Assistant Secretary for Climate Change

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA or Agency) is a California executive branch agency that reports to the Governor. CNRA’s mission is to restore, protect and manage the state’s natural, historical and cultural resources for current and future generations using creative approaches and solutions based on science, collaboration, and respect for all the communities and interests involved.

CNRA is hiring an Assistant Secretary for Climate Change. The Assistant Secretary will advance strategic implementation of California’s climate change agenda across CNRA entities, increase CNRA’s climate change outreach and communications, and advance CNRA’s international engagement.

The Assistant Secretary advises and coordinates with relevant partners across CNRA entities to ensure consistency with policy direction adopted by Agency and the Administration and to ensure that policy reflects departments’ expertise and experience.

The Assistant Secretary drives the Agency’s international engagement efforts under the direction of the Governor’s Office and the Deputy Secretary for Climate Change.

Applicants should have a deep understanding of climate change and climate change policy; working knowledge of state government and nature-based solutions; and experience coordinating large and diverse teams. Strong communication and diplomatic skills are required.

These responsibilities include the following tasks:

40% Guide and coordinate successful execution of California’s climate agenda across CNRA entities through implementation of relevant climate change strategies, including California’s Climate Adaptation Strategy, 2022 Scoping Plan, and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart
Strategy. Facilitate regular, ongoing coordination with CNRA entities; support coordinated outreach and communication efforts to convey progress; drive key strategic initiatives.

Drive CNRA’s international engagement, through development of new partnerships and initiatives; advance and track existing partnerships and initiatives; and support coordinated international action across CNRA entities. Support the development of strategic initiatives as required.

30% Track state, federal, and international climate agendas, particularly the role of nature-based climate solutions; develop talking points regularly, as well as external-facing updates related to climate actions on natural and working lands, CNRA’s international engagement, and California’s 5th Climate Change Assessment; support successful execution and amplification of California’s climate agenda across CNRA entities.

20% Perform a significant level of coordination with CNRA entities and interagency partners. Support CNRA’s engagement in numerous national and international climate initiatives, and relevant interagency working groups.

10% Perform other tasks as requested by the Secretary, Undersecretary or Deputy Secretary for Climate Change.

The Assistant Secretary is appointed by the Governor and works under the direction of the Secretary, Undersecretary and Deputy Secretary for Climate Change.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please file an application and submit a resume at https://www.gov.ca.gov/appointments/. And please email any questions to Morgan Carvajal (morgan.carvajal@gov.ca.gov), Saul Gomez (saul.gomez@resources.ca.gov) and Amanda Hansen (amanda.hansen@gov.ca.gov).