**Launching California’s Climate Bond – What’s Next?**

**Panelist Resources/Links**

**Monday, September 29, 2025**

**Proposition 4: California’s $10 Billion Climate Bond** <https://resources.ca.gov/Bonds-Oversight/Proposition-4-Climate-Bond>

In November 2024, California voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 4, a $10 billion Climate Bond designed to safeguard our communities, natural resources and our future in the face of climate change. From wildfire prevention and safe drinking water to protecting biodiversity and increasing access to nature, these funds will support projects that make a real, lasting difference in the lives of people and communities across California. At least 40 percent of all bond funding is legally required to benefit disadvantaged, severely disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.

**Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency** <https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Who-We-Are/Secretary-for-Natural-Resources>

**CNRA -** <https://resources.ca.gov/>

**California Latino Heritage Month -** <https://resources.ca.gov/latinoheritagemonth>

**Lauren Sanchez, Senior Advisor for Climate in the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom and newly appointed Chair of the California Air Resources Board** Lauren Sanchez, of Oakland, has been appointed Chair of the California Air Resources Board. Sanchez has been Senior Advisor for Climate in the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom since 2021. She was Senior Advisor for the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate in the Biden-Harris Administration in 2021. Sanchez was Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy and Intergovernmental Relations at the California Environmental Protection Agency from 2019 to 2021. She was International Policy Director at the California Air Resources Board from 2018 to 2019. Sanchez was a Climate Negotiator at the United States Department of State from 2015 to 2017. Sanchez earned a Master of Science degree in Environmental Management from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies and Biology from Middlebury College.

**Sarah Swig, Deputy Cabinet Secretary, Office of Governor Gavin Newsom** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sarahswig/>

**Joaquin Esquivel, Chair, California State Water Board** <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/board_members/> California State Water Resources Control Board - <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/>

**Samuel Assefa, Director, Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation** Bio: <https://lci.ca.gov/about/staff/director-bio.html>

Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation <https://lci.ca.gov/>

**Christine Birdsong, Undersecretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture:** <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/exec/leadership/christine_birdsong.html> <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/>

**Noaki Schwartz, Deputy Secretary, Equity and Environmental Justice, California Natural** **Resources Agency** <https://resources.ca.gov/About-Us/Who-We-Are/Deputy-Secretary-for-Equity-and-Environmental-Justice>

**Julie Alvis, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration, California Natural Resources** **Agency** Julie Alvis serves as deputy assistant secretary for administration within the California Natural Resources Agency. She previously served as deputy executive officer for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy from 2019 to 2024, and as deputy assistant secretary for bonds and grants at the California Natural Resources Agency from 2008 to 2019. With over 25 years in state service, primarily within the area of natural resources, Julie has extensive experience in state budget and administration, policy, and program development. She is a graduate of the University of California at Davis.

**Clesi Bennett, Nature-Based Solutions Program Manager, California Natural Resources Agency** Clesi Bennett is the Nature-Based Solutions Program Manager within the Climate Program at the California Natural Resources Agency, where she manages the Agency’s nature-based solutions portfolio, including California’s Climate Smart Lands Strategy and Nature-Based Solutions Climate Targets. In this role, Clesi plays a key role in advancing interagency climate initiatives and developing policy grounded in both scientific research and community priorities.

**Prop 4 Bill:** <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB867>

**Proposition 4 - CNRA Bond Accountability** <https://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/Propositions/P4>

**Funding Opportunities/California State Grant Portal:** [**https://www.grants.ca.gov/**](https://www.grants.ca.gov/)

**Office of Administrative Law:** <https://oal.ca.gov/>

**About the Emergency Rulemaking Process:** <https://oal.ca.gov/emergency_regulations/Emergency_Regulation_Process/>

**Proposition 4: California’s $10 Billion Climate Bond Website:** <https://resources.ca.gov/Bonds-Oversight/Proposition-4-Climate-Bond>

**Prop. 4 funding authorized for fiscal year 2025/25 can be found in the State’s Budget Act:** <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB105>

**Share with strategy GO press release for the Nature-Based Solutions Climate Targets**:

With Historic Targets, California Will Use Millions of Acres of Land to Fight the Climate Crisis | Governor of California - <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2024/04/22/with-historic-targets-california-will-use-millions-of-acres-of-land-to-fight-the-climate-crisis/#:~:text=Nature-based%20solutions%20support%20the,the%20effects%20of%20climate%20change>.

**Defining (severely) disadvantaged community and vulnerable population?** Prop. 4 defined vulnerable populations, disadvantaged communities, and severely disadvantaged communities. You can find these definitions, and other Prop. 4 definitions, here: <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?sectionNum=90100.&lawCode=PRC>

**Disadvantaged community (DAC):** A community with a median household income of less than 80 percent of the area average or less than 80 percent of statewide median household income.

**Severely disadvantaged community (SDAC):** A community with a median household income of less than 60 percent of the area average or less than 60 percent of statewide median household income.

**Vulnerable population:** A subgroup of population within a region or community that faces a disproportionately heightened risk or increased sensitivity to impacts of climate change and that lacks adequate resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from such impacts. (Note: tribes are considered vulnerable populations)

**Tribe:** A federally recognized Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized Native American tribe listed on the California Tribal Consultation List maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission.

**Proposition 4: California’s $10 Billion Climate Bond** <https://resources.ca.gov/Bonds-Oversight/Proposition-4-Climate-Bond>

**Bond Accountability:** <https://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov/>

**Climate Bond Newsletter sign up:** <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CNRA/signup/44235>