

AB 1757 Expert Advisory Committee

Feb 10, 2023

Today's Agenda

1. Welcome
 2. Committee Member Introductions & Roll Call
 3. California's Nature Based Solutions Agenda
 4. Overview of Assembly Bill (AB) 1757
 5. Committee Rules, Processes, Governance
- LUNCH BREAK**
6. Scoping Plan Overview, Modeling, and AB 1757 Target Setting
 7. Next Steps, Closing and Meeting Adjourned

Item 2: Member Introductions & Roll Call

1. Christy Brigham, National Park Service
2. John Callaway, University of San Francisco
3. Chelsea Carey, Point Blue
4. Nathanael Gonzales-Siemens, Rodale Institute
5. Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising
6. William Horwath, UC Davis
7. Lara Kueppers, UC Berkeley
8. Devii Rao, University of California Cooperative Extension
9. Mark Schwartz, UC-Davis
10. Kerri Steenwerth, USDA Agricultural Research Service
11. Melissa Ward, Windward Sciences and San Diego State University
12. Laurie Wayburn, Pacific Forest Trust
13. Marion Wittmann, University of California Santa Barbara Natural Reserve System

**Item 3: California's
Nature Based Solutions
Agenda**

Key Background



KEY TERMS

“Nature-based solutions” describe actions that work with and enhance nature to help address societal challenges. This term is an umbrella concept being used across the world to describe a range of approaches that protect, sustainably manage, and restore nature to deliver multiple outcomes, including addressing climate change, improving public health, increasing equity, and protecting biodiversity.

“Natural and working lands” is the term California uses to describe the nature-based climate solutions sector. These lands cover approximately 95 percent of the state’s 105 million acres.

“Climate smart” is the term we use to describe land management that delivers climate benefits through nature-based solutions.

CALIFORNIA'S NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS



Forest



Shrubland/
Chaparral



Grasslands



Wetlands



Croplands



Sparsely Vegetated Lands

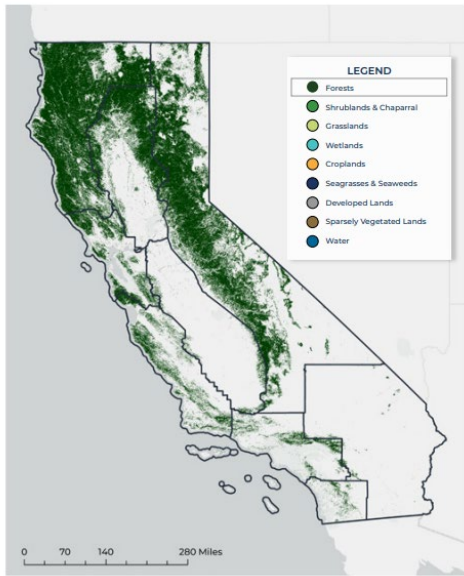


Seagrasses & Seaweeds

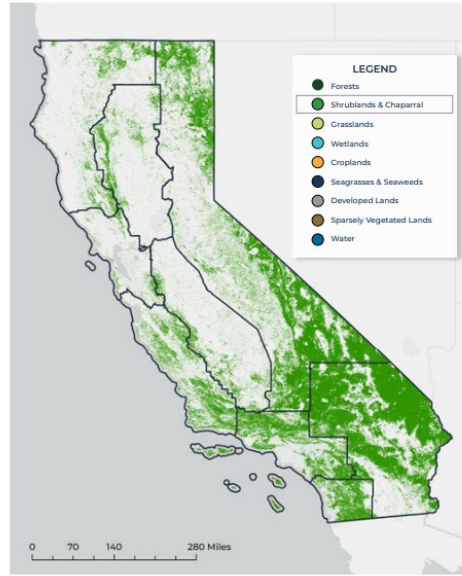


Developed Lands

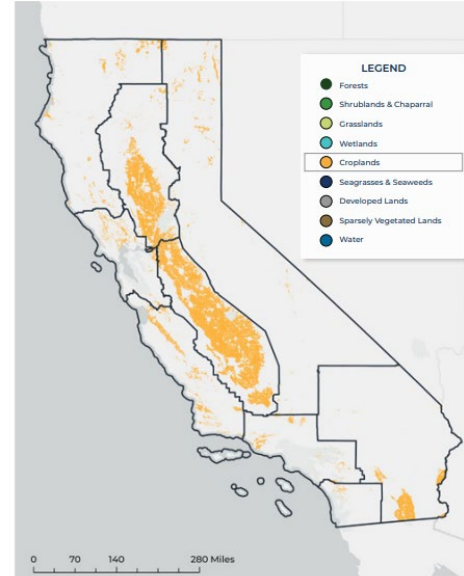
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
FORESTS



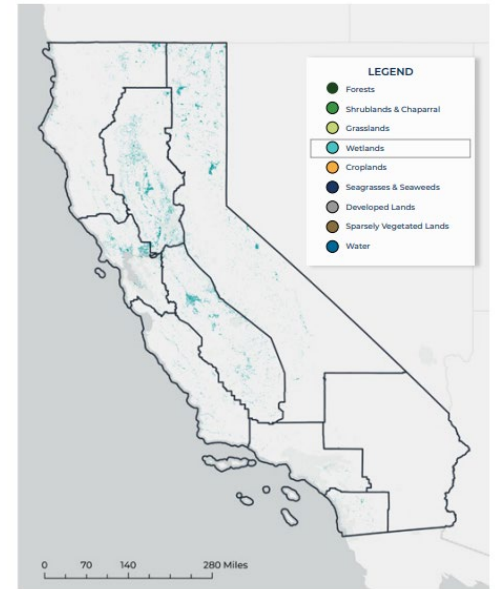
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SHRUBLANDS AND CHAPARRAL



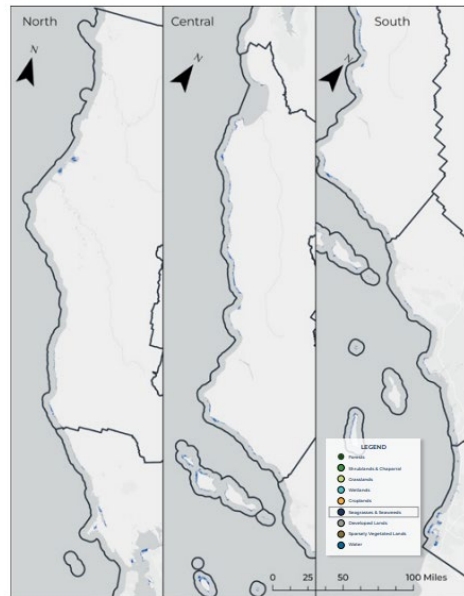
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
CROPLANDS



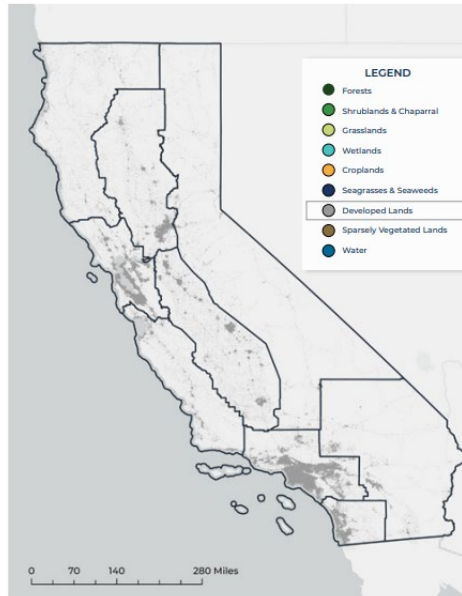
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
WETLANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SEAGRASSES AND SEAWEEDS



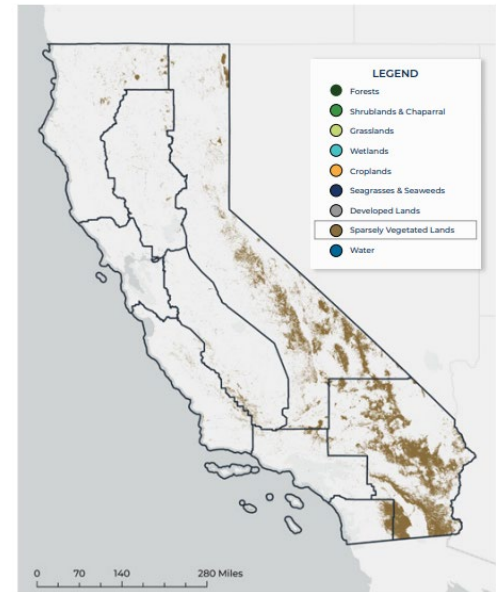
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
DEVELOPED LANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
GRASSLANDS



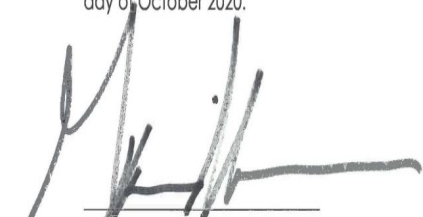
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SPARSELY VEGETATED LANDS



State Actions

EXECUTIVE ORDER ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS – EO N-82-20

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set
my hand and caused the Great Seal of the
State of California to be offered this 7th
day of October 2020.



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

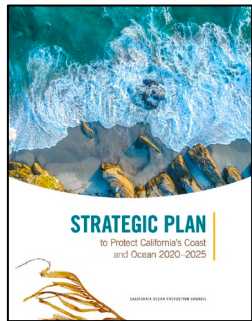
ATTEST:

- Established a state goal of conserving at least 30 percent of California’s land and coastal waters by 2030; launched a California Biodiversity Collaborative; and called on state agencies to increase biodiversity protection efforts.
- Elevated the role of natural and working lands as a key pillar of California’s climate change strategy, committing to:
 1. Undertake immediate actions to increase carbon removal and build climate resilience in this sector.
 2. Develop California’s first statewide strategy to drive climate action on all of California’s natural and working lands.
 3. Articulate a target for the lands sector in the 2022 Scoping Plan to achieve our carbon neutrality target.

Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy



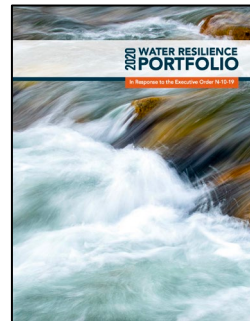
Plans Including Nature-Based Climate Solutions



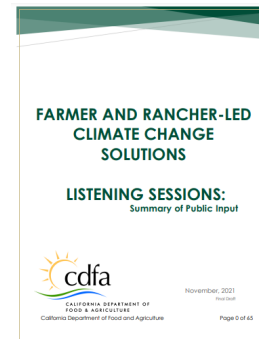
OPC Strategic Plan



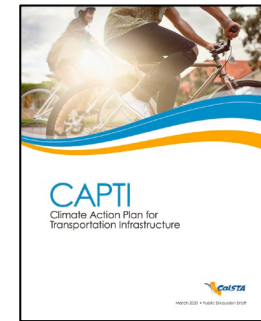
Wildfire/Forest Resilience Action Plan



Water Resilience Portfolio



Farmer/Rancher Led Climate Change Solutions

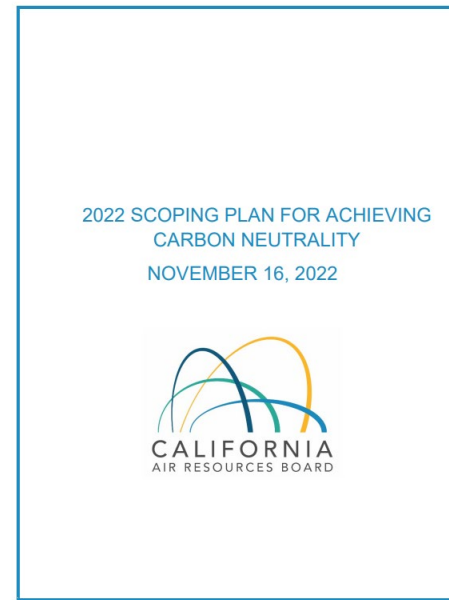


Climate Action for Transportation Infrastructure

And many more...



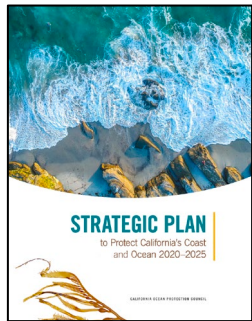
**CLIMATE
ADAPTATION**



**CLIMATE
MITIGATION**



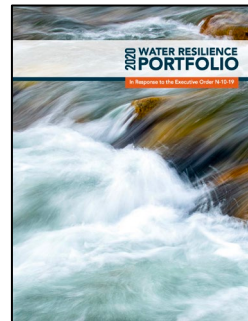
Plans Including Nature-Based Climate Solutions



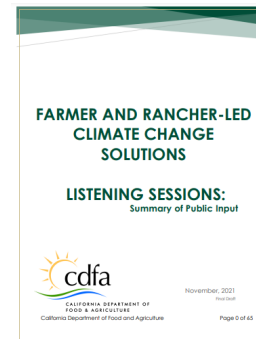
OPC Strategic Plan



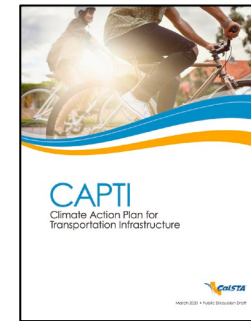
**Wildfire/Forest Resilience
Action Plan**



Water Resilience Portfolio



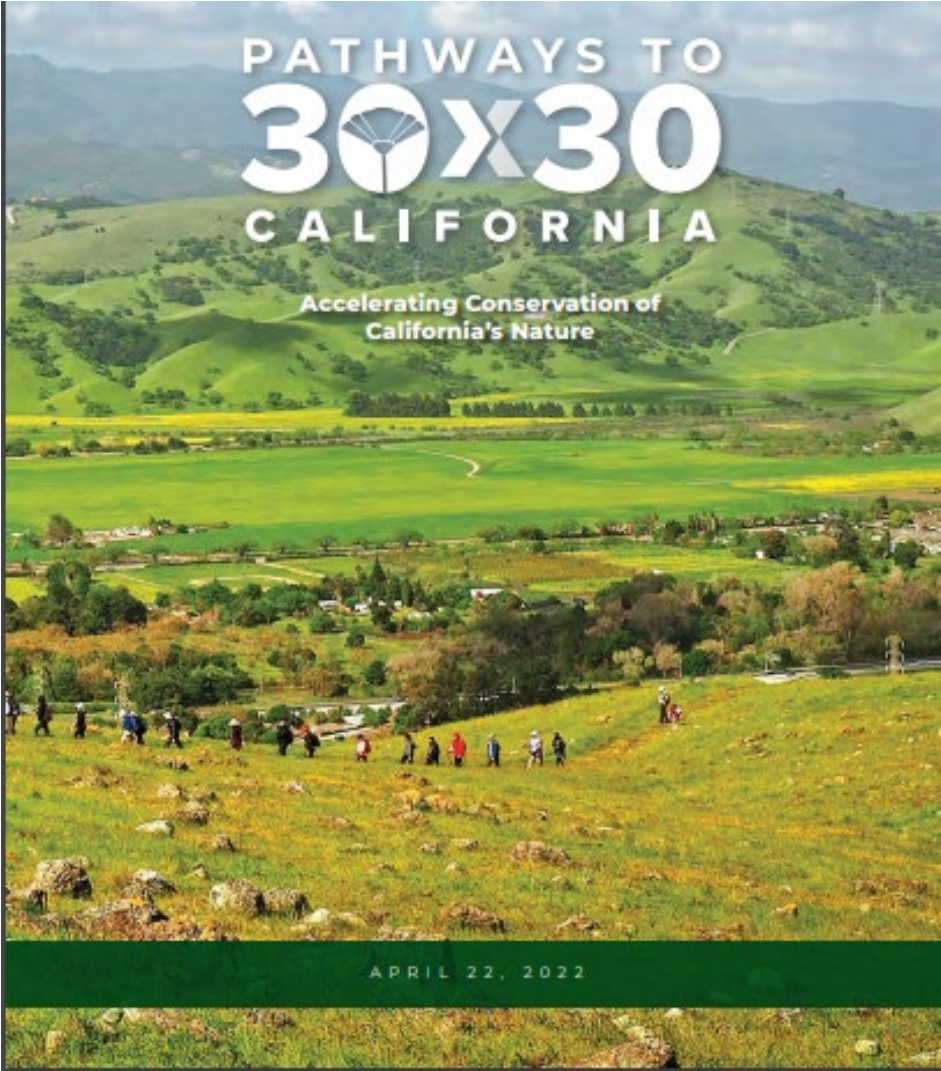
**Farmer/Rancher Led Climate
Change Solutions**



**Climate Action for Transportation
Infrastructure**

**And many
more...**

Pathways to 30x30



30x30 CA

NWL Carbon Stock Target

2022 SCOPING PLAN FOR ACHIEVING
CARBON NEUTRALITY
NOVEMBER 16, 2022

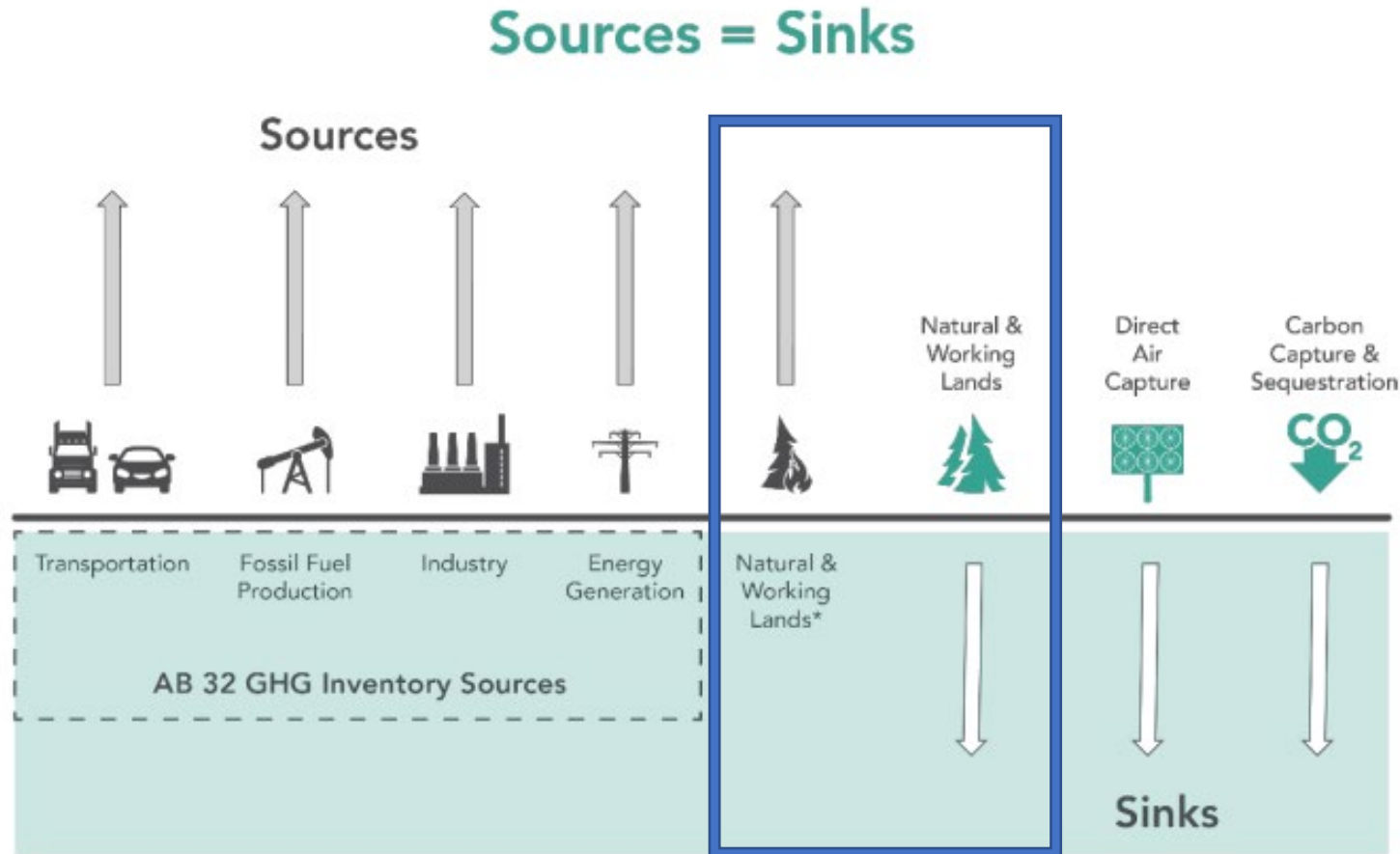


Table 4-1: Scoping Plan modeled target for NWL, based on increasing action on NWL

Total Carbon Stock % Change from 2014	
2045	-4

Sources and Sinks

Figure 1-5: Carbon neutrality: Balancing the net flux of GHG emissions from all sources and sinks



*Natural and working land emissions come from wildfires, disease, land and ag management practices, and others

Assembly Bill 1757

- Determine an ambitious range of targets for the NWL sector.
- Integrate these targets into the Scoping Plan and other relevant state policies.
- Improve and standardize GHG emissions accounting for the NWL sector, including co-benefits.
- Review and update the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy.
- Provide recommendations on modeling and analysis to make decisions on best available science.
- Establish an Expert Advisory Committee.
- Develop standard methods for tracking GHG and resilience benefits from NWL climate action.
- Report on progress toward meeting NWL targets.

Record Funding

Forest Conservation Program | California Desert Conservation Program | Riparian Habitat Conservation Program | NWL Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program | Urban and Community Forestry | Multi-benefit Land Repurposing Program | Healthy Soils Program | Forest Health Program | State Conservancies Support for Nature-Based Solutions | Urban Agriculture | Climate Smart Land Management Program | Forest Improvement Program for Small Landowners | Rangeland, Grazing Land & Grassland Protection Program | Local and Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Corps | Urban Greening Program | Tribal Nature-Based Solutions Program | Compost Permitting Pilot Program | Forest Legacy Program | Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration | Regional Forest Capacity | Streamflow Enhancement Program | Aquatic Habitat and Drought Resilience and Expediting Large Scale Habitat | Green Schoolyards | Healthy and Resilient Forests | Oak Woodlands Conservation Program | Nature-Based Solutions Wetlands Restoration Program

Committee Discussion and Questions

Public Comment on Item 3

Item 4: IMPLEMENTING AB 1757

What are the main elements of AB 1757?

- Determine an ambitious range of targets for the NWL sector
- Develop standard methods for tracking GHG and resilience benefits from NWL climate action
- Report on progress toward meeting NWL targets
- Establish an Expert Advisory Committee

Item 4: IMPLEMENTING AB 1757 continued

The Expert Advisory Committee tasked with:

- Informing the development of an ambitious range of targets for the NWL sector.
- Informing and reviewing modeling and analysis for natural and working lands.
- Advising state agencies on implementation strategies and standardized accounting.
- Providing recommendations on addressing barriers to efficient implementation.

The Expert Advisory Committee's recommendations will inform the review and update of California's Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy (due January 1, 2025).

Committee Discussion and Questions (2)

Public Comment on Item 4

Item 5: Rules, Processes, Governance

Expert Advisory Committee

- 4-8 meetings/year (over 2-year duration)
- No more than full day for each meeting
- Stipend and travel reimbursement

Committee Governance

- Chair or Co-Chairs
- Committee Members
- State Agency Representatives
 - Often in listening mode, except when asked to give a presentation, facilitate a discussion, answer a question or share unique state perspective
- Guest speakers
- Members of the Public

Committee Governance continued

- Role of chair(s):
 - Interface with state agency representatives (CARB, CNRA, CDFA)
 - Liaison between Committee and State
 - Help set agendas for meetings based on previous meeting conversations and individual feedback from Committee members
 - Outline next steps, additional info needed for Committee to provide guidance, so state representatives can do work and follow-up between meetings
 - Facilitate meetings and keep the charge of the Committee front and center
 - As necessary, facilitate actions or votes taken by the Committee

Governance – Committee Discussion & Next Steps

- Chair nomination & selection (by next meeting)
- Draft charter for committee (by next meeting)

- **Any questions on role of chair?**
 - **Role of the committee?**
- **Other questions on Bagley-Keene or Form 700?**

Public Comment on Item 5

LUNCH BREAK

MEETING WILL RESUME AT 1:30

Reminder on Today's Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Committee Member Introductions & Roll Call
3. California's Nature Based Solutions Agenda
4. Overview of Assembly Bill (AB) 1757
5. Committee Rules, Processes, Governance
- 6. *Scoping Plan Overview, Modeling, and AB 1757 Target Setting***
- 7. *Next Steps, Closing and Meeting Adjourned***

**Item 6: Scoping Plan Overview,
Modeling, and
AB 1757 Target Setting**

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting

Phase One

Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy

What do we need to do?

PRIORITY NATURE-BASED CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

- A. Scale up soil health practices for carbon storage, greenhouse gas emission reduction from soils, climate resiliency, soil water retention, improved water and air quality, and more, while supporting socially disadvantaged farmers. Practices include, but aren't limited to cover cropping; retention of crop residue; production and application of organic amendments, such as compost and biochar; planting of hedgerows; grass filter strips; low or no-till; integrated pest management that utilizes natural pest-predator dynamics and supports biodiversity above and below ground; and others.
- B. Protect at-risk agricultural lands from development through conservation easements, Williamson Act contracts, and agricultural zoning.
- C. Increase water and nutrient use efficiency, including through installation of climate smart irrigation systems.
- D. Increase managed groundwater recharge on working croplands that capture rain and storm runoff and redirect water during periods of extended high flows to allow water to sink into aquifers in a manner that does not exacerbate water quality issues and ensures diversions are protective of native fish and wildlife.
- E. Repurpose cropland retired or fallowed due to lack of water supply for environmental, cultural and societal benefits, such as sequestering carbon, capturing floodwater, recharging aquifers, reducing dust, and providing habitat.
- F. Enhance circular economies for organic waste utilization which prioritize ecosystem and biological health, such as use as animal feed, compost creation and utilization, manure markets, whole orchard recycling and mulching.
- G. Facilitate planting, harvesting, and sustaining culturally and historically significant food crops by California Native American tribes.
- H. Reactivate flood plains on working croplands, including rice fields to improve flood management and aquifer recharge and enhance biodiversity and habitat.
- I. Scale up the use of integrated pest management; advance safer, more sustainable pest management practices and provide tools to support the accelerated transition away from harmful pesticides.

PRIORITY APPROACHES

The NWL Strategy

**calls for 5-20
priority actions
to deliver on our
climate change
goals**

on each of
California's natural
and working
landscapes.

Phase Two

Scoping Plan Carbon Stock Target

***How much do we need
to do?***

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting

The 2022 Scoping Plan set one NWL target

California's Carbon Stock Target

For all carbon stocks identified in the Scoping Plan, our target is to have no more than 4% carbon stock losses below 2014 levels from California's NWL sector by 2045.

Phase Three

Implementation Pathways

*How do we get from
here to there?*

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting

Implementation Pathways

1. Goals/targets
2. Policies
3. Regulations
4. Incentives
5. Taxes
6. Procurement
7. New Funding Sources
8. Operations
9. Market development
10. Loans
11. Grant programs
12. Partnerships
13. Legislation
14. Executive orders
15. Internal systems

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting continued

For all carbon stocks identified in the Scoping Plan, our target is to have no more than 4% carbon stock losses below 2014 levels from California's NWL sector by 2045.



CALIFORNIA'S NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS



Forest



Shrubland/
Chaparral



Grasslands



Wetlands



Croplands



Sparsely Vegetated Lands



Seagrasses & Seaweeds



Developed Lands

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting

The Scoping Plan identified potential implementation targets for achieving the carbon stock target. These included:



10x increase in forest, shrubland, and grassland fuel reduction and restoration



7.5x increase in climate smart agriculture; 20% organic agriculture by 2045



2x increase in current urban forest investment



Defensible space established on 46,000 properties per year



15% of delta acres restored to wetlands by 2045



50% reduction in desert land conversion

Item 6: AB 1757 Target Setting continued

AB 1757 calls for 2030, 2038, and 2045 targets.

Lots of ways to consider implementation targets!

For example...

Acreage

Percentage

Resources

Other?

Target Setting – Committee Discussion

Questions for Initial Feedback and Discussion:

- How do we set implementation targets that best support state goals to achieve carbon neutrality and foster climate adaptation and resilience?
- What additional modeling and analysis is needed to inform the 2027 Scoping Plan?
- What are some creative ways to fill in the data gaps that are limiting our modeling needs?
- What are your top priorities for the committee's work on implementation targets?

Therefore... Today's Focus:

- What information and analysis is critical to inform the development of targets?
- Which subject areas do you want a deeper dive on before you begin to provide recommendations? What information can we provide – and how?

Public Comment on Item 6 and General Public Comment

Item 7: Next Steps and Closing

Thank you!