NATURE-BASED
CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

2025 PROGRESS REPORT: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS CLIMATE TARGETS

ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM
JANUARY 29, 2026

INTRODUCTION

In 2022, Governor Newsom signed an important package of climate bills into law, including Assembly Bill (AB) 1757 (2022, C. Garcia). Among other things, AB 1757 called for the development of California's first climate targets to harness the power of nature to remove and store carbon from our atmosphere, buffer climate impacts, and build California's resilience to future climate-driven extremes including wildfire, drought, flood, extreme heat, and sea level rise.

These nature-based solutions (NBS) climate targets call for significant, sustained use of land management practices that increase the health and resilience of natural systems, unlocking their ability to durably store carbon and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over time. The targets also contribute to other State priorities including building climate resilience to extreme events, conserving 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030 (30x30), improving equitable outdoor access, creating economic opportunity, and more.

AB 1757 requires the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to report on progress made toward achieving the targets every two years. This first progress report demonstrates how California has uplifted lands as a critical sector in reaching the state's climate goals, provides an early statewide look at NBS action on the ground, and lays out the approach the State will take to track climate progress in the land sector over time.

What Are NBS?

Ways we can manage land to keep nature healthy and solve problems. Here are some examples:

- Flooding - Plant trees and restore wetlands. Trees soak up rain like sponges, and wetlands slow down water so communities don't flood as much.
- Extreme heat - Add parks, green roofs, and more trees. Shade and plants help cool the air.
- Dirty air - Trees and plants clean the air by taking in pollution and giving out clean oxygen.
- Wildfire - Increasing beneficial fire reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires that threaten communities and natural places.
- Drought - Make water go further with different farming techniques and plant trees that can withstand the hotter, drier climate.

HOW DO NBS SUPPORT CALIFORNIA'S CLIMATE GOALS?

NBS create healthy and resilient lands, which allows them to shift from being a carbon source to a carbon sink. Unhealthy lands are more vulnerable to climate change, and less able to durably store carbon. They also increase threats to our health and safety, food and water security, and economic prosperity.

WHAT OTHER CHALLENGES CAN NBS HELP ADDRESS?

NBS can help solve a variety of problems. For example:

- Increasing beneficial fire can create jobs and reduce the cost of disaster clean-up.
- Managing farmlands to increase soil health protects food and water security.
- Greening schoolyards can boost mental health and academic performance.
- Restoring wetlands protects biodiversity and keeps water clean.
- Supporting tribal NBS can address historical wrongs.

Recent NBS Progress

California has significantly advanced the state's NBS agenda in recent years. A few key milestones include:

1. Implemented Governor Newsom's NBS Executive Order, N-82-20, which called for expanding NBS across California and protecting 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030.
2. Established California's first nature-based solutions climate strategy in 2022 to underscore the role of lands in achieving California's climate change goals and guide State programs and investments.
3. Modeled future greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from lands for the first time as part of California's 2022 Scoping Plan to Achieve Carbon Neutrality.
4. Identified healthy and resilient lands as one of six priority "north stars" guiding California's 2021 and 2024 Climate Adaptation Strategies.
5. Invested approximately $9.8 billion since 2020 to supercharge California's NBS climate action, as of January 2026. Up to $8 billion of Proposition 4 bond funding, approved by California voters in November 2024, could build on this investment and scale NBS implementation over the coming years.
6. Partnered with NBS leaders around the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, and China to exchange information and help catalyze action beyond California's borders.
7. Set world-leading NBS climate targets in April 2024.
8. Improved regulatory requirements to increase the pace of NBS implementation through the creation of permit streamlining tools and exemptions.
9. Established permanent, full-time nature-based solutions staff at CNRA, the California Air Resources Board (CARB), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).
10. Updating the Natural and Working Lands Carbon Inventory for California's lands.
11. Codified nature-based solutions as a key pillar of California's climate action through AB 1757.

CALIFORNIA'S NBS CLIMATE TARGETS

The state's NBS climate targets call for managing the equivalent of over half the state's land for health and resilience by 2045. These targets cover all of California's diverse landscapes and will be implemented by a diversity of partners.

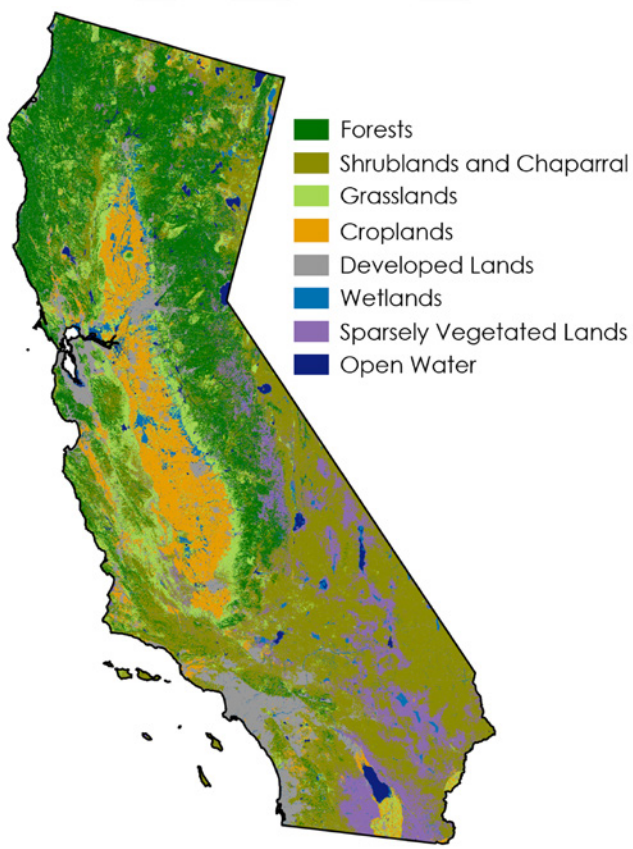


Figure 1: California's Land Types, 2022 [1]

By 2045, these NBS climate targets will deliver: [2]

- 33.5 million acres managed to reduce wildfire risk
- 11.9 million acres of forests managed for carbon, water, and biodiversity
- 7.6 million acres of lands conserved to prevent conversion
- 4.2 million new trees planted in communities
- 2.7 million acres of shrubland and chaparral managed for carbon and habitat
- 3.4 million acres of croplands managed for resilience and healthy soils
- 1.6 million acres of grasslands managed to improve native biodiversity
- 1.5 million acres of fragile ecosystems and biodiversity protected across deserts and dunes
- 1.2 million acres of greening and fire protection in communities
- 233,600 acres of wetlands and seagrasses managed to protect water, store carbon, and buffer floods

This bold climate action is key to reaching carbon neutrality, protecting communities and nature from today's climate risks, and building a resilient future.

1: Developed for the 2025 Natural and Working Lands Carbon Inventory Update by the California Air Resources Board Nature Based Strategies Section.

2: Detailed information on how these targets align with and/or contribute to other State priority acreage goals, including those in 30x30, the USFS-California Shared Stewardship Strategy, the Delta Plan, and Assembly Bill 2251 (2022, Calderon), is included in the NBS Climate Targets: Appendix 1 - Methodology and Appendix 1 of this report.

California NBS Leaders

California is home to a large and diverse group of NBS leaders.

Community-based organizations lead crucial NBS work that deliver climate outcomes and other important community goals, such as improving public health, creating jobs, protecting biodiversity, and increasing equity. They build trust with residents, coordinate volunteers, and connect the dots between State policy priorities and grassroots action.

California Native American tribes steward their ancestral lands and bring generations of traditional knowledge and cultural practices to the design and implementation of NBS. Tribal leadership is essential for advancing NBS rooted in sovereignty and intergenerational stewardship.

California Native American Tribe Spotlight

Through a CNRA tribal nature-based solutions grant, over 420 acres of ancestral homelands along the Feather River are returning to the Mooretown Rancheria Band of Maidu Indians. By entering into a historic co-stewardship agreement with the federal government, the Tribe aims to use tribal ecological knowledge to prevent catastrophic fire from re-entering the footprint of the 2020 North Complex Fire and to restore the land with cultural fire.

Large non-profits mobilize significant resources for NBS through technical expertise, scaled implementation, advocacy, and policy engagement. They support coordination across regions and sectors, amplifying the impact of local work and informing state-level decision-making.

Farmers, ranchers, and timber companies together are one of the largest groups of landowners and managers in the state, and play a central role in implementing NBS across California's working landscapes. They are leaders in aligning land stewardship with long-term economic viability.

Technical assistance providers play a crucial role in helping land managers and communities plan NBS projects, access funding, and implement NBS. They translate science and policy into on-the-ground action, offer site-specific guidance, and ensure that projects meet both ecological goals and funding program requirements.

Technical Assistance Provider Spotlight

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Climate-Smart Agriculture Community Education Specialists provide a support network for implementation of nature-based solutions across the state. They help agricultural producers design their healthy soils practices, connect them to additional experts when needed, and provide implementation support. Beyond one-on-one technical assistance to growers, these specialists work to create regional hubs of collaboration that build capacity and knowledge from the ground up.

The **scientific community** contributes foundational research, monitoring tools, and modeling to assess NBS effectiveness and benefits. Their work helps improve project design, refine metrics, and ensure that implementation aligns with the best available science.

Philanthropic organizations fund innovation, capacity-building, and pilot projects that can catalyze broader public and private investment in NBS. Their flexible support often enables experimentation, partnership development, and long-term strategies that go beyond implementation-focused funding.

Businesses play an important role in scaling NBS by both implementing them internally within their operations and supporting external NBS projects through investments, corporate climate commitments, and mitigation requirements. Their influence spans supply chains, capital markets, and land management, making them powerful partners in accelerating NBS climate action.

Private individuals influence the NBS landscape through the products they buy, support for public investments in climate action, and engagement in governmental decision-making processes. They also help scale NBS by managing their own land, and through volunteer efforts, community science, and local NBS projects.

Local, state, and federal government support NBS implementation through funding programs, guidance and technical assistance, scientific assessment, and policy development that enable NBS at scale. As significant landowners and service providers, they also directly implement NBS on lands across the state.

TRACKING NBS IMPLEMENTATION

An incredible breadth of NBS work is happening every day across California—restoring ecosystems, improving soil health, reducing wildfire risk, enhancing biodiversity, and supporting community resilience. Only a portion of this vital work is currently tracked through funding program reporting requirements, regulatory permitting processes, or voluntary disclosures by private entities. Notable exceptions to this include tracking of conservation and wildfire resilience NBS, where the State and its partners have invested significantly in improved reporting and data management.

Numerous database systems have been developed and invested in to capture some, but not all, NBS implementation across California. These statewide database systems include the following:[3]

- The California Wildfire & Landscape Resilience Interagency Treatment Tracking System (ITS) consolidates data from multiple State and federal agencies and private organizations to track how, where, and when forest and wildfire resilience vegetation management activities are happening across the state, including NBS related to forest health and wildfire risk reduction such as prescribed fire and reforestation.
- CA Nature is a platform designed to track implementation of the State's commitment to conserving 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030 (30x30). It is built on foundational datasets, which combined provide a key inventory of conserved lands and easements. CA Nature also includes interactive explorer applications that enable users to engage with data to develop insights into opportunities to advance 30x30.
- The EcoAtlas Project Tracker, managed by the San Francisco Estuary Institute in collaboration with federal, State, and regional partners, tracks wetland and riparian habitat restoration projects and evaluates progress toward project goals.
- The Resources Agency Project Tracking and Reporting (RAPTR) system is a centralized data management system for Departments, Boards, Conservancies, Commissions, and Councils within the California Natural Resources Agency to manage, track and report on projects they fund, including NBS projects.
- The California Climate Investments Reporting and Tracking System (CCIRTS) is a centralized platform for reporting information on projects funded by California Climate Investments, and includes funding information, project details, and estimated benefits.
- California's Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) created and manage the RCD Project Tracker, a voluntary tool to document quantitative and qualitative information on conservation and stewardship planning and implementation projects completed by RCDs. Data includes performance metrics, funding sources, photographs, annual expenses, location, geospatial, partnerships and contact information.
- The Resources Conservation Act Data Viewer is a federal tool managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that provides program financial information, conservation contract information, and non-spatial implementation data across NRCS's many conservation programs.

3: There are many other efforts at tracking implementation work that are not mentioned here, but are playing important roles at local, regional and program scales.

Tracking NBS Implementation: 2025 Snapshot

KEY TAKEAWAYS

It is difficult to assess progress with limited information. As noted above, there are significant gaps in reporting and accessibility of NBS data, with some targets such as those related to conservation and wildfire resilience having significantly more than others. Based on available information, we are:

- On track to meet 59% of the 2030 NBS climate targets.
- Not yet on track to meet 30% of the 2030 NBS climate targets.
- Unable to determine whether we are on track to meet 11% of the 2030 NBS climate targets. In these cases, a methodology for tracking progress must be developed or data for the reporting period was not yet available. [4]

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise. [5]

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Beneficial fire • Prescribed broadcast burning, cultural burning, planned managed fire, planned treatment burned in wildfire	**125,263**	**800,000**	**1,200,000**	**1,500,000**
Other fuels reduction • Thinning, invasive species removal, prescribed herbivory (grazing), mechanical treatments (first entry and retreatments), and uneven-aged timber harvest	**756,669**	**700,000**	**800,000**	**1,000,000**

4: Progress was determined based on an assumed 2025 ramp up towards the 2030 NBS climate targets. More details can be found in NBS Climate Targets: Appendix 1 - Methodology.

5: For more details on data sources, methodology, limitations, and future improvements associated with this target reporting, please see Appendix 1 of this report.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

FORESTS TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Oak woodland afforestation[a] • Oak woodland re-establishment in areas where they historically were found	**to be determined**	**52,857**	**52,857**	**52,857**
Forest conservation[b] • Conserve old growth forests to preserve the oldest trees • Conserve conifer, riparian, and oak woodland forests **Forest conservation, all forests:**	**323,526**	**—**	**—**	**—**
Forest conservation, old-growth forests only (basis for target calculation):	**to be determined**	**55,060**	**55,060**	**55,060**
Forest restoration • Post high severity fire reforestation and restoration • Restore health of degraded oak woodlands including enhancing riparian zones	**188,521**	**322,121**	**462,121**	**322,121**
Working forest conservation • Extend harvest rotation lengths • Shift intensity of harvests • Restore and/or conserve wildlife habitat	**30,512**	**165,179**	**165,179**	**165,179**
Decrease illegal forest conversion and degradation[c] *(percent reduction from baseline)* • Decrease the rate of illegal conversion and forest degradation	**to be determined**	**20%**	**50%**	**90%**
Reduced high severity wildfire *(percent of wildfire that is low or moderate severity)* • Through beneficial fire and other fuel reduction activities, shift the proportion of statewide high severity wildfire to low or moderate severity wildfire	**66%**	**75%**	**83%**	**90%**

[a] **Oak woodland afforestation:** Currently, no statewide implementation databases track oak woodland afforestation. Numerous State programs fund projects that may implement oak woodland afforestation, but these projects are not tracked in such a way that allows them to be identified as such. Improvements to statewide tracking systems will be made to better track this work in the future.

[b] **Forest conservation:** The forest conservation NBS climate target was calculated based on protection of old growth forest only, given these trees' high level of carbon storage. However, no statewide mapping of old growth forests is currently available to measure progress against this target. Also shown here are acres of conservation of all forest lands, which is broader than how the NBS climate target for conservation was calculated. Reporting on this target in the future will require development of a methodology to define and map old growth forests statewide.

These results reflect new forest conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

[c] **Decrease illegal forest conversion and degradation:** A methodology is being developed to quantify illegal forest conversion and degradation statewide using data produced by CAL FIRE and CNRA.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

SHRUBLANDS AND CHAPARRAL TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Shrublands and chaparral conservation[a] • Conserve chaparral and shrublands, with a focus on old growth and undeveloped areas **Shrublands and chaparral conservation, all:**	**138,596**	—	—	—
Shrublands and chaparral conservation, old-growth only (basis for target calculation):	**64,709**	**104,613**	**104,613**	**104,613**
Shrublands and chaparral restoration[b] • Restore chaparral and shrublands, with a focus on addressing threats from invasive species and fire; post-disturbance restoration; transitional zones; enhancing native vegetation; and re-establishing wildlife connectivity	**3,228**	**37,000**	**40,000**	**45,000**

[a] **Shrublands and chaparral conservation:** Shown here are acres of conservation of old growth shrublands and chaparral, which was the basis for calculating the NBS target. The target is focused on these long-lived shrublands and chaparral because they are not easily established, provide biodiversity benefits, and can continue to provide climate benefits under drought conditions.

Also shown are acres of conservation of all shrublands and chaparral, which is broader than how the NBS climate target for conservation was calculated. These results reflect new shrublands and chaparral conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

[b] **Shrublands and chaparral restoration:** Few State programs currently focus on shrublands and chaparral restoration explicitly in implementation and/or reporting. There is likely significant restoration work happening that is not represented here, both State-funded and independent of State programs.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

GRASSLANDS TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Grasslands conservation[a] • Protect grasslands with a focus on remaining native grasslands, oak trees, and foothill pines **Grasslands conservation, all grasslands:**	**250,545**	—	—	—
Grasslands Williamson Act enrollment, all grasslands:	**-5,039**	—	—	—
Grasslands conservation, intact grasslands only (basis for target calculation):	**64,434**	**33,036**	**33,036**	**33,036**
Grasslands Williamson Act enrollment, intact grasslands only:	**-649**	—	—	—
Grasslands restoration[b] • Restore degraded grasslands to native vegetation communities and diverse, perennial, deep-rooted grasses; soil amendments and prescribed grazing in line with the 2022 nature-based solutions climate strategy; re-establishing a sustainable fire regime; riparian restoration	**73,517**	**55,060**	**55,060**	**55,060**

[a] **Grasslands conservation:** The grasslands conservation NBS climate target is based on conservation of intact grasslands. While no statewide definition currently exists, intact grasslands refer to grasslands that deliver climate change and biodiversity benefits, such as native grasslands and grasslands that contribute to habitat connectivity. Shown here are conserved acres of grasslands within areas identified as "Irreplaceable and Essential Corridors" by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, which emphasizes grasslands that contribute to habitat connectivity. Future reporting on this target will require development of a methodology to define and map intact or priority grasslands for conservation. Also shown in the table are acres of conservation of all grasslands, which is broader than how the NBS climate target for conservation was calculated.

These results reflect new grassland conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

Additionally, the table shows the net change in acres of all grasslands and intact grasslands with active status under the Williamson Act, a program that enables counties to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. The minimum term for a contract is ten years. Thus, there was a net loss both in overall grasslands and in intact grasslands out of Williamson Act status.

[b] **Grasslands restoration:** The high rate of grasslands restoration acres was driven in large part by acres of prescribed grazing reported by the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Regional Conservation Partnership Program. These acres are reported as occurring on rangeland (lands used for grazing). The NRCS database does not provide precise treatment location information, so these activities are assumed to occur on grasslands but this acreage thus could include land types other than grasslands that are also used for grazing, including some shrublands, forests, and sparsely vegetated lands.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

CROPLANDS TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Healthy soils practices on croplands • Implement healthy soils practices on annual and perennial croplands, such as compost application, cover cropping, hedgerows/ windbreaks, no and reduced till, riparian buffers, whole orchard recycling, etc.	**103,988**	**140,000**	**190,000**	**190,000**
Croplands conservation[a] • Conserve annual and perennial croplands **Croplands conservation (basis for target calculation):**	**56,543**	**12,000**	**16,000**	**19,500**
Croplands Williamson Act enrollment:	**32,472**	**—**	**—**	**—**
Organic cropland[b] *(percent of cropland)* • Convert conventional to organic systems in annual and perennial croplands	**5.9% in 2023**	**10%**	**15%**	**20%**

[a] **Croplands conservation:** These results reflect new cropland conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

Also shown is the net change in acres of croplands with active status under the Williamson Act, a program that enables counties to enter into contracts with private landowners for the purpose of restricting specific parcels of land to agricultural or related open space use. The minimum term for a contract is ten years.

[b] **Organic cropland:** This reporting only includes data from 2023. The 2024 data is not yet available.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

DEVELOPED LANDS TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Afforestation between community and croplands[a] • Establish tree line buffers between croplands and communities to reduce chemical exposure and enhance access to green space	6	133	185	230
Urban and community forest conservation • Protect existing urban tree cover	8,714	17,344	17,344	17,344
Urban and community greening and forestry[b] • Increase tree canopy cover in cities, communities, and schoolyards • Establish drought-tolerant vegetation, remove grass yards • Increase green space, such as parks, gardens, schoolyards, greenways/ greenbelts, street trees, green roofs, rain gardens, etc.	3,334	34,699	34,699	34,699
Reducing community wildfire risk • Defensible space establishment on properties in the wildland urban interface area	7,931	11,012	11,012	11,012
Wildfire ignition rate from vehicles[c] • Decrease wildfire ignition incidents caused by vehicles Percent reduction from baseline:	to be determined	10%	20%	30%
# of vehicle-caused fires per billion miles traveled:	1.18	1.06	0.94	0.83
Priority roadside treatment[d] *(percent of treatable area treated)* • Treat priority roads that function as primary evacuation routes	88%	50%	70%	100%
Urban and community tree planting *(trees per year)* • Increase large canopied, drought-tolerant trees meaningful to the community; prioritize communities with low tree canopy	26,918	200,000	200,000	200,000

[a] **Afforestation between community and croplands:** Few State programs currently focus on afforestation between communities and croplands explicitly in implementation and/or reporting. There is likely implementation happening that is both State-funded and independent of State programs.

[b] **Urban and community greening and forestry:** Many State programs that fund urban and community greening and forestry report on number of trees planted, but not acres of implementation. There is likely significant implementation happening that is not represented here, both State-funded and independent of State programs.

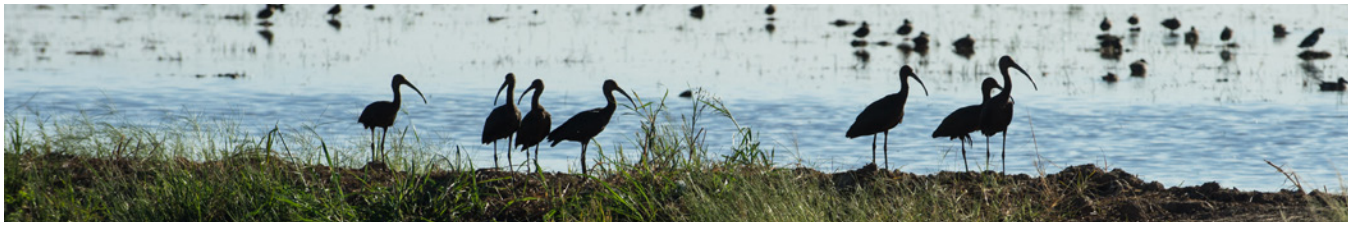
[c] **Wildfire ignition rate from vehicles:** This target is expressed as a percent change compared to a baseline. The units are presented in terms of number of vehicle-caused fires per billion miles traveled on all public roads. Data needed to calculate this percent change are not yet available for the reporting period.

[d] **Priority roadside treatment:** While these numbers reflect the extent of basic vegetation management, there is still a need for specialized vegetation management crews to address the diversity of major vegetation types in California, and to develop specialized training modules, certification, upgraded equipment, and a maintenance plan for the highway corridors that responds to effectiveness goals.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

Wetlands and Seagrasses Targets

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Wetlands and seagrasses conservation[a] • Conserve coastal wetlands, seagrass beds, Delta wetlands, and mountain meadow wetlands **Conservation of seagrass beds and coastal, Delta, and mountain meadow wetlands:**	**11,775**	**—**	**—**	**—**
Conservation of coastal wetlands only (basis for target calculation):	**5,008**	**1,253**	**1,253**	**1,253**
Wetlands and seagrasses restoration • Restore and/or re-establish coastal wetlands, including through beneficial reuse of sediment • Restore and/or re-establish seagrass beds, with a focus on eelgrass meadows • Restore Delta wetlands, including through re-establishing brackish and freshwater tidal wetlands on previously drained or seasonal wetlands, and rewetting deeply subsided areas through the creation of non-tidal managed wetlands or rice cultivation • Restore and/or rewet previously drained San Francisco Bay wetlands • Restore mountain meadow wetlands through restoring proper hydrologic flow, removing conifer encroachment, and/or beaver reintroduction	**8,222**	**9,154**	**9,154**	**9,154**
Sea level rise protection of ecosystems • Restore coastal wetlands in a manner that enables them to keep pace with sea level rise, including conserving upland space needed for wetland migration	**684**	**1,652**	**1,652**	**1,652**



[a] **Wetlands and seagrasses conservation:** Shown here are acres of conservation of coastal wetlands, which was the basis for calculating the NBS target. Also shown are acres of conservation across coastal wetlands, seagrass beds, Delta wetlands, and mountain meadow wetlands, which is broader than how the NBS climate target for conservation was calculated.

These results reflect new wetland and seagrass conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether all these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

In the following table, progress towards the NBS climate targets for the reporting period 2022-2024 is reported in activity acres per calendar year, except where noted otherwise.

SPARSELY VEGETATED LANDS TARGETS

	Progress Reported	2030	2038	2045
Sparsely vegetated lands conservation[a] • Conserve lands to prevent conversion and/or disturbance	**64,410**	**20,000**	**30,000**	**40,000**
Sparsely vegetated lands restoration[b] • Restore native vegetation on previously disturbed areas (or on those otherwise dominated by invasive species) including through invasive species removal and restoration of riparian zones	**1,172**	**55,060**	**55,060**	**55,060**

[a] **Sparsely vegetated lands conservation:** These results reflect new land conservation and improved conservation data collection through 30x30. We are unable to determine whether these acres were newly conserved during the 2022-2024 reporting period, or newly reported but previously conserved.

[b] **Sparsely vegetated lands restoration:** Few State programs currently focus on sparsely vegetated lands restoration explicitly in implementation and/or reporting. There is likely significant restoration work happening that is not represented here, both State-funded and independent of State programs.

State Expenditure

State appropriations toward the NBS climate targets amount to approximately $4.7B from fiscal years 2022-23, 2023-24, and 2024-25. An additional $426M was invested in related efforts that support the NBS climate targets, including research, assessment, monitoring, permitting, and outreach.

This was calculated using State budget appropriation amounts for programs and initiatives that result in or have the ability to result in direct implementation of the targets or in planning or capacity building that is connected to direct implementation.

In the future, collecting funding information alongside land management information can more accurately reflect State expenditure on the NBS climate targets. The development and increased use of CNRA's project reporting and tracking system, RAPTR, will significantly support State expenditures reporting.

Future Progress Reporting

The State will continue to strengthen coordination across land management data and reporting systems with a focus on scaling implementation, protecting data privacy and sensitive information, minimizing burden on implementers, and maximizing interoperability across platforms. CNRA and its partners will work towards:

1. Increasing coordination of data needs and participation in reporting systems across State agencies, programs, reporting mandates, and regulations to improve efficiency.
2. Incorporating reporting from a wider scope of State programs, land management activities, benefits, and outcomes.
3. Implementing robust quality assurance and quality control protocols.
4. Designing systems to support learning, evaluation, and assessment of policy development, program design, and implementation effectiveness.
5. Ensuring systems are durable, well-resourced, and publicly trusted.

Through this ongoing coordination, California will strengthen its ability to track progress, demonstrate impact, and accelerate implementation of nature-based climate solutions at the scale and pace required.

2025 PROGRESS REPORT: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS CLIMATE TARGETS

JANUARY 2026

https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Expanding-Nature-Based-Solutions

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