b) (1) The commission shall, to the extent that its resources permit, carry out a public education program that includes outreach efforts to schools, youth organizations, and the general public for the purpose of promoting understanding of, fostering a sense of individual responsibility for, and encouraging public initiatives and participation in programs for, the conservation and wise use of coastal and ocean resources. Emphasis shall be given to volunteer efforts such as the Adopt-A-Beach program.

(2) In carrying out this program, the commission shall coordinate with other agencies to avoid duplication and to maximize information sharing.

(c) The commission is encouraged to seek funding from any appropriate public or private source and may apply for and expend any grant or endowment funds for the purposes of this section without the need to specifically include funds in its budget. Any funding made available to the commission for these purposes shall be reported to the

fiscal committee of each house of the Legislature at the time its budget is being formally reviewed.

(d) The commission is encouraged to seek and utilize interns for the purpose of assisting its regular staff in carrying out the purposes of this section and this division and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may participate in any internship program the executive director determines to be appropriate. With respect to any internship program the commission uses, it shall make the best efforts to ensure that the participants in the program reflect the ethnic diversity of the state and are provided an educational and meaningful experience.

(e) The commission shall submit to each house of the Legislature an annual report describing the progress it is making in carrying out this section.

(Added by Ch. 802, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30013 Environmental justice

The Legislature further finds and declares that in order to advance the principles of environmental justice and equality, [subdivision \(a\) of Section 11135 of the Government Code](#) and [subdivision \(e\) of Section 65040.12 of the Government Code](#) apply to the commission and all public agencies implementing the provisions of this division. As required by [Section 11135 of the Government Code](#), no person in the State of California, on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, color, genetic information, or disability, shall be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination, under any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered pursuant to this division, is funded directly by the state for purposes of this division, or receives any financial assistance from the state pursuant to this division.

(Added by Ch. 578, Stats. 2016.)

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

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Section 30100 Interpretation governed by definitions

Unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions in this chapter govern the interpretation of this division.

Section 30100.2 Aquaculture; aquaculture products

"Aquaculture" means a form of agriculture as defined in [Section 17 of the Fish and Game Code](#). Aquaculture products are agricultural products, and aquaculture facilities and land uses shall be treated as agricultural facilities and land uses in all planning and permit-issuing decisions governed by this division.

(Added by Ch. 1486, Stats. 1982. Amended by Ch. 131, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30100.5 Coastal county

"Coastal county" means a county or city and county which lies, in whole or in part, within the coastal zone.

Section 30101 Coastal-dependent development or use

"Coastal-dependent development or use" means any development or use which requires a site on, or adjacent to, the sea to be able to function at all.

Section 30101.3 Coastal-related development

"Coastal-related development" means any use that is dependent on a coastal-dependent development or use.

(Added by Ch. 1090, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30101.5 Coastal development permit

"Coastal development permit" means a permit for any development within the coastal zone that is required pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section [30600](#).

Section 30102 Coastal plan

"Coastal plan" means the California Coastal Zone Conservation Plan prepared and adopted by the California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission and submitted to the Governor and the Legislature on December 1, 1975, pursuant to the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (commencing with Section 27000).

Section 30103 Coastal zone; map; purpose

(a) "Coastal zone" means that land and water area of the State of California from the Oregon border to the border of the Republic of Mexico, specified on the maps identified and set forth in Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, extending seaward to the state's outer limit of jurisdiction, including all offshore islands, and

extending inland generally 1,000 yards from the mean high tide line of the sea. In significant coastal estuarine, habitat, and recreational areas it extends inland to the first major ridgeline paralleling the sea or five miles from the mean high tide line of the sea, whichever is less, and in developed urban areas the zone generally extends inland less than 1,000 yards. The coastal zone does not include the area of jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, established pursuant to [Title 7.2 \(commencing with Section 66600\) of the Government Code](#), nor any area contiguous thereto, including any river, stream, tributary, creek, or flood control or drainage channel flowing into such area.

(b) The commission shall, within 60 days after its first meeting, prepare and adopt a detailed map, on a scale of one inch equals 24,000 inches for the coastal zone and shall file a copy of such map with the county clerk of each coastal county. The purpose of this provision is to provide greater detail than is provided by the maps identified in Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976. The commission may adjust the inland boundary of the coastal zone the minimum landward distance necessary up to a maximum of 100 yards except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, or the minimum distance seaward necessary up to a maximum of 200 yards, to avoid bisecting any single lot or parcel or to conform it to readily identifiable natural or manmade features. Where a landward adjustment is requested by the local government and agreed to by the property owner, the maximum distance shall be 200 yards.

(Amended by Ch. 213, Stats. 1978; Ch. 670, Stats. 1991; Ch. 303, Stats. 2015.)

Section 30103.5 Coastal zones in Los Angeles County and area of San Juan Capistrano; inland boundaries

(a) Notwithstanding map number 138 adopted pursuant to Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, as amended by Section 29 of Chapter 1331 of the Statutes of 1976, the inland boundary of the coastal zone in Los Angeles County in the vicinity of Los Angeles International Airport shall be the Pershing Drive built after January 1, 1970, rather than the Pershing Drive built prior to that date.

(b) Notwithstanding map number 149 adopted pursuant to Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, as amended by Section 29 of Chapter 1331 of the Statutes of 1976, the inland boundary of the coastal zone in the area of the City of San Juan Capistrano in Orange County shall exclude all portions of the City of San Juan Capistrano and shall follow Camino Capistrano and Via Serra and generally an extension of Via Serra to the point where it joins the existing coastal zone boundary.

(Added by Ch. 213, Stats. 1978.)

Section 30105 Commission; regional commission

(a) "Commission" means the California Coastal Commission. Whenever the term California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission appears in any law, it means the California Coastal Commission.

(b) "Regional commission" means any regional coastal commission. Whenever the term regional coastal zone conservation commission appears in any law, it means the regional coastal commission.

Section 30105.5 Cumulatively; cumulative effect

"Cumulatively" or "cumulative effect" means the incremental effects of an individual project shall be reviewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.

(Added by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980.)

Section 30106 Development

"Development" means, on land, in or under water, the placement or erection of any solid material or structure; discharge or disposal of any dredged material or of any gaseous, liquid, solid, or thermal waste; grading, removing, dredging, mining, or extraction of any materials; change in the density or intensity of use of land, including, but not limited to, subdivision pursuant to the Subdivision Map Act (commencing with [Section 66410 of the Government Code](#)), and any other division of land, including lot splits, except where the land division is brought about in connection with the purchase of such land by a public agency for public recreational use; change in the intensity of use of water, or of access thereto; construction, reconstruction, demolition, or alteration of the size of any structure, including any facility of any private, public, or municipal utility; and the removal or harvesting of major vegetation other than for agricultural purposes, kelp harvesting, and timber operations which are in accordance with a timber harvesting plan submitted pursuant to the provisions of the [Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973](#) (commencing with [Section 4511](#)).

As used in this section, "structure" includes, but is not limited to, any building, road, pipe, flume, conduit, siphon, aqueduct, telephone line, and electrical power transmission and distribution line.

Section 30107 Energy facility

"Energy facility" means any public or private processing, producing, generating, storing, transmitting, or recovering facility for electricity, natural gas, petroleum, coal, or other source of energy.

Section 30107.3 Environmental justice

(a) "Environmental justice" means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of people of all races, cultures, incomes, and national origins, with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

(b) "Environmental justice" includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(1) The availability of a healthy environment for all people.

(2) The deterrence, reduction, and elimination of pollution burdens for populations and communities experiencing the adverse effects of that pollution, so that the effects of the pollution are not disproportionately borne by those populations and communities.

(3) Governmental entities engaging and providing technical assistance to populations and communities most impacted by pollution to promote their meaningful participation in all phases of the environmental and land use decision making process.

(4) At a minimum, the meaningful consideration of recommendations from populations and communities most impacted by pollution into environmental and land use decisions.

(Added by Ch. 578, Stats. 2016. Amended by Ch. 360, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30107.5 Environmentally sensitive area

"Environmentally sensitive area" means any area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which could be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments.

Section 30108 Feasible

"Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, social, and technological factors.

Section 30108.1 Federal coastal act

"Federal coastal act" means the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.\)](#), as amended.

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30108.2 Fill

"Fill" means earth or any other substance or material, including pilings placed for the purposes of erecting structures thereon, placed in a submerged area.

Section 30108.4 Implementing actions

"Implementing actions" means the ordinances, regulations, or programs which implement either the provisions of the certified local coastal program or the policies of this division and which are submitted pursuant to Section [30502](#).

Section 30108.5 Land use plan

"Land use plan" means the relevant portion of a local government's general plan, or local coastal element which are sufficiently detailed to indicate the kinds, location, and intensity of land uses, the applicable resource protection and development policies and, where necessary, a listing of implementing actions.

Section 30108.55 Local coastal element

"Local coastal element" is that portion of a general plan applicable to the coastal zone which may be prepared by local government pursuant to this division, or any additional elements of the local government's general plan prepared pursuant to [Section 65303 of the Government Code](#), as the local government deems appropriate.

(Amended by Ch. 1009, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30108.6 Local coastal program

"Local coastal program" means a local government's (a) land use plans, (b) zoning ordinances, (c) zoning district maps, and (d) within sensitive coastal resources areas, other implementing actions, which, when taken together, meet the requirements of, and implement the provisions and policies of, this division at the local level.

(Amended by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30109 Local government

"Local government" means any chartered or general law city, chartered or general law county, or any city and county.

Section 30109.5 (Repealed by Ch. 1331, Stats. 1976.)

Section 30110 Permit

"Permit" means any license, certificate, approval, or other entitlement for use granted or denied by any public agency which is subject to the provisions of this division.

Section 30111 Person

"Person" means any individual, organization, partnership, limited liability company, or other business association or corporation, including any utility, and any federal, state, local government, or special district or an agency thereof.

(Amended by Ch. 1010, Stats. 1994.)

Section 30112 Port governing body

"Port governing body" means the Board of Harbor Commissioners or Board of Port Commissioners which has authority over the Ports of Hueneme, Long Beach, Los Angeles, and San Diego Unified Port District.

Section 30113 Prime agricultural land

"Prime agricultural land" means those lands defined in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of subdivision (c) of [Section 51201 of the Government Code](#).

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30114 Public works

"Public works" means the following:

(a) All production, storage, transmission, and recovery facilities for water, sewerage, telephone, and other similar utilities owned or operated by any public agency or by any utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission, except for energy facilities.

(b) All public transportation facilities, including streets, roads, highways, public parking lots and structures, ports, harbors, airports, railroads, and mass transit facilities and stations, bridges, trolley wires, and other related facilities. For purposes of this division, neither the Ports of Hueneme, Long Beach, Los Angeles, nor San Diego Unified Port District nor any of the developments within these ports shall be considered public works.

(c) All publicly financed recreational facilities, all projects of the State Coastal Conservancy, and any development by a special district.

(d) All community college facilities.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 1553, Stats. 1982; Ch. 392, Stats. 1985.)

Section 30115 Sea

"Sea" means the Pacific Ocean and all harbors, bays, channels, estuaries, salt marshes, sloughs, and other areas subject to tidal action through any connection with the Pacific Ocean, excluding nonestuarine rivers, streams, tributaries, creeks, and flood control and drainage channels. "Sea" does not include the area of jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, established pursuant to [Title 7.2 \(commencing with Section 66600\) of the Government Code](#), including any river, stream, tributary, creek, or flood control or drainage channel flowing directly or indirectly into such area.

Section 30116 Sensitive coastal resource areas

"Sensitive coastal resource areas" means those identifiable and geographically bounded land and water areas within the coastal zone of vital interest and sensitivity. "Sensitive coastal resource areas" include the following:

(a) Special marine and land habitat areas, wetlands, lagoons, and estuaries as mapped and designated in Part 4 of the coastal plan.

(b) Areas possessing significant recreational value.

(c) Highly scenic areas.

(d) Archaeological sites referenced in the California Coastline and Recreation Plan or as designated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

(e) Special communities or neighborhoods which are significant visitor destination areas.

(f) Areas that provide existing coastal housing or recreational opportunities for low- and moderate-income persons.

(g) Areas where divisions of land could substantially impair or restrict coastal access.

Section 30118 Special district

"Special district" means any public agency, other than a local government as defined in this chapter, formed pursuant to general law or special act for the local performance of governmental or proprietary functions within limited boundaries. "Special district" includes, but is not limited to, a county service area, a maintenance district or area, an improvement district or improvement zone, or any other zone or area, formed for the purpose of designating an area within which a property tax rate will be levied to pay for service or improvement benefiting that area.

Section 30118.5 Special treatment area

"Special treatment area" means an identifiable and geographically bounded forested area within the coastal zone that constitutes a significant habitat area, area of special scenic significance, and any land where logging activities could adversely affect public recreation area or the biological productivity of any wetland, estuary, or stream especially valuable because of its role in a coastal ecosystem.

(Amended by Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30119 State university

"State university" means the University of California and the California State University.

(Amended by Ch. 143, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30120 Treatment works

"Treatment works" shall have the same meaning as set forth in the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.) and any other federal act which amends or supplements the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Section 30121 Wetland

"Wetland" means lands within the coastal zone which may be covered periodically or permanently with shallow water and include saltwater marshes, freshwater marshes, open or closed brackish water marshes, swamps, mudflats, and fens.

Section 30122 Zoning ordinance

"Zoning ordinance" means an ordinance authorized by [Section 65850 of the Government Code](#) or, in the case of a charter city, a similar ordinance enacted pursuant to the authority of its charter.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

CHAPTER 2.5 REVISIONS TO THE COASTAL ZONE BOUNDARY

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Section 30150 Amendment of inland boundary

Notwithstanding the maps adopted pursuant to Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, as amended by Section 29 of Chapter 1331 of the Statutes of 1976, the inland boundary of the coastal zone, as shown on the detailed coastal maps adopted by the commission on March 1, 1977, is amended by maps 1 to 35, inclusive, dated September 12, 1979, and which are on file in the office of the commission. Maps 1 to 35, inclusive, are hereby adopted by reference.

The areas deleted and added to the coastal zone are specifically shown on maps 1 to 35, inclusive, adopted by this section, and are generally described in this chapter.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 829, Stats. 1998.)

Section 30152 Del Norte County

In Del Norte County:

(a) Near the community of Smith River, approximately 225 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 1.

(b) The Fort Dick, Kings Valley, and Meadowbrook Acres are excluded as specifically shown on maps 2 and 3.

(c) In and near the City of Crescent City, approximately 2,250 acres between Lake Earl Drive and State Highway Route 101 and other partially urbanized areas such as the Bertsch Subdivision, are excluded as specifically shown on maps 2 and 3.

(d) In the City of Crescent City, approximately two acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 2A, dated May 5, 1982, and filed on May 20, 1982, with the Office of the Secretary of State.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1470, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30154 Humboldt County

In Humboldt County:

(a) In and near the City of Fortuna, approximately 265 acres seaward of State Highway Route 101 are excluded as specifically shown on map 4.

(b) All of the incorporated land of the City of Ferndale as of January 1, 1979, is excluded as specifically shown on map 4A. The city shall consider work completed pursuant to its local coastal program in the course of preparing or revising its general plan. Notwithstanding any provision of Division 21 (commencing with Section [31000](#)) to the contrary, the State Coastal Conservancy may undertake projects within the city without approval of the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30156 San Mateo County

In San Mateo County, within the Butano Creek watershed, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on map 5.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30156.1 San Mateo County; City of Pacifica

In San Mateo County, in the City of Pacifica, approximately 11 acres situated east of State Highway Route 1 and described in Director's Deed DD-028764-01-01 from the Director of Transportation, is included, as specifically shown on map 5.

(Added by Ch. 1381, Stats. 1988.)

Section 30158 Santa Cruz County

In Santa Cruz County:

(a) Near the community of Bonny Doon, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on maps 6 and 7.

(b) In the Watsonville area approximately 40 acres in the southwest portion of the city are excluded as specifically shown on map 8.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30160 Monterey County

In Monterey County:

(a) In the City of Marina, approximately 400 acres between Del Monte Boulevard and the new alignment of State Highway Route 1 are excluded as specifically shown on map 9.

(b) In the City of Sand City approximately 125 acres landward of a 200-foot buffer along the new alignment of State Highway Route 1 are excluded as specifically shown on map 10; provided, however, a buffer of 100 feet along either side of the railroad right-of-way through the city together with such right-of-way are not excluded.

(c) In the City of Seaside approximately 29 acres northeast of Laguna del Rey are excluded as specifically shown on map 10; provided, however, a 125-foot buffer along the edge of Laguna Grande, a 100-foot buffer along each side of the channel connecting Roberts Lake and Laguna Grande, and a 100-foot buffer along either side of the railroad right-of-way together with such right-of-way are not excluded.

(d) In the City of Monterey, the downtown area, and the Cannery Row area between Lighthouse Avenue and the extreme edge of the railroad right-of-way, are excluded as specifically shown on map 11; provided, however, that the one block area bounded by Foam Street and Wave Street and Prescott Avenue and Hoffman Avenue, is not excluded.

Notwithstanding any map referenced by Section [30150](#), dated September 12, 1979, and filed on September 14, 1979, with the office of the Secretary of State, the inland coastal zone boundary described in this subdivision shall be as prescribed by the amendments to this section made during the second year of the 1979-80 Regular Session of the Legislature.

(e) In the City of Pacific Grove approximately 300 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 11; provided, however, that the railroad right-of-way is not excluded.

(f) In the Del Monte Forest, approximately 90 acres known as the Navaho Tract are added as specifically shown on map 11.

(g) In the area between the intersection of the boundary and the easterly line of Section 26, T. 17 S., R.1.E., M.D.M. and the intersection of the boundary and the northeasterly corner of Section 1, T. 19 S., R. 1 E., M.D.M., and in the vicinity of the head of the Middle Fork of Devil's Canyon and the head of the South Fork of Devil's Canyon the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on maps 12, 13, and 14.

(Amended by Ch. 170, Sec. 1. Stats. 1980. Effective June 12, 1980.)

Section 30162 Santa Barbara County

In Santa Barbara County:

(a) In Rancho San Julian and generally within the watershed of Jalama Creek, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on map 16.

(b) In the Devereux Lagoon and Goleta Slough areas, approximately 170 acres are excluded and 245 acres are added as specifically shown on maps 17 and 18; provided, however, that the land areas on which the University of California has proposed a 200 unit housing project are not included.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30164 Ventura County

In Ventura County:

(a) Near the mouth of the Ventura River, approximately 190 acres are added as specifically shown on map 19.

(b) In the City of San Buenaventura, approximately 240 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 19.

(c) In the City of Oxnard and a small unincorporated area, approximately 130 acres are excluded and approximately 85 acres are added as specifically shown on map 20.

(d) In the area describes as Section 36, T. 1 N., R. 20 W., S.B.B.L., the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on map 21.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30166 Los Angeles County

In Los Angeles County:

(a) In three locations within the Santa Monica Mountains, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on maps 22, 23, and 24.

(b) In the Temescal Canyon watershed in the City of Los Angeles, all lands owned or controlled by the Presbyterian Synod, the University of California, the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and the Los Angeles Unified School District are added.

(c) In the Cities of Los Angeles and El Segundo the areas east of Vista del Mar that include the Scattergood Steam Plant, the Hyperion Sewage Treatment Plant, and portions of an oil refinery are excluded as specifically shown on map 25. In adopting this boundary change, the Legislature specifically reaffirms the existing location of the coastal zone boundary in the Venice area of the City of Los Angeles.

(d) In the City of Manhattan Beach, approximately 140 acres, and in the City of Hermosa Beach, approximately 170 acres, are excluded as specifically shown on maps 25 and 26.

(e) In the City of Palos Verdes Estates, approximately 95 acres landward of Paseo del Mar are excluded as specifically shown on map 26.

(f) In the City of Long Beach, the area near Colorado Lagoon is excluded as specifically shown on map 27.

(g) In the City of Long Beach, the area commencing at the intersection of the existing coastal zone boundary at Colorado Street and Pacific Coast Highway, thence southerly along Pacific Coast Highway to the intersection of Loynes Drive, thence easterly along Loynes Drive to the intersection of Los Cerritos Channel, thence northerly along Los Cerritos Channel to the existing coastal zone boundary, is excluded as specifically shown on map 27A.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30166.5 City of Malibu; submission and adoption of local coastal program

(a) On or before January 15, 2002, the commission shall submit to the City of Malibu an initial draft of the land use portion of the local coastal program for the City of Malibu portion of the coastal zone, which is specifically delineated on maps 133, 134, 135, and 136, which were placed on file with the Secretary of State on September 14, 1979.

(b) On or before September 15, 2002, the commission shall, after public hearing and consultation with the City of Malibu, adopt a local coastal program for that area within the City of Malibu portion of the coastal zone that is specifically delineated on maps 133, 134, 135, and 136, which have been placed on file with the Secretary of State on March 14, 1977, and March 1, 1987. The local coastal program for the area shall, after adoption by the commission, be deemed certified, and shall, for all purposes of this division, constitute the certified local coastal program for the area. Subsequent to the certification of the local coastal program, the City of Malibu shall immediately assume coastal development permitting authority, pursuant to this division. Notwithstanding the requirements of [Chapter 4.5 \(commencing with Section 65920\) of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government Code](#), once the City of Malibu assumes coastal development permitting authority pursuant to this section, no application for a coastal development permit shall be deemed approved if the city fails to take timely action to approve or deny the application.

(Added by Ch. 952, Stats. 2000.)

Section 30168 Orange County

In Orange County:

(a) In the City of Huntington Beach, approximately 9.5 acres are added as specifically shown on map 28.

(b) In the City of Costa Mesa, approximately 15 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 28.

(c) In the City of Newport Beach, approximately 22.6 acres adjacent to Pacific Coast Highway are added as specifically shown on map 28; provided, however, that the area described in this subdivision shall be excluded from the coastal zone, if the

Department of Transportation, within one year from the effective date of this act, enters into an agreement for use of this area for hospital-related purposes.

(d) In the Niguel Hill area, the developed portions of Pacific Island Village are excluded as specifically shown on map 29.

(e) In the communities of Dana Point and Laguna Niguel, approximately 450 acres inland of the Pacific Coast Highway are excluded as specifically shown on map 29A.

(f) In the community of Capistrano Beach, approximately 381 acres seaward of the San Diego Freeway are excluded as specifically shown on map 29A.

(g) In the City of San Clemente, approximately 230 acres inland seaward of the San Diego Freeway are added as specifically shown on map 29B, dated September 1, 1981, and filed on September 1, 1981, with the Office of the Secretary of State.

(h) In the City of San Clemente, approximately 214 acres inland and seaward of the San Diego Freeway are excluded as specifically shown on maps 29A and 30.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30169 Aliso Viejo area of Orange County

(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that a dispute exists as to the proper location of the inland boundary of the coastal zone in the area commonly known as Aliso Viejo and that, after extensive review of the history of this boundary segment, the criteria utilized to establish the boundary in 1976, and the relevant topographical information, it is possible to reach differing conclusions of equal validity regarding the proper location of the coastal zone boundary. The Legislature further finds that it is not possible to determine objectively which ridgeline feature in the Aliso Viejo area most closely approximates the boundary criteria utilized by the Legislature in 1976, and that it is in the best public interest to resolve the current boundary dispute in order to avoid further delay in the completion of the local coastal program for Orange County. The Legislature further finds that a timely solution of this boundary dispute can best be accomplished by adjusting the coastal zone boundary in the manner set forth in this section and within the general framework of Section [30103](#) and consistent with the need to protect the coastal resources of the Aliso Viejo area and to carry out the requirements of Section [30213](#).

(b) In the Aliso Creek area of Orange County approximately 286 acres are added and approximately 1,020 acres are excluded as specifically shown on maps 28A and 28B dated April 15, 1980, and filed on April 22, 1980, with the office of the Secretary of State and which are on file in the office of the commission. The maps are hereby adopted by reference. The changes made in the inland boundary of the coastal zone by this section are in addition to any changes made by any map referred to in Section [30150](#), except to the extent that the changes made by this section affect a segment of

the boundary previously changed by the map, in which case the changes made by this section shall supersede any of those previous changes.

(c) The executive director of the commission may adjust the precise location of the inland boundary of the coastal zone not more than 100 yards in either a seaward or landward direction in order to conform the precise boundary location to the specific limits of development adjacent to the coastal zone boundary as shown on maps 28A and 28B. However, in any subdivided area, the executive director may adjust the precise location of the inland boundary of the coastal zone not more than 100 feet in a landward direction in order to include any development of the first row of lots immediately adjacent to the boundary as shown on those maps, where the executive director determines that the adjustment is necessary to ensure that adequate controls will be applied to the development in order to minimize any potential adverse effects on the coastal zone resources. The executive director shall prepare a detailed map showing any of the changes and shall file a copy of the map with the county clerk.

(d) Prior to the adoption and approval of a drainage control plan by the County of Orange for the Aliso Viejo Planned Community (as designated by Amendment No. L.U. 79-1 to the Land Use Element of the Orange County General Plan), the county shall consult with the executive director of the commission to ensure that any drainage control facilities located outside the coastal zone are adequate to provide for no increase in peak runoff, by virtue of the development of the Aliso Viejo Planned Community, which would result in adverse impacts on coastal zone resources.

(e) On or before January 31, 1981, the commission shall, after public hearing and in consultation with the County of Orange, certify or reject a local coastal program segment prepared and submitted by the county on or before August 1, 1980, for the following parcel in the Aliso Creek area: land owned by the Aliso Viejo Company, a California corporation, as of April 22, 1980, within the coastal zone as amended by this section. The local coastal program required by this subdivision shall, for all purposes of this division, constitute a certified local coastal program segment for that parcel in the County of Orange. The segment of the county's local coastal program for the parcel may be amended pursuant to this division relating to the amendment of local coastal programs. If the commission neither certifies nor rejects the submitted local coastal program within the time limit specified in this subdivision, the land added to the coastal zone by this section shall no longer be subject to this division. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this subdivision, that a procedure to expedite the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program for that land be established so that the public and the affected property owner know as soon as possible what uses are permissible.

(f) The commission, through its executive director, shall enter into a binding and enforceable agreement with Aliso Viejo Company, and the agreement shall be recorded as a covenant to run with the land with no prior liens other than tax and assessment liens restricting the Aliso Viejo Planned Community. The agreement shall provide for all of the following:

(1) The Aliso Viejo Company shall provide at least 1,000 units of for-sale housing to moderate-income persons at prices affordable to a range of households earning from 81 to 120 percent of the median income for Orange County as adjusted for family size pursuant to the commission's housing guidelines on affordable housing dated January 22, 1980, and July 16, 1979, and such any additional provisions as agreed to between the commission and the Aliso Viejo Company as referred to in this subdivision.

For purposes of this subdivision, median income constitutes the figure most recently established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development at the time the public report for the units, or any portion thereof, is issued by the Bureau of Real Estate. The affordable units required by this subdivision shall be priced equally over the moderate-income range and shall reflect a reasonable mix as to size and number of bedrooms.

(2) The 1,000 units provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be sold subject to controls on resale substantially as provided in the commission's housing guidelines on affordable housing, dated January 22, 1980, and July 16, 1979, and any additional provisions as agreed to between the commission and the Aliso Viejo Company as referred to in this subdivision. On or before entering the agreement provided for herein, the Aliso Viejo Company shall enter into an agreement, approved by the executive director of the commission, with the Orange County Housing Authority or any other appropriate housing agency acceptable to the executive director of the commission to provide for the administration of the resale controls including the qualification of purchasers.

(3) The 1,000 units provided pursuant to this subdivision may be dispersed throughout the Aliso Viejo Planned Community, and shall be completed and offered for sale prior to, or simultaneously with, other units in the overall project, so that at any time at least 7 1/2 percent of the units constructed shall be resale-controlled until the 1,000 units are completed.

(4) The Department of Housing and Community Development and the County of Orange shall be third party beneficiaries to the agreement provided in this subdivision and shall have the power to enforce any and all provision of the agreement.

(5) This agreement may only be amended upon the determination of the Aliso Viejo Company or its successors or assigns, the commission, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the County of Orange that the change is necessary in order to prevent adverse effects on the supply of low- and moderate-income housing opportunities and to improve the methods of providing the housing at continually affordable prices.

The Legislature hereby finds and declares that, because the Aliso Viejo Company, in addition to the 1,000 units of controlled housing provided in this subdivision, will provide for 2,000 units of subsidized affordable housing for low income persons and 2,000 affordable housing units for moderate income persons pursuant to the company's housing program, the purposes of Section [30213](#) will be met by

enactment of this subdivision. The Legislature further finds and declares that the general provisions of this subdivision are specifically described and set forth in letters by Aliso Viejo Company and the executive director of the commission published in the Journals of the Senate and the Assembly of the 1979-80 Regular Session, and it is the intent of the Legislature that the commission and Aliso Viejo Company conform the agreement provided in this subdivision to the specific provisions described in the letters.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the application of this division by the commission to the development or use of any infrastructure necessary and appropriate to serve development within the portions of the Aliso Viejo Planned Community located inland of the coastal zone as amended by this section, shall be strictly limited to addressing direct impacts on coastal zone resources and shall be carried out in a manner that assures that the infrastructure will be provided. Furthermore, the commission shall amend without conditions its prior permit No. A-61-76 to provide for its release of sewer outfall flow limitations necessary and appropriate to serve the Aliso Viejo Planned Community located inland of the coastal zone as amended by this subdivision. For purposes of this subdivision, "infrastructure" means those facilities and improvements necessary and appropriate to develop, construct, and serve urban communities, including but not limited to, streets, roads, and highways; transportation systems and facilities; schools; parks; water and sewage systems and facilities; electric, gas, and communications system and facilities; and drainage and flood control systems and facilities. Notwithstanding this subdivision, the commission may limit, or reasonably condition, the use of the transit corridor in Aliso Creek Valley to transit uses, uses approved by the commission that serve the Aliso Greenbelt Project prepared by the State Coastal Conservancy, the provision of access to and from the sewage treatment works in Aliso Creek Valley, emergency uses, and drainage and flood control systems and facilities and other services approved pursuant to this subdivision.

(h) This section shall become operative only when the commission and Aliso Viejo Company have entered into the binding and enforceable agreement provided for in this section, and the agreement has been duly recorded with the county recorder of Orange County.

(Formerly Section 30168, added by Ch. 170, Stats. 1980. Renumbered and amended by Ch. 714, Stats. 1981. Amended by Ch. 352, Stats. 2013.)

Section 30170 San Diego County

In San Diego County:

(a) In the City of Oceanside, approximately 500 acres are excluded as specifically shown on maps 30A and 31.

(b) In the City of Carlsbad, approximately 180 acres in the downtown area, except for the Elm Street corridor, are excluded as specifically shown on map 31.

(c) In the City of Carlsbad, the area lying north of the Palomar Airport as generally shown on maps 31 and 32 and as specifically described in this subdivision is excluded.

Those portions of lots "F" and "G" of Rancho Agua Hedionda, part in the City of Carlsbad and part in the unincorporated area of the County of San Diego, State of California, according to the partition map thereof No. 823, filed in the office of the county recorder of that county, November 16, 1896, described as follows:

Commencing at point 1 of said lot "F" as shown on said map; thence along the boundary line of said lot "F" south 25 33'56" east, 229.00 feet to point 23 of said lot "F" and south 54 40'19" east, 1347.00 feet; thence leaving said boundary line south 35 19'44" west, 41.28 feet to the true point of beginning, which point is the true point of beginning, of the land described in deed to Japatul Corporation recorded December 8, 1975, at recorder's file/page No. 345107 of official records to said county; thence along the boundary line of said land south 35 19'44" west, 2216.46 feet and north 53 02'49" west, 1214.69 feet to the northeast corner of the land described in deed to Japatul Corporation recorded December 8, 1975, at recorder's file/page no. 345103 of said official records; thence along the boundary lines of said land as follows: West, 1550 feet, more or less, to the boundary of said lot "F"; south 00 12'00" west, 550 feet, more or less, to point 5 of said lot "F"; south 10 25'00" east along a straight line between said point 5 and point 14 of said lot "F," to point 14 of said lot "F"; thence along the boundary of said lot "F" south 52 15'45" east (record south 51 00'00" east) 1860.74 feet more or less to the most westerly corner of the land conveyed to James L. Hieatt, et ux, by deed recorded June 11, 1913, in Book 617, page 54 of deed, records of said county; thence along the northwesterly and northeasterly boundary of Hieatt's land as follows: North 25 00'00" east, 594.00 feet and south 52 15'45" east (record south 51 00'00" east per deed) 1348.61 feet to a point of intersection with the northerly line of Palomar County Airport, said point being on the boundary of the land conveyed to Japatul Corporation by deed recorded December 8, 1975, at recorder's file/page No. 345107 of said official records; thence along said boundary as follows: North 79 10'00" east, 4052.22 feet north 10 50'00" west, 500.00 feet; north 79 10'00" east 262.00 feet, south 10 50'00" east, 500.00 feet; north 79 10'00" east, 1005 feet, more or less, to the westerly line of the land conveyed to the County of San Diego by deed recorded May 28, 1970, at recorder's file/page No. 93075 of said official records; thence continuing along the boundary of last said Japatul Corporation's land north 38 42'44" west, 2510.58 feet to the beginning of a tangent 1845.00 foot radius curve concave northeasterly; along the arc of said curve through a central angle of 14 25'52" a distance of 464.70 feet to a point of the southerly boundary of the land allotted to Thalia Kelly Considine, et al, by partial final judgment in partition, recorded January 1, 1963, at recorder's file/page No. 11643 of said official records; thence continuing along last said Japatul Corporation's land south 67 50'28" west, 1392.80 feet north 33 08'52" west, 915.12 feet and north 00 30'53 west, 1290.37 feet to the southerly line of said land conveyed to the County of San Diego, being also the northerly line of last said Japatul Corporation's land; thence along said common line north 74 57'25" west, 427.67 feet to the beginning of a tangent 2045.00 foot radius curve concave northerly; and westerly along the arc of said curve

through a central angle of 16 59'24", a distance of 606.41 feet to the true point of beginning.

And those properties known as assessors parcel Nos. 212-020-08, 212-020-22, and 212-020-23.

Excepting therefrom that portion, if any, conveyed to the County of San Diego, by quitclaim deed recorded January 12, 1977, at recorder's file/page No. 012820 of said official records.

No development may occur in the area described in this subdivision until a plan for drainage of the parcel to be developed has been approved by the local government having jurisdiction over the area after consultation with the commission and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan shall assure that no detrimental increase occurs in runoff of water from the parcel to be developed and shall require that the facilities necessary to implement the plan are installed as part of the development.

(d) In the City of Carlsbad and adjacent unincorporated areas, approximately 600 acres consisting of the Palomar Airport and an adjoining industrial park are excluded as specifically shown on maps 31 and 32.

(e) An area consisting of approximately 333 acres lying west and south of the Palomar Airport and bounded on the south by Palomar Airport Road is excluded as specifically shown on maps 31 and 32.

No development may occur in the area described in this subdivision until a plan for drainage of the parcel to be developed has been approved by the local government having jurisdiction over the area after consultation with the commission and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan shall assure that no detrimental increase occurs in runoff of water from the parcel to be developed and shall require that the facilities necessary to implement the plan are installed as part of the development.

(f) On or before October 1, 1980, the commission shall, after public hearing and in consultation with the City of Carlsbad, prepare, approve, and adopt a local coastal program for the following parcels in the vicinity of Batiquitos Lagoon within the City of Carlsbad: lands owned by Rancho La Costa, a registered limited partnership, lands (consisting of approximately 80 acres) owned by Standard Pacific of San Diego, Inc., that were conveyed by Rancho La Costa on October 8, 1977, and lands owned by the Occidental Petroleum Company. Those parcels shall be determined by ownership as of September 12, 1979. As used in this subdivision, "parcels" means the parcels identified in this paragraph. The local coastal program required by this subdivision shall include all of the following elements:

- (1) Protection of agricultural lands and uses to the extent feasible.
- (2) Minimization of adverse impacts from sedimentation.
- (3) Protection of feasible public recreational opportunities.

(4) Provision for economically feasible development consistent with the three elements specified in this subdivision.

The local coastal program required by this subdivision shall, after adoption by the commission, be deemed certified and shall for all purposes of this division constitute certified local coastal program segments for those parcels in the City of Carlsbad. The segments of the city's local coastal program for those parcels may be amended pursuant to the provisions of this division relating to the amendment of local coastal programs. In addition, until (i) the City of Carlsbad adopts or enacts the implementing actions contained in the local coastal program, or (ii) other statutory provisions provide alternately for the adoption, certification, and implementation of a local coastal program for those parcels, the local coastal program required by this subdivision may also be amended by the commission at the request of the owner of any of those parcels. For administrative purposes, the commission may group these requests in order to schedule them for consideration at a single commission hearing. However, the commission shall schedule these requests for consideration at least once during each four-month period, beginning January 1, 1982. After either of these events occur, however, these property owners shall no longer be eligible to request the commission to amend the local coastal program.

If the commission fails to adopt a local coastal program within the time limits specified in this subdivision, those parcels shall be excluded from the coastal zone and shall no longer be subject to this division. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this subdivision that a procedure to expedite the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program for those parcels be established so that the public and affected property owners know as soon as possible what the permissible uses of those lands are.

(g) In the vicinity of the intersection of Del Mar Heights Road and the San Diego Freeway, approximately 250 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map 33.

(h) In the vicinity of the intersection of Carmel Valley Road and the San Diego Freeway, approximately 45 acres are added as specifically shown on map 33.

In the City of San Diego, the Carmel Valley area consisting of approximately 1,400 acres as shown on map 33 that has been placed on file with the Secretary of State on January 23, 1980, shall be excluded from the coastal zone after the City of San Diego submits, and the commission certifies, a drainage plan and a transportation plan for the area. The city shall implement and enforce the certified drainage and transportation plans. Any amendments or changes to the underlying land use plan for the area that affects drainage, or to either the certified drainage or transportation plan, shall be reviewed and processed in the same manner as an amendment of a certified local coastal program pursuant to Section [30514](#). Any land use not in conformance with the certified drainage and transportation plans may be appealed to the commission pursuant to the appeals procedure as provided by Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)). The drainage plan and any amendments thereto shall be prepared after consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and shall ensure that problems

resulting from water runoff, sedimentation, and siltation are adequately identified and resolved.

(i) Near the head of the south branch of Los Peñasquitos Canyon, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit as described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on map 33.

(j) In the City of San Diego, approximately 1,855 acres known as the Mount Soledad and La Jolla Mesa areas are added as specifically shown on map 34. However, on or before February 29, 1980, and pursuant to either subdivision (d) of Section [30610](#) or Section [30610.5](#), the commission shall exclude from coastal development permit requirements any single family residence within the area specified in this subdivision. No coastal development permit shall be required for any improvement, maintenance activity, relocation, or reasonable expansion of any commercial radio or television transmission facilities within the area specified in this subdivision unless the proposed activity could result in a significant change in the density or intensity of use in the area or could have a significant adverse impact on highly scenic resources of public importance. However, no prior review by the commission of this activity shall be required.

(k) In the City of San Diego, approximately 30 acres known as the Famosa Slough is added as specifically shown on maps 34 and 35.

(Added by Ch. 1109, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1360, Stats. 1980; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 583, Stats. 2006; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30170.6 San Diego County; Peñasquitos Canyon

Notwithstanding Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, as amended by Section 29 of Chapter 1331 of the Statutes of 1976, any map dated September 12, 1979, and filed on September 14, 1979, with the office of the Secretary of State, or any provision of Section [30170](#), the inland boundary of the coastal zone in a portion of San Diego County, of approximately 95 acres in Peñasquitos Canyon, is hereby amended as indicated by revised map number 33, dated March 21, 1980, and filed on March 21, 1980, with the office of the Secretary of State; provided, that the City of San Diego first submits and the commission approves a drainage plan for the area providing for drainage in connection with the extension of Mira Mesa Boulevard to Interstate Highway 805 sufficient to assure that no detrimental increase in runoff of water into Carroll Canyon occurs as a result of construction of Mira Mesa Boulevard.

(Added by Ch. 631, Stats. 1980.)

Section 30170.7 (Repealed by Ch. 160, Stats. 1988.)

Section 30171 City of Carlsbad; submission and adoption or failure to adopt local coastal program; amendment of program

(a) On or before October 1, 1980, the commission shall submit to the City of Carlsbad an initial draft of the land use portion of the local coastal program for the area specifically delineated on maps 154 and 155 which have been placed on file with the Secretary of State on April 22, 1980.

(b) On or before July 1, 1981, the commission shall, after public hearing and consultation with the City of Carlsbad, adopt a local coastal program for that area within the City of Carlsbad which is specifically delineated on maps 154 and 155 which have been placed on file with the Secretary of State on April 22, 1980. The local coastal program for such area shall, after adoption by the commission, be deemed certified, and shall, for all purposes of this division, constitute the certified local coastal program for such area. The local coastal program for such area may be amended pursuant to the provisions of this division relating to the amendment of local coastal programs. In addition, until such time as (i) the City of Carlsbad adopts or enacts the implementing actions contained in any such coastal program or (ii) other statutory provisions provide alternately for the adoption, certification, and implementation of a local coastal program for that area, the local coastal program required by this subdivision may also be amended by the commission at the request of any owner of property located within the area. For administrative purposes, the commission may group these requests in order to schedule them for consideration at a single commission hearing; provided, however, that the commission shall schedule these requests for consideration at least once during each four-month period, beginning January 1, 1982. After either of these events occur, however, these property owners shall no longer be eligible to request the commission to amend the local coastal program.

(c) If the commission fails to adopt such local coastal program within the time limits specified in this subdivision, such area shall be excluded from the coastal zone and shall no longer be subject to the provisions of this division. It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting this section, that a procedure to expedite the preparation and adoption of a local coastal program in this specified area be established so that the public and affected property owners know as soon as possible what the permissible uses of such lands are.

(d) This section is not intended and shall not be construed as authorizing any modification, extension, or alteration in any deadline or other provisions of any contract between the commission or any regional coastal commission and any person, business, or corporation with respect to planning services for the area delineated on maps 154 and 155.

(Added by Ch. 170, Stats. 1980. Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30171.2 City of Carlsbad; local coastal program; agricultural conversion fees; priorities; reimbursements; claims; appropriation

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), on and after January 1, 1985, no agricultural conversion fees may be levied or collected under the agricultural subsidy program provided in the local coastal program of the City of Carlsbad that was adopted and certified pursuant to Section [30171](#). All other provisions of that program shall continue to be operative, including the right to develop designated areas as provided in the program.

(b) This section shall not affect any right or obligation under any agreement or contract entered into prior to January 1, 1985, pursuant to that agricultural subsidy program, including the payment of any fees and the right of development in accordance with the provisions of the agreement or contract. As to these properties, the agricultural subsidy fees in existence as of December 31, 1984, shall be paid and allocated within the City of Carlsbad, or on projects outside the city that benefit agricultural programs within the city, in accordance with the provisions of the agricultural subsidy program as it existed on September 30, 1984.

(c) Any agricultural conversion fees collected pursuant to the agricultural subsidy program and not deposited in the agricultural improvement fund in accordance with the local coastal program or that have not been expended in the form of agricultural subsidies assigned to landowners by the local coastal program land use policy plan on January 1, 1985, shall be used by the Department of General Services to reimburse the party that paid the fees if no agreements or contracts have been entered into or to the original parties to the agreements or contracts referred to in subdivision (b) in proportion to the amount of fees paid by the parties. However, if the property subject to the fee was under option at the time that the original agreement or contract was entered into and the optionee was a party to the agricultural subsidy agreement, payments allocable to that property shall be paid to the optionee in the event the optionee has exercised the option. Reimbursement under this section shall be paid with 90 days after January 1, 1985, or payment of the fee, whichever occurs later, and only after waiver by the party being reimbursed of any potential legal rights resulting from enactment of this section.

(d) (1) Any person entitled to reimbursement of fees under subdivision (c) shall file a claim with the Department of General Services, which shall determine the validity of the claim and pay that person a pro rata share based on the relative amounts of fees paid under the local coastal program or any agreement or contract entered pursuant thereto.

(2) There is hereby appropriated to the Department of General Services the fees referred to in subdivision (c), for the purpose of making refunds under this section.

(e) Notwithstanding any geographical limitation contained in this division, funds deposited pursuant to subdivision (b) may be expended for physical or institutional development improvements needed to facilitate long-term agricultural production within

the City of Carlsbad. These funds may be used to construct improvements outside the coastal zone boundaries in San Diego County if the improvements are not inconsistent with the Carlsbad local coastal program and the State Coastal Conservancy determines that the improvements will benefit agricultural production within the coastal zone of the City of Carlsbad.

(Added by Ch. 1388, Stats. 1984. Amended by Ch. 402, Stats. 1988; Ch. 538, Stats. 2006; Ch. 31, Stats. 2016.)

Section 30171.5 City of Carlsbad; local coastal program; mitigation fee for development on nonprime agricultural lands; priorities

(a) The amount of the mitigation fee for development on nonprime agricultural lands in the coastal zone in the City of Carlsbad that lie outside of the areas described in subdivision (f) of Section [30170](#) and subdivision (b) of Section [30171](#) shall be determined in the applicable segment of the local coastal program of the City of Carlsbad, but shall not be less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000), nor more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), per acre. All mitigation fees collected under this section shall be deposited in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund.

(b) All mitigation fees collected pursuant to this section are hereby appropriated to, and shall be expended by, the State Coastal Conservancy in the following order of priority:

(1) Restoration of natural resources and wildlife habitat in Batiquitos Lagoon.

(2) Development of an interpretive center at Buena Vista Lagoon.

(3) Provision of access to public beaches in the City of Carlsbad.

(4) Any other project or activity benefiting or enhancing the use of natural resources, including open field cultivated floriculture, in the coastal zone in the City of Carlsbad that is provided for in the local coastal program of the City of Carlsbad.

(c) The State Coastal Conservancy may establish a special account in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund and deposit mitigation fees collected pursuant to this section in the special account. Any interest accruing on that money in the special account shall be expended pursuant to subdivision (b).

(d) Not less than 50 percent of collected and bonded mitigation fees shall be expended for the purpose specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(e) Other than to mitigate the agricultural conversion impacts for which they are collected, none of the mitigation fees collected pursuant to this section shall be used for elements of a project which cause that project to be in compliance with this division or to mitigate a project which would otherwise be inconsistent with this division. When reviewing a potential project for consistency with this subdivision, the State Coastal Conservancy shall consult with the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1388, Stats. 1984. Amended by Ch. 480, Stats. 1987; Ch. 513, Stats. 1996.)

Section 30172 Exclusion from coastal zone in San Diego County

In the San Diego County, an area consisting of approximately 180 acres lying west and south of Palomar Airport as shown on map 155, which has been placed on file with the Secretary of State on April 22, 1980, shall be excluded from the coastal zone after the City Engineer of the City of Carlsbad approves and the commission certifies a drainage plan for the area, pursuant to the commission's interim permit authority, which plan the city shall implement and enforce.

(Added by Ch. 170, Stats. 1980.)

Section 30174 Coastal zone in San Diego County; amendment of inland boundary

Notwithstanding the maps adopted pursuant to Section 17 of Chapter 1330 of the Statutes of 1976, as amended by Section 29 of Chapter 1331 of the Statutes of 1976, the inland boundary of the coastal zone, as shown on detailed coastal map 157 adopted by the commission on March 1, 1977, shall be amended to conform to the inland boundary shown on map A which is hereby adopted by reference and which shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State and the commission on the date of enactment of this section.

The areas deleted and added to the coastal zone which are specifically shown on map A are in the County of San Diego and are generally described as follows:

(a) In the vicinity of the intersection of Del Mar Heights Road and the San Diego Freeway, approximately 250 acres are excluded as specifically shown on map A.

(b) In the vicinity of the intersection of Carmel Valley Road and the San Diego Freeway, approximately 45 acres are added as specifically shown on map A.

(c) Near the head of the south branch of Los Peñasquitos Canyon, the boundary is moved seaward to the five-mile limit as described in Section [30103](#) and as specifically shown on map A.

(Added by Ch. 1128, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30176 (Repealed by Ch. 226, Stats. 1991.)

**CHAPTER 3
COASTAL RESOURCES PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

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Section

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**ARTICLE 1
GENERAL**

Section 30200 Policies as standards; resolution of policy conflicts

(a) Consistent with the coastal zone values cited in Section [30001](#) and the basic goals set forth in Section [30001.5](#), and except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this division, the policies of this chapter shall constitute the standards by which the adequacy of local coastal programs, as provided in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)), and, the permissibility of proposed developments subject to the provisions of this division are determined. All public agencies carrying out or supporting activities outside the coastal zone that could have a direct impact on resources within the coastal zone shall consider the effect of such actions on coastal zone resources in order to assure that these policies are achieved.

(b) Where the commission or any local government in implementing the provisions of this division identifies a conflict between the policies of this chapter, Section [30007.5](#) shall be utilized to resolve the conflict and the resolution of such conflicts shall be supported by appropriate findings setting forth the basis for the resolution of identified policy conflicts.

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

**ARTICLE 2
PUBLIC ACCESS**

Section 30210 Access; recreational opportunities; posting

In carrying out the requirement of [Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution](#), maximum access, which shall be conspicuously posted, and recreational opportunities shall be provided for all the people consistent with public safety needs and the need to protect public rights, rights of private property owners, and natural resource areas from overuse.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978.)

Section 30211 Development not to interfere with access

Development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use or legislative authorization, including, but not limited to, the use of dry sand and rocky coastal beaches to the first line of terrestrial vegetation.

Section 30212 New development projects

(a) Public access from the nearest public roadway to the shoreline and along the coast shall be provided in new development projects except where: (1) it is inconsistent with public safety, military security needs, or the protection of fragile coastal resources, (2) adequate access exists nearby, or (3) agriculture would be adversely affected. Dedicated accessway shall not be required to be opened to public use until a public agency or private association agrees to accept responsibility for maintenance and liability of the accessway.

(b) For purposes of this section, "new development" does not include:

(1) Replacement of any structure pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (g) of Section [30610](#).

(2) The demolition and reconstruction of a single-family residence; provided, that the reconstructed residence shall not exceed either the floor area, height or bulk of the former structure by more than 10 percent, and that the reconstructed residence shall be sited in the same location on the affected property as the former structure.

(3) Improvements to any structure which do not change the intensity of its use, which do not increase either the floor area, height, or bulk of the structure by more than 10 percent, which do not block or impede public access, and which do not result in a seaward encroachment by the structure.

(4) The reconstruction or repair of any seawall; provided, however, that the reconstructed or repaired seawall is not a seaward of the location of the former structure.

(5) Any repair or maintenance activity for which the commission has determined, pursuant to Section [30610](#), that a coastal development permit will be required unless the commission determines that the activity will have an adverse impact on lateral public access along the beach.

As used in this subdivision "bulk" means total interior cubic volume as measured from the exterior surface of the structure.

(c) Nothing in this division shall restrict public access nor shall it excuse the performance of duties and responsibilities of public agencies which are required by [Sections 66478.1 to 66478.14](#), inclusive, of the Government Code and by [Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution](#).

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 744, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30212.5 Public facilities; distribution

Wherever appropriate and feasible, public facilities, including parking areas or facilities, shall be distributed throughout an area so as to mitigate against the impacts, social and otherwise, of overcrowding or overuse by the public of any single area.

Section 30213 Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities; encouragement and provision; overnight room rentals

Lower cost visitor and recreational facilities shall be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided. Developments providing public recreational opportunities are preferred.

The commission shall not: (1) require that overnight room rentals be fixed at an amount certain for any privately owned and operated hotel, motel, or other similar visitor-serving facility located on either public or private lands; or (2) establish or approve any method for the identification of low or moderate income persons for the purpose of determining eligibility for overnight room rentals in any such facilities.

(Amended by Ch. 1191, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 1007, Stats. 1981; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30214 Implementation of public access policies; legislative intent

(a) The public access policies of this article shall be implemented in a manner that takes into account the need to regulate the time, place, and manner of public access depending on the facts and circumstances in each case including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Topographic and geologic site characteristics.

(2) The capacity of the site to sustain use and at what level of intensity.

(3) The appropriateness of limiting public access to the right to pass and repass depending on such factors as the fragility of the natural resources in the area and the proximity of the access area to adjacent residential uses.

(4) The need to provide for the management of access areas so as to protect the privacy of adjacent property owners and to protect the aesthetic values of the area by providing for the collection of litter.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the public access policies of this article be carried out in a reasonable manner that considers the equities and that balances the rights of the individual property owner with the public's constitutional right of access pursuant to [Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution](#). Nothing in this section or any amendment thereto shall be construed as a limitation on the rights guaranteed to the public under [Section 4 of Article X of the California Constitution](#).

(c) In carrying out the public access policies of this article, the commission and any other responsible public agency shall consider and encourage the utilization of innovative access management techniques, including, but not limited to, agreements with private organizations which would minimize management costs and encourage the use of volunteer programs.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

ARTICLE 3 RECREATION

Section 30220 Protection of certain water-oriented activities

Coastal areas suited for water-oriented recreational activities that cannot readily be provided at inland water areas shall be protected for such uses.

Section 30221 Oceanfront land; protection for recreational use and development

Oceanfront land suitable for recreational use shall be protected for recreational use and development unless present and foreseeable future demand for public or commercial recreational activities that could be accommodated on the property is already adequately provided for in the area.

(Amended by Ch. 380, Stats. 1978.)

Section 30222 Private lands; priority of development purposes

The use of private lands suitable for visitor-serving commercial recreational facilities designed to enhance public opportunities for coastal recreation shall have priority over private residential, general industrial, or general commercial development, but not over agriculture or coastal-dependent industry.

Section 30222.5 Oceanfront lands; aquaculture facilities; priority

Oceanfront land that is suitable for coastal dependent aquaculture shall be protected for that use, and proposals for aquaculture facilities located on those sites shall be given priority, except over other coastal dependent developments or uses.

(Added by Ch. 1486, Stats. 1982; Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30223 Upland areas

Upland areas necessary to support coastal recreational uses shall be reserved for such uses, where feasible.

Section 30224 Recreational boating use; encouragement; facilities

Increased recreational boating use of coastal waters shall be encouraged, in accordance with this division, by developing dry storage areas, increasing public launching facilities, providing additional berthing space in existing harbors, limiting non-water-dependent land uses that congest access corridors and preclude boating support facilities, providing harbors of refuge, and by providing for new boating facilities in natural harbors, new protected water areas, and in areas dredged from dry land.

**ARTICLE 4
MARINE ENVIRONMENT**

Section 30230 Marine resources; maintenance

Marine resources shall be maintained, enhanced, and where feasible, restored. Special protection shall be given to areas and species of special biological or economic significance. Uses of the marine environment shall be carried out in a manner that will sustain the biological productivity of coastal waters and that will maintain healthy populations of all species of marine organisms adequate for long-term commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes.

Section 30231 Biological productivity; water quality

The biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of waste water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of ground water supplies and substantial interference with surface waterflow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams.

Section 30232 Oil and hazardous substance spills

Protection against the spillage of crude oil, gas, petroleum products, or hazardous substances shall be provided in relation to any development or transportation of such materials. Effective containment and cleanup facilities and procedures shall be provided for accidental spills that do occur.

Section 30233 Diking, filling or dredging; continued movement of sediment and nutrients

(a) The diking, filling, or dredging of open coastal waters, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes shall be permitted in accordance with other applicable provisions of this division, where there is no feasible less environmentally damaging alternative, and

where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects, and shall be limited to the following:

(1) New or expanded port, energy, and coastal-dependent industrial facilities, including commercial fishing facilities.

(2) Maintaining existing, or restoring previously dredged, depths in existing navigational channels, turning basins, vessel berthing and mooring areas, and boat launching ramps.

(3) In open coastal waters, other than wetlands, including streams, estuaries, and lakes, new or expanded boating facilities and the placement of structural pilings for public recreational piers that provide public access and recreational opportunities.

(4) Incidental public service purposes, including but not limited to, burying cables and pipes or inspection of piers and maintenance of existing intake and outfall lines.

(5) Mineral extraction, including sand for restoring beaches, except in environmentally sensitive areas.

(6) Restoration purposes.

(7) Nature study, aquaculture, or similar resource dependent activities.

(b) Dredging and spoils disposal shall be planned and carried out to avoid significant disruption to marine and wildlife habitats and water circulation. Dredge spoils suitable for beach replenishment should be transported for these purposes to appropriate beaches or into suitable longshore current systems.

(c) In addition to the other provisions of this section, diking, filling, or dredging in existing estuaries and wetlands shall maintain or enhance the functional capacity of the wetland or estuary. Any alteration of coastal wetlands identified by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, including, but not limited to, the 19 coastal wetlands identified in its report entitled, "Acquisition Priorities for the Coastal Wetlands of California", shall be limited to very minor incidental public facilities, restorative measures, nature study, commercial fishing facilities in Bodega Bay, and development in already developed parts of south San Diego Bay, if otherwise in accordance with this division.

For the purposes of this section, "commercial fishing facilities in Bodega Bay" means that not less than 80 percent of all boating facilities proposed to be developed or improved, where the improvement would create additional berths in Bodega Bay, shall be designed and used for commercial fishing activities.

(d) Erosion control and flood control facilities constructed on watercourses can impede the movement of sediment and nutrients that would otherwise be carried by storm runoff into coastal waters. To facilitate the continued delivery of these sediments to the littoral zone, whenever feasible, the material removed from these facilities may be placed at appropriate points on the shoreline in accordance with other applicable

provisions of this division, where feasible mitigation measures have been provided to minimize adverse environmental effects. Aspects that shall be considered before issuing a coastal development permit for these purposes are the method of placement, time of year of placement, and sensitivity of the placement area.

(Amended by Ch. 673, Stats. 1978; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1167, Stats. 1982; Ch. 454, Stats. 1983; Ch. 294, Stats. 2006; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30234 Commercial fishing and recreational boating facilities

Facilities serving the commercial fishing and recreational boating industries shall be protected and, where feasible, upgraded. Existing commercial fishing and recreational boating harbor space shall not be reduced unless the demand for those facilities no longer exists or adequate substitute space has been provided. Proposed recreational boating facilities shall, where feasible, be designed and located in such a fashion as not to interfere with the needs of the commercial fishing industry.

Section 30234.5 Economic, commercial, and recreational importance of fishing

The economic, commercial, and recreational importance of fishing activities shall be recognized and protected.

(Added by Ch. 802, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30235 Construction altering natural shoreline

Revetments, breakwaters, groins, harbor channels, seawalls, cliff retaining walls, and other such construction that alters natural shoreline processes shall be permitted when required to serve coastal-dependent uses or to protect existing structures or public beaches in danger from erosion, and when designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supply. Existing marine structures causing water stagnation contributing to pollution problems and fishkills should be phased out or upgraded where feasible.

Section 30236 Water supply and flood control

Channelizations, dams, or other substantial alterations of rivers and streams shall incorporate the best mitigation measures feasible, and be limited to (1) necessary water supply projects, (2) flood control projects where no other method for protecting existing structures in the flood plain is feasible and where such protection is necessary for public safety or to protect existing development, or (3) developments where the primary function is the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat.

Section 30237 (Repealed by Ch. 286, Stats. 2004.)

**ARTICLE 5
LAND RESOURCES**

Section 30240 Environmentally sensitive habitat areas; adjacent developments

(a) Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on those resources shall be allowed within those areas.

(b) Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas, and shall be compatible with the continuance of those habitat and recreation areas.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30241 Prime agricultural land; maintenance in agricultural production

The maximum amount of prime agricultural land shall be maintained in agricultural production to assure the protection of the areas' agricultural economy, and conflicts shall be minimized between agricultural and urban land uses through all of the following:

(a) By establishing stable boundaries separating urban and rural areas, including, where necessary, clearly defined buffer areas to minimize conflicts between agricultural and urban land uses.

(b) By limiting conversions of agricultural lands around the periphery of urban areas to the lands where the viability of existing agricultural use is already severely limited by conflicts with urban uses or where the conversion of the lands would complete a logical and viable neighborhood and contribute to the establishment of a stable limit to urban development.

(c) By permitting the conversion of agricultural land surrounded by urban uses where the conversion of the land would be consistent with Section [30250](#).

(d) By developing available lands not suited for agriculture prior to the conversion of agricultural lands.

(e) By assuring that public service and facility expansions and nonagricultural development do not impair agricultural viability, either through increased assessment costs or degraded air and water quality.

(f) By assuring that all divisions of prime agricultural lands, except those conversions approved pursuant to subdivision (b), and all development adjacent to prime agricultural lands shall not diminish the productivity of such prime agricultural lands.

(Amended by Ch. 1066, Stats. 1981; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30241.5 Agricultural land; determination of viability of uses; economic feasibility evaluation

(a) If the viability of existing agricultural uses is an issue pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section [30241](#) as to any local coastal program or amendment to any certified local coastal program submitted for review and approval under this division, the determination of "viability" shall include, but not be limited to, consideration of an economic feasibility evaluation containing at least both of the following elements:

(1) An analysis of the gross revenue from the agricultural products grown in the area for the five years immediately preceding the date of the filing of a proposed local coastal program or an amendment to any local coastal program.

(2) An analysis of the operational expenses, excluding the cost of land, associated with the production of the agricultural products grown in the area for the five years immediately preceding the date of the filing of a proposed local coastal program or an amendment to any local coastal program.

For purposes of this subdivision, "area" means a geographic area of sufficient size to provide an accurate evaluation of the economic feasibility of agricultural uses for those lands included in the local coastal program or in the proposed amendment to a certified local coastal program.

(b) The economic feasibility evaluation required by subdivision (a) shall be submitted to the commission, by the local government, as part of its submittal of a local coastal program or an amendment to any local coastal program. If the local government determines that it does not have the staff with the necessary expertise to conduct the economic feasibility evaluation, the evaluation may be conducted under agreement with the local government by a consultant selected jointly by local government and the executive director of the commission.

(Added by Ch. 259, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30242 Lands suitable for agricultural use; conversion

All other lands suitable for agricultural use shall not be converted to nonagricultural uses unless (1) continued or renewed agricultural use is not feasible, or (2) such conversion would preserve prime agricultural land or concentrate development consistent with Section [30250](#). Any such permitted conversion shall be compatible with continued agricultural use on surrounding lands.

Section 30243 Productivity of soils and timberlands; conversions

The long-term productivity of soils and timberlands shall be protected, and conversions of coastal commercial timberlands in units of commercial size to other uses or their

division into units of noncommercial size shall be limited to providing for necessary timber processing and related facilities.

Section 30244 Archaeological or paleontological resources

Where development would adversely impact archaeological or paleontological resources as identified by the State Historic Preservation Officer, reasonable mitigation measures shall be required.

**ARTICLE 6
DEVELOPMENT**

Section 30250 Location; existing developed area

(a) New residential, commercial, or industrial development, except as otherwise provided in this division, shall be located within, contiguous with, or in close proximity to, existing developed areas able to accommodate it or, where such areas are not able to accommodate it, in other areas with adequate public services and where it will not have significant adverse effects, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources. In addition, land divisions, other than leases for agricultural uses, outside existing developed areas shall be permitted only where 50 percent of the usable parcels in the area have been developed and the created parcels would be no smaller than the average size of surrounding parcels.

(b) Where feasible, new hazardous industrial development shall be located away from existing developed areas.

(c) Visitor-serving facilities that cannot feasibly be located in existing developed areas shall be located in existing isolated developments or at selected points of attraction for visitors.

(Amended by Ch. 1090, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30251 Scenic and visual qualities

The scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize the alteration of natural land forms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas. New development in highly scenic areas such as those designated in the California Coastline Preservation and Recreation Plan prepared by the Department of Parks and Recreation and by local government shall be subordinate to the character of its setting.

Section 30252 Maintenance and enhancement of public access

The location and amount of new development should maintain and enhance public access to the coast by (1) facilitating the provision or extension of transit service, (2) providing commercial facilities within or adjoining residential development or in other areas that will minimize the use of coastal access roads, (3) providing nonautomobile circulation within the development, (4) providing adequate parking facilities or providing substitute means of serving the development with public transportation, (5) assuring the potential for public transit for high intensity uses such as high-rise office buildings, and by (6) assuring that the recreational needs of new residents will not overload nearby coastal recreation areas by correlating the amount of development with local park acquisition and development plans with the provision of onsite recreational facilities to serve the new development.

Section 30253 Minimization of adverse impacts

New development shall do all of the following:

- (a) Minimize risks to life and property in areas of high geologic, flood, and fire hazard.
- (b) Assure stability and structural integrity, and neither create nor contribute significantly to erosion, geologic instability, or destruction of the site or surrounding area or in any way require the construction of protective devices that would substantially alter natural landforms along bluffs and cliffs.
- (c) Be consistent with requirements imposed by an air pollution control district or the State Air Resources Board as to each particular development.
- (d) Minimize energy consumption and vehicle miles traveled.
- (e) Where appropriate, protect special communities and neighborhoods that, because of their unique characteristics, are popular visitor destination points for recreational uses.

(Amended by Ch. 179, Stats. 2008.)

Section 30254 Public works facilities

New or expanded public works facilities shall be designed and limited to accommodate needs generated by development or uses permitted consistent with the provisions of this division; provided, however, that it is the intent of the Legislature that State Highway Route 1 in rural areas of the coastal zone remain a scenic two-lane road. Special districts shall not be formed or expanded except where assessment for, and provision of, the service would not induce new development inconsistent with this division. Where existing or planned public works facilities can accommodate only a limited amount of new development, services to coastal dependent land use, essential public services and basic industries vital to the economic health of the region, state, or nation, public

recreation, commercial recreation, and visitor-serving land uses shall not be precluded by other development.

Section 30254.5 Terms or conditions on sewage treatment plant development; prohibition

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commission may not impose any term or condition on the development of any sewage treatment plant which is applicable to any future development that the commission finds can be accommodated by that plant consistent with this division. Nothing in this section modifies the provisions and requirements of Sections [30254](#) and [30412](#).

(Added by Ch. 978, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30255 Priority of coastal-dependent developments

Coastal-dependent developments shall have priority over other developments on or near the shoreline. Except as provided elsewhere in this division, coastal-dependent developments shall not be sited in a wetland. When appropriate, coastal-related developments should be accommodated within reasonable proximity to the coastal-dependent uses they support.

(Amended by Ch. 1090, Stats. 1979.)

**ARTICLE 7
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Section 30260 Location or expansion

(a) Coastal-dependent industrial facilities shall be encouraged to locate or expand within existing sites and shall be permitted reasonable long-term growth where consistent with this division.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), where new or expanded coastal-dependent industrial facilities cannot feasibly be accommodated consistent with other policies of this division, they may nonetheless be permitted in accordance with this section and Sections [30261](#) and [30262](#) if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) Alternative locations are infeasible or more environmentally damaging.
- (2) Permitting the development would not adversely affect the public welfare.
- (3) Adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.

(4) The new or expanded coastal-dependent industrial facility is not an oil and gas development, refinery, or petrochemical facility.

(Amended by Ch. 292, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30261 Tanker facilities; use and design

Multicompany use of existing and new tanker facilities shall be encouraged to the maximum extent feasible and legally permissible, except where to do so would result in increased tanker operations and associated onshore development incompatible with the land use and environmental goals for the area. New tanker terminals outside of existing terminal areas shall be situated as to avoid risk to environmentally sensitive areas and shall use a monobuoy system, unless an alternative type of system can be shown to be environmentally preferable for a specific site. Tanker facilities shall be designed to (1) minimize the total volume of oil spilled, (2) minimize the risk of collision from movement of other vessels, (3) have ready access to the most effective feasible containment and recovery equipment for oil spills, and (4) have onshore deballasting facilities to receive any fouled ballast water from tankers where operationally or legally required.

(Amended by Ch. 855, Stats. 1977; Ch. 182, Stats. 1987.)

Section 30262 Oil and gas development

(a) New or expanded oil and gas development shall not be considered a coastal-dependent industrial facility for the purposes of Section [30260](#), and may be permitted only if found consistent with all applicable provisions of this division and if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The development is performed safely and consistent with the geologic conditions of the well site.

(2) Activities related to that development are consolidated, to the maximum extent feasible and legally permissible, unless consolidation will have adverse environmental consequences and will not significantly reduce the number of producing wells, support facilities, or sites required to produce the reservoir economically and with minimal environmental impacts.

(3) The development will not cause or contribute to subsidence hazards unless it is determined that adequate measures will be undertaken to prevent damage from such subsidence.

(4) All oilfield brines are reinjected into oil-producing zones unless the Geologic Energy Management Division of the Department of Conservation determines to do so would adversely affect production of the reservoirs and unless injection into other subsurface zones will reduce environmental risks. Exceptions to reinjections will be granted consistent with the California Ocean Plan of the State Water Resources Control Board and where adequate provision is made for the elimination of petroleum odors and water quality problems.

(5) (A) All oil produced offshore California shall be transported onshore by pipeline only. The pipelines used to transport this oil shall utilize the best achievable

technology to ensure maximum protection of public health and safety and of the integrity and productivity of terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

(B) Once oil produced offshore California is onshore, it shall be transported to processing and refining facilities by pipeline.

(C) The following guidelines shall be used when applying subparagraphs (A) and (B):

(i) "Best achievable technology," means the technology that provides the greatest degree of protection taking into consideration both of the following:

(I) Processes that are being developed, or could feasibly be developed, anywhere in the world, given overall reasonable expenditures on research and development.

(II) Processes that are currently in use anywhere in the world. This clause is not intended to create any conflicting or duplicative regulation of pipelines, including those governing the transportation of oil produced from onshore reserves.

(ii) "Oil" refers to crude oil before it is refined into products, including gasoline, bunker fuel, lubricants, and asphalt. Crude oil that is upgraded in quality through residue reduction or other means shall be transported as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(iii) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall apply only to new or expanded oil extraction operations. "New extraction operations" means production of offshore oil from leases that did not exist or had never produced oil, as of January 1, 2003, or from platforms, drilling islands, subsea completions, or onshore drilling sites, that did not exist as of January 1, 2003. "Expanded oil extraction" means an increase in the geographic extent of existing leases or units, including lease boundary adjustments, or an increase in the number of well heads, on or after January 1, 2003.

(iv) For new or expanded oil extraction operations subject to clause (iii), if the crude oil is so highly viscous that pipelining is determined to be an infeasible mode of transportation, or where there is no feasible access to a pipeline, shipment of crude oil may be permitted over land by other modes of transportation, including trains or trucks, which meet all applicable rules and regulations, excluding any waterborne mode of transport.

(6) If a state of emergency is declared by the Governor for an emergency that disrupts the transportation of oil by pipeline, oil may be transported by a waterborne vessel, if authorized by permit, in the same manner as required by emergency permits that are issued pursuant to Section [30624](#).

(7) In addition to all other measures that will maximize the protection of marine habitat and environmental quality, when an offshore well is abandoned, the best achievable technology shall be used.

(b) Repair and maintenance of an existing oil and gas facility may be permitted in accordance with Section [30260](#) only if it does not result in expansion of capacity of the oil and gas facility, and if all applicable conditions of subdivision (a) are met.

(c) Where appropriate, monitoring programs to record land surface and near-shore ocean floor movements shall be initiated in locations of new large-scale fluid extraction on land or near shore before operations begin and shall continue until surface conditions have stabilized. Costs of monitoring and mitigation programs shall be borne by liquid and gas extraction operators.

(d) Nothing in this section shall affect the activities of any state agency that is responsible for regulating the extraction, production, or transport of oil and gas.

(Amended by Ch. 420, Stats. 2003; Ch. 771, Stats. 2019; Ch. 292, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30263 Refineries or petrochemical facilities

(a) New or expanded refineries or petrochemical facilities shall not be considered a coastal-dependent industrial facility for the purposes of Section 30260, and may be permitted only if found to be consistent with all applicable provisions of this division.

(b) New or expanded refineries or petrochemical facilities shall minimize the need for once-through cooling by using air cooling to the maximum extent feasible and by using treated waste waters from inplant processes where feasible.

(c) Repair and maintenance of existing refineries or petrochemical facilities may be permitted in accordance with Section [30260](#) only if the following conditions are met:

(1) The development does not result in expansion of capacity of existing refineries or petrochemical facilities.

(2) Alternative locations are not feasible or are more environmentally damaging.

(3) Adverse environmental effects are mitigated to the maximum extent feasible.

(4) Permitting the development would not adversely affect the public welfare.

(5) The development is not located in a highly scenic or seismically hazardous area, on any of the Channel Islands, or within or contiguous to environmentally sensitive areas.

(6) The development is sited so as to provide a sufficient buffer area to minimize adverse impacts on surrounding property.

(d) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of this section and paragraph (4) of subdivisions (b) of Section [30260](#), development of facilities for the purposes of producing low-carbon fuels at an existing refinery or petrochemical facility may be

permitted in accordance with Section [30260](#) if all requirements of that section and subdivision (c) of this section are met.

(Amended by Ch. 535, Stats. 1991; Ch. 292, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30264 Thermal electric generating plants

Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, except subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section [30413](#), new or expanded thermal electric generating plants may be constructed in the coastal zone if the proposed coastal site has been determined by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to have greater relative merit pursuant to the provisions of Section [25516.1](#) than available alternative sites and related facilities for an applicant's service area which have been determined to be acceptable pursuant to the provisions of Section [25516](#).

Section 30265 Legislative findings and declarations; offshore oil transportation

The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

(a) Transportation studies have concluded that pipeline transport of oil is generally both economically feasible and environmentally preferable to other forms of crude oil transport.

(b) Oil companies have proposed to build a pipeline to transport offshore crude oil from central California to southern California refineries, and to transport offshore oil to out-of-state refiners.

(c) California refineries would need to be retrofitted if California offshore crude oil were to be used directly as a major feedstock. Refinery modifications may delay achievement of air quality goals in the southern California air basin and other regions of the state.

(d) The County of Santa Barbara has issued an Oil Transportation Plan which assesses the environmental and economic differences among various methods for transporting crude oil from offshore California to refineries.

(e) The Governor should help coordinate decisions concerning the transport and refining of offshore oil in a manner that considers state and local studies undertaken to date, that fully addresses the concerns of all affected regions, and that promotes the greatest benefits to the people of the state.

(Added by Ch. 1398, Stats. 1984. Amended by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30265.5 Governor or designee; coordination of activities concerning offshore oil transport and refining; duties

(a) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, shall coordinate activities concerning the transport and refining of offshore oil. Coordination efforts shall consider public health risks, the ability to achieve short-term and long-term air emission reduction goals, the potential for reducing California's vulnerability and dependence on oil imports, economic development and jobs, and other factors deemed important by the Governor, or the Governor's designees.

(b) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, shall work with state and local agencies, and the public, to facilitate the transport and refining of offshore oil in a manner that will promote the greatest public health and environmental and economic benefits to the people of the State.

(c) The Governor, or the Governor's designee, shall consult with any individual or organization having knowledge in this area, including, but not limited to, representatives from the following:

- (1) State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission
- (2) State Air Resources Board
- (3) California Coastal Commission
- (4) Department of Fish and Wildlife
- (5) State Lands Commission
- (6) Public Utilities Commission
- (7) Santa Barbara County
- (8) Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
- (9) Southern California Association of Governments
- (10) South Coast Air Quality Management Districts
- (11) Oil industry
- (12) Public interest groups
- (13) United States Department of the Interior
- (14) United States Department of Energy
- (15) United States Environmental Protection Agency

(16) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

(17) United States Coast Guard

(d) This act is not intended, and shall not be construed, to decrease, duplicate, or supersede the jurisdiction, authority, or responsibilities of any local government, or any state agency or commission, to discharge its responsibilities concerning the transportation and refining of oil.

(Added by Ch. 1398, Stats. 1984. Amended by Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

ARTICLE 8 SEA LEVEL RISE

Section 30270 Sea level rise

The commission shall take into account the effects of sea level rise in coastal resources planning and management policies and activities in order to identify, assess, and, to the extent feasible, avoid and mitigate the adverse effects of sea level rise.

(Added by Ch. 236, Stats. 2021.)

**CHAPTER 4
CREATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND POWERS OF
COMMISSION AND REGIONAL COMMISSIONS**

**ARTICLE 1
CREATION, MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION AND
REGIONAL COMMISSION**

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| 30301.5 | Nonvoting members; designees of nonvoting members |
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| 30303 | (repealed) |
| 30304 | Alternate members; appointments |
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| 30305 | Succession to powers, duties, or legal interests of regional coastal commissions |

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| 30313 | Vacancies; notification of expected vacancies |
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**ARTICLE 2.5
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[30342](#) (repealed)
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**ARTICLE 4
LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM
IMPLEMENTATION COSTS**

Section

[30350](#) State policy; claims; intent
[30351](#) Local coastal program implementation grants; purpose; procedures
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[30354](#) Review and evaluation of claims; submission to controller;
recommendations; determination
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**ARTICLE 1
CREATION, MEMBERSHIP OF COMMISSION AND
REGIONAL COMMISSION**

Section 30300 Creation

There is in the Resources Agency the California Coastal Commission.

(Amended by Ch. 676, Stats. 1980; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30301 Membership

The commission shall consist of the following 15 members:

(a) The Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency.

(b) The Secretary of Transportation.

(c) The Chairperson of the State Lands Commission.

(d) Six representatives of the public from the state at large. The Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint two of these members.

(e) Six representatives selected from six coastal regions. The Governor shall select one member from the north coast region and one member from the south central coast region. The Speaker of the Assembly shall select one member from the central coast region and one member from the San Diego coast region. The Senate Committee on Rules shall select one member from the north central coast region and one member from the south coast region. For purposes of this division, these regions are defined as follows:

(1) The north coast region consists of the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino.

(2) The north central coast region consists of the Counties of Sonoma and Marin and the City and County of San Francisco.

(3) The central coast region consists of the Counties of San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Monterey.

(4) The south central coast region consists of the Counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

(5) The south coast region consists of the Counties of Los Angeles and Orange.

(6) The San Diego coast region consists of the County of San Diego.

(f) Of the representatives appointed by the Governor pursuant to subdivision (d) or (e), one of the representatives shall reside in, and work directly with, communities in the state that are disproportionately burdened by, and vulnerable to, high levels of pollution and issues of environmental justice, including, but not limited to, communities with diverse racial and ethnic populations and communities with low-income populations. The Governor shall appoint a representative qualified pursuant to this subdivision to a vacant position from the appointments available pursuant to either subdivision (d) or (e) no later than the fourth appointment available after January 1, 2017.

(Amended by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 1153, Stats. 1993; Ch. 589, Stats. 1993; Ch. 208, Stats. 1995; Ch. 746, Stats. 2004; Ch. 352, Stats. 2013; Ch. 578, Stats. 2016.)

Section 30301.2 Appointments; methods

(a) The appointments of the Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, and the Speaker of the Assembly, pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section [30301](#), shall be made as prescribed in this section. Within 45 days from the date of receipt of a request for nominations by the appointing authority, the board of supervisors and city selection committee of each county within the region shall nominate supervisors, mayors, or city council members who reside in the region from which the Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, or the Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint a replacement. In regions composed of three counties, the board of supervisors and the city selection committee in each county within the region shall each nominate one or more supervisors and one or more mayors or city council members. In regions composed of two counties, the board of supervisors and the city selection committee in each county within the region shall each nominate not less than two supervisors and not less than two mayors or city council members. In regions composed of one county, the board of supervisors and the city selection committee in the county shall each nominate not less than three supervisors and not less than three mayors or city council members. Immediately upon selecting the nominees, the board of supervisors and the city selection committee shall send the names of the nominees to either the Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, or the Speaker of the Assembly, whoever will appoint the replacement.

(b) Within 30 days from the date of receipt of the names of the nominees pursuant to subdivision (a), the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, or the Senate Committee on Rules, whoever will appoint the replacement, shall either appoint one of the nominees or notify the boards of supervisors and city selection committees within the region that none of the nominees are acceptable and request the boards of supervisors and city selection committees to make additional nominations. Within 45 days from the date of receipt of a notice rejecting all the nominees, the boards of supervisors and city selection committees within the region shall nominate and send to the appointing authority the names of additional nominees in accordance with subdivision (a). Upon receipt of the names of those additional nominees, the appointing authority shall appoint one of the nominees.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 162, Stats. 1997; Ch. 746, Stats. 2004; Ch. 683, Stats. 2015.)

Section 30301.5 Nonvoting members; designees of nonvoting members

A member of the commission serving pursuant subdivision (a), (b), or (c), of Section [30301](#) shall be a nonvoting member and may appoint a designee to serve at the member's pleasure who shall have all the powers and duties of the member pursuant to this division.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 1153, Stats. 1993; Ch. 746, Stats. 2004; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30302 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30303 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30304 Alternate members; appointments

(a) Any member of the commission may, subject to the confirmation of the member's appointing power, appoint an alternate member to represent the member at any commission meeting. An alternate for a locally elected official need not also be a locally elected official. An alternate may serve before confirmation for a period not to exceed 90 days from the date of appointment unless and until confirmation is specifically refused. The alternate shall serve at the pleasure of the member who appointed them and shall have all the powers and duties as a member of the commission, except that the alternate shall only participate and vote in meetings in the absence of the member who appointed them.

(b) All provisions of law relating to conflicts of interest that are applicable to a member shall apply to an alternate member. Whenever a member has, or is known to have, a conflict of interest on any matter, the member's alternate is not eligible to vote on that matter.

(Amended by Ch. 879, Stats. 1978; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 683, Stats. 2015; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30304.5 (Repealed by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30305 Succession to powers, duties, or legal interests of regional coastal commissions

Except as otherwise provided in this division, the commission shall succeed to any and all obligations, powers, duties, responsibilities, benefits, or legal interests of regional coastal commissions which existed prior to July 1, 1981.

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

ARTICLE 2
QUALIFICATIONS AND ORGANIZATION

Section 30310 **Appointments; reflection of economic, social, and geographic diversity**

In making their appointments pursuant to this division, the Governor, the Senate Committee on Rules, and the Speaker of the Assembly shall make good faith efforts to assure that their appointments, as a whole, reflect, to the greatest extent feasible, the economic, social, and geographic diversity of the state.

(Amended by Ch. 746, Stats. 2004; Ch. 22, Stats. 2005.)

Section 30310.5 (Repealed by Ch. 683, Stats 2015.)

Section 30311 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30312 **Terms of office; vacancies; appointments**

The terms of the office of commission members shall be as follows:

(a) (1) A person appointed by the Governor and qualified for membership because the person holds a specified office as a locally elected official shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. However, the membership shall cease 60 days after the member's term of office as a locally elected official ceases, or when a person has been appointed to fill that position by the Governor, if that occurs sooner.

(2) A person appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules or by the Speaker of the Assembly and qualified for membership because the person holds a specified office as a locally elected official shall serve a term of four years. However, the membership shall cease 60 days after the member's term of office as a locally elected official ceases, if that occurs sooner.

(b) (1) A member appointed by the Governor shall serve for two years at the pleasure of the Governor, and may be reappointed for succeeding two-year periods, provided that the member may continue to serve beyond the two-year term until the Governor has acted and the appointee is authorized to sit and serve on the commission.

(2) A member appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules or the Speaker of the Assembly shall serve for four years, and may be reappointed for succeeding four-year periods, provided that the member may continue to serve beyond the four-year term until the member's appointing authority has acted and the appointee is authorized to sit and serve on the commission. If the Senate Committee on Rules or the Speaker of the Assembly has not acted within 60 days after the expiration of a member's term, the position shall become vacant until a person is appointed to a four-year term, calculated from the expiration date of the preceding term.

(c) If a vacancy occurs before the expiration of the term for the vacated seat, the appointing authority shall appoint a member for the remainder of the unexpired term pursuant to this chapter.

(d) On the effective date of the act adding this subdivision, the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint two members to serve two-year terms and two members to serve four-year terms. All subsequent terms shall be for four years.

(Amended by Ch. 380, Stats 1978; Ch. 1075, Stats 1978; Ch. 1469, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1, 2nd Ex. Sess. 2003; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30313 Vacancies; notification of expected vacancies

(a) Vacancies that occur shall be filled within 30 days after the occurrence of the vacancy, and shall be filled in the same manner in which the vacating member was selected or appointed.

(b) The executive director of the commission shall notify the appropriate appointing authority of any expected vacancies on the commission. If the expected vacancy is a person qualified for membership because he or she holds a specified office as a locally elected official, whose term of office as a locally elected official is expected to expire or has expired, then the appointing authority shall notify the boards of supervisors and city selection committees of each county within the affected region of the expected vacancy.

(Amended by Ch. 1469, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30314 Compensation; expenses

(a) Except as provided in this section, members or alternates of the commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties to the extent that reimbursement for those expenses is not otherwise provided or payable by another public agency or agencies, and shall receive fifty dollars (\$50) for each full day of attending meetings of the commission. In addition, members or alternates of the commission shall receive twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) for each hour actually spent in preparation for a commission meeting, provided that for each meeting no more than eight hours of preparation time shall be compensated as provided in this section.

(b) An alternate shall be entitled to payment and reimbursement for the necessary expenses incurred in participating in commission meetings, provided that only the member or the member's alternate shall receive that payment and reimbursement, and if both the member and alternate prepare for, attend, and participate in any portion of a commission meeting, only the alternate shall be entitled to that payment and reimbursement.

(c) For the purposes of this section, "full day of attending a meeting" means presence at, and participation in, not less than 60 percent of the total meeting time of the commission during any particular 24-hour period.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

(PLEASE NOTE: SB 2590 (Ch. 462, Stats. 1986) added Section [11564.5](#) to the Government Code to increase per diem rates for members of all boards, commissions, or committees to one hundred dollars (\$100) per day.)

Section 30315 Meetings; quorum

(a) The commission shall meet at least 11 times annually at a place convenient to the public. Each meeting shall occur not more than 45 working days after the previous meeting. All meetings of the commission shall be open to the public.

(b) A majority of the total appointed membership of the commission shall constitute a quorum. Any action taken by the commission under this division requires a majority vote of the members present at the meeting of the commission, with a quorum being present, unless otherwise specifically provided for in this division.

(Amended by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 683, Stats. 2015; Ch. 546, 2016.)

Section 30315.1 Findings; majority vote; quorum

Adoption of findings for any action taken by the commission requires a majority vote of the members from the prevailing side present at the meeting of the commission, with at least three of the prevailing members present and voting.

(Added by Ch. 1469, Stats. 1982. Amended by Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30315.5 Notice of public meeting or hearing; required availability in English and Spanish; availability in other languages authorized

Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall make the notice of any public meeting or hearing of the commission available in both English and Spanish, and may also make the notice available in any other language.

(Added by Ch. 866, Stats. 2014.)

Section 30316 Chairperson and vice chairperson

The commission shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30317 Headquarters; statewide powers; regional offices

The headquarters of the commission shall be in a coastal county, but it may meet and may exercise any or all of its powers in any part of the state. The commission may maintain regional offices, if it finds that accessibility to, and participation by, the public will be better served or that the provisions of this division can be implemented more efficiently through the maintenance of those offices.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30318 Conflict of interest

This division shall not preclude or prevent a member or employee of the commission who is also an employee of another public agency, a county supervisor or city councilperson, member of the Association of Bay Area Governments, member of the Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments, member of a joint powers authority, member of a local agency formation commission, delegate to the Southern California Association of Governments, or member of the San Diego Association of Governments, and who has in that designated capacity voted or acted upon a particular matter, from voting or otherwise acting upon that matter as a member or employee of the commission. This section shall not exempt a member or employee of the commission from any other provision of this article.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 108, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30319 Development permit application; disclosure of representatives; punishment

Any person who applies to the commission for approval of a development permit shall provide the commission with the names and addresses of all persons who, for compensation, will be communicating with the commission or commission staff on the applicant's behalf or on behalf of the applicant's business partners. That disclosure shall be provided to the commission prior to any such communication. Failure to comply with that disclosure requirement is a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, the person shall be punished by a fine of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, and, in addition, shall be subject to immediate denial of the permit.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 798, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30319.5 Denial of permit; subsequent applications; time

An applicant whose permit is denied due to the applicant's failure to comply with [Section 30319](#) may not apply to the commission for approval of an identical or similar project for two years from the date of the permit denial.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

ARTICLE 2.5 FAIRNESS AND DUE PROCESS

Section 30320 Findings and declarations

(a) The people of California find and declare that the duties, responsibilities, and quasi-judicial actions of the commission are sensitive and extremely important for the well-being of current and future generations and that the public interest and principles of fundamental fairness and due process of law require that the commission conduct its affairs in an open, objective, and impartial manner free of undue influence and the abuse of power and authority. It is further found that, to be effective, California's coastal protection program requires public awareness, understanding, support, participation, and confidence in the commission and its practices and procedures. Accordingly, this article is necessary to preserve the public's welfare and the integrity of, and to maintain the public's trust in, the commission and the implementation of this division.

(b) The people of California further find that in a democracy, due process, fairness, and the responsible exercise of authority are all essential elements of good government which require that the public's business be conducted in public meetings, with limited exceptions for sensitive personnel matters and litigation, and on the official record. Reasonable restrictions are necessary and proper to prevent future abuses and misuse of governmental power so long as all members of the public are given adequate opportunities to present their views and opinions to the commission through written or oral communications on the official record either before or during the public hearing on any matter before the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30321 Jurisdiction of commission

For purposes of this article, "a matter within the commission's jurisdiction" means any permit action, federal consistency review, appeal, local coastal program, port master plan, public works plan, long-range development plan, categorical or other exclusions from coastal development permit requirements, or any other quasi-judicial matter requiring commission action, for which an application has been submitted to the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30322 Ex parte communications

(a) For purposes of this article, except as provided in subdivision (b), an "ex parte communication" is any oral or written communication between a member of the commission and an interested person, about a matter within the commission's

jurisdiction, which does not occur in a public hearing, workshop, or other official proceeding, or on the official record of the proceeding on the matter.

(b) The following communications are not ex parte communications:

(1) Any communication between a staff member acting in their official capacity and any commission member or interested person.

(2) Any communication limited entirely to procedural issues, including, but not limited to, the hearing schedule, location, format, or filing date.

(3) Any communication that takes place on the record during an official proceeding of a state, regional, or local agency that involves a member of the commission who also serves as an official of that agency.

(4) Any communication between a member of the commission, with regard to any action of another state agency or of a regional or local agency of which the member is an official, and any other official or employee of that agency, including any person who is acting as an attorney for the agency.

(5) Any communication between a nonvoting commission member and a staff member of a state agency where both the commission member and the staff member are acting in an official capacity.

(6) Any communication to a nonvoting commission member relating to an action pending before the commission, where the nonvoting commission member does not participate in that action, either through written or verbal communication, on or off the record, with other members of the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 798, Stats. 1993; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30323 Interested persons

For purposes of this article, an "interested person" is any of the following:

(a) Any applicant, an agent or an employee of the applicant, or a person receiving consideration for representing the applicant, or a participant in the proceeding on any matter before the commission.

(b) Any person with a financial interest, as described in [Article 1 \(commencing with Section 87100\) of Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Government Code](#), in a matter before the commission, or an agent or employee of the person with a financial interest, or a person receiving consideration for representing the person with a financial interest.

(c) A representative acting on behalf of any civic, environmental, neighborhood, business, labor, trade, or similar organization who intends to influence the decision of a commission member on a matter before the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30324 Ex parte communications; disclosure; form

(a) No commission member, nor any interested person, shall conduct an ex parte communication unless the commission member fully discloses and makes public the ex parte communication by providing a full report of the communication to the executive director within seven days after the communication or, if the communication occurs within seven days of the next commission hearing, to the commission on the record of the proceeding at that hearing.

(b) (1) The commission shall adopt standard disclosure forms for reporting ex parte communications which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following information:

(A) The date, time and location of the communication.

(B) (i) The identity of the person or persons initiating and the person or persons receiving the communication.

(ii) The identity of the person on whose behalf the communication was made.

(iii) The identity of all persons present during the communication.

(C) A complete, comprehensive description of the content of the ex parte communication, including a complete set of all text and graphic material that was part of the communication.

(2) The executive director shall place in the public record any report of an ex parte communication.

(c) Communications shall cease to be ex parte communications when fully disclosed and placed in the commission's official record.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 798, Stats. 1993; Ch. 125, Stats. 2014.)

Section 30325 Commission proceedings; testimony; written comments

Nothing in this article prohibits any person or any interested person from testifying at a commission hearing, workshop, or other official proceeding, or from submitting written comments for the record on a matter before the commission. Written comments shall be submitted by mail or delivered to a commission office, or may be delivered to the commission at the time and place of a scheduled hearing.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30326 Commission workshops; requests

Any person, including a commission member, may request the commission staff to conduct a workshop on any matter before the commission or on any subject that could be useful to the commission. When the executive director determines that a request is appropriate and feasible, a workshop shall be scheduled at an appropriate time and location.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30327 Commission decision; influence; unreported ex parte communication; civil fine; attorneys' fees and costs

(a) No commission member or alternate shall make, participate in making, or any other way attempt to use their official position to influence a commission decision about which the member or alternate has knowingly had an ex parte communication that has not been reported pursuant to Section [30324](#).

(b) In addition to any other applicable penalty, including a civil fine imposed pursuant to Section [30824](#), a commission member who knowingly violates this section shall be subject to a civil fine, not to exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500). Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the court may award attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 798, Stats. 1993; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30327.5 Gifts to commissioner or member of commission's staff

(a) An interested person shall not give, convey, or make available gifts aggregating more than ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar month to a commissioner or a member of the commission's staff.

(b) A commissioner or member of the commission's staff shall not accept gifts aggregating more than ten dollars (\$10) in a calendar month from an interested person.

(c) For purposes of this section, "interested person" shall have the same meaning as the term is defined in Section [30323](#).

(d) For purposes of this section, "gift" means, except as provided in subdivision (e), a payment, as defined in [Section 82044 of the Government Code](#), that confers a personal benefit on the recipient, to the extent that consideration of equal or greater value is not received and includes a rebate or discount in the price of anything of value unless the rebate or discount is made in the regular course of business to members of the public without regard to official status. A person, other than a defendant in a criminal action, who claims that a payment is not a gift by reason of receipt of consideration has the burden of proving that the consideration received is of equal or greater value.

(e) For purposes of this section, "gift" does not include any of the following:

(1) A gift that is not used and that, within 30 days after receipt, is either returned to the donor or delivered to a nonprofit entity exempt from taxation under [Section 501\(c\)\(3\) of the Internal Revenue Code](#) without being claimed as a charitable contribution for tax purposes.

(2) A gift from an individual's spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, parent-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or first cousin, or the spouse of one of those individuals. However, a gift from one of those people shall be considered a gift if the donor is acting as an agent or intermediary for a person not covered in this paragraph.

(3) A cost associated with the provision of evidentiary material provided to the commission and its staff.

(4) An educational or training activity that has received prior approval from the commission.

(5) A field trip or site inspection that is made available on equal terms and conditions to all commissioners and appropriate staff.

(6) A reception or purely social event that is not offered in connection with or is not intended to influence a decision or action of the commission and that is open to all commissioners, members of the staff, and members of the public and press.

(Added by Ch. 663, Stats. 2007. Amended by Ch. 179, Stats. 2008.)

Section 30327.6 Violations of Section 30327.5; penalties

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a person who for compensation attempts to influence or affect the outcome of a commission decision or action and who violates [Section 30327.5](#) may, in addition to any other applicable penalty, be barred from any activity seeking to influence or affect the outcome of a commission decision or action for a period of up to one year from the date of the finding of the violation. Each violation shall be grounds for the person being barred from any activity seeking to influence or affect a commission decision or action for an additional year from the date of conviction.

(2) This section does not prohibit an individual from representing the individual's own self in seeking to influence or affect the outcome of a commission decision or action if that individual is acting solely on their own personal behalf and not on behalf of another person or entity.

(b) A person who violates [Section 30327.5](#) shall, in addition to any other applicable penalty, be subject to a civil fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for each violation.

(Added by Ch. 663, Stats. 2007. Amended by Ch. 179, Stats. 2008; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30328 Violations; remedies

If a violation of this article occurs and a commission decision may have been affected by the violation, an aggrieved person, as described in Section [30801](#), may seek a writ of mandate from a court requiring the commission to revoke its action and rehear the matter.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats, 1992.)

Section 30329 Applicable law

Notwithstanding Section [11425.10 of the Government Code](#), the ex parte communications provisions of the [Administrative Procedure Act \(Article 7 \(commencing with Section 11430.10\) of Chapter 4.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code\)](#) do not apply to proceedings of the California Coastal Commission under this division.

(Added by Ch. 938, Stats, 1995.)

**ARTICLE 3
POWERS AND DUTIES**

Section 30330 Responsibility for implementation; coastal zone planning and management agency; certificates of conformity; San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

The commission, unless specifically otherwise provided, shall have the primary responsibility for the implementation of the provisions of this division and is designated as the state coastal zone planning and management agency for any and all purposes, and may exercise any and all powers set forth in the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.\)](#) or any amendment thereto or any other federal act heretofore or hereafter enacted that relates to the planning or management of the coastal zone.

In addition to any other authority, the commission may, except for a facility defined in Section [25110](#), grant or issue any certificate or statement required pursuant to any such federal law that an activity of any person, including any local, state, or federal agency, is in conformity with the provisions of this division. With respect to any project outside the coastal zone that may have a substantial effect on the resources within the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, established pursuant to [Title 7.2 \(commencing with Section 66600\) of the Government Code](#), and for which any certification is required pursuant to the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.\)](#), such certification shall be issued by

the Bay Conservation and Development Commission; provided however, the commission may review and submit comments for any such project which affects resources within the coastal zone.

Section 30331 Successor to California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission and regional commissions

The commission is designated the successor in interest to all remaining obligations, powers, duties, responsibilities, benefits, and interests of any sort of the California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission and of the six regional coastal zone conservation commissions established by the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (commencing with Section 27000).

Section 30333 Rules and regulations

(a) Except as provided in [Section 18930 of the Health and Safety Code](#), the commission may adopt or amend, by vote of a majority of the appointed membership of the commission, rules and regulations to carry out the purposes and provisions of this division, and to govern procedures of the commission.

(b) Except as provided in [Section 18930 of the Health and Safety Code](#) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section [30620](#), these rules and regulations shall be adopted in accordance with the provisions of [Chapter 3.5 \(commencing with Section 11340\) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code](#). These rules and regulations shall be consistent with this division and other applicable law.

(Amended by Ch. 1152, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 472, Stats. 2013.)

Section 30333.1 Review of regulations and procedures

The commission shall periodically review its regulations and procedures and determine what revisions, if any, are necessary and appropriate to simplify and expedite the review of any matter that is before the commission for action pursuant to this division. The commission shall implement, within 60 days of the review any such revisions it determines to be appropriate, so that its regulations and procedures may continue to be as simple and expeditious as practicable.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30333.2 Restrictions on adoption of building standards

Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in the State Building Standards Law, Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18900) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, the commission shall not adopt nor publish a building standard as defined in [Section 18909 of the Health and Safety Code](#) unless the provisions of Sections [18930](#), [18933](#), [18938](#), [18940](#), [18943](#), [18944](#), and [18945](#) of the Health and

Safety Code are expressly excepted in the statute under which the authority to adopt rules, regulations, or orders is delegated. A building standard adopted in violation of this section shall have no force or effect. A building standard expressly required by a provision of federal law, specifically requiring that building standard, shall be adopted and published in the State Building Standards Code within the time required by federal law.

(Added by Ch. 1152, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991, Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30333.5 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30334 **Powers**

The commission may do the following:

(a) Contract for any private professional or governmental services, if the work or services cannot be satisfactorily performed by its employees.

(b) Sue and be sued. The Attorney General shall represent the commission in any litigation or proceeding before any court, board, or agency of the state or federal government.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30334.5 **Application for and acceptance of grants and contributions**

In addition to the authority granted by Section [30334](#) the commission may apply for and accept grants, appropriations, and contributions in any form.

Section 30335 **Executive director; employees**

The commission shall appoint an executive director who shall be exempt from civil service and shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The commission shall prescribe the duties and salaries of the executive director, and, consistent with applicable civil service laws, shall appoint and discharge any officer, house staff counsel, or employee of the commission as it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this division.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30335.1 **Employees to give procedural assistance**

The commission shall provide for appropriate employees on the staff of the commission to assist applicants and other interested parties in connection with matters which are before the commission for action. The assistance rendered by those employees shall be limited to matters of procedure and shall not extend to advice on substantive issues arising out of the provisions of this division, such as advice on the manner in which a

proposed development might be made consistent with the policies specified in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30335.5 Scientific panels; establishment to give technical advice and recommendations to commission

(a) The commission shall, if it determines that it has sufficient resources, establish one or more scientific panels to review technical documents and reports and to give advice and make recommendations to the commission ~~prior to~~ **before** making decisions requiring scientific expertise and analysis not available to the commission through its staff resources. It is the intent of the Legislature that the commission base any such technical decisions on scientific expertise and advice. The panel or panels may be composed of, but not limited to, persons with expertise and training in marine biology, fisheries, geology, coastal geomorphology, **coastal erosion**, geographic information systems, water quality, hydrology, ocean and coastal engineering, economics, and social sciences.

(b) Members of a **scientific** panel, while performing duties required by this division or by the commission, shall be entitled to the same rights and immunities granted public employees by [Article 3 \(commencing with Section 820\) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code](#). Those rights and immunities shall attach to the member as of the date of appointment of the person to the panel.

(c) The commission is encouraged to seek funding from any appropriate public or private source, and may apply for and expend any grant or endowment funds, for the purposes of this section. Any funding made available to the commission for these purposes shall be reported to the fiscal committee of each house of the Legislature at the time the commission's budget is being formally reviewed.

(d) The commission is encouraged to **utilize use** innovative techniques to increase effective communication between the commission and the scientific community, including the use of existing grant programs and volunteers, in order to improve and strengthen the technical basis of its planning and regulatory decisions.

(Added by Ch. 965, Stats. 1992. **Amended by Ch. 88, Stats. 2024.**)

Section 30336 Planning and regulatory assistance to local governments

The commission shall, to the maximum extent feasible, assist local governments in exercising the planning and regulatory powers and responsibilities provided for by this division where the local government elects to exercise those powers and responsibilities and requests assistance from the commission, and shall cooperate with and assist other public agencies in carrying out this division. Similarly, every public agency, including regional and state agencies and local governments, shall cooperate with the commission and shall, to the extent their resources permit, provide any advice,

assistance, or information the commission may require to perform its duties and to more effectively exercise its authority.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30337 Joint development permit application system; hearing procedures

The commission shall, where feasible, and in cooperation with the affected agency, establish a joint development permit application system and public hearing procedures with permit issuing agencies.

Section 30338 Regulations for timing of review of proposed treatment works

By May 1, 1977, the commission, after full consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, shall adopt regulations for the timing of its review of proposed treatment works pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (c) of Section [30412](#).

Section 30339 Duties, generally

The commission shall:

(a) Ensure full and adequate participation by all interested groups and the public at large in the commission's work program.

(b) Ensure that timely and complete notice of commission meetings and public hearings is disseminated to all interested groups and the public at large.

(c) Advise all interested groups and the public at large as to effective ways of participating in commission proceedings.

(d) Recommend to any local government preparing or implementing a local coastal program and to any state agency that is carrying out duties or responsibilities pursuant to this division, additional measures to assure open consideration and more effective public participation in its programs or activities.

(Amended by Ch. 714, Stats. 1981; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30340 Management and budgeting of funds

The commission shall manage and budget any funds that may be appropriated, allocated, granted, or in any other way made available to the commission for expenditure.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 589, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30340.5 Local coastal programs; use of federal funds; reimbursement of local governments; claims; forms; review

(a) It is the policy of the state that no less than 50 percent of funds received by the state from the federal government pursuant to the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. Sec. 1451, et seq.\)](#), shall be used for the preparation, review, approval, certification, and implementation of local coastal programs.

(b) A local government subject to this division may claim reimbursement of costs incurred as a direct result of the operation of or any requirement promulgated pursuant to this division. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a claim for reimbursement of mandated costs directly attributable to the operation of this division shall only be submitted, reviewed and approved in the manner set forth in this section.

(c) A claim pursuant to this section shall be submitted to the executive director of the commission no later than September 30. The executive director shall review the claim in accordance with this section and shall submit the claim to the Controller within 60 days after receipt of a claim but in no event later than November 30.

(d) A claim submitted pursuant to this section shall be filed on forms approved and prepared by the commission in consultation with the Controller. The forms shall specify the information needed to enable the executive director of the commission and the Controller to make the determinations required by subdivision (e). The forms shall clearly set forth information requirements for the evaluation of the following categories of costs:

(1) Costs for work relating to the preparation, review, and approval of a local coastal program or portion of a program.

(2) Costs for work that is not covered by paragraph (1).

The claim forms required by this section shall provide for claims of actual costs incurred during the fiscal year preceding submittal and for the costs the claimant local government estimates will be incurred during the then-current fiscal year.

(e) The executive director shall review and evaluate each claim submitted pursuant to this section and shall determine whether:

(1) The costs claimed are not paid for or reimbursed from any other source of state or federal funding.

(2) The costs are for work that is the direct result of and is mandated by the operation of this division or by the commission or whether the work is optional.

(3) With respect to costs specified in paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the work done or to be done is reasonable and necessary for the preparation and approval of a local coastal program pursuant to a local coastal program work program approved by

the commission, or for work that is not part of an approved work program if the work can be shown to be necessary for the completion of a certifiable local coastal program or if new information or other circumstances cause the commission to require that the work be carried out.

(f) The executive director of the commission shall submit to the Controller, on behalf of each claimant local government, all claims submitted pursuant to this section together with the executive director's recommendation whether the Controller should allow or deny, in whole or in part, the claim. The executive director's recommendation shall be based on their determinations made pursuant to subdivision (e). If the executive director fails to make a recommendation by the time a claim is required to be submitted to the Controller as provided in subdivision (c), the executive director is deemed to have recommended approval of the claim.

(g) [Section 17561 of the Government Code](#) shall apply to a claim filed pursuant to this section. However, where a conflict between [Section 17561 of the Government Code](#) and this section occurs, the conflict shall be resolved in a manner that best carries out the purposes of this section. The Controller shall apply the criteria of subdivision (e) in determining whether to allow or deny, in whole or in part, a claim and shall consider the recommendations of the executive director of the commission.

(Added by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978. Amended by Ch. 714, Stats. 1981; Ch. 1308, Stats. 1983; Ch. 294, Stats. 2006; Ch. 130, Stats. 2007; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30340.6 Local coastal programs; legislative intent; mandated costs to be paid with state or federal funds; failure of appropriations; postponement of obligations; exception

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature that all costs mandated by the operation of this division be paid either with state or federal funds or both. The Legislature hereby declares that [Section 30340.5](#) is designed to ensure that local governments are paid for legitimate claims for costs mandated by this division or the commission, costs for work which is not optional, and costs which are not otherwise reimbursed.

(b) In the event a claimed mandated cost has been approved by the Controller pursuant to [Section 30340.5](#) and the Legislature fails to appropriate the funds to pay such claims by special legislation or in the annual state budget for the fiscal year following approval of such claims by the Controller, except the date specified in [Section 30518](#), any dates specified in this division or by order of the commission for the submission of a local coastal program or any portion thereof or for the performance of any task or duty by a claimant local government whose approved claim has not been paid shall, at the request of such claimant local government, be postponed by the number of years elapsing between such specified date and the year in which the funds to pay the approved claim are provided.

(c) The provisions of subdivision (b) shall not apply to any local government if the Legislature determines that such local government's claim should not be paid because

such claim is not of the type intended to be subject to reimbursement pursuant to Section [30340.5](#).

(Added by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978. Amended by Ch. 1109 and Ch. 1128, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30341 Additional plans and maps; studies

The commission may prepare and adopt any additional plans and maps and undertake any studies it determines to be necessary and appropriate to better accomplish the purposes, goals, and policies of this division; provided, however, that the plans and maps shall only be adopted after public hearing.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30342 (Repealed by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30343 (Repealed by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30344 Guide to coastal resources; components; purpose; production; distribution

(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the coastal zone is one of its most precious natural resources, rich in diversity of living and nonliving resources and in the wide range of opportunities it provides for the use and conservation by the people of this state and nation. The Legislature further finds that, in order to promote the wise use of coastal resources for, among other things, recreation, habitat conservation, educational, and scientific study, the production of food and fiber, residential purposes, and economic growth, it is necessary to provide the public with an informative and educational guide to coastal resources.

(b) The commission shall, not later than July 1, 1984, prepare a guide to coastal resources. The guide shall include, but not be limited to, the following components:

(l) An inventory of the natural resources which are of environmental, social, economic, and educational importance to the public. The inventory shall include a description of the resources, their location, and their significance to the people and the natural environment.

(2) An inventory of manmade resources of cultural, historic, economic, and educational importance to the public. The inventory shall focus on those resources which, by virtue of their location in or near the coastal zone, take on a special character or which, because of their nature, require a coastal location. The inventory shall include a description of the resource and any historic, educational, and technical notes of interest.

(3) A listing of public and private entities having responsibility for the planning, management, use, and restoration of the coastal resources and how interested persons can contact those entities for further information about their projects and programs.

The purpose of this guide shall be to contribute to a better understanding by the public of the importance of coastal resources, both to the quality of life for people and to the maintenance of a healthy and productive natural environment. The guide shall be sensitive to the need for a balanced approach to the conservation and use of coastal resources, to the rights and responsibilities of individuals and the public in the protection and use of these resources, and the need to limit human use of some resources in order to avoid their degradation or destruction. The guide shall not be a policy guide, but rather it shall be an educational tool to increase the public understanding and appreciation of the value of California's coastal resources.

(c) The commission shall utilize innovative techniques for the preparation, production, and distribution of the guide so as to minimize costs to the public. To this end, the commission is encouraged to enlist the voluntary assistance of private and public organizations with appropriate expertise. In addition, the commission shall seek grants from private and public institutions to augment its limited funding.

Notwithstanding [Section 14850 of the Government Code](#) or any other provision of law, the commission may contract for the production of this guide with any public or private entity in order to meet the objective of this section.

(d) The guide shall be written and illustrated so as to be easily understood by the general public and shall be set forth in a format that ensures its usefulness.

(e) The guide shall be made available to the public at a reasonable cost.

(Added by Ch. 1470, Stats. 1982.)

ARTICLE 4 LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION COSTS

Section 30350 State policy; claims; intent

(a) It is the policy of the state that local governments be paid their legitimate costs, from either state or federal funds, for the implementation of certified local coastal programs; provided, however, that such payment shall only be available for those costs directly attributable to the operation of a certified local coastal program and which costs would not have been incurred but for such local coastal program and which costs are not of a nature which would normally be incurred by such local government in carrying out its land use planning and regulatory responsibilities pursuant to any provision of law other than this division.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, claims for payment of costs directly attributable to the operation and implementation of a certified local coastal program shall only be submitted, reviewed, and approved in the manner set forth in, and pursuant to the provisions of, this article.

(c) The provisions of this article are intended to establish a procedure that ensures the orderly and carefully monitored expenditure of limited public funds for payment of such costs, the incurring of which is hereby recognized as being in the interest of all the people of this state because they carry out state policies for the wise, long-term conservation and use of coastal resources.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30351 Local coastal program implementation grants; purpose; procedures

The commission shall, not later than July 1, 1980, prepare and adopt procedures for the issuance and management of local coastal program implementation grants. The purpose of the grants program is to provide, to the extent funds are available, financial assistance for local governments and, in cases the commission deems appropriate, other public agencies to carry out certified local coastal programs. The procedures required by this section shall specify, consistent with the criteria set forth in subdivision (a) of Section [30350](#), the categories of expenditures eligible for implementation grants and shall include procedures for application, review, approval, and disbursement of grant funds.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30352 Reimbursement of costs; claims

(a) Any local government carrying out its certified local coastal programs may, upon the delegation of the development review authority pursuant to Section [30519](#), claim reimbursement of costs incurred for the implementation of such local coastal program if costs have not been provided in an implementation grant issued pursuant to Section [30351](#).

(b) Claims made pursuant to this article shall be submitted to the executive director of the commission not later than September 30 immediately following the fiscal year during which the claimed costs were incurred. The executive director shall review such claims in accordance with the provisions of this article and shall submit all such claims to the Controller within 60 days after receipt of a claim, but in no event later than November 30.

(c) All claims submitted pursuant to this section shall be filed on forms approved and prepared by the commission in consultation with the Controller. Such forms shall specify the information needed to enable the executive director of the commission and the Controller to make the determinations required by Section [30353](#). The claim forms required by this section shall provide for claims of actual costs incurred during the fiscal year preceding submittal and for the costs the claimant local government estimates will be incurred during the then-current fiscal year.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1308, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30353 Reimbursable costs; criteria

Payment for costs claimed pursuant to this article shall be made only for costs which, but for the operation of a certified local coastal program, would not have been incurred by the claimant local government and if the following criteria are met:

(a) Costs for establishing a regulatory program to implement a certified local coastal program, including costs for the preparation and printing of public information materials, application forms, establishing new procedures, and staff training are payable. The costs specified in this subdivision include initial startup costs incurred over a period not to exceed one year from the date a certified local coastal program has been adopted for implementation by the appropriate local government.

(b) A fixed payment not to exceed ten dollars (\$10) per permit application for any development subject to a certified local coastal program may be claimed and paid. The payment specified in this subdivision is intended to cover general costs, including costs for public notice, notice and submittal of files to the commission, and appearances before the commission.

(c) Other costs of processing and reviewing coastal development permits pursuant to a certified local coastal program shall normally not be eligible for reimbursement because these types of activities should either be incorporated within the routine regulatory process of the local government or, at the discretion of such local government, be paid for from reasonable permit fees. A local government may, however, request payment for increased regulatory costs if it can show that either or both of the following special circumstances apply within its jurisdiction:

(1) In jurisdictions with a population of less than 10,000, the existing regulatory program of the local government is not capable of processing and reviewing additional coastal development permits pursuant to a certified local coastal program and where such increased costs could not reasonably be expected to be covered by permit fees.

(2) The regulatory program included in a certified local coastal program requires the discharge of resource management functions that exceed the level of regulatory review normally required or undertaken by the local government.

(d) Costs for enforcement of regulatory requirements that are directly related to local coastal program implementation, such as ensuring compliance with coastal development permit terms and conditions, are payable, if the enforcement activities are not of a type routinely undertaken or of a type required by law as part of the affected local government's normal regulatory responsibilities.

(e) Litigation costs which, but for the operation of a certified local coastal program, would not have been incurred may be paid. Where an action is brought against a local government and such action states as a principal cause of action the operation of such local government's local coastal program and the local government prevails in such action, litigation costs may be paid to the extent such costs are not assessed against the party bringing the action. Where the local government loses such

action primarily on grounds it has failed to properly carry out its certified local coastal program, litigation costs shall not be paid. In accordance with procedures established by the executive director of the commission in consultation with the Attorney General, litigation costs may be paid prior to the rendering of a final judgment in the action, if the Attorney General has intervened in the action in support of the local government's position, the amount paid does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), and the amount paid is equal to or greater than 5 percent of the local government's general revenues as published in the most recent version of "Cities Annual Report" by the Controller. The local government shall reimburse the state from any costs recovered after a final judgment is rendered in the action.

(f) If additional planning is required by the commission as a condition of its certification of any local coastal program, costs for the additional planning are payable.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 1104, Stats. 2002.)

Section 30354 Review and evaluation of claims; submission to controller; recommendations; determination

(a) The executive director of the commission shall review and evaluate each claim submitted pursuant to this article and shall determine whether:

(1) The costs claimed meet the requirements of this article.

(2) The costs claimed are not paid for or reimbursed from any other source of state or federal funding.

(3) The claimed costs are reasonable for the implementation of a certified local coastal program.

(b) The executive director of the commission shall submit to the Controller, on behalf of each claimant local government, all claims submitted pursuant to this section together with the executive director's recommendation whether the Controller should allow or deny, in whole or in part, the claim. A copy of each claim shall also be sent to the claimant local government at the time such claim is submitted to the Controller. The executive director's recommendation shall be based on their determinations made pursuant to this article. If the executive director fails to make a recommendation by the time claims are required to be submitted to the Controller, as provided in subdivision (b) of Section [30352](#), the executive director shall be deemed to have recommended approval of the claim.

(c) The provisions of [Section 17561 of the Government Code](#) shall apply to claims filed pursuant to this article, provided that where a conflict between [Section 17561 of the Government Code](#) and this article occurs, the conflict shall be resolved in a manner that best carries out the purposes of this article. The Controller shall apply the criteria of this article in determining whether to allow or deny, in whole or in part, a claim and shall consider the recommendations of the executive director of the commission.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30355 Certified local coastal program

As used in this article, "certified local coastal program" means any portion of a local coastal program that has been certified.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

CHAPTER 5 STATE AGENCIES

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ARTICLE 1 GENERAL

Section 30400 Legislative intent; limitation on powers, duties and responsibilities

(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to minimize duplication and conflicts among existing state agencies carrying out their regulatory duties and responsibilities.

(b) In the absence of a specific authorization set forth in this division or any other provisions of law or in an agreement entered into with the commission, no state agency, including the Office of Planning and Research, shall exercise any powers or carry out any duties or responsibilities established by this division or by the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.\)](#) or any amendment thereto. The Director of the Office of Planning and Research shall in carrying out the director's duties as set forth in Section [30415](#), ensure that the provisions of this section are carried out.

(Amended by Ch. 323, Stats. 1983; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30401 Effect on existing state agencies; construction of chapter

Except as otherwise specifically provided in this division, enactment of this division does not increase, decrease, duplicate or supersede the authority of any existing state agency.

This chapter shall not be construed to limit in any way the regulatory controls over development pursuant to Chapters 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) and 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)), except that the commission shall not set standards or adopt regulations that duplicate regulatory controls established by any existing state agency pursuant to specific statutory requirements or authorization.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30402 Compliance with division

All state agencies shall carry out their duties and responsibilities in conformity with this division.

Section 30403 Assumption

It is the intent of the Legislature that the policies of this division and all local coastal programs prepared pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)) should provide the common assumptions upon which state functional plans for the coastal zone are based in accordance with the provisions of [Section 65036 of the Government Code](#).

Section 30404 Recommendations; agency review; reports

The Natural Resources Agency shall periodically, in the case of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards, the State Air Resources Board and air pollution control districts and air quality management districts, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the California Geological Survey and the Geologic Energy Management Division in the Department of Conservation, and the State Lands Commission, and may, with respect to any other state agency, submit recommendations designed to encourage the state agency to carry out its functions in a manner consistent with this division. The recommendations may include proposed changes in administrative regulations, rules, and statutes.

(Amended by Ch. 427, Stats. 1992; Ch. 972, Stats. 1998; Ch. 869, Stats. 2006; Ch. 728, Stats. 2012, Ch. 771, Stats. 2019; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

**ARTICLE 2
STATE AGENCIES**

Section 30410 San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission; ports

(a) The commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission shall conduct a joint review of this division and [Title 7.2 \(commencing with Section 66600\) of the Government Code](#) to determine how the program administered by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission shall be related to this division. Both commissions shall jointly present their recommendations to the Legislature not later than July 1, 1978.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the ports under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, including the Ports of San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Redwood City, Encinal Terminals, and Benecia, should be treated no less favorably than the ports under the jurisdiction of the commission covered in Chapter 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)) under the terms of any legislation which is developed pursuant to such study.

Section 30411 Department of Fish and Wildlife; Fish and Game Commission; control of wildlife and fishery management programs; study of wetlands; aquaculture

(a) The Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game Commission are the principal state agencies responsible for the establishment and control of wildlife and fishery management programs and the commission shall not establish or impose any controls with respect thereto that duplicate or exceed regulatory controls established by these agencies pursuant to specific statutory requirements or authorization.

(b) The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the commission and the Division of Boating and Waterways within the Department of Parks and Recreation, may study degraded wetlands and identify those which can most feasibly be restored in conjunction with development of a boating facility as provided in subdivision (a) of Section [30233](#). Any such study shall include consideration of all of the following:

(1) Whether the wetland is so severely degraded and its natural processes so substantially impaired that it is not capable of recovering and maintaining a high level of biological productivity without major restoration activities.

(2) Whether a substantial portion of the degraded wetland, but in no event less than 75 percent, can be restored and maintained as a highly productive wetland in conjunction with a boating facilities project.

(3) Whether restoration of the wetland's natural values, including its biological productivity and wildlife habitat features, can most feasibly be achieved and maintained in conjunction with a boating facility or whether there are other feasible ways to achieve these values.

(c) The Legislature finds and declares that salt water or brackish water aquaculture is a coastal-dependent use which should be encouraged to augment food supplies and to further the policies set forth in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 825) of Division 1. The Department of Fish and Wildlife may identify coastal sites it determines to be appropriate for aquaculture facilities. If the department identifies these sites, it shall transmit information identifying the sites to the commission and the relevant local government agency. The commission and, where appropriate, local governments shall, consistent with the coastal planning requirements of this division, provide for as many coastal sites identified by the Department of Fish and Wildlife for any uses that are consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(d) Any agency of the state owning or managing land in the coastal zone for public purposes shall be an active participant in the selection of suitable sites for aquaculture facilities and shall make the land available for use in aquaculture when feasible and consistent with other policies of this division and other law.

(Amended by Ch. 187, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1486, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1300, Stats. 1983; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 810, Stats. 1995; Ch. 36, Stats. 2006; Ch. 113, Stats. 2015; Ch. 86, Stats. 2016.)

Section 30412 State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards

(a) In addition to [Section 13142.5 of the Water Code](#), this section shall apply to the commission and the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards.

(b) The State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards are the state agencies with primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality. The State Water Resources Control Board has primary responsibility for the administration of water rights pursuant to applicable law. The commission shall assure that proposed development and local coastal programs shall not frustrate this section. The commission shall not, except as provided in subdivision (c), modify, adopt conditions, or take any action in conflict with any determination by the State Water Resources Control Board or any California regional water quality control board in matters relating to water quality or the administration of water rights.

Except as provided in this section, nothing herein shall be interpreted in any way either as prohibiting or limiting the commission, local government, or port governing body from exercising the regulatory controls over development pursuant to this division in a manner necessary to carry out this division.

(c) Any development within the coastal zone or outside the coastal zone which provides service to any area within the coastal zone that constitutes a treatment work shall be reviewed by the commission and any permit it issues, if any, shall be determinative only with respect to the following aspects of the development:

(1) The siting and visual appearance of treatment works within the coastal zone.

(2) The geographic limits of service areas within the coastal zone which are to be served by particular treatment works and the timing of the use of capacity of treatment works for those service areas to allow for phasing of development and use of facilities consistent with this division.

(3) Development projections which determine the sizing of treatment works for providing service within the coastal zone.

The commission shall make these determinations in accordance with the policies of this division and shall make its final determination on a permit application for a treatment work prior to the final approval by the State Water Resources Control Board for the funding of such treatment works. Except as specifically provided in this subdivision, the decisions of the State Water Resources Control Board relative to the construction of treatment works shall be final and binding upon the commission.

(d) The commission shall provide or require reservations of sites for the construction of treatment works and points of discharge within the coastal zone adequate for the protection of coastal resources consistent with the provisions of this division.

(e) Nothing in this section shall require the State Water Resources Control Board to fund or certify for funding, any specific treatment works within the coastal zone or to prohibit the State Water Resources Control Board or any California regional water quality control board from requiring a higher degree of treatment at any existing treatment works.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30413 State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

(a) In addition to the provisions set forth in subdivision (f) of Section [30241](#), and in Sections [25302](#), [25500](#), [25507](#), [25508](#), [25510](#), [25514](#), [25516.1](#), [25523](#), and [25526](#), the provisions of this section shall apply to the commission and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission with respect to matters within the statutory responsibility of the latter.

(b) The commission shall, prior to January 1, 1978, and after one or more public hearings, designate those specific locations within the coastal zone where the location of a facility as defined in [Section 25110](#) would prevent the achievement of the objectives of this division; provided, however, that specific locations that are presently used for such facilities and reasonable expansion thereof shall not be so designated. Each such designation shall include a description of the boundaries of those locations, the objectives of this division which would be so affected, and detailed findings concerning the significant adverse impacts that would result from development of a facility in the designated area. The commission shall consider the conclusions, if any, reached by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission in its most recently promulgated comprehensive report issued pursuant to [Section 25309](#). The commission shall transmit a copy of its report prepared pursuant to this subdivision to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

(c) The commission, after it completes its initial designations in 1978, shall, prior to January 1, 1980, and once every two years thereafter until January 1, 1990, revise and update the designations specified in subdivision (b). After January 1, 1990, the commission shall revise and update those designations not less than once every five years. Those revisions shall be effective on January 1, 1980, or on January 1 of the year following adoption of the revisions. The provisions of subdivision (b) shall not apply to any sites and related facilities specified in any notice of intention to file an application for certification filed with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission pursuant to [Section 25502](#) prior to designation of additional locations made by the commission pursuant to this subdivision.

(d) Whenever the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission exercises its siting authority and undertakes proceedings pursuant to the provisions of [Chapter 6 \(commencing with Section 25500\) of Division 15](#) with respect to any thermal powerplant or transmission line to be located, in whole or in part, within the coastal zone, the commission shall participate in those proceedings and shall receive from the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission any notice of intention to file an application for certification of a site and related facilities within the coastal zone. The commission shall analyze each notice of intention and shall, prior to completion of the preliminary report required by [Section 25510](#), forward to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission a written report on the suitability of the proposed site and related facilities specified in that notice .

The commission's report shall contain a consideration of, and findings regarding, all of the following:

(1) The compatibility of the proposed site and related facilities with the goal of protecting coastal resources.

(2) The degree to which the proposed site and related facilities would conflict with other existing or planned coastal-dependent land uses at or near the site.

(3) The potential adverse effects that the proposed site and related facilities would have on aesthetic values.

(4) The potential adverse environmental effects on fish and wildlife and their habitats.

(5) The conformance of the proposed site and related facilities with certified local coastal programs in those jurisdictions which would be affected by any such development.

(6) The degree to which the proposed site and related facilities could reasonably be modified so as to mitigate potential adverse effects on coastal resources, minimize conflict with existing or planned coastal-dependent uses at or near the site, and promote the policies of this division.

(7) Such other matters as the commission deems appropriate and necessary to carry out this division.

(e) The commission may, at its discretion, participate fully in other proceedings conducted by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission pursuant to its powerplant siting authority. In the event the commission participates in any public hearings held by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, it shall be afforded full opportunity to present evidence and examine and cross-examine witnesses.

(f) The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission shall forward a copy of all reports it distributes pursuant to Sections [25302](#) and [25306](#) to the commission and the commission shall, with respect to any report that relates to the coastal zone or coastal zone resources, comment on those reports, and shall in its comments include a discussion of the desirability of particular areas within the coastal zone as designated in such reports for potential powerplant development. The commission may propose alternate areas for powerplant development within the coastal zone and shall provide detailed findings to support the suggested alternatives.

(Amended by Ch. 1013, Stats. 1978; Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 1031, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30414 State Air Resources Board and local air pollution control districts

(a) The State Air Resources Board and air pollution control districts established pursuant to state law and consistent with requirements of federal law are the principal public agencies responsible for the establishment of ambient air quality and emission standards and air pollution control programs. The provisions of this division do not authorize the commission or any local government to establish any ambient air quality standard or emission standard, air pollution control program or facility, or to modify any ambient air quality standard, emission standard, or air pollution control program or facility which has been established by the state board or by an air pollution control district.

(b) Any provision of any certified local coastal program which establishes or modifies any ambient air quality standard, any emission standard, any air pollution control program or facility shall be inoperative.

(c) The State Air Resources Board and any air pollution control district may recommend ways in which actions of the commission or any local government can complement or assist in the implementation of established air quality programs.

(Amended by Ch. 1246, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30415 Director of Office of Planning and Research

The Director of the Office of Planning and Research shall, in cooperation with the commission and other appropriate state agencies, review the policies of this division. If the director determines that effective implementation of any policy requires the cooperative and coordinated efforts of several state agencies, the director shall, no later than July 1, 1978 and from time to time thereafter, recommend to the appropriate agencies actions that should be taken to minimize potential duplication and conflicts and which could, if taken, better achieve effective implementation of such policy. The director shall, where appropriate and after consultation with the affected agency, recommend to the Governor and the Legislature how the programs, duties, responsibilities, and enabling legislation of any state agency should be changed to better achieve the goals and policies of this division.

(Amended by Ch. 378, Stats. 2021.)

Section 30416 State Lands Commission

(a) The State Lands Commission, in carrying out its duties and responsibilities as the state agency responsible for the management of all state lands, including tide and submerged lands, in accordance with the provisions of Division 6 (commencing with [Section 6001](#)), shall, prior to certification by the commission pursuant to Chapters 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)) and 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)) review, and may comment on any proposed local coastal program or port master plan that could affect state lands.

(b) No power granted to any local government, port governing body, or special district, under this division, shall change the authority of the State Lands Commission over granted or ungranted lands within its jurisdiction or change the rights and duties of its lessees or permittees.

(c) Boundary settlements between the State Lands Commission and other parties and any exchanges of land in connection therewith shall not be a development within the meaning of this division.

(d) Nothing in this division shall amend or alter the terms and conditions in any legislative grant of lands, in trust, to any local government, port governing body, or special district; provided, however, that any development on such granted lands shall, in addition to the terms and conditions of such grant, be subject to the regulatory controls provided by Chapters 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) and 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)).

Section 30417 State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection; special treatment areas

(a) In addition to the provisions set forth in Section [4551.5](#), this section shall apply to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

(b) Within 180 days after January 1, 1977, the commission shall identify special treatment areas within the coastal zone to ensure that natural and scenic resources are adequately protected. The commission shall forward to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection maps of the designated special treatment areas together with specific reasons for those designations and with recommendations designed to assist the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection in adopting rules and regulations that adequately protect the natural and scenic qualities of such special treatment areas.

(Amended by Ch. 972, Stats. 1998.)

Section 30418 Geologic Energy Management Division

(a) Pursuant to Division 3 (commencing with [Section 3000](#)), the Geologic Energy Management Division of the Department of Conservation is the principal state agency responsible for regulating the drilling, operation, maintenance, and abandonment of all oil, gas, and geothermal wells in the state. Neither the commission, local government, port governing body, or special district shall establish or impose such regulatory controls that duplicate or exceed controls established by the Geologic Energy Management Division pursuant to specific statutory requirements or authorization.

This section shall not be construed to limit in any way, except as specifically provided, the regulatory controls over oil and gas development pursuant to Chapters 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) and 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)).

(b) The Geologic Energy Management Division of the Department of Conservation shall cooperate with the commission by providing necessary data and technical expertise regarding proposed well operations within the coastal zone.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30419 Boating facilities; economic feasibility; evaluation

The Division of Boating and Waterways within the Department of Parks and Recreation is the principal state agency for evaluating the economic feasibility of any boating facility to be developed within the coastal zone.

If the economic viability of a boating facility becomes an issue in a coastal development permit matter or in a local coastal program or any amendment thereto, the commission shall request the Division of Boating and Waterways within the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide comment, including, but not limited to, the analysis of costs associated with conditions of approval. In cases where the Division of Boating and Waterways within the Department of Parks and Recreation desires to make any comment, it shall be made within 30 days of the commission's request. The commission shall include the comment in its decision regarding a coastal development permit or local coastal program or any amendment thereto.

(Added by Ch. 824, Stats. 1983. Amended by Ch. 113, Stats. 2015)

Section 30420 Actions relating to disposal of hazardous substances at sea; consultation with specified governmental entities

Before taking any action on (1) a local coastal program or any amendment thereto, (2) any coastal development permit, or (3) any consistency determination or certification, that relates to the disposal of hazardous substances at sea, the commission shall consult with the following governmental entities:

- (a) Department of Toxic Substances Control.
- (b) State Lands Commission.
- (c) State Air Resources Board and relevant air pollution control districts or air quality management districts.
- (d) Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- (e) State Water Resources Control Board and relevant California regional water quality control boards.
- (f) Secretary for Environmental Protection.
- (g) Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

(h) The local government located closest to the proposed activity, or within whose jurisdiction the activity is proposed, or within whose jurisdiction there may be effects of the proposed activity.

(Added by Ch. 465, Stats. 1986. Amended by GRP 1 of 1991; Ch. 343, Stats. 2000; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30421 Sea level rise

State and regional agencies shall identify, assess, and, to the extent feasible and consistent with their statutory authorities, avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impacts of sea level rise.

(Added by Ch. 236, Stats. 2021.)

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ARTICLE 1 LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAM

Section 30500 Preparation

(a) Each local government lying, in whole or in part, within the coastal zone shall prepare a local coastal program for that portion of the coastal zone within its jurisdiction. However, any local government may request, in writing, the commission to prepare a local coastal program, or a portion thereof, for the local government. Each local coastal program prepared pursuant to this chapter shall contain a specific public access component to assure that maximum public access to the coast and public recreation areas is provided.

(b) Amendments to a local general plan for the purpose of developing a certified local coastal program shall not constitute an amendment of a general plan for purposes of [Section 65358 of the Government Code](#).

(c) The precise content of each local coastal program shall be determined by the local government, consistent with Section [30501](#), in full consultation with the commission and with full public participation.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 1009, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30500.1 Housing policies and programs

No local coastal program shall be required to include housing policies and programs.

(Added by Ch. 1007, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30500.5 Accessory dwelling units; guidance

(a) By July 1, 2026, the commission shall, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development, develop and provide guidance for local governments to facilitate the preparation of amendments to a local coastal program to clarify and simplify the permitting process for accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units, as defined in Section 66313 of the Government Code, within the coastal zone.

(b) The commission shall, in coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development, convene at least one public workshop to receive and consider public comments on the draft guidance before the finalization of the guidance document. The commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development shall post the draft guidance on their respective internet websites at least 30 days before the public workshop. The commission shall provide notice of the public workshop to all cities and counties within the coastal zone. The final guidance document shall be posted on the commission's and the Department of Housing and Community Development's respective internet websites.

(Added by Ch. 454, Stats. 2024.)

Section 30501 Procedures

The commission shall adopt, after public hearing, procedures for the preparation, submission, approval, appeal, certification, and amendment of a local coastal program, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) A common methodology for the preparation of, and the determination of the scope of, the local coastal programs, taking into account the fact that local governments have differing needs and characteristics.

(b) Recommended uses that are of more than local importance that should be considered in the preparation of local coastal programs. Those uses may be listed generally or the commission may, from time to time, recommend specific uses for consideration by a local government.

(c) Recommendations and guidelines, which shall be periodically updated by the commission to incorporate new information as it becomes available, for the identification, assessment, minimization, and mitigation of sea level rise within each local coastal program, taking into account local and regional conditions and the differing capacities and funding available to local governments.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 236, Stats. 2021.)

Section 30502 Designation of sensitive coastal resource areas

(a) The commission, in consultation with affected local governments and the appropriate regional commissions, shall, not later than September 1, 1977, after public hearing, designate sensitive coastal resource areas within the coastal zone where the protection of coastal resources and public access requires, in addition to the review and approval of zoning ordinances, the review and approval by the regional commissions and commission of other implementing actions.

(b) The designation of each sensitive coastal resource area shall be based upon a separate report prepared and adopted by the commission which shall contain all of the following:

(1) A description of the coastal resources to be protected and the reasons why the area has been designated as a sensitive coastal resource area.

(2) A specific determination that the designated area is of regional or statewide significance.

(3) A specific list of significant adverse impacts that could result from development where zoning regulations alone may not adequately protect coastal resources or access.

(4) A map of the area indicating its size and location.

(c) In sensitive coastal resource areas designated pursuant to this section, a local coastal program shall include the implementing actions adequate to protect the coastal resources enumerated in the findings of the sensitive coastal resource area report in conformity with the policies of this division.

Section 30502.5 Recommendation by commission to Legislature; disposition

The commission shall recommend to the Legislature for designation by statute those sensitive coastal resource areas designated by the commission pursuant to [Section 30502](#). Recommendation by the commission to the Legislature shall place the described area in the sensitive coastal resource area category for no more than two years, or a shorter period if the Legislature specifically rejects the recommendation. If two years pass and a recommended area has not been designated by statute, it shall no longer be designated as a sensitive coastal resource area. A bill proposing such a statute may not be held in committee, but shall be reported from committee to the floor of each respective house with its recommendation within 60 days of referral to committee.

Section 30503 Opportunity for public participation

During the preparation, approval, certification, and amendment of any local coastal program, the public, as well as all affected governmental agencies, including special districts, shall be provided maximum opportunities to participate. Prior to submission of a local coastal program for approval, local governments shall hold a public hearing or hearings on that portion of the program which has not been subjected to public hearings within four years of such submission.

Section 30504 Special districts; submission of plans

Special districts, which issue permits or otherwise grant approval for development or which conduct development activities that may affect coastal resources, shall submit their development plans to the affected local government pursuant to [Section 65401 of the Government Code](#). Such plans shall be considered by the affected local government in the preparation of its local coastal program.

**ARTICLE 2
PROCEDURE FOR PREPARATION, APPROVAL, AND
CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL COASTAL PROGRAMS**

Section 30510 Submission to commission

Consistent with this chapter, a proposed local coastal program may be submitted to the commission, if both of the following are met:

(a) It is submitted pursuant to a resolution adopted by the local government, after public hearing, that certifies the local coastal program is intended to be carried out in a manner fully in conformity with this division.

(b) It contains, in accordance with guidelines established by the commission, materials sufficient for a thorough and complete review.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30511 Submission schedule

Local coastal programs shall be submitted in accordance with the schedule established pursuant to Section [30517.5](#). At the option of the local government, this program may be submitted and processed in any of the following ways:

(a) At one time, in which event Section [30512](#) with respect to time limits, resubmission, approval, and certification shall apply. However, the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, if required, other implementing actions included in the local coastal program shall be approved and certified pursuant to the standards of Section [30513](#).

(b) In two phases, in which event the land use plans shall be processed first pursuant to Section [30512](#), and the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, if required, other implementing actions, shall be processed thereafter pursuant to Section [30513](#).

(c) In separate geographic units consisting of less than the local government's jurisdiction lying within the coastal zone, each submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b), if the commission finds that the area or areas proposed for separate review can be analyzed for the potential cumulative impacts of development on coastal resources and access independently of the remainder of the affected jurisdiction.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 1091, Stats. 1991)

Section 30512 Land use plan; submission; certification; modifications

(a) The land use plan of a proposed local coastal program shall be submitted to the commission. The commission shall, within 90 working days after the submittal, after public hearing, either certify or refuse certification, in whole or in part, the land use plan pursuant to the following procedure:

(1) No later than 60 working days after a land use plan has been submitted to it, the commission shall, after public hearing and by majority vote of those present, determine whether the land use plan, or a portion thereof applicable to an identifiable geographic area, raises no substantial issue as to conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

If the commission determines that no substantial issue is raised, the land use plan, or portion thereof applicable to an identifiable area, which raises no substantial issue, shall be deemed certified as submitted. The commission shall adopt findings to support its action.

(2) Where the commission determines pursuant to paragraph (1) that one or more portions of a land use plan applicable to one or more identifiable geographic areas raise no substantial issue as to conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)), the remainder of that land use plan applicable to other identifiable geographic areas shall be deemed to raise one or more substantial issues as to conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)). The commission shall identify each substantial issue for each geographic area.

(3) The commission shall hold at least one public hearing on the matter or matters that have been identified as substantial issues pursuant to paragraph (2). No later than 90 working days after submittal of the land use plan, the commission shall determine whether or not to certify the land use plan, in whole or in part. If the commission fails to act within the required 90-day period, the land use plan, or portion thereof, shall be deemed certified by the commission.

(b) If the commission determines not to certify a land use plan, in whole or in part, the commission shall provide a written explanation and may suggest modifications, which, if adopted and transmitted to the commission by the local government, shall cause the land use plan to be deemed certified upon confirmation of the executive director. The local government may elect to meet the commission's refusal of certification in a manner other than as suggested by the commission and may then resubmit its revised land use plan to the commission. If a local government requests that the commission not recommend or suggest modifications which, if made, will result in certification, the commission shall refuse certification with the required findings.

(c) The commission shall certify a land use plan, or any amendments thereto, if it finds that a land use plan meets the requirements of, and is in conformity with, the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)). Except as proved in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a), a decision to certify shall require a majority vote of the appointed membership of the commission.

(Amended by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 43, 1982.; Ch. 746, Stats. 2004; Ch. 742, Stats. 2018.)

Section 30512.1 (Repealed by Ch. 746, Stats. 2004.)

Section 30512.2 **Land use plan; criteria for decision to certify or refuse certification**

The following provisions shall apply to the commission's decision to certify or refuse certification of a land use plan pursuant to Section [30512](#):

(a) The commission's review of a land use plan shall be limited to its administrative determination that the land use plan submitted by the local government does, or does not, conform with the requirements of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)). In making this review, the commission is not authorized by any provision of this division to diminish or abridge the authority of a local government to adopt and establish, by ordinance, the precise content of its land use plan.

(b) The commission shall require conformance with the policies and requirements of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) only to the extent necessary to achieve the basic state goals specified in Section [30001.5](#).

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30513 Zoning; approval; grounds for rejection; modifications; resubmission

The local government shall submit to the commission the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, where necessary, other implementing actions which are required pursuant to this chapter.

If within 60 working days after receipt of the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and other implementing actions, the commission, after public hearing, has not rejected the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or other implementing actions, they shall be deemed approved. The commission may only reject zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or other implementing actions on the grounds that they do not conform with, or are inadequate to carry out, the provisions of the certified land use plan. If the commission rejects the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or other implementing actions, it shall give written notice of the rejection specifying the provisions of land use plan with which the rejected zoning ordinances do not conform or which it finds will not be adequately carried out together with its reasons for the action taken.

The commission may suggest modifications in the rejected zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or other implementing actions, which, if adopted by the local government and transmitted to the commission, shall be deemed approved upon confirmation by the executive director.

The local government may elect to meet the commission's rejection in a manner other than as suggested by the commission and may then resubmit its revised zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and other implementing actions to the commission.

If a local government requests that the commission not suggest modifications in the rejected zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or other implementing ordinances, the commission shall not do so.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 742, Stats. 2018.)

Section 30514 Program amendment; commission certification; procedure; minor or de minimis amendments; amendments requiring rapid action; guidelines

(a) A certified local coastal program and all local implementing ordinances, regulations, and other actions may be amended by the appropriate local government, but no such amendment shall take effect until it has been certified by the commission.

(b) Any proposed amendments to a certified local coastal program shall be submitted to, and processed by, the commission in accordance with the applicable procedures and time limits specified in Sections [30512](#) and [30513](#), except that the commission shall make no determination as to whether a proposed amendment raises a substantial issue as to conformity with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) as would otherwise be required by Section [30512](#). In no event shall there be more than three of these submittals of proposed amendments in any calendar year. However, there are no limitations on the number of amendments included in each of the three submittals.

(c) The commission, by regulation, shall establish a procedure whereby proposed amendments to a certified local coastal program may be reviewed and designated by the executive director of the commission as being minor in nature or as requiring rapid and expeditious action. That procedure shall include provisions authorizing local governments to propose amendments to the executive director for that review and designation. Proposed amendments that are designated as being minor in nature or as requiring rapid and expeditious action shall not be subject to subdivision (b) or Sections [30512](#) and [30513](#) and shall take effect on the 10th working day after designation. Amendments that allow changes in uses shall not be so designated.

(d) (1) The executive director may determine that a proposed local coastal program amendment is de minimis if the executive director determines that a proposed amendment would have no impact, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources, is consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)), and meets the following criteria:

(A) The local government, at least 21 days prior to the date of submitting the proposed amendment to the executive director, has provided public notice, and provided a copy to the commission, that specifies the dates and places where comments will be accepted on the proposed amendment, contains a brief description of the proposed amendment, and states the address where copies of the proposed amendment are available for public review, by one of the following procedures:

(i) Publication, not fewer times than required by [Section 6061 of the Government Code](#), in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed amendment. If more than one area will be affected, the notice shall be published in the newspaper of largest circulation from among the newspapers of general circulation in those areas.

(ii) Posting of the notice by the local government both onsite and offsite in the area affected by the proposed amendment.

(iii) Direct mailing to the owners and occupants of contiguous property shown on the latest equalized assessment roll.

(B) The proposed amendment does not propose any change in land use or water uses or any change in the allowable use of property.

(2) At the time that the local government submits the proposed amendment to the executive director, the local government shall also submit to the executive director any public comments that were received during the comment period provided pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).

(3) (A) The executive director shall make a determination as to whether the proposed amendment is de minimis within 10 working days of the date of submittal by the local government. If the proposed amendment is determined to be de minimis, the proposed amendment shall be noticed in the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the commission, in accordance with [Section 11125 of the Government Code](#), and any public comments forwarded by the local government shall be made available to the members of the commission.

(B) If three members of the commission object to the executive director's determination that the proposed amendment is de minimis, the proposed amendment shall be set for public hearing in accordance with the procedures specified in subdivision (b), or as specified in subdivision (c) if applicable, as determined by the executive director, or, at the request of the local government, returned to the local government. If set for public hearing under subdivision (b), the time requirements set by Sections [30512](#) and [30513](#) shall commence from the date on which the objection to the de minimis designation was made.

(C) If three or more members of the commission do not object to the de minimis determination, the de minimis local coastal program amendment shall become part of the certified local coastal program 10 days after the date of the commission meeting.

(4) The commission, after a noticed public hearing, may adopt guidelines to implement this subdivision, which shall be exempt from review by the Office of Administrative Law and from [Chapter 3.5 \(commencing with Section 11340\) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code](#). The commission shall file any guidelines adopted pursuant to this paragraph with the Office of Administrative Law.

(e) For purposes of this section, "amendment of a certified local coastal program" includes, but is not limited to, any action by a local government that authorizes the use of a parcel of land other than a use that is designated in the certified local coastal program as a permitted use of the parcel.

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 525, Stats. 1994; Ch. 208, Stats. 1995; Ch. 124, Stats. 1996; Ch. 742, Stats. 2018.)

Section 30514.1 Findings, written notice or explanation; time limit

The commission shall adopt the findings or provide a written explanation or written notice, as appropriate, required by Sections [30512](#), [30512.2](#), and [30513](#) to support its action no later than 60 days after the date on which action was taken.

(Added by Ch. 886, Stats. 1985. Amended by Ch. 746, Stats. 2004.)

Section 30515 Amendment for public works project or energy facility development

Any person authorized to undertake a public works project or proposing an energy facility development may request any local government to amend its certified local coastal program, if the purpose of the proposed amendment is to meet public needs of an area greater than that included within such certified local coastal program that had not been anticipated by the person making the request at the time the local coastal program was before the commission for certification. If, after review, the local government determines that the amendment requested would be in conformity with the policies of this division, it may amend its certified local coastal program as provided in Section [30514](#).

If the local government does not amend its local coastal program, such person may file with the commission a request for amendment which shall set forth the reasons why the proposed amendment is necessary and how such amendment is in conformity with the policies of this division. The local government shall be provided an opportunity to set forth the reasons for its action. The commission may, after public hearing, approve and certify the proposed amendment if it finds, after a careful balancing of social, economic, and environmental effects, that to do otherwise would adversely affect the public welfare, that a public need of an area greater than that included within the certified local coastal program would be met, that there is no feasible, less environmentally damaging alternative way to meet such need, and that the proposed amendment is in conformity with the policies of this division.

Section 30516 Approval; financial ability; severance of certified port master plan

(a) Approval of a local coastal program shall not be withheld because of the inability of the local government to financially support or implement any policy or policies contained in this division; provided, however, that this shall not require the approval of a local coastal program allowing development not in conformity with the policies in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(b) Where a certified port master plan has been incorporated in a local coastal program in accordance with Section [30711](#) and the local coastal program is disapproved by the commission, that disapproval shall not apply to the certified port master plan.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991)

Section 30517 Extensions of time

The commission may extend, for a period of not to exceed one year, except as provided for in Section [30518](#), any time limitation established by this chapter for good cause.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30517.5 Schedule for submission of land use plans not already submitted; actions upon failure to meet schedule

(a) Within 60 days from the effective date of this section, the commission shall establish a schedule for the submittal of all land use plans that have not been submitted, pursuant to Section [30501](#), to a former regional commission or the commission on or before July 1, 1981. This schedule shall be based on the commission's assessment, in consultation with local governments, of each local government's current status and progress. The schedule shall specify that submittals may not be made sooner than nor later than certain specified dates and in no event later than January 1, 1983.

(b) If a local government fails to meet the schedule established pursuant to subdivision (a), the commission may take any of the following actions:

(1) Waive the deadlines for commission action on a submitted land use plan, or any portion thereof, as set forth in Sections [30511](#) and [30512](#).

(2) Prepare and adopt, after a public hearing but not sooner than January 1, 1984, a land use plan for the land area within the local government's jurisdiction. After adoption of the land use plan, the commission shall determine the permissibility of proposed developments pursuant to the provisions of the adopted plan. The affected local government may choose to adopt, in whole or in part, the commission's prepared and adopted land use plan in which event the commission shall certify the plan, in whole or in part, or it may continue to prepare its own land use plan consistent with the provisions of this chapter.

(3) Report the matter to the Legislature with recommendations for appropriate action.

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981. Amended by Ch. 747, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30517.6 Submission of zoning ordinances, zoning district maps and other implementing actions; effect of failure to meet schedule

(a) Within 30 days after the certification of a land use plan, or any portion thereof, the commission shall, after consultation with the appropriate local government, establish a date for that local government to submit the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, where necessary, other implementing actions. In no event shall that date be later than January 1, 1984.

(b) If a local government fails to meet the schedule established pursuant to subdivision (a), the commission may waive the deadlines for commission action on submitted zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and, where necessary, other implementing actions, as set forth in Sections [30511](#) and [30513](#).

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30518 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30519 **Delegation of development review authority; recommendation of amendments to program**

(a) Except for appeals to the commission, as provided in Section [30603](#), after a local coastal program, or any portion thereof, has been certified and all implementing actions within the area affected have become effective, the development review authority provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall no longer be exercised by the commission over any new development proposed within the area to which the certified local coastal program, or any portion thereof, applies and shall at that time be delegated to the local government that is implementing the local coastal program or any portion thereof.

(b) Subdivision (a) shall not apply to any development proposed or undertaken on any tidelands, submerged lands, or on public trust lands, whether filled or unfilled, lying within the coastal zone, nor shall it apply to any development proposed or undertaken within ports covered by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)) or within any state university or college within the coastal zone; however, this section shall apply to any development proposed or undertaken by a port or harbor district or authority on lands or waters granted by the Legislature to a local government whose certified local coastal program includes the specific development plans for such district or authority.

(c) The commission may, from time to time, recommend to the appropriate local government local coastal program amendments to accommodate uses of greater than local importance, which uses are not permitted by the applicable certified local coastal program. These uses may be listed generally or the commission may recommend specific uses of greater than local importance for consideration by the appropriate local government.

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30519.1 **City of Carlsbad; housing for persons and families of low or moderate income; issuance of coastal development permits**

(a) This section shall apply only to those parcels and areas within the City of Carlsbad for which a local coastal program has been prepared and certified by the commission pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section [30170](#) or Section [30171](#).

(b) Any provisions of any such local coastal program with respect to housing for persons and families of low or moderate income shall have no force or effect after January 1, 1982. After that date, housing requirements for those parcels and areas shall be determined pursuant to [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#).

(c) Until such time as, (i) the City of Carlsbad adopts or enacts the implementing actions contained in any such local coastal program, or (ii) other statutory provisions provide alternately for the adoption, certification, and implementation of a local coastal program for those parcels and areas, coastal development permits for those parcels and areas shall be issued by the commission as provided in this subdivision. Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the commission shall issue a coastal development permit if it finds that a proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program, exclusive of any provisions with respect to housing for persons and families of low or moderate income which have been rendered inoperative pursuant to subdivision (b).

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30519.2 Annexation of all or part of annexed area in the County of Orange by the City of Newport Beach; occurrences and duties resulting from annexation; local coastal program

(a) (1) This subdivision shall only apply to territory described in paragraph (2) and defined as the "Annexed Area."

(2) For purposes of this section, "Annexed Area" means the territory consisting of approximately 5,450 acres in the County of Orange bounded to the north by the inland boundary of the coastal zone, to the east by the western boundary of Crystal Cove State Park, to the south by the state's outer limit of jurisdiction over the Pacific Ocean, and to the west by the city limits of the City of Newport Beach.

(3) This subdivision shall be operative upon the effective date of the annexation of all or part of the Annexed Area by the City of Newport Beach.

(4) Upon the recordation of a certificate of completion of any reorganization or change of organization that results in the annexation of all or part of the Annexed Area by the City of Newport Beach, both of the following shall occur:

(A) The local coastal program applicable to any part of the Annexed Area shall continue to be the certified local coastal program for the County of Orange.

(B) The County of Orange shall continue to exercise all development review authority described in Section [30519](#), as delegated to it by the commission consistent with the certified local coastal program of the County of Orange for the Annexed Area.

(5) If, at any time after the recordation of the certificate of completion of the annexation of the Annexed Area, the City of Newport Beach elects to assume coastal management responsibility for the Annexed Area, the city may begin preparation of a

local coastal program for that area. The City of Newport Beach may adopt provisions of the County of Orange's certified local coastal program that apply to the Annexed Area. All of the procedures for the preparation, approval, and certification of a local coastal program set forth in this division, and any applicable regulations adopted by the commission, shall apply to the preparation, approval, and certification of a local coastal program for the Annexed Area.

(6) If the City of Newport Beach obtains certification of a local coastal program for the Annexed Area, the city shall, upon the effective date of that certification, exercise all of the authority granted to a local government with a certified local coastal program, and the provisions of paragraph (4) shall become inoperative.

(b) On or before June 30, 2003, or 24 months after the annexation of the Annexed Area, whichever event occurs first, the City of Newport Beach shall submit to the commission for approval and certification the city's local coastal program for all of the geographic area within the coastal zone and the city's corporate boundaries as of June 30, 2000. The submittal may include a local coastal program segment for the Annexed Area that will implement the local coastal program for the County of Orange as described in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a).

(c) If the City of Newport Beach fails to submit a local coastal program to the commission for approval and certification pursuant to subdivision (b) or does not have an effectively certified local coastal program within six months after the commission's approval of the local coastal program, the City of Newport Beach shall submit a monthly late fee of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to be deposited into the Violation Remediation Account of the Coastal Conservancy Fund, to be expended in accordance with the purposes of Section [30823](#). The City of Newport Beach shall pay the monthly late fee until the time that the city commences implementation of an effectively certified local coastal program. The city may not recover the cost of the late fee from any owner or lessee of property in the coastal zone.

(Added by Ch. 537, Stats. 2001.)

Section 30519.5 Periodic review of certified local programs; recommendations; reports

(a) The commission shall, from time to time, but at least once every five years after certification, review every certified local coastal program to determine whether such program is being effectively implemented in conformity with the policies of this division. If the commission determines that a certified local coastal program is not being carried out in conformity with any policy of this division it shall submit to the affected local government recommendations of corrective actions that should be taken. Such recommendations may include recommended amendments to the affected local government's local coastal program.

(b) Recommendations submitted pursuant to this section shall be reviewed by the affected local government and, if the recommended action is not taken, the local

government shall, within one year of such submission, forward to the commission a report setting forth its reasons for not taking the recommended action. The commission shall review such report and, where appropriate, report to the Legislature and recommend legislative action necessary to assure effective implementation of the relevant policy or policies of this division.

Section 30520 **Judicial prohibition or stay; exercise and reinstatement of permit authority; issuance of coastal development permit**

(a) If the application of any certified local coastal program, or any portion thereof, is prohibited or stayed by any court, the permit authority provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall be exercised pursuant to the provisions of this section until a final court order has withdrawn such prohibition or stay. A coastal development permit shall be issued by the affected local government or the commission on appeal, if that local government or the commission on appeal finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) or the applicable certified land use plan if the court-ordered prohibition or stay applies only to the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or, where necessary, the other implementing actions which are required pursuant to this chapter. Any development approved by a local government pursuant to this subdivision may be appealed to the commission by any person, including the executive director or any commissioner during the period the permit provisions of this section are in effect.

(b) Until a local government has adopted an interim ordinance, prescribing procedures for issuing coastal development permits in the circumstances described in subdivision (a), the permit authority provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall be reinstated in the commission. A coastal development permit shall be issued by the commission if the commission finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) or the applicable certified land use plan, if the court-ordered prohibition or stay applies only to zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, or, where necessary, the other implementing actions which are required pursuant to this chapter.

(c) The permit authority provided for in this section shall be limited to only those developments which would be affected by the court-ordered prohibition or stay.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30521 (Repealed by Ch. 383, Stats. 2005.)

Section 30522 **Degree of environmental protection**

Nothing in this chapter shall permit the commission to certify a local coastal program which provides for a lesser degree of environmental protection than that provided by the plans and policies of any state regulatory agency that are formally adopted by such agency, are used in the regulatory program of such agency, and are legally enforceable.

(Amended by Ch. 899, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30523 Specificity of local coastal programs; legislative intent

It is the intent of the Legislature that local coastal programs certified by the commission should be sufficiently specific to meet the requirements of Section [30108.5](#), but not so detailed as to require amendment and commission review for minor changes, or to discourage the assumption by local governments of post-certification authority which ensures and implements effective protection of coastal resources. The Legislature also recognizes that the applicable policies and the level of specificity required to ensure coastal resource protection may differ between areas on or near the shoreline and inland areas.

(Added by Ch. 899, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30525 Sensitive resource values; identification; protection in promulgation of local coastal program

(a) Every state agency that owns or manages land or water areas within the coastal zone, including public beaches, parks, natural areas, and fish and wildlife preserves, shall identify the sensitive resource values within those areas that are particularly susceptible to adverse impacts from nearby development that is not carefully planned. Every such agency shall also identify the location and type of development that would have a significant adverse impact on those sensitive resource values.

(b) Every agency subject to this section shall advise the appropriate local government of particular considerations that should be evaluated during the preparation of a local coastal program and which, in the opinion of such agency, may be necessary to protect identified sensitive resource values. In addition, the work undertaken pursuant to this section shall be completed in a timely manner in order to maximize the opportunity for the public, affected local governments, and the commission to consider this information fully during the preparation, review, and approval of the appropriate local coastal program.

(c) Work already completed pursuant to former [Chapter 7 \(commencing with Section 31300\) of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code](#), added by Chapter 1441 of the Statutes of 1976, and in conformity with this section, that identifies sensitive resource values within publicly owned or managed land and water areas of the coastal zone shall be considered by local government and the commission in the course of carrying out this chapter.

(d) For purposes of this section, "sensitive resource values" means those fragile or unique natural resources which are particularly susceptible to degradation resulting from surrounding development, the adverse effects of which have not been carefully evaluated, mitigated, or avoided. Examples include, but are not limited to, environmentally sensitive areas, as defined in Section [30107.5](#), areas uniquely suited for scientific or educational purposes, and specific public recreation areas where the

quality of the recreational experience is dependent on the character of the surrounding area.

(Added by Ch. 930, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30526 **Coastal development in Los Peñasquitos Lagoon area in City of San Diego; mitigation fee program**

(a) Because of the intensity of development contemplated, the area's steep topography and highly erodible soils, and the demonstrated impacts from development despite the utilization of mitigation measures, the Legislature finds that the threat from development to wetlands in the City of San Diego requires that a mitigation fee program be included in the city's local coastal program. Therefore, the City of San Diego shall provide in its local coastal program for payment of a reasonable fee to the State Coastal Conservancy by applicants for a coastal development permit if the proposed development has, or is reasonably expected to have, a direct and significant effect on coastal resources within a specific geographic watershed in the coastal zone which can be mitigated through the incorporation of feasible onsite and offsite mitigation measures into the proposed development and through the mitigation fee program.

(b) Fees paid by an applicant pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be deposited in an account established by the State Coastal Conservancy. None of the funds in the account shall be appropriated for any purpose not specified in this section. Except as provided in this section, any fee paid pursuant to this section may only be used to restore, replace, or improve resources or ecological systems which are adversely affected by the proposed development and with respect to which the fee constitutes partial or total mitigation. Any fees established pursuant to this section are not required for any development that is undertaken by a public agency for the purpose of providing resource enhancement or public recreation. In the event that mitigation of all development impacts cannot be feasibly carried out within the watershed, the conservancy may, with the approval of the local government and the commission, complete the mitigation for the development outside of the watershed.

(c) This section and Section [31108.5](#) apply only to the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon area in the City of San Diego.

(Added by Ch. 198, Stats. 1986.)

**ARTICLE 3
COASTAL PUBLIC ACCESS PROGRAM**

Section 30530 Legislative intent

It is the intent of the Legislature, consistent with the provisions of [Chapter 9 \(commencing with Section 31400\) of Division 21](#), that a program to maximize public access to and along the coastline be prepared and implemented in a manner that ensures coordination among and the most efficient use of limited fiscal resources by federal, state, and local agencies responsible for acquisition, development, and maintenance of public coastal accessways. There is a need to coordinate public access programs so as to minimize costly duplication and conflicts and to assure that, to the extent practicable, different access programs complement one another and are incorporated within an integrated system of public accessways to and along the state's coastline. The Legislature recognizes that different public agencies are currently implementing public access programs and encourages such agencies to strengthen those programs in order to provide yet greater public benefits.

(Added by Ch. 840, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30531 Preparation of program; elements; procedure

The commission shall be responsible for the preparation of a public coastal access program which includes the elements set forth in this section and which, to the maximum extent practicable, is incorporated into the local coastal programs prepared, approved, and implemented pursuant to this division.

(a) On or before January 1, 1981, the commission shall prepare a coastal access inventory. The coastal access inventory shall be updated on a continuing basis and shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

(1) A list identifying lands held or operated for the purpose of providing public access to or along the coast. Each listing shall include a brief description of the type of access provided, access constraints, access facility ownership, and resources or uses for which access is provided or suitable.

(2) A list of known offers to dedicate, accepted dedications, and any other legally binding actions taken that provide opportunities for any type of public use of or access to or along the coast. Each listing shall include a brief description of the legal status of the instrument granting or otherwise providing public access, whether public access is physically available, and if not, what action is necessary to be taken to accomplish actual public use.

(3) A map showing the precise location of the listings included pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subdivision.

(b) On or before June 1, 1980, the commission shall, in consultation with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Coastal Conservancy, and other

appropriate public agencies, make recommendations to guide state, local, and to the extent permitted by law federal public agencies in the identification, development, and management of public accessways to and along the coast. The recommendations made pursuant to this section shall be consistent with the public access policies of this division and, with respect to recommendations relating to development of public accessways, consistent with the policy of protecting coastal resources.

(c) On or before January 1, 1981, and from time to time thereafter, the commission, in consultation with the State Coastal Conservancy and other affected public agencies, shall identify the public agency or agencies it deems the most appropriate agency or agencies to accept responsibility for the management of those public coastal accessways listed pursuant to subdivision (a) for which no public agency has accepted such management responsibilities. In identifying the agency or agencies most appropriate to accept public access management responsibilities, the commission shall include its best estimate of costs for the development, operation, and maintenance of such accessways and shall recommend to the Governor and the Legislature a method of funding such costs. In preparing its recommendations for funding public coastal accessway operation and maintenance costs, the commission shall develop alternative, innovative funding techniques that take into account the appropriateness of local funding for the operation and maintenance of accessways that serve primarily local needs. If the commission identifies a state agency as the appropriate agency to assume management responsibility and such agency does not accept such responsibility, the agency shall, by December 31 of the year in which the commission completes its report, advise the commission of its reasons why it did not or cannot accept such responsibility. The State Coastal Conservancy shall take those actions it deems appropriate, including necessary agreements, to negotiate or otherwise accomplish the acceptance of management responsibility by the agency identified by the commission.

(Added by Ch. 840, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30532 Agreements and grants

The commission may enter into agreements with or issue grants to any public agency for the purpose of assisting the commission in meeting the requirements of this article. The commission shall, to the extent available funding permits, enter into agreements with those state agencies that currently operate some form of public coastal access program for the purpose of completing the inventory required by subdivision (a) of Section [30531](#). The commission shall enter into an agreement with the State Coastal Conservancy to provide the funding necessary for the conservancy to carry out its responsibilities pursuant to this article and [Chapter 9 \(commencing with Section 31400\) of Division 21](#).

(Added by Ch. 840, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30533 (Repealed by Ch. 728, Stats. 2012)

Section 30534 Handling of offers to dedicate real property

The commission shall, within 10 days after receiving evidence of recordation of any offer to dedicate real property for access to or along the coast, which dedication was required as a condition to the issuance of a coastal development permit, forward a copy of such evidence and a description of such real property to the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Coastal Conservancy, and the State Lands Commission.

(Added by Ch. 840, Stats. 1979.)

CHAPTER 7 DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS

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**ARTICLE 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Section 30600 Coastal development permit; procedures prior to certification of local coastal program; application of section

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (e), and in addition to obtaining any other permit required by law from any local government or from any state, regional, or local agency, any person, as defined in Section [21066](#), wishing to perform or undertake any development in the coastal zone, other than a facility subject to Section [25500](#), shall obtain a coastal development permit.

(b) (1) Prior to certification of its local coastal program, a local government may, with respect to any development within its area of jurisdiction in the coastal zone and consistent with the provisions of Sections [30604](#), [30620](#), and [30620.5](#), establish procedures for the filing, processing, review, modification, approval, or denial of a coastal development permit. Those procedures may be incorporated and made a part of the procedures relating to any other appropriate land use development permit issued by the local government.

(2) A coastal development permit from a local government shall not be required by this subdivision for any development on tidelands, submerged lands, or on public trust lands, whether filled or unfilled, or for any development by a public agency for which a local government permit is not otherwise required.

(c) If prior to certification of its local coastal program, a local government does not exercise the option provided in subdivision (b), or a development is not subject to the requirements of subdivision (b), a coastal development permit shall be obtained from the commission or from a local government as provided in subdivision (d).

(d) After certification of its local coastal program or pursuant to the provisions of Section [30600.5](#), a coastal development permit shall be obtained from the local government as provided for in Section [30519](#) or Section [30600.5](#).

(e) This section does not apply to any of the following projects, except that notification by the agency or public utility performing any of the following projects shall be made to the commission within 14 days from the date of the commencement of the project:

(1) Immediate emergency work necessary to protect life or property or immediate emergency repairs to public service facilities necessary to maintain service as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to [Chapter 7 \(commencing with Section 8550\) of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code](#).

(2) Emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing highway, as defined in [Section 360 of the Vehicle Code](#), except for a highway designated as an official state scenic highway

pursuant to [Section 262 of the Streets and Highways Code](#), within the existing right-of-way of the highway, damaged as a result of fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide, within one year of the damage. This paragraph does not exempt from this section any project undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to expand or widen a highway damaged by fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 825, Stats. 1996.)

Section 30600.1 Final discretionary approval to proceed with development; permit not issued; housing for persons or families of low or moderate income

(a) In the event that an applicant for a coastal development permit had, prior to January 1, 1982, received from the appropriate local government final discretionary approval to proceed with a proposed development, but had not been issued a coastal development permit prior to that date, the provisions of subdivision (b) or (c) shall apply to any requirements for housing for persons or families of low or moderate income which may be applicable to the proposed development.

(b) In the event that the commission has approved an application for a coastal development permit, but the applicant has not complied with conditions in regard to such housing which were imposed by the commission as part of its approval, the applicant shall do either of the following:

(1) Comply with the housing and other applicable conditions imposed by the commission, in which event the coastal development permit shall be issued and the provisions of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#) shall not apply to the development.

(2) Apply to the appropriate local government as provided in [Section 65590.1 of the Government Code](#) to have that local government apply the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#) to the proposed development, in which event, no condition previously imposed by the commission with respect to such housing shall be applicable to the proposed development.

(c) In the event that application has not been acted upon prior to January 1, 1982, the commission shall process the application as otherwise required by this division, but shall not impose any condition or requirement with respect to housing for persons or families of low or moderate income on the proposed development. The applicant shall apply to the appropriate local government as provided in [Section 65590.1 of the Government Code](#) to have that local government apply the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#) to the proposed development. The commission, at its discretion, may defer action on this application until the local government has acted to apply the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#). The time limits otherwise applicable to commission action on this application shall be stayed during any such period of deferral. If however any such application is for a

conversion of a residential dwelling as defined in paragraph (1) of subdivision (g) of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#), the commission shall not defer processing of such application but shall defer the final issuance of a coastal development permit until the local government has applied the requirements of [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#).

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30600.5 Delegation of authority for issuance of coastal development permits to local governments; exceptions; application, review and appeal procedures; minimum standards; adoption of ordinance

(a) Prior to the certification of a local coastal program and notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (a) of Section [30519](#), after the effective date of this section, the authority for issuance of coastal development permits provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall be delegated to local governments pursuant to the provisions of this section.

(b) Except for any development specified in subdivision (b) of Section [30519](#) and Section [30601](#) or with respect to any development proposed by any state agency, the authority for issuance of coastal development permits provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall be delegated to the respective local governments within 120 days after (1) the effective date of certification of a land use plan pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)) or (2) the effective date of this section, whichever occurs last. This delegation shall only apply with respect to those areas governed by the certified land use plan or a certified portion thereof, applicable to an identifiable geographic area.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, after delegation of authority to issue coastal development permits pursuant to subdivision (b), a coastal development permit shall be issued by the respective local government or the commission on appeal, if that local government or the commission on appeal finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified land use plan.

(d) Any action taken by a local government on a coastal development permit application pursuant to the provisions of this section may be appealed to the commission pursuant to Section [30602](#). The commission shall hear an appeal brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, unless it determines that the local government action taken raises no substantial issue as to conformity with the certified land use plan. For purposes of this subdivision, failure by any local government to act within any time limit specified in this division shall constitute an "action taken."

(e) The commission shall, following a public hearing and within 90 days after the effective date of this section, adopt minimum standards for public notice, hearing, and appeal procedures to govern local government review of coastal development permit applications pursuant to this section. The standards shall, as nearly as practical, follow

the standards required for local agencies after certification of local coastal programs for appealable developments and shall ensure that the notice and hearing required for the coastal development permit can be provided at the same time as the notice and hearing requirements for other local land use decisions that may be necessary for the project requiring the permit. Within 60 days before assumption of authority for issuance of coastal development permits pursuant to this section, the local government shall provide drafts of all procedures for issuance of coastal development permits to the executive director of the commission. Delegation of the authority to issue coastal development permits pursuant to subdivision (b) shall not occur until the local government has provided copies of all the adopted procedures for the issuance of coastal development permits to the executive director of the commission. Any amendments to the procedures shall also be furnished to the executive director for their information.

(f) Prior to the delegation of authority to issue coastal development permits as provided in subdivision (b), a local government, after appropriate notice and hearing, shall adopt an ordinance prescribing the procedures to be used in issuing coastal development permits. Each ordinance shall incorporate at least the minimum standards for public notice, hearings, and appeals established by the commission pursuant to subdivision (e). In addition, each ordinance shall contain provisions that prohibit the issuance of a coastal development permit for any development that may conflict with the ordinances that are being prepared to implement the certified land use plan.

(g) In order to expedite certification of complete local coastal programs and the transfer of coastal development controls to local government, the commission shall, on request from a local government, prepare the ordinances necessary for the local government to implement the coastal permit responsibilities of this division.

(h) The time limits set forth in subdivision (b) shall be extended, by right, for not more than 90 days if a local government, by resolution of its governing body, so requests.

(i) The provisions of this section and of any local ordinance enacted pursuant thereto shall have no further force or effect or application after that local government's local coastal program has been certified and taken effect pursuant to the provisions of this division.

(j) This section shall become inoperative and shall have no force or effect on the date, if any, of a final judicial decision that its provisions are of inconsistent with the requirements of the federal coastal act.

(Added by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981. Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30600.6 Delegation of authority to issue coastal development permits; funding of new costs; fees; reimbursement

(a) The Legislature finds that some new cost may be incurred by local governments when the authority to issue coastal development permits is delegated to these local governments as provided in Section [30600.5](#). It is the intent of the Legislature that during the period prior to certification of a local government's local coastal program these new costs shall be funded as provided in this section.

(b) If a local government has been delegated authority to issue coastal development permits as provided in Section [30600.5](#), any new costs incurred by reason thereof shall be recovered from fees charged to individual permit applicants. Such fees shall cover only those costs which meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The costs are attributable to the actual issuance of coastal development permits, including a pro rata share of general administrative costs.

(2) The costs would not have been incurred except for the delegation of authority to issue coastal development permits as provided in Section [30600.5](#).

(3) The costs are of a type which would not normally be incurred by the local government in carrying out its land use planning and regulatory responsibilities pursuant to other provisions of law.

(c) A local government may elect not to levy fees as provided in this section. If the local government does not levy such fees, it shall not be eligible to be reimbursed for such costs pursuant to other provisions of law.

(d) After certification of its local coastal program, each respective local government shall be reimbursed for costs associated with implementation of that local coastal program as provided in Article 4 (commencing with Section [30350](#)) of Chapter 4.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30600.6.1 Coastal development permit; fees; waiver

(a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall apply:

(1) "Applicant" means a public agency or a nonprofit organization, as that term is defined in Section [31013](#).

(2) "Habitat restoration project" means a project proposed for the sole purpose of restoring or enhancing the ecological function, biodiversity, or resiliency of native habitat.

(3) "Public access project" means a project with the primary purpose of creating, enhancing, expanding, or restoring public amenities that provide access to or along the coast.

(b) At the request of an applicant for a coastal development permit, a city or county may waive or reduce a coastal development permit fee for a public access project or habitat restoration project. If a city or county rejects a fee waiver or fee reduction request, the applicant may, notwithstanding Section [30519](#), submit the coastal development permit application directly to the commission.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impact, address, or change a local coastal plan or program.

(Added by Ch. 280, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30600.7 Modification of refinery or petrochemical facility prior to delegation of permit authority; permit requirements

Where, prior to delegation of coastal permit authority pursuant to Section [30519](#), a modification of a refinery facility or petrochemical facility is necessary to comply with a goal, policy, or requirement of an air pollution control district, the State Air Resources Board, or the Environmental Protection Agency to provide for reformulated or alternative fuels, that modification shall require a coastal development permit from the commission only, notwithstanding the option afforded local governments under subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#).

(Added by Ch. 535, Stats. 1991)

Section 30601 Developments requiring coastal development permit from commission

Prior to certification of the local coastal program and, where applicable, in addition to a permit from local government pursuant to subdivision (b) or (d) of Section [30600](#), a coastal development permit shall be obtained from the commission for any of the following:

(1) Developments between the sea and the first public road paralleling the sea or within 300 feet of the inland extent of any beach or of the mean high tide line of the sea where there is no beach, whichever is the greater distance.

(2) Developments not included within paragraph (1) located on tidelands, submerged lands, public trust lands, within 100 feet of any wetland, estuary, stream, or within 300 feet of the top of the seaward face of any coastal bluff.

(3) Any development which constitutes a major public works project or a major energy facility.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30601.3 Consolidated coastal development permit application; procedure

(a) Notwithstanding Section [30519](#), the commission may process and act upon a consolidated coastal development permit application if both of the following criteria are satisfied:

(1) A proposed project requires a coastal development permit from both a local government with a certified local coastal program and the commission.

(2) The applicant, the appropriate local government, and the commission, which may agree through its executive director, consent to consolidate the permit action, provided that public participation is not substantially impaired by that review consolidation.

(b) The standard of review for a consolidated coastal development permit application submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall follow Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)), with the appropriate local coastal program used as guidance.

(c) The application fee for a consolidated coastal development permit shall be determined by reference to the commission's permit fee schedule.

(d) To implement this section, the commission may adopt guidelines, in the same manner as interpretive guidelines adopted pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section [30620](#).

(Added by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30601.4 Consolidated coastal development permit application; offshore wind energy generation and transmission facilities

(a) (1) The commission shall process a consolidated coastal development permit for any new development that requires a coastal development permit and that is associated with, appurtenant to, or necessary for the construction and operation of offshore wind energy projects, and transmission facilities needed for those projects, located in the coastal zone, as defined in this division. Section [30601.3](#) applies to a consolidated coastal development permit pursuant to this section, except that paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section [30601.3](#) does not apply, and provided that public participation is not substantially impaired by the review of the consolidated coastal development permit.

(2) Upon receipt of an application for purposes of this subdivision, the commission shall forward the application to local governmental agencies having land use and related jurisdiction in the area in which the project would occur. The local governmental agencies may review the application and submit comments on, among other things, applicable provisions of the local coastal program and other appropriate aspects of the design, construction, or operation of the proposed site and related facility.

(3) The commission shall coordinate with affected local governmental agencies to incorporate or otherwise address their recommendations in the final consolidated coastal development permit, including measures to address impacts from offshore wind development and respond to community needs, consistent with this division.

(4) The commission shall engage with federally recognized and nonfederally recognized California Native American tribes with fisheries that could be affected by future development associated with a lease for an offshore wind energy project on all elements of the lessees' project development process, including measures to address impacts from offshore wind development and respond to community needs, consistent with the commission's tribal consultation policy.

(5) To avoid duplication and to increase regulatory efficiency, the commission and the State Lands Commission shall coordinate with relevant local, state, and federal agencies to encourage and facilitate the preparation of joint environmental documents pursuant to the [California Environmental Quality Act \(Division 13 \(commencing with Section 21000\)\)](#) and the federal [National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 \(42 U.S.C. Sec. 4321 et seq.\)](#) for projects proposed pursuant to this section.

(b) (1) The State Lands Commission shall be the lead agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act for offshore wind energy projects pursuant to this division and shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, all environmental documents required by law.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not affect the determination of which entity shall serve as a lead agency for the purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act for projects undertaken pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section [30700](#)).

(Added by Ch. 386, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30601.5 Applications by person other than owner of fee interest

Where the applicant for a coastal development permit is not the owner of a fee interest in the property on which a proposed development is to be located, but can demonstrate a legal right, interest, or other entitlement to use the property for the proposed development, the commission shall not require the holder or owner of any superior interest in the property to join the applicant as coapplicant. All holders or owners of any other interests of record in the affected property shall be notified in writing of the permit application and invited to join as coapplicant. In addition, prior to the issuance of a coastal development permit, the applicant shall demonstrate the authority to comply with all conditions of approval.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30602 Appeals; actions before certification of local program; finality of actions

Prior to certification of its local coastal program, any action taken by a local government on a coastal development permit application may be appealed by the executive director of the commission, any person, including the applicant, or any two members of the commission to the commission. The action shall become final at the close of business on the 20th working day from the date of receipt of the notice required by subdivision (c) of Section [30620.5](#), unless an appeal is submitted within that time. Regardless of whether an appeal is submitted, the local government's action shall become final if an appeal fee is imposed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section [30620](#) and is not deposited with the commission within the time prescribed.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 669, Stats. 1995.)

Section 30603 Appeal of actions taken after certification of local program; types of developments; grounds; finality of actions; notification to Commission

(a) After certification of its local coastal program, an action taken by a local government on a coastal development permit application may be appealed to the commission for only the following types of developments:

(1) Developments approved by the local government between the sea and the first public road paralleling the sea or within 300 feet of the inland extent of any beach or of the mean high tideline of the sea where there is no beach, whichever is the greater distance.

(2) Developments approved by the local government not included within paragraph (1) that are located on tidelands, submerged lands, public trust lands, within 100 feet of any wetland, estuary, or stream, or within 300 feet of the top of the seaward face of any coastal bluff.

(3) Developments approved by the local government not included within paragraph (1) or (2) that are located in a sensitive coastal resource area.

(4) **(A)** Any development approved by a coastal county that is not designated as the principal permitted use under the zoning ordinance or zoning district map approved pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)).

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "coastal county" shall not include a local government that is both a city and county.

(5) Any development ~~which~~ **that** constitutes a major public works project or a major energy facility.

(b) (1) The grounds for an appeal pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be limited to an allegation that the development does not conform to the standards set forth in the certified local coastal program or the public access policies set forth in this division.

(2) The grounds for an appeal of a denial of a permit pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) shall be limited to an allegation that the development conforms to the standards set forth in the certified local coastal program and the public access policies set forth in this division.

(c) Any action described in subdivision (a) shall become final at the close of business on the 10th working day from the date of receipt by the commission of the notice of the local government's final action, unless an appeal is submitted within that time. Regardless of whether an appeal is submitted, the local government's action shall become final if an appeal fee is imposed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section [30620](#) and is not deposited with the commission within the time prescribed.

(d) **(1)** A local government taking an action on a coastal development permit shall send notification of its final action to the commission by certified mail, **or by electronic mail pursuant to paragraph (2)**, within seven calendar days from the date of taking the action.

(2) (A) In order for a local government to notify the commission via electronic mail of an action on a coastal development permit, the notification shall be sent from a verifiable local government electronic mail account, and shall be received in the electronic mailbox designated by the commission on its internet website for receipt of that notification.

(B) For the purposes of determining the 10th working day from the date of receipt of notice by the commission under subdivision (c), notice received by the commission by electronic mail after the close of business shall be considered received on the next working day.

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1030, Stats. 1991; Ch. 525, Stats. 1994; Ch. 669, Stats. 1995; **Ch. 775, Stats. 2024.**)

Section 30603.1 Adjustment of inland boundary; readjustments

(a) In any city and county which so requests, the commission may adjust the inland boundary of the area within which the issuance of coastal development permits may be appealed to the commission pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section [30603](#). Any such adjustment shall be made solely to avoid the circumstances of having the boundary of that area bisect an individual parcel of property. The adjustment may be made landward or seaward, but shall be the minimum distance necessary, consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)), to avoid bisecting a parcel of property.

(b) If the commission subsequently finds that the circumstances which warranted a boundary adjustment pursuant to subdivision (a) have changed, it may, after notice to

the city and county, readjust the boundary so that it is consistent with the changed circumstances. The requirements of subdivision (a) shall apply to any such boundary adjustment.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30604 Coastal development permit; issuance prior to certification of the local coastal program; finding that development in conformity with public access and public recreation policies; housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income; environmental justice

(a) Prior to certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit shall be issued if the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, finds that the proposed development is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) and that the permitted development will not prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare a local coastal program that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)). A denial of a coastal development permit on grounds it would prejudice the ability of the local government to prepare a local coastal program that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) shall be accompanied by a specific finding which sets forth the basis for that conclusion.

(b) After certification of the local coastal program, a coastal development permit shall be issued if the issuing agency or the commission on appeal finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified local coastal program.

(c) Every coastal development permit issued for any development between the nearest public road and the sea or the shoreline of any body of water located within the coastal zone shall include a specific finding that the development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(d) No development or any portion thereof which is outside the coastal zone shall be subject to the coastal development permit requirements of this division, nor shall anything in this division authorize the denial of a coastal development permit by the commission on the grounds the proposed development within the coastal zone will have an adverse environmental effect outside the coastal zone.

(e) No coastal development permit may be denied under this division on the grounds that a public agency is planning or contemplating to acquire the property on, or property adjacent to the property on, which the proposed development is to be located, unless the public agency has been specifically authorized to acquire the property and there are funds available, or funds which could reasonably be expected to be made available within one year, for the acquisition. If a permit has been denied for that reason and the property has not been acquired by a public agency within a reasonable period of time, a permit may not be denied for the development on grounds that the property,

or adjacent property, is to be acquired by a public agency when the application for such a development is resubmitted.

(f) The commission shall encourage housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income. In reviewing residential development applications for low- and moderate-income housing, as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (h) of [Section 65589.5 of the Government Code](#), the issuing agency or the commission, on appeal, may not require measures that reduce residential densities below the density sought by an applicant if the density sought is within the permitted density or range of density established by local zoning plus the additional density permitted under [Section 65915 of the Government Code](#), unless the issuing agency or the commission on appeal makes a finding, based on substantial evidence in the record, that the density sought by the applicant cannot feasibly be accommodated on the site in a manner that is in conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) or the certified local coastal program.

(g) The Legislature finds and declares that it is important for the commission to encourage the protection of existing and the provision of new affordable housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income in the coastal zone.

(h) When acting on a coastal development permit, the issuing agency, or the commission on appeal, may consider environmental justice, or the equitable distribution of environmental benefits throughout the state.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 793, Stats. 2003; Ch. 578, Stats. 2016.)

Section 30605 Public works or state university or college or private university long-range land use development; plans

To promote greater efficiency for the planning of any public works or state university or college or private university development projects and as an alternative to project-by-project review, plans for public works or state university or college or private university long-range land use development plans may be submitted to the commission for review in the same manner prescribed for the review of local coastal programs as set forth in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section [30500](#)). If any plan for public works or state university or college development project is submitted prior to certification of the local coastal programs for the jurisdictions affected by the proposed public works, the commission shall certify whether the proposed plan is consistent with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)). The commission shall, by regulation, provide for the submission and distribution to the public, prior to public hearings on the plan, detailed environmental information sufficient to enable the commission to determine the consistency of the plans with the policies of this division. If any such plan for public works is submitted after the certification of local coastal programs, any such plan shall be approved by the commission only if it finds, after full consultation with the affected local governments, that the proposed plan for public works is in conformity with certified local coastal programs in jurisdictions affected by the proposed public works. Each state university or college or private university shall coordinate and consult with local

government in the preparation of long-range development plans so as to be consistent, to the fullest extent feasible, with the appropriate local coastal program. Where a plan for a public works or state university or college or private university development project has been certified by the commission, any subsequent review by the commission of a specific project contained in the certified plan shall be limited to imposing conditions consistent with Sections [30607](#) and [30607.1](#). A certified long-range development plan may be amended by the state university or college or private university, but no amendment shall take effect until it has been certified by the commission. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to, and processed by, the commission in the same manner as prescribed for amendment of a local coastal program.

(Amended by Ch. 600, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30606 Public works or state university or college or private university long-range land use development; notice impending development

Prior to the commencement of any development pursuant to Section [30605](#), the public agency proposing the public works project, or state university or college or private university, shall notify the commission and other interested persons, organizations, and governmental agencies of the impending development and provide data to show that it is consistent with the certified public works plan or long-range development plan. No development shall take place within 30 working days after the notice.

(Amended by Ch. 600, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30607 Permit; terms and conditions

Any permit that is issued or any development or action approved on appeal, pursuant to this chapter, shall be subject to reasonable terms and conditions in order to ensure that such development or action will be in accordance with the provisions of this division.

Section 30607.1 Wetlands dike and fill development; mitigation measures

Where any dike and fill development is permitted in wetlands in conformity with Section [30233](#) or other applicable policies set forth in this division, mitigation measures shall include, at a minimum, either acquisition of equivalent areas of equal or greater biological productivity or opening up equivalent areas to tidal action; provided, however, that if no appropriate restoration site is available, an in-lieu fee sufficient to provide an area of equivalent productive value or surface areas shall be dedicated to an appropriate public agency, or the replacement site shall be purchased before the dike or fill development may proceed. The mitigation measures shall not be required for temporary or short-term fill or diking if a bond or other evidence of financial responsibility is provided to assure that restoration will be accomplished in the shortest feasible time.

(Amended by Ch. 1088, Stats. 1992.)

Section 30607.2 Low or moderate income housing; incorporation of conditions into coastal development permits; amendment or modification

(a) Conditions requiring housing for persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined in [Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code](#), which were incorporated into a coastal development permit issued prior to January 1, 1982, may, at the request of the permittee, be amended or modified by the commission or by a local government having the authority to issue coastal development permits. In approving such amendments or modifications, only those conditions and requirements authorized by [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#) may be imposed on the permittee.

(b) Any person who, prior to January 1, 1982 has been issued a coastal development permit which contains requirements for low and moderate-income housing but who, prior to January 1, 1982, has not performed substantial work on the development site (such as grading, installation of streets, sewers or utilities or construction of major buildings) may elect to proceed under either of the following options:

(1) To proceed pursuant to all of the requirements of the coastal development permit, in which event the provisions of subdivision (a) shall apply to any subsequent request to amend or alter the coastal development permit in regard to housing requirements.

(2) To proceed without complying with the housing requirements contained in the coastal development permit, in which event the housing requirements for the development shall be governed by [Section 65590 of the Government Code](#).

(c) No new coastal development permit or amendment to any existing permit for a sewer project shall be denied, restricted, or conditioned in order to implement housing policies or programs.

(d) Nothing in this section shall authorize or require the modification or amendment to any terms or conditions of any previously issued coastal development permit which guarantees housing opportunities for persons and families of low or moderate income where the term or condition has been met through an agreement executed and recorded on or before January 1, 1982, between an applicant and the commission. For previously approved or issued permits which involve new construction of less than 10 residential units, an executed and recorded agreement guaranteeing housing opportunities for persons or families of low or moderate income, which has not been implemented by the transfer of an interest in real property or payment of a fee to a public agency or nonprofit association for the purpose of providing these housing opportunities, shall be voided if the applicant records the notice provided by the executive director of the commission. Further, nothing in this section shall impair the commission's authority to deny, restrict, or condition new permits or amendments to existing permits based on any requirement of this division.

(e) Nothing in this section authorizes or requires the modification of or amendment to any terms or conditions in Permit #P-80-419 issued by the commission with respect to the reservation or administration of sewer capacity for affordable housing in the San Mateo County local coastal program.

(Added by Ch. 1007, Stats. 1981. Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1617, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1500, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30607.5 City of San Diego; protection of vernal pools

Within the City of San Diego, the commission shall not impose or adopt any requirements in conflict with the provisions of the plan for the protection of vernal pools approved and adopted by the City of San Diego on June 17, 1980, following consultation with state and federal agencies, and approved and adopted by the United States Army Corps of Engineers in coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(Added by Ch. 892, Stats. 1980.)

Section 30607.7 Coastal development permit for sand replenishment; requirements

(a) A coastal development permit for sand replenishment requires the project applicant to provide onsite monitoring and supervision during the implementation of the permit.

(b) A permit subject to subdivision (a) may not be issued until the project applicant provides the issuing agency with a plan for onsite monitoring and supervision during the implementation of the permit.

(Added by Ch. 285, Stats, 2003.)

Section 30607.8 Use of reclaimed in-lieu fees for coastal development project

(a) The commission shall, when assessing or directing the use of any reclaimed in-lieu fees for any coastal development project, consider the lower cost coastal accommodations assessment required to be prepared pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section [31413](#).

(b) (1) The commission may reclaim any in-lieu fee assessed that has not been expended within seven years of the date of its deposit with the appropriate entity, and reassign any such fee for use for one or more projects that are consistent with Section [30213](#), including lower cost coastal accommodations funded under [Chapter 10 \(commencing with Section 31411\)](#), if the executive director makes a written determination that the original intent of the in-lieu fee will be better utilized by the reassignment to those projects.

(2) This subdivision is not intended, and shall not be construed, to authorize the commission to alter or abrogate coastal development permit conditions in a manner that would violate a provision of this division or any other law.

(c) For purposes of this section, “in-lieu fee” means any fee paid as a condition for issuance of a coastal development permit to mitigate impacts associated with the development of lower cost coastal visitor-serving projects.

(Added by Ch. 838, Stats. 2017.)

Section 30608 Vested rights; prior permits; conditions

No person who has obtained a vested right in a development prior to the effective date of this division or who has obtained a permit from the California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission pursuant to the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (former Division 18 (commencing with Section 27000)) shall be required to secure approval for the development pursuant to this division. However, no substantial change may be made in the development without prior approval having been obtained under this division.

(Amended by Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30608.5 (Repealed by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30609 Permits under prior law; modification; continuation

Where, prior to January 1, 1977, a permit was issued and expressly made subject to recorded terms and conditions that are not dedications of land or interests in land for the benefit of the public or a public agency pursuant to the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (commencing with Section 27000), the owner of real property which is the subject of such permit may apply for modification or elimination of the recordation of such terms and conditions pursuant to the provisions of this division. Such application shall be made in the same manner as a permit application. In no event, however, shall such a modification or elimination of recordation result in the imposition of terms or conditions which are more restrictive than those imposed at the time of the initial grant of the permit. Unless modified or deleted pursuant to this section, any condition imposed on a permit issued pursuant to the former California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (commencing with Section 27000) shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 30609.5 State lands between the first public road and the sea; sale or transfer

(a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), no state land that is located between the first public road and the sea, with an existing or potential public accessway to or from the sea, or that the commission has formally designated as part of the California Coastal Trail, shall be transferred or sold by the state to any private entity unless the state retains a permanent property interest in the land adequate to provide

public access to or along the sea. In any transfer or sale of real property by a state agency to a private entity or person pursuant to this section, the instrument of conveyance created by the state shall require that the private entity or person or the entity or person's successors or assigns manage the property in such a way as to ensure that existing or potential public access is not diminished. The instrument of conveyance shall further require that any violation of this management requirement shall result in the reversion of the real property to the state.

(b) This section shall not apply to the transfer of state land to a non-profit organization that exists for the purposes of preserving lands for public use and enjoyment and meets the requirements of subdivision (b) of [Section 831.5 of the Government Code](#).

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (a), state lands between the first public road and the sea, that are under the possession and control of the Department of Parks and Recreation or the State Coastal Conservancy, may be transferred or sold if the department or the conservancy makes one or more of the following findings at a noticed public hearing relating to the transfer or sale of the property:

(1) The state has retained or will retain, as a condition of the transfer or sale, permanent property interests on the land providing public access to or along the sea.

(2) Equivalent or greater public access to the same beach or shoreline area is provided for than would be feasible if the land were to remain in state ownership.

(3) The land to be transferred or sold is an environmentally sensitive area with natural resources that would be adversely impacted by public use, and the state will retain permanent property interests in the land that may be necessary to protect, or otherwise provide for the permanent protection of, those resources prior to or as a condition of the transfer or sale.

(4) The land to be transferred or sold has neither existing nor potential public accessway to the sea.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to interfere with the management responsibilities of state resource agencies, including, but not limited to, the responsibilities to ensure public safety and implement the [California Endangered Species Act \(Chapter 1.5 \(commencing with Section 2050\) of Division 3 of the Fish and Game Code\)](#).

(e) As used in this section, "state land" means any real property in which the state or any state agency has an ownership interest including, but not limited to, a fee, title, easement, deed restriction, or other interest in land. It does not include land in which a city, county, city and county, or district has an ownership interest.

(f) Nothing in this section is intended to restrict a private property owner's right to sell or transfer private property.

(Added by Ch. 822, Stats. 1999.)

Section 30610 Developments authorized without permit

Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, no coastal development permit shall be required pursuant to this chapter for the following types of development and in the following areas:

(a) Improvements to existing single-family residences; provided, however, that the commission shall specify, by regulation, those classes of development which involve a risk of adverse environmental effect and shall require that a coastal development permit be obtained pursuant to this chapter.

(b) Improvements to any structure other than a single-family residence or a public works facility; provided, however, that the commission shall specify, by regulation, those types of improvements which (1) involve a risk of adverse environmental effect, (2) adversely affect public access, or (3) involve a change in use contrary to any policy of this division. Any improvement so specified by the commission shall require a coastal development permit.

(c) Maintenance dredging of existing navigation channels or moving dredged material from those channels to a disposal area outside the coastal zone, pursuant to a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

(d) Repair or maintenance activities that do not result in an addition to, or enlargement or expansion of, the object of those repair or maintenance activities; provided, however, that if the commission determines that certain extraordinary methods of repair and maintenance involve a risk of substantial adverse environmental impact, it shall, by regulation, require that a permit be obtained pursuant to this chapter.

(e) Any category of development, or any category of development within a specifically defined geographic area, that the commission, after public hearing, and by two-thirds vote of its appointed members, has described or identified and with respect to which the commission has found that there is no potential for any significant adverse effect, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources or on public access to, or along, the coast and, where the exclusion precedes certification of the applicable local coastal program, that the exclusion will not impair the ability of local government to prepare a local coastal program.

(f) The installation, testing, and placement in service or the replacement of any necessary utility connection between an existing service facility and any development approved pursuant to this division; provided, however, that the commission may, where necessary, require reasonable conditions to mitigate any adverse impacts on coastal resources, including scenic resources.

(g) (1) The replacement of any structure, other than a public works facility, destroyed by a disaster. The replacement structure shall conform to applicable existing zoning requirements, shall be for the same use as the destroyed structure, shall not

exceed either the floor area, height, or bulk of the destroyed structure by more than 10 percent, and shall be sited in the same location on the affected property as the destroyed structure.

(2) As used in this subdivision:

(A) "Disaster" means any situation in which the force or forces which destroyed the structure to be replaced were beyond the control of its owner.

(B) "Bulk" means total interior cubic volume as measured from the exterior surface of the structure.

(C) "Structure" includes landscaping and any erosion control structure or device which is similar to that which existed prior to the occurrence of the disaster.

(h) Any activity anywhere in the coastal zone that involves the conversion of any existing multiple-unit residential structure to a time-share project, estate, or use, as defined in [Section 11212 of the Business and Professions Code](#). If any improvement to an existing structure is otherwise exempt from the permit requirements of this division, no coastal development permit shall be required for that improvement on the basis that it is to be made in connection with any conversion exempt pursuant to this subdivision. The division of a multiple-unit residential structure into condominiums, as defined in [Section 783 of the Civil Code](#), shall not be considered a time-share project, estate, or use for purposes of this subdivision.

(i) (1) Any proposed development which the executive director finds to be a temporary event which does not have any significant adverse impact upon coastal resources within the meaning of guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision by the commission. The commission shall, after public hearing, adopt guidelines to implement this subdivision to assist local governments and persons planning temporary events in complying with this division by specifying the standards which the executive director shall use in determining whether a temporary event is excluded from permit requirements pursuant to this subdivision. The guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be exempt from the review of the Office of Administrative Law and from the requirements of [Chapter 3.5 \(commencing with Section 11340\) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code](#).

(2) Exclusion or waiver from the coastal development permit requirements of this division pursuant to this subdivision does not diminish, waive, or otherwise prevent the commission from asserting and exercising its coastal development permit jurisdiction over any temporary event at any time if the commission determines that the exercise of its jurisdiction is necessary to implement the coastal resource protection policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1470, Stats. 1982; Ch. 1088, Stats. 1992; Ch. 697, Stats. 2004.)

Section 30610.1 Single family residence construction; criteria

(a) Prior to certification of the applicable local coastal program, no coastal development permit shall be required for the construction of a single-family residence on any vacant lot meeting the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) and located in a specified area designated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b).

(b) Within 60 days from the effective date of this section, the commission shall designate specific areas in the coastal zone where the construction of a single-family residence on a vacant lot meeting the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) shall not require a coastal development permit. Areas shall be designated for the exclusion provided for in this section if construction of single-family residences within the area to be designated has no potential, either individually or cumulatively, for significant adverse impacts on highly scenic resources of public importance, on environmentally sensitive areas, on prime agricultural land or on agricultural lands currently in production, or on public access to or along the coast.

In addition, if septic tanks will be required or used, an area identified as having septic tank problems by the appropriate regional water quality control board or the State Water Resources Control Board in an approved basin plan or by other formal action of such board may not be designated for exclusion pursuant to this section.

(c) Within areas designated pursuant to subdivision (b), no coastal development permit shall be required for the construction of a single-family residence on any vacant lot which meets all of the following criteria:

(1) It is not located between the first public road and the sea or immediately adjacent to the inland extent of any beach or of the mean high tide line where there is no beach.

(2) Is a legal lot as of the effective date of this section and conforms with the minimum lot size and lot use designations of the applicable general plan and zoning ordinances.

(3) Is not located within an area known to the affected local government, or designated by any other public agency, as a geologic hazard area or as a flood hazard area, or, if located within such an area, it has been determined by the affected local government to be a safe site for the construction of a single-family residence.

(4) Is no more than 250 feet from an existing improved road adequate for use throughout the year.

(5) Can be served by an adequate water supply that is legally available for use either by means of a well or by means of a connection to a water system with sufficient capacity to serve such lot or lots; provided, that no such connection shall require the extension of an existing water main which would have the capacity of serving four or more additional single-family residential structures.

(d) The commission shall, within 120 days from the effective date of this section, specify uniform criteria that shall be used to determine the location of "the first public road" and the inland extent of any beach for purposes of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c).

(e) Within 30 days after the 120-day period specified in subdivision (b), the commission shall report the Legislature and the Governor what has been done to carry out the provisions of this section.

(f) The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding any other provision of this division to the contrary.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979.)

Section 30610.2 Single family residence construction; certification of exemption

(a) Any person wishing to construct a single-family residence on a vacant lot within an area designated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section [30610.1](#) shall, prior to the commencement of construction, secure from the local government with jurisdiction over the lot in question a written certification or determination that the lot meets the criteria specified in subdivision (c) of Section [30610.1](#) and is therefore exempt from the coastal development permit requirements of this division. A copy of every certification of exemption shall be sent by the issuing local government to the commission within five working days after it is issued.

(b) If the commission does not designate the areas within the coastal zone as required by subdivision (b) of Section [30610.1](#) within the 60 days specified therein, a local government may make the certification authorized by subdivision (a) of this section without regard to the requirements of subdivision (b) of Section [30610.1](#).

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30610.3 Inadequate public access through subdivided area; adoption of access program; financing; in-lieu fees

(a) Whenever the commission determines (1) that public access opportunities through an existing subdivided area, which has less than 75 percent of the subdivided lots built upon, or an area proposed to be subdivided are not adequate to meet the public access requirements of this division and (2) that individual owners of vacant lots in those areas do not have the legal authority to comply with public access requirements as a condition of securing a coastal development permit for the reason that some other person or persons has legal authority, the commission shall implement public access requirements as provided in this section.

(b) The commission, on its own motion or at the request of an affected property owner, shall identify an area as meeting the criteria specified in subdivision (a). After an

area has been identified, the commission shall, after appropriate public hearings adopt a specific public access program for the area and shall request that the State Coastal Conservancy, established pursuant to [Division 21 \(commencing with Section 31000\)](#), implement the program. The access program shall include, but not be limited to, the identification of specific land areas and view corridors to be used for public access, any facilities or other development deemed appropriate, the commission's recommendations regarding the manner in which public access will be managed, and the types of permitted public uses. The State Coastal Conservancy shall, pursuant to its authority, implement the public access program.

(c) The State Coastal Conservancy shall be authorized to expend funds when appropriated from the Coastal Access Account for the purchase of lands and view easements and to pay for any development needed to carry out the public access program specified in subdivision (a). Not more than 5 percent of the amount of funds necessary to carry out each public access program may be provided as a grant to the State Coastal Conservancy for its administrative costs incurred in carrying out the access program.

(d) The State Coastal Conservancy may enter into any agreement it deems necessary and appropriate with any state or local public agency or with a private association authorized to perform those functions for the operation and maintenance of any access facilities acquired or developed pursuant to this section.

(e) Every person receiving a coastal development permit or a certificate of exemption for development on any vacant lot within an area designated pursuant to this section shall, prior to the commencement of construction, pay to the commission, for deposit in the Coastal Access Account, an "in-lieu" public access fee. The amount of each fee shall be determined by dividing the cost of acquiring the specified lands and view easements by the total number of lots within the identified area. The proportion of acquisition cost that can be allocated to lots built upon pursuant to permits that were not subject to public access conditions under this division or the California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (former Division 18 (commencing with Section 27000)) shall be paid from the Coastal Access Account. An "in-lieu" public access fee may be in the form of an appropriate dedication, in which event the lots to which the dedication can be credited shall not be counted toward the total number of lots used in arriving at the "in-lieu" public access fee share for each remaining lot.

(f) For purposes of determining the acquisition costs specified in subdivision (e), the State Coastal Conservancy may, in the absence of a fixed price agreed to by both the State Coastal Conservancy and the seller, specify an estimated cost based on a formal appraisal of the value of the interest proposed to be acquired. The appraisal shall be conducted by an independent appraiser under contract with the State Coastal Conservancy and shall be completed within 120 days of the adoption of the specific public access program by the commission pursuant to subdivision (b). The appraisal shall be deemed suitable for all purposes of the Property Acquisition Law (Part 11, (commencing with [Section 15850 of the Government Code](#))). For every year following public acquisition of the interests in land specified as part of a public access program

and prior to payment of the required "in-lieu" fee, a carrying cost factor equal to 5 percent of the share attributable to each lot shall be added to any unpaid "in-lieu" public access fee, provided, however, that a lot owner may pay the "in-lieu" public access fee at any time after public acquisition in order to avoid payment of the carrying cost factor.

(g) No provision of this section may be applied within any portion of the unincorporated area in the County of Sonoma, commonly known as the Sea Ranch.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats, 1979. Amended by Ch. 337, Stats. 2003; Ch. 183, Stats. 2004.)

Section 30610.4 Single family residence construction; designation of areas where coastal development permit not required

(a) Upon establishment of an acquisition cost pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section [30610.3](#), the commission shall review the area in question to determine if all or some portion of that area meets the criteria specified in subdivision (b) of Section [30610.1](#) for areas within which no coastal development permit will be required from the commission for construction of single-family residences. Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section [30610.1](#), lots other than those immediately adjacent to any beach or to the mean high tide line where there is no beach can be included in this exclusion area. If the commission determines an area designated pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section [30610.3](#) meets that criteria, the area shall be designated as one wherein no coastal development permit from the commission shall be required for the construction of single-family residences.

(b) Prior to the commencement of construction of any single-family residence within an area designated pursuant to this section, a certificate of exemption must be obtained pursuant to Section [30610.2](#) and the appropriate "in-lieu" public access fee shall be paid.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 538, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30610.5 Urban land areas; exclusion from permit provisions; conditions

Urban land areas shall, pursuant to the provisions of this section, be excluded from the permit provisions of this chapter.

(a) Upon the request of a local government, an urban land area, as specifically identified by such local government, shall, after public hearing, be excluded by the commission from the permit provisions of this chapter where both of the following conditions are met:

(l) The area to be excluded is either a residential area zoned and developed to a density of four or more dwelling units per acre on or before January 1, 1977, or a

commercial or industrial area zoned and developed for such use on or before January 1, 1977.

(2) The commission finds both of the following:

(i) Locally permitted development will be infilling or replacement and will be in conformity with the scale, size, and character of the surrounding community.

(ii) There is no potential for significant adverse effects, either individually or cumulatively, on public access to the coast or on coastal resources from any locally permitted development; provided, however, that no area may be excluded unless more than 50 percent of the lots are built upon, to the same general density or intensity of use.

(b) Every exclusion granted under subdivision (a) of this section and subdivision of (e) Section [30610](#) shall be subject to terms and conditions to assure that no significant change in density, height, or nature of uses will occur without further proceedings under this division, and an order granting an exclusion under subdivision (e) of Section [30610](#), but not under subdivision (a) of this section may be revoked at any time by the commission, if the conditions of exclusion are violated. Tide and submerged land, beaches, and lots immediately adjacent to the inland extent of any beach, or of the mean high tide line of the sea where there is no beach, and all lands and waters subject to the public trust shall not be excluded under either subdivision (a) of this section or subdivision (e) of Section [30610](#).

(Amended by Ch. 1087, Stats. 1980.)

Section 30610.6 Sea Ranch in Sonoma County

(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that it is in the public interest to provide by statute for the resolution of the lengthy and bitter dispute involving development of existing legal lots within the unincorporated area of Sonoma County, commonly known as the Sea Ranch. The reasons for the need to finally resolve this dispute include the following:

(1) Acknowledgment by the responsible regulatory agencies that development of existing lots at Sea Ranch can proceed consistent with the provisions of this division and other applicable laws provided certain conditions have been met. Development has been prevented at considerable costs to property owners because these conditions have not been met.

(2) That it has been, and continues to be, costly to Sea Ranch property owners and the public because of, among other reasons, extensive and protracted litigation, continuing administrative proceedings, and escalating construction costs.

(3) The need to provide additional public access to and along portions of the coast at the Sea Ranch in order to meet the requirements of this division. The

continuation of this dispute prevents the public from enjoying the use of those access opportunities.

(4) The commission is unable to refund 118 "environmental deposits" to property owners because coastal development permit conditions have not been met.

(5) It appears likely that this lengthy dispute will continue unless the Legislature provides a solution, and the failure to resolve the dispute will be unfair to property owners and the public.

(b) The Legislature further finds and declares that because of the unique circumstances of this situation, the provisions of this section constitute the most expeditious and equitable mechanism to ensure a timely solution that is in the best property owners and that is consistent with this division.

(c) If the Sea Ranch Association and Oceanic California, Inc. desire to take advantage of the terms of this section, they shall, not sooner than April 1, 1981, and not later than July 1, 1981, deposit into escrow deeds and other necessary documents that have been determined by the State Coastal Conservancy before their deposit in escrow to be legally sufficient to convey to the State Coastal Conservancy enforceable and nonexclusive public use easements free and clear of liens and encumbrances for the easements specifically described in this subdivision. Upon deposit of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) into the same escrow account by the State Coastal Conservancy, but in no event later than 30 days after the deeds and other necessary documents have been deposited in the escrow account, the escrow agent shall transmit the five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), less the escrow, title, and administrative costs of the State Coastal Conservancy, in an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), to the Sea Ranch Association and shall convey the deeds and other necessary documents to the State Coastal Conservancy. The conservancy shall subsequently convey the deeds and other necessary documents to an appropriate public agency that is authorized and agrees to accept the easements. The deeds specified in this subdivision shall be for the following easements:

(1) In Unit 34A, a 30-foot wide vehicle and pedestrian access easement from a point on State Highway 1, 50 feet north of a mile post marker 56.75, a day parking area for 10 vehicles, a 15-foot wide pedestrian accessway from the parking area continuing west to the bluff-top trail, and a 15-foot wide bluff-top pedestrian easement beginning at the southern boundary of Gualala Point County Park and continuing for approximately three miles in a southerly direction to the sandy beach at the northern end of Unit 28 just north of Walk-on Beach together with a 15-foot wide pedestrian easement to provide a connection to Walk-on Beach to the south.

(2) In Unit 24, a day parking area west of State Highway 1, just south of Whalebone Reach, for six vehicles, and a 15-foot wide pedestrian accessway over Sea Ranch Association common areas crossing Pacific Reach and continuing westerly to the southern portion of Shell Beach with a 15-foot wide pedestrian easement to connect with the northern portion of Shell Beach.

(3) In Unit 36, a 30-foot wide vehicle and pedestrian accessway from State Highway 1, mile post marker 53.96, a day parking area for 10 vehicles, and a 15-foot wide pedestrian accessway from the parking area to the beach at the intersection of Units 21 and 36.

(4) In Unit 17, adjacent to the intersection of Navigator's Reach and State Highway 1, 75 feet north of mile post marker 52.21, enough land to provide day parking for four vehicles and a 15-foot wide pedestrian accessway from the parking area to Pebble Beach.

(5) In Unit 8, a 30-foot wide vehicle and pedestrian accessway from State Highway 1, mile post marker 50.85, a day parking area for 10 vehicles and a 15-foot wide pedestrian accessway from the parking area to Black Point Beach.

(6) With respect to each of the beaches to which access will be provided by the easements specified in this subdivision, an easement for public use of the area between the line of mean high tide and either the toe of the adjacent bluff or the first line of vegetation, whichever is nearer to the water.

(7) Scenic view easements for those areas specified by the executive director, as provided in subdivision (d), and which easements allow for the removal of trees in order to restore and preserve scenic views from State Highway 1.

(d) The executive director of the commission shall, within 30 days after the effective date of this section, specifically identify the areas along State Highway 1 for which the scenic view easements provided for in paragraph (7) of subdivision (c) will be required. In identifying the areas for which easements for the restoration and preservation of public scenic views will be required, the executive director shall take into account the effect of tree removal so as to avoid causing erosion problems. It is the intent of the Legislature that only those areas be identified where scenic views to or along the coast are unique or particularly beautiful or spectacular and which thereby take on public importance. The restoration and preservation of the scenic view areas specified pursuant to this subdivision shall be at public expense.

(e) Within 30 days after the effective date of this section, the executive director of the commission shall specify design criteria for the height, site, and bulk of any development visible from the scenic view areas provided for in subdivision (d). This criteria shall be enforced by the County of Sonoma if the deeds and other necessary documents specified in subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy. This criteria shall be reasonable so as to enable affected property owners to build single-family residences of substantially similar overall size to those that property owners who are not affected by these criteria may build or have already built under the Sea Ranch Association's building design criteria. The purpose of the criteria is to ensure that development will not substantially detract from the specified scenic view areas.

(f) On and after the date on which the deeds and other necessary documents deposited in escrow pursuant to subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy, no additional public access requirements shall be imposed at the Sea Ranch pursuant to this division by any regional commission, the commission, any other state agency, or any local government. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the provisions of the access facilities specified in this subdivision shall be deemed adequate to meet the requirements of this division.

(g) The realignment of internal roads within the Sea Ranch shall not be required by any state or local agency acting pursuant to this division. However, that appropriate easements may be required by the County of Sonoma to provide for the expansion of State Highway 1 for the development of turnout and left-turn lanes and for the location of a bicycle path, when the funds are made available for those purposes. The Legislature finds and declares that this subdivision is adequate to meet the requirements of this division to ensure that new development at the Sea Ranch will not overburden the capacity of State Highway 1 to the detriment of recreational users.

(h) No coastal development permit shall be required pursuant to this division for the development of supplemental water supply facilities determined by the State Water Resources Control Board to be necessary to meet the needs of legally permitted development within the Sea Ranch. The commission, through its executive director, shall participate in the proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board relating to these facilities and may recommend terms and conditions that the commission deems necessary to protect against adverse impacts on coastal zone resources. The State Water Resources Control Board shall condition any permit or other authorization for the development of these facilities so as to carry out the commission's recommendation, unless the State Water Resources Control Board determines that the recommended terms or conditions are unreasonable. This subdivision shall become operative if the deeds and other necessary documents specified in subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy.

(i) Within 90 days after the effective date of this section, the commission, through its executive director, shall specify criteria for septic tank construction, operation, and monitoring within the Sea Ranch to ensure protection of coastal zone resources consistent with the policies of this division. The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board shall review the criteria and adopt it, unless it finds the criteria or a portion thereof is unreasonable. The regional board shall be responsible for the enforcement of the adopted criteria if the deeds and other necessary documents specified in subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy.

(j) Within 60 days after the date on which the deeds and other necessary documents deposited in escrow pursuant to subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy, the commission shall refund every Sea Ranch "environmental deposit" together with any interest earned on the deposit to the person, or the person's designee, who paid the deposit.

(k) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on and after the date on which the deeds and other necessary documents deposited in escrow pursuant to subdivision (c) have been conveyed to the State Coastal Conservancy, a coastal development permit shall not be required pursuant to this division for the construction of any single-family residence dwelling on any vacant, legal lot existing at the Sea Ranch on the effective date of this section. With respect to any other development for which a coastal development permit is required within legally existing lots at the Sea Ranch, no conditions may be imposed pursuant to this division that impose additional public access requirements or that relate to supplemental water supply facilities, septic tank systems, or internal road realignment.

(l) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if on July 1, 1981, deeds and other necessary documents that are legally sufficient to convey the easements specified in subdivision (c) have not been deposited in an escrow account, the provisions of this section shall no longer be operative and shall have no force or effect and thereafter all the provisions of this division in effect before enactment of this section shall again be applicable to any development within the Sea Ranch.

(m) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the provisions for the settlement of this dispute, especially with respect to public access, as set forth in this section provide an alternative to and are equivalent to the provisions set forth in Section [30610.3](#). The Legislature further finds that the provisions of this section are not in lieu of the permit and planning requirements of this division but rather provide for an alternative mechanism to Section [30610.3](#) for the resolution of outstanding issues at the Sea Ranch.

(Added by Ch. 1371, Stats. 1980. Amended by Ch. 538, Stats. 2006; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30610.8 Hollister Ranch; public access program; in-lieu fee; implementation

(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that a dispute exists at the Hollister Ranch in the Santa Barbara County with respect to the implementation of public access policies of this division and that it is in the interest of the state and the property owners at the Hollister Ranch to resolve this dispute in an expeditious manner. The Legislature further finds and declares that public access should be provided in a timely manner and that in order to achieve this goal, while permitting property owners to commence construction, the provisions of this section are necessary to promote the public's welfare.

(b) For purposes of Section [30610.3](#) and with respect to the Hollister Ranch public access program, the in-lieu fee shall be thirty-three thousand dollars (\$33,000) for each permit, adjusted annually for inflation pursuant to the consumer price index. Upon payment by the applicant for a coastal development permit of this in-lieu fee to the State Coastal Conservancy for use in implementing the public access program, the applicant may immediately commence construction if the other conditions of the coastal

development permit, if any, have been met. No condition may be added to a coastal development permit that was issued prior to the effective date of this section for any development at the Hollister Ranch.

(c) The State Coastal Conservancy and the State Lands Commission shall use their full authority provided under law to implement, as expeditiously as possible, the public access policies and provisions of this division at the Hollister Ranch in the County of Santa Barbara.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982. Amended by Ch. 1551, Stats. 1984; Ch. 692, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30610.81 Coastal lands: public access program: Hollister Ranch

(a) (1) To ensure public access to Hollister Ranch in the County of Santa Barbara, the commission shall, in collaboration with the State Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the State Lands Commission, by April 1, 2021, develop a contemporary public access program for Hollister Ranch that will replace the existing coastal access program for Hollister Ranch that the commission adopted in 1982.

(2) The public access program for Hollister Ranch shall be informed by a public outreach and stakeholder engagement process and shall include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(A) A list of public access options to the state-owned tidelands at Hollister Ranch. Each option shall, at a minimum, include options for public access by land and shall include a description of the scope of access as well as an assessment of implementation costs and ongoing operation.

(B) A description of the physical environment at Hollister Ranch, including the shoreline, beach areas, coastal and marine habitat, existing land uses, and cultural and historical resources.

(C) A description of the current level of public access to the state-owned tidelands at Hollister Ranch.

(D) Educational and scientific research opportunities along the Hollister Ranch coast associated with the natural, cultural, and historical resources.

(E) Provisions to protect and preserve sensitive natural, cultural, and historical resources.

(3) In addition to the components required by paragraph (2), the public access program shall include all of the following:

(A) A summary of permits needed to implement the program.

(B) An implementation strategy.

(C) A program that implements specified portions of the program providing land access that includes a first phase of public access to the beach by land controlled by the Hollister Ranch Owners Association. On or before April 1, 2022, the State Coastal Conservancy shall fully implement the first phase of the public access to the beach. Implementation of this subparagraph is subject to appropriation of funding to provide for the specified land access.

(4) An action by a private person or entity to impede, delay, or otherwise obstruct the implementation of the public access pursuant to subparagraph (C) of paragraph (3) or other provisions of the public access program constitutes a violation of the public access provisions of this division.

(b) The commission, the State Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the State Lands Commission, or their designated representatives, shall have access to the common areas within Hollister Ranch in order to evaluate resources and determine appropriate public access opportunities and to fulfill implementation of the public access program identified in this section.

(c) If a public access program deadline required under subdivision (a) is not met for any reason, the commission, in collaboration with the State Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the State Lands Commission, shall submit a report to the Legislature within 30 days of missing the deadline. The report shall include an explanation for why the public access program has been delayed, a proposed completion date, and any other relevant information pertinent to the completion of the full implementation of the public access program for Hollister Ranch. A report to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with [Section 9795 of the Government Code](#).

(d) Notwithstanding provision 2 of category (2) of Item 3760-490-721 of the Budget Act of 1984, all in-lieu fees received pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section [30610.8](#) before, on, or after January 1, 2020, as well as other moneys received by the State Coastal Conservancy for providing public access at Hollister Ranch from other public or private sources, including nonprofit sources, shall be deposited in the Hollister Ranch Access Management Subaccount, which is hereby created in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund. Moneys in the subaccount, upon appropriation by the Legislature, shall be used for any action necessary to implement the public access program for Hollister Ranch.

(Added by Ch. 692, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30610.9 Film production projects in coastal zones; expedited permit procedures

(a) This section applies only if the governing body of a local government elects to designate the commission as the processing and permitting authority for purposes of this section.

(b) In order to expedite the processing of an application for a coastal development permit for a motion picture, television, or commercial production project in the coastal zone, the governing body of a local government with a certified local coastal program may elect to designate the commission as the appropriate authority to process and issue a coastal development permit for a temporary, nonrecurring location set, if the production activity, including preparation, construction, filming, and set removal at the site will not exceed 190 days, in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) The applicant shall submit a copy of the commission's coastal development permit application, or the local coastal development permit application, to the local government. The governing body of the local government may elect to designate the commission as the processing and permitting authority on a project-by-project basis. The governing body may designate the local coastal administrator or other designee as the decision-making authority to decide the projects that will be transmitted to the commission for processing and permitting.

(2) If the governing body of the local government elects to designate the commission as the processing and permitting authority for a project, all documents and changes submitted to the commission during the course of the application process shall also be submitted to the local government for informational purposes. The local government may transmit any recommendations it may have for the project to the commission.

(3) If the commission issues an administrative permit for a project, rather than a coastal development permit, the local coastal administrator, other designee, or governing body, as the case may be, may object to the commission regarding the issuance of that permit.

(4) The applicant shall obtain all local noncoastal use permits in connection with the project. The approval of the commission's coastal development permit shall be conditioned on the approval of the local noncoastal permits.

(5) The applicant shall transmit all complaints and comments from residents and business owners in connection with the filming activity to the commission for consideration prior to the approval of the application.

(6) The applicant shall obtain all other applicable permits required by state and federal jurisdictions in connection with the project.

(Added by Ch. 491, Stats. 1999.)

Section 30610.91 Bicycle lanes, transit lanes, and pedestrian walkways

(a) The Legislature finds and declares that designing and building complete streets that safely accommodate the needs of nonmotorized vehicles, pedestrians, and motorized vehicles in the coastal zone is preferred and encouraged.

(b) In order to expedite the provision of safe, nonvehicular travel within urbanized areas for the purpose of increasing recreational public access to the coast, limiting vehicle miles traveled, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, an application by a local government to convert an existing motorized vehicle travel lane into a dedicated bicycle lane, dedicated transit lane, or a pedestrian walkway, shall not require a traffic study for the processing of either a coastal development permit or an amendment to a local coastal program.

(c) If a proposal to convert an existing motorized vehicle travel lane into a dedicated bicycle lane, dedicated transit lane, or a pedestrian walkway within the developed portion of an existing road right-of-way requires an amendment to a local coastal program, the amendment shall be processed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 30514, if the executive director determines that, on balance, the project will provide additional public access benefits without significantly reducing existing public access opportunities.

(Added by Ch. 445, Stats. 2024.)

Section 30611 Emergencies; waiver of permit

When immediate action by a person or public agency performing a public service is required to protect life and public property from imminent danger, or to restore, repair, or maintain public works, utilities, or services destroyed, damaged, or interrupted by natural disaster, serious accident, or in other cases of emergency, the requirements of obtaining any permit under this division may be waived upon notification of the executive director of the commission of the type and location of the work within three days of the disaster or discovery of the danger, whichever occurs first. Nothing in this section authorizes permanent erection of structures valued at more than one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000), adjusted annually for inflation pursuant to the consumer price index.

(Amended by Ch. 118, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30612 Application for permit to demolish a structure

An application for a coastal development permit to demolish a structure shall not be denied unless the agency authorized to issue that permit, or the commission, on appeal, where appeal is authorized by this division, finds, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that retention of that structure is feasible.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30612.5 (Repealed by Ch. 472, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30613 **Public trust lands which are filled, developed, and committed to urban uses; coastal development permits; local coastal programs; categorical or urban exclusions**

(a) The provisions of subdivision (b) of Section [30519](#), subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#), and subdivision (b) of Section [30610.5](#), which apply to lands subject to the public trust shall not apply to any lands which may be subject to the public trust but which the commission, after consultation with the State Lands Commission, determines are (1) filled and developed and are (2) located within an area which is committed to urban uses.

(b) No later than 120 days after receiving a request from a local government, the commission shall determine the lands within the jurisdiction of that local government to which the provisions of subdivision (a) apply.

(c) The provisions of this section shall apply to lands which have been the subject of coastal development permits, local coastal program, categorical exclusions or urban exclusions, which have previously been approved, authorized, or certified by the commission.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats, 1982.)

Section 30614 **Responsibility of commission to ensure coastal development permit conditions are enforced and do not expire during term of permit; release of housing units for persons and families of low or moderate income**

(a) The commission shall take appropriate steps to ensure that coastal development permit conditions existing as of January 1, 2002, relating to affordable housing are enforced and do not expire during the term of the permit.

(b) Nothing in this section is intended to retroactively authorize the release of any housing unit for persons and families of low or moderate income from coastal development permit requirements except as provided in Section [30607.2](#).

(Added by Ch. 297, Stats. 2002.)

Section 30615 **Competitions on state property; prize compensation; gender equity**

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Event" means a competition event within the coastal zone.

(2) "Prize compensation" includes prize or purse money, other prizes, goods, or other compensation.

(b) The commission shall require as a condition of a coastal development permit for any event that awards prize compensation to competitors in gendered categories, for any participant level that receives prize compensation, that the prize compensation for each gendered category be identical at each participant level. The commission shall not approve a coastal development permit for an event that does not comply with this condition.

(Added by Ch. 276, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30616 California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group

(a) (1) The California Offshore Wind Energy Fisheries Working Group is hereby established. The working group shall be composed of representatives of the commission, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Lands Commission, the Ocean Protection Council, representatives of the commercial and recreational fishing industries, the offshore wind energy industry, representatives of relevant federal agencies, representatives of California Native American tribes with affected tribal fisheries, and other stakeholders as appropriate, as determined by the commission.

(2) The number of representatives in the working group representing the commercial and recreational fishing industries, the offshore wind energy industry, California Native American tribes with affected tribal fisheries, and any other stakeholders included in the working group, as specified in paragraph (1), shall be determined by the commission.

(b) On or before January 1, 2025, the commission, in coordination with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall convene the working group for the purpose of developing a statewide strategy for ensuring that offshore wind energy projects avoid and minimize impacts to ocean fisheries to the maximum extent possible, avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to fishing and fisheries in a manner that prioritizes fishery productivity, viability, and long-term resilience, and fairly and reasonably compensate persons engaged in the commercial and recreational fishing industries and tribal fisheries for economic impacts to ocean fisheries resulting from offshore wind energy projects.

(c) The statewide strategy developed pursuant to this section shall include best practices for addressing impacts to the commercial and recreational fishing industries, tribal fisheries, and environmental resources associated with offshore wind energy projects, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Protocols for communication among impacted parties.

(2) A methodology for a comprehensive project-level socioeconomic analysis of direct and indirect impacts to commercial and recreational fishing industries and tribal fisheries.

(3) Best practices for offshore surveys and data collection to assess impacts.

(4) Best practices for avoidance and minimization of impacts, including the use of evidence-informed adaptive management.

(5) A template for a fishing agreement that includes all relevant elements of the statewide strategy.

(6) A template for an agreement addressing tribal fishing interests that includes all relevant elements of the statewide strategy.

(7) (A) A framework for reasonable compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to the commercial and recreational fishing industries and tribal fisheries.

(B) The framework for reasonable compensatory mitigation shall include a payment structure to reasonably compensate commercial, tribal, and recreational fisheries and impacted commercial fish processors for unavoidable impacts associated with offshore wind energy projects, including for all of the following:

(i) Investments in fleet improvements to promote resiliency.

(ii) Reasonable compensation for the commercial fishing industry for personal property losses caused by offshore wind energy projects. The working group shall ensure that payments for purposes of this clause provide sufficient funds for the entire lifetime of the offshore wind energy project to reasonably compensate the commercial fishing industry for all lost personal property.

(iii) Reasonable compensation for lost commercial and tribal revenue due to reduced fishing grounds.

(iv) Funding for robust monitoring and evaluation of offshore wind turbines and their impact on fisheries and the surrounding environment.

(v) A proportionate amount from each lessee that is sufficient to cover state costs pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, the costs of the working group's activities and other administrative expenses.

(8) A recognition of locally negotiated agreements between the fishing industry and offshore wind energy leaseholders.

(d) (1) The working group shall complete the statewide strategy, including the framework for reasonable compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts, on or before January 1, 2026.

(2) The commission shall review for consistency with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)), modify as necessary, and adopt, the statewide strategy, including the framework for reasonable compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts, on or before May 1, 2026.

(3) (A) An applicant seeking approval or concurrence from a state agency for an offshore wind energy project shall comply with the terms, recommendations, and best practices established in the statewide strategy, as adopted by the commission.

(B) The commission shall ensure that the terms, recommendations, and best practices established in the statewide strategy, as adopted by the commission, are implemented.

(4) The commission shall review the statewide strategy as needed to determine if any changes are necessary. At a regularly noticed public hearing, the commission shall present the outcome of any review pursuant to this paragraph and may, by resolution, authorize the reconvening of the working group.

(e) Representatives of the commercial fishing industry, recreational fishing industry, and California Native American tribes who participate in the working group shall be compensated for expenses reasonably incurred for approved working group activities, including attendance at meetings, at a rate of fifty dollars (\$50) per hour, up to no more than five hundred dollars (\$500) per day. Representatives of the commercial fishing industry, recreational fishing industry, and California Native American tribes may also receive reimbursement for reasonable travel expenses. Funds used to compensate representatives of the commercial fishing industry, recreational fishing industry, and California Native American tribes pursuant to this subdivision shall be paid from the Offshore Wind Energy Resiliency Fund to the extent funds are available pursuant to subdivision (b) of [Section 7100](#).

(Added by Ch. 386, Stats. 2023.)

Section 30617 Offshore wind; workforce development plans; consultation

As part of the commission's federal consistency process, when reviewing a workforce development plan submitted to the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management consistent with conditions 5 and 6 of the commission's [Consistency Determination CD-0001-22](#) and [Consistency Determination CD-0004-22](#) and existing statutory requirements, the commission shall consult with representatives of labor organizations for the construction trades and maritime and longshore workforce in furtherance of providing for career and workforce training and retraining for individuals whose livelihoods are disrupted by the development of offshore wind energy projects.

(Added by Ch. 386, Stats. 2023.)

ARTICLE 2
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PROCEDURES

Section 30620 **Interim procedures; permanent procedures; filing fees and expense reimbursements; frivolous appeals**

(a) By January 30, 1977, the commission shall, consistent with this chapter, prepare interim procedures for the submission, review, and appeal of coastal development permit applications and of claims of exemption. These procedures shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Application and appeal forms.

(2) Reasonable provisions for notification to the commission and other interested persons of any action taken by a local government pursuant to this chapter, in sufficient detail to ensure that a preliminary review of that action for conformity with this chapter can be made.

(3) Interpretive guidelines designed to assist local governments, the commission, and persons subject to this chapter in determining how the policies of this division shall be applied in the coastal zone before the certification, and through the preparation and amendment, of local coastal programs. However, the guidelines shall not supersede, enlarge, or diminish the powers or authority of the commission or any other public agency.

(b) No later than May 1, 1977, the commission shall, after public hearing, adopt permanent procedures that include the components specified in subdivision (a) and shall transmit a copy of those procedures to each local government within the coastal zone and make them readily available to the public. After May 1, 1977, the commission may, from time to time, and, except in cases of emergency, after public hearing, modify or adopt additional procedures or guidelines that the commission determines to be necessary to better carry out the purposes of this division.

(c) (1) The commission may require a reasonable filing fee and the reimbursement of expenses for the processing by the commission of an application for a coastal development permit under this division and, except for local coastal program submittals, for any other filing, including, but not limited to, a request for revocation, categorical exclusion, or boundary adjustment, that is submitted for review by the commission.

(2) A coastal development permit fee that is collected by the commission under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the Coastal Act Services Fund established pursuant to Section [30620.1](#). This paragraph does not authorize an increase in fees or create any new authority on the part of the commission.

(3) The commission may waive the filing fee for an application for a coastal development permit required under this division. When considering a request for a waiver of a filing fee pursuant to this paragraph, the commission shall give extra

consideration to a private nonprofit organization that qualifies for tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code if the permit is required for a habitat restoration project or a project to provide public access to coastal resources.

(d) With respect to an appeal of an action taken by a local government pursuant to Section [30602](#) or [30603](#), the executive director shall, within five working days of receipt of an appeal from a person other than a member of the commission or a public agency, determine whether the appeal is patently frivolous. If the executive director determines that an appeal is patently frivolous, the appeal shall not be filed unless a filing fee in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300) is deposited with the commission within five working days of the receipt of the executive director's determination. If the commission subsequently finds that the appeal raises a substantial issue, the filing fee shall be refunded.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 802, Stats. 1991; Ch. 427, Stats. 1992; Ch. 753, Stats. 1993; Ch. 669, Stats. 1995; Ch. 782, Stats. 1997; Ch. 760, Stats. 2008; Ch. 472, Stats. 2013; Ch. 71, Stats. 2014; Ch. 185, Stats. 2019.)

Section 30620.1 Coastal Act Services Fund created; purpose; annual transfer

(a) The Coastal Act Services Fund is hereby created in the State Treasury, to be administered by the commission. The moneys in the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act, shall be expended by the commission in accordance with this chapter to enforce the California Coastal Act and to provide services to local government, permit applicants, public agencies, and the public participating in the implementation of this division.

(b) Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000), adjusted annually by the application of the California Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers as determined by the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to [Section 2212 of the Revenue and Taxation Code](#), shall be transferred annually from the Coastal Act Services Fund to the Coastal Access Account established pursuant to Section [30620.2](#).

(Added by Ch. 760, Stats. 2008.)

Section 30620.2 Coastal Access Account created; purpose

The Coastal Access Account is hereby created in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund. The money in the account shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act, to the State Coastal Conservancy for grants to public agencies and private nonprofit entities or organizations for the development, maintenance, and operation of new or existing facilities that provide public access to the shoreline of the sea, as defined in Section [30115](#). Any grant funds that are not expended for those purposes shall revert to the account.

(Added by Ch. 760, Stats. 2008.)

Section 30620.5 Local government exercising option under Section 30600 subdivision (b)

(a) A local government may exercise the option provided in subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#), if it does so for the entire area of its jurisdiction within the coastal zone and after it establishes procedures for the issuance of coastal development permits. Such procedures shall incorporate, where applicable, the interpretive guidelines issued by the commission pursuant to Section [30620](#).

(b) If a local government elects to exercise the option provided in subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#), the local government shall, by resolution adopted by the governing body of such local government, notify the commission and shall take appropriate steps to assure that the public is properly notified of such action. The provisions of subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#) shall take effect and shall be exercised by the local government on the 10th working day after the date on which the resolution required by this subdivision is adopted.

(c) Every local government exercising the option provided in subdivision (b) of Section [30600](#) or acting on coastal development permits prior to certification of its local coastal program pursuant to Sections [30520](#), [30600.5](#), and [30624](#), shall within five working days notify the commission and any person who, in writing, has requested such notification, in the manner prescribed by the commission pursuant to Section [30600.5](#) or [30620](#), of any coastal development permit it issues.

(d) Within five working days of receipt of the notice required by subdivision (c), the executive director of the commission shall post, at a conspicuous location in the commission's office, a description of the coastal development permit issued by the local government. Within 15 working days of receipt of such notice, the executive director shall, in the manner prescribed by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section [30620](#), provide notice of the locally issued coastal development permit to members of the commission.

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30620.6 Public notice and appeal procedures; time for adoption

The commission shall, not later than August 1, 1978, and after public hearing, adopt public notice and appeal procedures for the review of development projects appealable pursuant to Sections [30603](#) and [30715](#). The commission shall send copies of such procedures to every local government within the coastal zone and shall make them readily available to the public.

Section 30621 De novo hearings; notice; time; filing of appeals

(a) The commission shall provide for a de novo public hearing on applications for coastal development permits and any appeals brought pursuant to this division and shall give to any affected person a written public notice of the nature of the proceeding and of the time and place of the public hearing. Notice shall also be given to any person who requests, in writing, such notification. A hearing on any coastal development permit application or an appeal shall be set no later than 49 working days after the date on which the application or appeal is filed with the commission.

(b) An appeal that is properly submitted shall be considered to be filed when any of the following occurs

(1) The executive director determines that the appeal is not patently frivolous pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section [30620](#).

(2) The five-day period for the executive director to determine whether an appeal is patently frivolous pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section [30620](#) expires without that determination.

(3) The appellant pays the filing fee within the five-day period set forth in subdivision (d) of Section [30620](#).

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats, 1978; Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 669, Stats. 1995; Ch. 546, Stats. 2016.)

Section 30622 Action on permit application or appeal

The commission shall act upon the coastal development permit application or an appeal within 21 days after the conclusion of the hearing pursuant to Section [30621](#).

(Amended by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30623 Stay on appeal

If an appeal of any action on any development by any local government or port governing body is filed with the commission, the operation and effect of that action shall be stayed pending a decision on appeal.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

**Section 30624 Emergencies and certain nonemergency developments;
issuance of permits without compliance with procedures;
requests that permits not be effective**

(a) The commission shall provide, by regulation, for the issuance of coastal development permits by the executive director of the commission or, where the coastal development permit authority has been delegated to a local government pursuant to Section [30600.5](#), by an appropriate local official designated by resolution of the local government without compliance with the procedures specified in this chapter in cases of emergency, other than an emergency provided for under Section [30611](#), and for the following nonemergency developments: improvements to any existing structure; any single-family dwelling; any development of four dwelling units or less within any incorporated area that does not require demolition; any other developments not in excess of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) other than any division of land; and any development specifically authorized as a principal permitted use and proposed in an area for which the land use portion of the applicable local coastal program has been certified. Such permit for nonemergency development shall not be effective until after reasonable public notice and adequate time for the review of such issuance has been provided.

(b) If one-third of the appointed membership of the commission so request; at the first meeting following the issuance of such permit by the executive director, such issuance shall not be effective, and, instead, the application shall be processed in accordance with the commission's procedures for permits and pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

(c) Any permit issued by a local official pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be scheduled on the agenda of the governing body of the local agency at its first scheduled meeting after that permit has been issued. If, at that meeting, one-third of the members of that governing body so request, the permit issued by the local official shall not go into effect and the application for a coastal development permit shall be processed by the local government pursuant to Section [30600.5](#).

(d) No monetary limitations shall be required for emergencies covered by the provisions of this section.

(Amended by Ch. 1075, Stats. 1978; Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981; Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

**Section 30624.7 Waivers from permit requirements for de minimis
developments; procedure for issuance**

The commission may, after a public hearing, by regulation, adopt procedures for the issuance by the executive director of waivers from coastal development permit requirements for any development that is de minimis. A proposed development is de minimis if the executive director determines that it involves no potential for any adverse

effect, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources and that it will be consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

A waiver shall not take effect until it has been reported to the commission at the regularly scheduled meeting following its issuance by the executive director. If one-third of the appointed membership of the commission so request, at this meeting, such issuance shall not be effective and, instead, an application for a coastal development permit shall be required and processed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

(Added by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30624.9 Minor development; waivers of permit application hearings; notice

(a) For purposes of this section, "minor development" means a development which a local government determines satisfies all of the following requirements:

(1) Is consistent with the certified local coastal program, as defined in Section [30108.6](#).

(2) Requires no discretionary approvals other than a coastal development permit.

(3) Has no adverse effect either individually or cumulatively on coastal resources or public access to the shoreline or along the coast.

(b) After certification of its local coastal program, a local government may waive the requirement for a public hearing on a coastal development permit application for a minor development only if both of the following occur:

(1) Notice that a public hearing shall be held upon request by any person is provided to all persons who would otherwise be required to be notified of a public hearing as well as any other persons known to be interested in receiving notice.

(2) No request for public hearing is received by the local government within 15 working days from the date of sending the notice pursuant to paragraph (1).

(c) The notice provided pursuant to subdivision (b) shall include a statement that failure by a person to request a public hearing may result in the loss of that person's ability to appeal to the commission any action taken by a local government on a coastal development permit application.

(Added by Ch. 669, Stats. 1995.)

Section 30625 Persons who may appeal; powers of reviewing body; effect of decisions

(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in subdivision (a) of Section [30602](#), any appealable action on a coastal development permit or claim of exemption for any development by a local government or port governing body may be appealed to the commission by an applicant, any aggrieved person, or any two members of the commission. The commission may approve, modify, or deny such proposed development, and if no action is taken within the time limit specified in Sections [30621](#) and [30622](#), the decision of the local government or port governing body, as the case may be, shall become final, unless the time limit in Section [30621](#) or [30622](#) is waived by the applicant.

(b) The commission shall hear an appeal unless it determines the following:

(1) With respect to appeals pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section [30602](#), that no substantial issue exists as to conformity with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(2) With respect to appeals to the commission after certification of a local coastal program, that no substantial issue exists with respect to the grounds on which an appeal has been filed pursuant to Section [30603](#).

(3) With respect to appeals to the commission after certification of a port master plan, that no substantial issue exists as to conformity with the certified port master plan.

(c) Decisions of the commission, where applicable, shall guide local governments or port governing bodies in their future actions under this division.

(Amended by Ch. 43, Stats. 1982; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30626 Reconsideration

The commission may, by regulation, provide for the reconsideration of the terms and conditions of any coastal development permit granted by the commission solely for the purpose of correcting any information contained in those terms and conditions.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30627 Procedures for reconsideration

(a) The commission shall, by regulation, provide procedures which the commission shall use in deciding whether to grant reconsideration of any of the following:

(1) Any decision to deny an application for a coastal development permit.

(2) Any term or condition of a coastal development permit which has been granted.

(b) The procedures required by subdivision (a) shall include at least the following provisions:

(1) Only an applicant for a coastal development permit shall be eligible to request reconsideration.

(2) The request for reconsideration shall be made within 30 days of the decision on the application for a coastal development permit.

(3) The basis of the request for reconsideration shall be either that there is relevant new evidence which, in the exercise of reasonable diligence, could not have been presented at the hearing on the matter or that an error of fact or law has occurred which has the potential of altering the initial decision.

(4) The commission shall have the discretion to grant or deny requests for reconsideration.

(c) A decision to deny a request for reconsideration is not subject to appeal.

(d) This section shall not alter any right otherwise provided by this division to appeal an action; provided, that a request for reconsideration shall be made only once for any one development application, and shall, for purposes of any time limits specified in Sections [30621](#) and [30622](#), be considered a new application.

(Added by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979. Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

CHAPTER 8 PORTS

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ARTICLE 1
FINDINGS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 30700 **Ports included**

For purposes of this division, notwithstanding any other provisions of this division except as specifically stated in this chapter, this chapter shall govern those portions of the Ports of Hueneme, Long Beach, Los Angeles, and San Diego Unified Port District located within the coastal zone, but excluding any wetland, estuary, or existing recreation area indicated in Part IV of the coastal plan.

(Amended by Ch. 714, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30700.5 **Application of other provisions**

The definitions of Chapter 2 (commencing with Section [30100](#)) and the provisions of Chapter 9 (commencing with Section [30800](#)) and Section [30900](#) shall apply to this chapter.

Section 30701 **Legislative finding and declaration**

The Legislature finds and declares that:

(a) The ports of the State of California, including the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District, constitute one of the state's primary economic and coastal resources and are an essential element of the national maritime industry.

(b) The location of the commercial port districts within the State of California, including the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District, are well established, and for many years such areas have been devoted to transportation and commercial, industrial, and manufacturing uses consistent with federal, state and local regulations. Coastal planning requires no change in the number or location of the established commercial port districts. Existing ports, including the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District, shall be encouraged to modernize and construct necessary facilities within their boundaries in order to minimize or eliminate the necessity for future dredging and filling to create new ports in new areas of the state.

(c) Existing ports, including the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District, should be encouraged to pursue development that contributes to the construction and deployment of offshore wind energy generation facilities, consistent with the policies of this division.

(Amended by Ch. 515, Stats. 1977; Ch. 292, Stats. 2023.)

ARTICLE 2 POLICIES

Section 30702 Public policy

For purposes of this division, the policies of the state with respect to providing for port-related developments consistent with coastal protection in the port areas to which this chapter applies, which require no commission permit after certification of a port master plan and which, except as provided in Section [30715](#), are not appealable to the commission after certification of a master plan, are set forth in this chapter.

Section 30703 Protection of commercial fishing harbor space

The California commercial fishing industry is important to the State of California; therefore, ports shall not eliminate or reduce existing commercial fishing harbor space, unless the demand for commercial fishing facilities no longer exists or adequate alternative space has been provided. Proposed recreational boating facilities within port areas shall, to the extent it is feasible to do so, be designed and located in such a fashion as not to interfere with the needs of the commercial fishing industry.

Section 30705 Diking, filling or dredging water areas

(a) Water areas may be diked, filled, or dredged when consistent with a certified port master plan only for the following:

(1) Such construction, deepening, widening, lengthening, or maintenance of ship channel approaches, ship channels, turning basins, berthing areas, and facilities as are required for the safety and the accommodation of commerce and vessels to be served by port facilities.

(2) New or expanded facilities or waterfront land for port-related facilities.

(3) New or expanded commercial fishing facilities or recreational boating facilities.

(4) Incidental public service purposes, including, but not limited to, burying cables or pipes or inspection of piers and maintenance of existing intake and outfall lines.

(5) Mineral extraction, including sand for restoring beaches, except in biologically sensitive areas.

(6) Restoration purposes or creation of new habitat areas.

(7) Nature study, mariculture, or similar resource-dependent activities.

(8) Minor fill for improving shoreline appearance or public access to the water.

(b) The design and location of new or expanded facilities shall, to the extent practicable, take advantage of existing water depths, water circulation, siltation patterns, and means available to reduce controllable sedimentation so as to diminish the need for future dredging.

(c) Dredging shall be planned, scheduled, and carried out to minimize disruption to fish and bird breeding and migrations, marine habitats, and water circulation. Bottom sediments or sediment elutriate shall be analyzed for toxicants prior to dredging or mining, and where water quality standards are met, dredge spoils may be deposited in open coastal water sites designated to minimize potential adverse impacts on marine organisms, or in confined coastal waters designated as fill sites by the master plan where such spoil can be isolated and contained, or in fill basins on upland sites. Dredge material shall not be transported from coastal waters into estuarine or fresh water areas for disposal.

(d) For water areas to be diked, filled, or dredged, the commission shall balance and consider socioeconomic and environmental factors.

(Amended by Ch. 310, Stats. 1984.)

Section 30706 Fill

In addition to the other provisions of this chapter, the policies contained in this section shall govern filling seaward of the mean high tide line within the jurisdiction of ports:

(a) The water area to be filled shall be the minimum necessary to achieve the purpose of the fill.

(b) The nature, location, and extent of any fill, including the disposal of dredge spoils within an area designated for fill, shall minimize harmful effects to coastal resources, such as water quality, fish or wildlife resources, recreational resources, or sand transport systems, and shall minimize reductions of the volume, surface area, or circulation of water.

(c) The fill is constructed in accordance with sound safety standards which will afford reasonable protection to persons and property against the hazards of unstable geologic or soil conditions or of flood or storm waters.

(d) The fill is consistent with navigational safety.

Section 30707 Tanker terminals

New or expanded tanker terminals shall be designed and constructed to do all of the following:

(a) Minimize the total volume of oil spilled.

(b) Minimize the risk of collision from movement of other vessels.

(c) Have ready access to the most effective feasible oil spill containment and recovery equipment.

(d) Have onshore deballasting facilities to receive any fouled ballast water from tankers where operationally or legally required.

Section 30708 Location, design and construction of port-related developments

All port-related developments shall be located, designed, and constructed so as to:

(a) Minimize substantial adverse environmental impacts.

(b) Minimize potential traffic conflicts between vessels.

(c) Give highest priority to the use of existing land space within harbors for port purposes, including, but not limited to, navigational facilities, shipping industries, and necessary support and access facilities.

(d) Provide for other beneficial uses consistent with the public trust, including, but not limited to, recreation and wildlife habitat uses, to the extent feasible.

(e) Encourage rail service to port areas and multicompany use of facilities.

**ARTICLE 3
IMPLEMENTATION; MASTER PLAN**

Section 30710 Jurisdictional map; map delineating wetland, estuary or recreational areas

Within 90 days after January 1, 1977, the commission shall, after public hearing, adopt, certify, and file with each port governing body a map delineating the present legal geographical boundaries of each port's jurisdiction within the coastal zone. The Commission shall, within such 90-day period, adopt and certify after public hearing, a map delineating boundaries of any wetland, estuary, or existing recreation area indicated in Part IV of the coastal plan within the geographical boundaries of each port.

Section 30711 Preparation, adoption and contents of plan

(a) A port master plan that carries out the provisions of this chapter shall be prepared and adopted by each port governing body, and for informational purposes, each city, county, or city and county which has a port within its jurisdiction shall incorporate the certified port master plan in its local coastal program. A port master plan shall include all of the following:

(1) The proposed uses of land and water areas, where known.

(2) The projected design and location of port land areas, water areas, berthing, and navigation ways and systems intended to serve commercial traffic within the area of jurisdiction of the port governing body.

(3) An estimate of the effect of development on habitat areas and the marine environment, a review of existing water quality, habitat areas, and quantitative and qualitative biological inventories, and proposals to minimize and mitigate any substantial adverse impact.

(4) Proposed projects listed as appealable in Section [30715](#) in sufficient detail to be able to determine their consistency with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)) of this division.

(5) Provisions for adequate public hearings and public participation in port planning and development decisions.

(b) A port master plan shall contain information in sufficient detail to allow the commission to determine its adequacy and conformity with the applicable policies of this division.

Section 30712 Solicitation of information; notice of completion; public hearing

In the consideration and approval of a proposed port master plan, the public, interested organizations, and governmental agencies shall be encouraged to submit relevant testimony, statements, and evidence which shall be considered by the port governing body. The port governing body shall publish notice of the completion of the draft master plan and submit a copy thereof to the commission and shall, upon request, provide copies to other interested persons, organizations, and governmental agencies. Thereafter, the port governing body shall hold a public hearing on the draft master plan not earlier than 30 days and not later than 90 days following the date the notice of completion was published.

Section 30713 (Repealed by Ch. 294, Stats. 2006.)

Section 30714 Adoption of plan; certification

After public notice, hearing, and consideration of comments and testimony received pursuant to Sections [30712](#) and [30713](#), the port governing body shall adopt its master plan and submit it to the commission for certification in accordance with this chapter. Within 90 days after the submittal, the commission, after public hearing, shall certify the plan or portion of a plan and reject any portion of a plan which is not certified. The commission may not modify the plan as submitted as the condition of certification. If the commission rejects any portion of a plan, it shall base that rejection upon written findings of fact and conclusion of law. If the commission fails to take action within the 90-day period, the port master plan shall be deemed certified. The commission shall certify the plan, or portion of a plan, if the commission finds both of the following:

(a) The master plan, or certified portions thereof, conforms with and carries out the policies of this chapter.

(b) Where a master plan, or certified portions thereof, provide for any of the developments listed as appealable in Section [30715](#), the development or developments are in conformity with all the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section [30200](#)).

(Amended by Ch. 651, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30715 Permit authority; appealable approvals

(a) Until such time as a port master plan or any portion thereof has been certified, the commission shall permit developments within ports as provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)). After a port master plan or any portion thereof has been certified, the permit authority of the commission provided in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall no longer be exercised by the commission over any new development contained in the certified plan or any portion thereof and shall at that time be delegated to the appropriate port governing body, except that approvals of any of the following categories of development by the port governing body may be appealed to the commission:

(1) Developments for the storage, transmission, and processing of liquefied natural gas and crude oil in such quantities as would have a significant impact upon the oil and gas supply of the state or nation or both the state and nation. A development which has a significant impact shall be defined in the master plans.

(2) Waste water treatment facilities, except for those facilities which process waste water discharged incidental to normal port activities or by vessels.

(3) Roads or highways which are not principally for internal circulation within the port boundaries.

(4) Office and residential buildings not principally devoted to the administration of activities within the port; hotels, motels, and shopping facilities not principally devoted to the sale of commercial goods utilized for water-oriented purposes; commercial fishing facilities; and recreational small craft marina related facilities.

(5) Oil refineries.

(6) Petrochemical production plants.

(b) If maintenance dredging is part of, or is associated with, any category of development specified in paragraphs (1) to (6), inclusive, of subdivision (a), the commission shall not consider that maintenance dredging in its review and approval of those categories.

(Amended by Ch. 584, Stats. 1983.)

Section 30715.5 Finding of conformity

No developments within the area covered by the certified port master plan shall be approved by the port governing body unless it finds that the proposed development conforms with such certified plan.

Section 30716 Amendment; commission certification; minor or de minimis amendment procedure; guidelines

(a) A certified port master plan may be amended by the port governing body, but an amendment shall not take effect until it has been certified by the commission. Any proposed amendment shall be submitted to, and processed by, the commission in the same manner as provided for submission and certification of a port master plan.

(b) The commission shall, by regulation, establish a procedure whereby proposed amendments to a certified port master plan may be reviewed and designated by the executive director of the commission as being minor in nature and need not comply with [Section 30714](#). These amendments shall take effect on the 10th working day after the executive director designates the amendments as minor.

(c) (1) The executive director may determine that a proposed certified port master plan amendment is de minimis if the executive director determines that the proposed amendment would have no impact, either individually or cumulatively, on coastal resources, is consistent with the policies of Chapter 3 (commencing with [Section 30200](#)), and meets the following criteria:

(A) The port governing body, at least 21 days prior to the date of submitting the proposed amendment to the executive director, has provided public notice, and provided a copy to the commission, which specifies the dates and places where comments will be accepted on the proposed amendment, contains a brief description of the proposed amendment, and states the address where copies of the proposed amendment are available for public review, by one of the following procedures:

(i) Publication, not fewer times than required by [Section 6061 of the Government Code](#), in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the proposed amendment. If more than one area will be affected, the notice shall be published in the newspaper of largest circulation from among the newspapers of general circulation in those areas.

(ii) Posting of the notice by the port governing body both onsite and offsite in the area affected by the proposed amendment.

(iii) Direct mailing to the owners and occupants of contiguous property shown on the latest equalized assessment roll.

(B) The proposed amendment does not propose any change in land use or water uses or any change in the allowable use of property.

(2) At the time that the port governing body submits the proposed amendment to the executive director, the port governing body shall also submit to the executive director any public comments that were received during the comment period provided pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1).

(3) (A) The executive director shall make a determination as to whether the proposed amendment is de minimis within 10 working days from the date of submittal by the local government. If the proposed amendment is determined to be de minimis, the proposed amendment shall be noticed in the agenda of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the commission, in accordance with [Section 11125 of the Government Code](#), and any public comments forwarded by the port governing body shall be made available to the members of the commission.

(B) If three members of the commission object to the executive director's determination that the proposed amendment is de minimis, the proposed amendment shall be set for public hearing in accordance with the procedures specified in subdivision (a) or, at the request of the port governing body, returned to the port governing body. If set for public hearing under subdivision (a), the time requirements set by this section and [Section 30714](#) shall commence from the date on which the objection to the de minimis designation was made.

(C) If three or more members of the commission do not object to the de minimis determination, the de minimis amendment shall become a part of the certified port master plan 10 days from the date of the commission meeting.

(4) The commission may, after a noticed public hearing, adopt guidelines to implement this subdivision, which shall be exempt from review by the Office of Administrative Law and from [Chapter 3.5 \(commencing with Section 11340\) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code](#). The commission shall file any guidelines adopted pursuant to this paragraph with the Office of Administrative Law.

(Amended by Ch. 525, Stats. 1994; Ch. 538, Stats. 2006; Ch. 208, Stats. 2009.)

Section 30717 Approval of appealable development; notice; effective date; appeals

The governing bodies of ports shall inform and advise the commission in the planning and design of appealable developments authorized under this chapter, and prior to commencement of any appealable development, the governing body of a port shall notify the commission and other interested persons, organizations, and governmental agencies of the approval of a proposed appealable development and indicate how it is consistent with the appropriate port master plan and this division. An approval of the appealable development by the port governing body pursuant to a certified port master plan shall become effective after the 10th working day after notification of its approval, unless an appeal is filed with the commission within that time. Appeals shall be filed and processed by the commission in the same manner as appeals from local government

actions as set forth in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) of this division. No appealable development shall take place until the approval becomes effective.

Section 30718 Nonappealable developments; environmental impact documents

For developments approved by the commission in a certified master plan, but not appealable under the provisions of this chapter, the port governing body shall forward all environmental impact reports and negative declarations prepared pursuant to the [Environmental Quality Act of 1970 \(commencing with Section 21000\)](#) or any environmental impact statements prepared pursuant to the [National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 \(42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.\)](#) to the commission in a timely manner for comment.

Section 30719 Projects deemed certified

Any development project or activity authorized or approved pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed certified by the commission as being in conformity with the coastal zone management program insofar as any such certification is requested by any federal agency pursuant to the [Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 \(16 U.S.C. 1451, et seq.\)](#), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and memoranda of understanding between the state and federal governments relative thereto.

Section 30720 Judicial prohibition or stay; reinstatement of permit authority

If the application of any port master plan or part thereof is prohibited or stayed by any court, the permit authority provided for in Chapter 7 (commencing with Section [30600](#)) shall be reinstated in the commission. The reinstated permit authority shall apply as to any development which would be affected by the prohibition or stay.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30721 Port Hueneme; reimbursement of costs

(a) The Legislature recognizes that Port Hueneme is unique in its relationship to the coast in that it is the only deep water port operated by a harbor district, and is without access to city or county funds. Therefore, the governing body of Port Hueneme may claim reimbursement of costs it incurs in the preparation and certification of a port master plan as required by this chapter.

(b) Prior to submitting any claim for reimbursement, the governing body of the port shall submit its proposed claims to the executive director of the commission for review and approval and shall provide adequate documentation to enable the executive director to make the following determinations:

- (1) That the work done was directly attributable to the operation of this chapter.

(2) That the work done is reasonably related to, and appears to be necessary for, the preparation of a certifiable port master plan for the geographic area within the port's jurisdiction as identified by the commission pursuant to Section [30710](#).

(3) That the governing body of a port is not reimbursed for the costs of the work from any other source.

The executive director of the commission shall, within 60 days after receipt of the necessary information, approve the proposed claim, if the director can make the determinations set forth in this subdivision.

(c) After a proposed claim has been reviewed and approved by the executive director of the commission pursuant to subdivision (b), the governing body of the port may submit its claim for reimbursement to the Controller who shall then process and pay any such claim as provided for in [Section 2231 of the Revenue and Taxation Code](#).

(Added by Ch. 741, Stats. 1978.)

**CHAPTER 9
JUDICIAL REVIEW, ENFORCEMENT, AND PENALTIES**

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**ARTICLE 2
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**ARTICLE 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Section 30800 Additional remedies

The provisions of this chapter shall be in addition to any other remedies available at law.

Section 30801 Petition for writ of mandate; aggrieved person

(a) Any aggrieved person shall have a right to judicial review of any decision or action of the commission by filing a petition for a writ of mandate in accordance with Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, within 60 days after the decision or action has become final.

(b) For purposes of this section and subdivision (c) of Section [30513](#) and Section [30625](#), an "aggrieved person" means any person who, in person or through a representative, appeared at a public hearing of the commission, local government, or port governing body in connection with the decision or action appealed, or who, by other appropriate means before a hearing, informed the commission, local government, or port governing body of the nature of their concerns or who for good cause was unable to do either. "Aggrieved person" includes the applicant for a permit and, in the case of an approval of a local coastal program, the local government involved.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991; Ch. 97, Stats. 2022.)

Section 30802 Decisions or actions not appealable to commission; petition for writ of mandate; intervention

Any person, including an applicant for a permit or the commission, aggrieved by the decision or action of a local government that is implementing a certified local coastal program or certified port master plan, or is exercising its powers pursuant to Section [30600.5](#), which decision or action may not be appealed to the commission, shall have a right to judicial review of such decision or action by filing a petition for writ of mandate in accordance with the provisions of [Section 1094.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure](#) within 60 days after the decision or action has become final. The commission may intervene in any such proceeding upon a showing that the matter involves a question of the conformity of a proposed development with a certified local coastal program or certified port master plan or the validity of a local government action taken to implement a local coastal program or certified port master plan. Any local government or port governing body may request that the commission intervene. Notice of this action against a local government or port governing body shall be filed with the commission within five working days of the filing of this action. When an action is brought challenging the validity of a local coastal program or certified port master plan, a preliminary showing shall be made prior to proceeding on the merits as to why such action should not have been brought pursuant to the provisions of Section [30801](#).

(Amended by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30803 Declaratory and equitable relief; cease and desist orders; restoration orders; bonds; stay

(a) Any person may maintain an action for declaratory and equitable relief to restrain any violation of this division, of a cease and desist order issued pursuant to Section [30809](#) or [30810](#), or of a restoration order issued pursuant to Section [30811](#). On a prima facie showing of a violation of this division, preliminary equitable relief shall be issued to restrain any further violation of this division. No bond shall be required for an action under this section.

(b) A court may stay the operation of the cease and desist order after it provides notice to the commission and holds a hearing. Any such stay may be imposed or continued only if it is not against the public interest.

(Amended by Ch. 761, Stats. 1991; Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30804 Enforcement of duties; bond

Any person may maintain an action to enforce the duties specifically imposed upon the commission, any governmental agency, any special district, or any local government by this division. No bond shall be required for an action under this section.

(Amended by Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30805 Recovery of civil penalties

Any person may maintain an action for the recovery of civil penalties provided for in Section [30820](#) or [30821.6](#).

(Amended by Ch. 761, Stats. 1991; Ch. 1088, Stats. 1992; Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30805.5 Recovery of penalties; limitation of action

Any action pursuant to Sections [30805](#) or [30822](#) to recover civil fines or penalties under this chapter shall be commenced not later than three years from the date on which the cause of action for the recovery is known or should have been known.

(Added by Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30806 Change of venue; legal assistance

(a) Any civil action under this division by, or against, a city, county, or city and county, the commission, special district, or any other public agency shall, upon motion of either party, be transferred to a county or city and county not a party to the action or to a county or city and county other than that in which the city, special district, or any other public agency which is a party to the action is located.

(b) In any action brought by or against any local government, other than an action brought by or against the commission, that involves the enforcement or implementation of its certified local coastal program, the Department of Justice shall, upon the request of the local government, provide such legal assistance as its resources permit.

(Amended by Ch. 919, Stats. 1979; Ch. 285, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30807 (Repealed by Ch. 1173, Stats. 1981.)

Section 30808 **Actions to ensure compliance with terms and conditions of urban exclusion**

In addition to any other remedy provided by this article, any person, including the commission, may bring an action to restrain a violation of the terms and conditions of an urban exclusion imposed pursuant to Section [30610.5](#). In any such action the court may grant whatever relief it deems appropriate to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the urban exclusion.

Section 30809 **Ex parte cease and desist orders; notice; terms and conditions; time of effectiveness; duration**

(a) If the executive director determines that any person or governmental agency has undertaken, or is threatening to undertake, any activity that (1) may require a permit from the commission without securing a permit or (2) may be inconsistent with any permit previously issued by the commission, the executive director may issue an order directing that person or governmental agency to cease and desist. The order may be also issued to enforce any requirements of a certified local coastal program or port master plan, or any requirements of this division which are subject to the jurisdiction of the certified program or plan, under any of the following circumstances:

(1) The local government or port governing body requests the commission to assist with, or assume primary responsibility for, issuing a cease and desist order.

(2) The commission requests and the local government or port governing body declines to act, or does not take action in a timely manner, regarding an alleged violation which could cause significant damage to coastal resources.

(3) The local government or port governing body is a party to the violation.

(b) The cease and desist order shall be issued only if the person or agency has failed to respond in a satisfactory manner to an oral notice given in person or by telephone, followed by a written confirmation, or a written notice given by certified mail or hand delivered to the landowner or the person performing the activity. The notice shall include the following:

(1) A description of the activity which meets the criteria of subdivision (a).

(2) A statement that the described activity constitutes development which is in violation of this division because it is not authorized by a valid coastal development permit.

(3) A statement that the described activity be immediately stopped or the alleged violator may receive a cease and desist order, the violation of which may subject the violator to additional fines.

(4) The name, address, and phone number of the commission or local government office which is to be contacted for further information.

(c) The cease and desist order may be subject to such terms and conditions as the executive director may determine are necessary to avoid irreparable injury to any area within the jurisdiction of the commission pending action by the commission under Section [30810](#).

(d) The cease and desist order shall be effective upon its issuance, and copies shall be served forthwith by certified mail upon the person or governmental agency subject to the order.

(e) A cease and desist order issued pursuant to this section shall become null and void 90 days after issuance.

(Added by Ch. 761, Stats. 1991.)

Section 30810 Cease and desist orders issued after public hearing; terms and conditions; notice of hearing; finality and effectiveness of order

(a) If the commission, after public hearing, determines that any person or governmental agency has undertaken, or is threatening to undertake, any activity that (1) requires a permit from the commission without securing the permit or (2) is inconsistent with any permit previously issued by the commission, the commission may issue an order directing that person or governmental agency to cease and desist. The order may also be issued to enforce any requirements of a certified local coastal program or port master plan, or any requirements of this division which are subject to the jurisdiction of the certified program or plan, under any of the following circumstances:

(1) The local government or port governing body requests the commission to assist with, or assume primary responsibility for, issuing a cease and desist order.

(2) The commission requests and the local government or port governing body declines to act, or does not take action in a timely manner, regarding an alleged violation which could cause significant damage to coastal resources.

(3) The local government or port governing body is a party to the violation.

(b) The cease and desist order may be subject to such terms and conditions as the commission may determine are necessary to ensure compliance with this division, including immediate removal of any development or material or the setting of a schedule within which steps shall be taken to obtain a permit pursuant to this division.

(c) Notice of the public hearing on a proposed cease and desist order shall be given to all affected persons and agencies and the order shall be final and effective upon the issuance of the order. Copies shall be served immediately by certified mail upon the person or governmental agency subject to the order and upon other affected persons and agencies who appeared at the hearing or requested a copy. The notice shall include a description of the civil remedy to a cease and desist order, authorized by Section [30803](#).

(Added by Ch. 761, Stats. 1991. Amended by Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30811 Restoration order; violations

In addition to any other authority to order restoration, the commission, a local government that is implementing a certified local coastal program, or a port governing body that is implementing a certified port master plan may, after a public hearing, order restoration of a site if it finds that the development has occurred without a coastal development permit from the commission, local government, or port governing body, the development is inconsistent with this division, and the development is causing continuing resource damage.

(Formerly Section 30826, added by Ch. 955, Stats. 1992. Renumbered and amended by Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30812 Notification of intention to record property violation; contents; public hearings; review

(a) Whenever the executive director of the commission has determined, based on substantial evidence, that real property has been developed in violation of this division, the executive director may cause a notification of intention to record a notice of violation to be mailed by regular and certified mail to the owner of the real property at issue, describing the real property, identifying the nature of the violation, naming the owners thereof, and stating that if the owner objects to the filing of a notice of violation, an opportunity will be given to the owner to present evidence on the issue of whether a violation has occurred.

(b) The notification specified in subdivision (a) shall indicate that the owner is required to respond in writing, within 20 days of the postmarked mailing of the notification, to object to recording the notice of violation. The notification shall also state that if, within 20 days of mailing of the notification, the owner of the real property at issue fails to inform the executive director of the owner's objection to recording the notice of violation, the executive director shall record the notice of violation in the office of each county recorder where all or part of the property is located.

(c) If the owner submits a timely objection to the proposed filing of the notice of violation, a public hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled commission meeting for which adequate public notice can be provided, at which the owner may present evidence to the commission why the notice of violation should not be recorded. The hearing may be postponed for cause for not more than 90 days after the date of the receipt of the objection to recordation of the notice of violation.

(d) If, after the commission has completed its hearing and the owner has been given the opportunity to present evidence, the commission finds that, based on substantial evidence, a violation has occurred, the executive director shall record the notice of violation in the office of each county recorder where all or part of the real property is located. If the commission finds that no violation has occurred, the executive director shall mail a clearance letter to the owner of the real property.

(e) (1) The notice of violation shall be contained in a separate document prominently entitled "Notice of Violation of the Coastal Act." The notice of violation shall contain all of the following information:

(A) The names of the owners of record.

(B) A legal description of the real property affected by the notice.

(C) A statement specifically identifying the nature of the alleged violation.

(D) A commission file number relating to the notice.

(2) The notice of violation, when properly recorded and indexed, shall be considered notice of the violation to all successors in interest in that property. This notice is for informational purposes only and is not a defect, lien, or encumbrance on the property.

(f) Within 30 days after the final resolution of a violation that is the subject of a recorded notice of violation, the executive director shall mail a clearance letter to the owner of the real property and shall record a notice of rescission in the office of each county recorder in which the notice of violation was filed, indicating that the notice of violation is no longer valid. The notice of rescission shall have the same effect of a withdrawal or expungement under [Section 405.61 of the Code of Civil Procedure](#).

(g) The executive director may not invoke the procedures of this section until all existing administrative methods for resolving the violation have been utilized and the property owner has been made aware of the potential for the recordation of a notice of violation. For purposes of this subdivision, existing methods for resolving the violation do not include the commencement of an administrative or judicial proceeding.

(h) This section only applies in circumstances where the commission is the legally responsible coastal development permitting authority or where a local government or port governing body requests the commission to assist in the resolution

of an unresolved violation if the local government is the legally responsible coastal development permitting authority.

(i) The commission, 24 months from the date of recordation, shall review each notice of violation that has been recorded to determine why the violation has not been resolved and whether the notice of violation should be expunged.

(j) The commission, at any time and for cause, on its own initiative or at the request of the property owner, may cause a notice of rescission to be recorded invalidating the notice of violation recorded pursuant to this section. The notice of rescission shall have the same effect of a withdrawal or expungement under [Section 405.61 of the Code of Civil Procedure](#).

(Added by Ch. 235, Stats. 2002. Amended by Ch. 62, Stats. 2003.)

ARTICLE 2 PENALTIES

Section 30820 Civil liability; violations; amount; factors

(a) Any person who violates any provision of this division may be civilly liable in accordance with this subdivision as follows:

(1) Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with this article on any person who performs or undertakes development that is in violation of this division or that is inconsistent with any coastal development permit previously issued by the commission, a local government that is implementing a certified local coastal program, or a port governing body that is implementing a certified port master plan, in an amount that shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) and shall not be less than five hundred dollars (\$500).

(2) Civil liability may be imposed for any violation of this division other than that specified in paragraph (1) in an amount that shall not exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000).

(b) Any person who performs or undertakes development that is in violation of this division or that is inconsistent with any coastal development permit previously issued by the commission, a local government that is implementing a certified local coastal program, or a port governing body that is implementing a certified port master plan, when the person intentionally and knowingly performs or undertakes the development in violation of this division or inconsistent with any previously issued coastal development permit, may, in addition to any other penalties, be civilly liable in accordance with this subdivision. Civil liability may be imposed by the superior court in accordance with this article for a violation as specified in this subdivision in an amount which shall not be less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000), not more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), per day for each day in which the violation persists.

(c) In determining the amount of civil liability, the following factors shall be considered:

(1) The nature, circumstance, extent, and gravity of the violation.

(2) Whether the violation is susceptible to restoration or other remedial measures.

(3) The sensitivity of the resource affected by the violation.

(4) The cost to the state of bringing the action.

(5) With respect to the violator, any voluntary restoration or remedial measures undertaken, any prior history of violations, the degree of culpability, economic profits, if any, resulting from, or expected to result as a consequence of, the violation, and such other matters as justice may require.

(Added by Ch. 955, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30821 Administrative civil penalties for access violations

(a) In addition to any other penalties imposed pursuant to this division, a person, including a landowner, who is in violation of the public access provisions of this division is subject to an administrative civil penalty that may be imposed by the commission in an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the amount of the maximum penalty authorized pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section [30820](#) for each violation. The administrative civil penalty may be assessed for each day the violation persists, but for no more than five years.

(b) All penalties imposed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be imposed by majority vote of the commissioners present in a duly noticed public hearing in compliance with the requirements of Section [30810](#), [30811](#), or [30812](#).

(c) In determining the amount of civil liability, the commission shall take into account the factors set forth in subdivision (c) of Section [30820](#).

(d) A person shall not be subject to both monetary civil liability imposed under this section and monetary civil liability imposed by the superior court for the same act or failure to act. If a person who is assessed a penalty under this section fails to pay the administrative penalty, otherwise fails to comply with a restoration or cease and desist order issued by the commission in connection with the penalty action, or challenges any of these actions by the commission in a court of law, the commission may maintain an action or otherwise engage in judicial proceedings to enforce those requirements and the court may grant any relief as provided under this chapter.

(e) If a person fails to pay a penalty imposed by the commission pursuant to this section, the commission may record a lien on the property in the amount of the penalty

assessed by the commission. This lien shall have the force, effect, and priority of a judgment lien.

(f) In enacting this section, it is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that unintentional, minor violations of this division that only cause de minimis harm will not lead to the imposition of administrative penalties if the violator has acted expeditiously to correct the violation.

(g) "Person," for the purpose of this section, does not include a local government, a special district, or an agency thereof, when acting in a legislative or adjudicative capacity.

(h) Administrative penalties pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be assessed if the property owner corrects the violation consistent with this division within 30 days of receiving written notification from the commission regarding the violation, and if the alleged violator can correct the violation without undertaking additional development that requires a permit under this division. This 30-day timeframe for corrective action does not apply to previous violations of permit conditions incurred by a property owner.

(i) The commission shall prepare and submit, pursuant to [Section 9795 of the Government Code](#), a report to the Legislature by January 15, 2019, that includes all of the following:

(1) The number of new violations reported annually to the commission from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2018, inclusive.

(2) The number of violations resolved from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2018, inclusive.

(3) The number of administrative penalties issued pursuant to this section, the dollar amount of the penalties, and a description of the violations from January 1, 2015, to December 31, 2018, inclusive.

(j) Revenues derived pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Violation Remediation Account of the Coastal Conservancy Fund and expended pursuant to Section [30823](#).

(Added by Ch. 35, Stats. 2014)

Section 30821.3 Administrative civil penalties for non-access violations

(a) In addition to any other penalties imposed pursuant to this division, a person, including a landowner, who is in violation of any provision of this division other than public access, including, but not limited to, damage to archaeological and wetlands resources and damage to environmentally sensitive habitat areas, is subject to an administrative civil penalty that may be imposed by the commission in an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the amount of the maximum penalty authorized pursuant to

subdivision (b) of Section [30820](#) for each violation. The administrative civil penalty may be assessed for each day the violation persists, but for no more than five years.

(b) All penalties imposed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be imposed by majority vote of the commissioners present in a duly noticed public hearing in compliance with the requirements of Section [30810](#), [30811](#), or [30812](#).

(c) In determining the amount of civil liability, the commission shall take into account the factors set forth in subdivision (c) of Section [30820](#).

(d) A person shall not be subject to both monetary civil liability imposed under this section and monetary civil liability imposed by the superior court for the same act or failure to act. If a person who is assessed a penalty under this section fails to pay the administrative penalty, otherwise fails to comply with a restoration or cease and desist order issued by the commission in connection with the penalty action, or challenges any of these actions by the commission in a court of law, the commission may maintain an action or otherwise engage in judicial proceedings to enforce those requirements and the court may grant any relief as provided under this chapter.

(e) If a person fails to pay a penalty imposed by the commission pursuant to this section, the commission may record a lien on the property in the amount of the penalty assessed by the commission. This lien shall have the force, effect, and priority of a judgment lien.

(f) In enacting this section, it is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that unintentional, minor violations of this division that only cause de minimis harm will not lead to the imposition of administrative penalties if the violator has acted expeditiously to correct the violation.

(g) "Person," for the purpose of this section, does not include a state agency, or a local government, a special district, or an agency thereof, when acting in a legislative or adjudicative capacity.

(h) Administrative penalties pursuant to subdivision (a) shall not be assessed if the property owner corrects the violation consistent with this division within 60 days of receiving written notification from the commission regarding the violation, and if the alleged violator can correct the violation without undertaking additional development that requires a permit under this division. This 60-day timeframe for corrective action does not apply to previous violations of permit conditions incurred by a property owner.

(i) The commission staff shall prepare and present a written report to the full commission at its first public hearing after January 1, 2024, and annually thereafter at the first hearing of the year, that includes all of the following related to the implementation of this section:

(1) The number and type of new violations investigated and identified that were reported the previous year.

(2) The number of violations resolved from the previous year, including a description of those resolved without the imposition of an administrative civil penalty.

(3) The number of administrative penalties issued pursuant to this section, the dollar amount of the penalties, and a description of the violations that resulted in the imposition of a penalty the previous year.

(4) The number of days from initial notice to resolution of violations for those resolved in the previous year.

(j) The commission staff shall provide the written report described in subdivision (i) annually to the relevant policy and budget committees in both houses of the Legislature.

(k) Revenues derived pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Violation Remediation Account of the Coastal Conservancy Fund and expended pursuant to Section [30823](#).

(l) The commission shall provide an opportunity for a local government with a certified local coastal program to enforce violations of its building codes in compliance with that local coastal program.

(Added by Ch. 643, Stats. 2021).

Section 30821.6 Violation of orders; civil penalties; local government agency actions

(a) Any person or governmental agency who intentionally or negligently violates any cease and desist order issued, reissued, or amended by the executive director or the commission, or any restoration order issued, reissued, or amended by the commission, a local government that is implementing a certified local coastal program, or a port governing body that is implementing a certified port master plan may be liable civilly in a sum of not to exceed six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for each day in which that violation persists. Any actual penalty imposed shall be reasonably proportionate to the damage suffered as a consequence of the violation.

(b) Sections [30809](#) and [30810](#) and subdivision (a) of this section do not authorize the issuance or enforcement of any cease and desist order as to any activity undertaken by a local governmental agency pursuant to a declaration of emergency by the board of supervisors of the county in which the activity is being or may be undertaken.

(Added by Ch. 761, Stats. 1991. Amended by Ch. 1199, Stats 1993.)

Section 30822 Exemplary damages

Where a person has intentionally and knowingly violated any provision of this division or any order issued pursuant to this division, the commission may maintain an action, in addition to Section [30803](#) or [30805](#), for exemplary damages and may recover an award,

the size of which is left to the discretion of the court. In exercising its discretion, the court shall consider the amount of liability necessary to deter further violations.

(Amended by Ch. 1199, Stats. 1993.)

Section 30823 Disposal of funds

Any funds derived under this article shall be expended for carrying out the provisions of this division, when appropriated by the Legislature. Funds so derived shall be deposited in the Violation Remediation Account of the Coastal Conservancy Fund until appropriated.

(Amended by Ch. 1618, Stats. 1982.)

Section 30824 Ex parte communications, disclosure; additional fines; fees and costs

In addition to any other applicable penalty, any commission member who knowingly violates Section [30324](#) is subject to a civil fine, not to exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500). Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the court may award attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing party.

(Added by Ch. 1114, Stats. 1992. Amended by Ch. 798, Stats. 1993.)

CHAPTER 10 SEVERABILITY

Section

[30900](#) Severability

Section 30900 Severability

If any provision of this division or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the division which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this division are severable.