

Re-Introducing AB 1757's Expert Advisory Committee

April 17, 2025

Today's Agenda

1. Revisit the Relationship between AB1757 & AB32
2. Review EAC Goals, Definitions & Study Areas
3. EAC Recommendations
4. Meet the Expert Advisory Group[EAC]
5. Next Steps, Future Meeting Agendas

Original Scoping Plan Projections

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

AB 1757 EAC Goals

The Expert Advisory Committee was 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).



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.

Working Groups

CALIFORNIA'S NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS



Forest



Shrubland/
Chaparral



Grasslands



Wetlands



Croplands



Sparsely Vegetated Lands

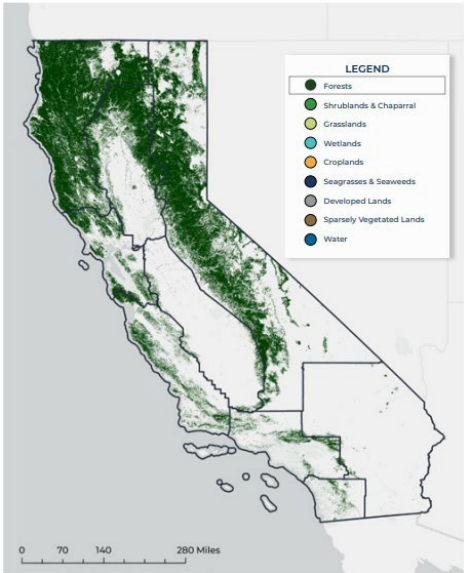


Seagrasses & Seaweeds

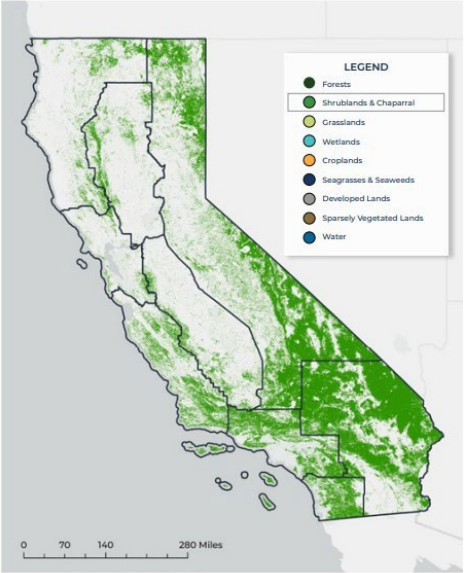


Developed Lands

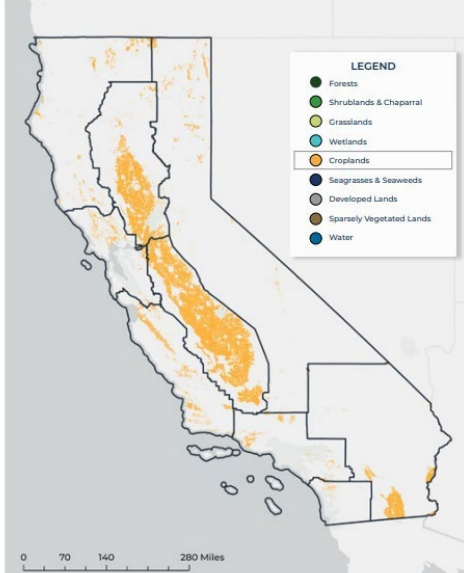
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
FORESTS



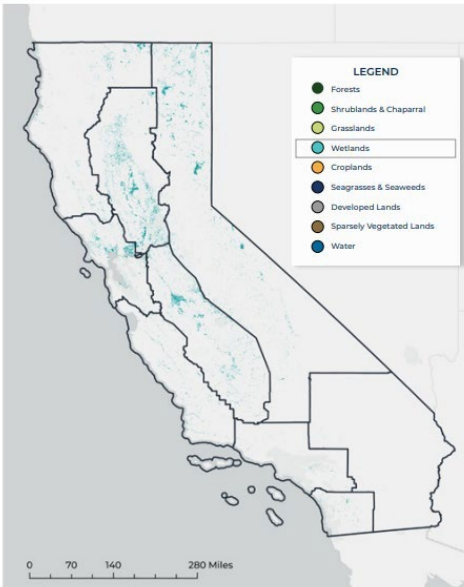
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SHRUBLANDS AND CHAPARRAL



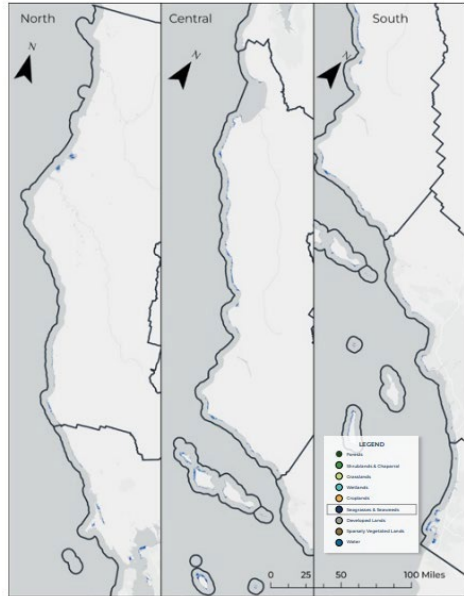
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
CROPLANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
WETLANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SEAGRASSES AND SEAWEEDS



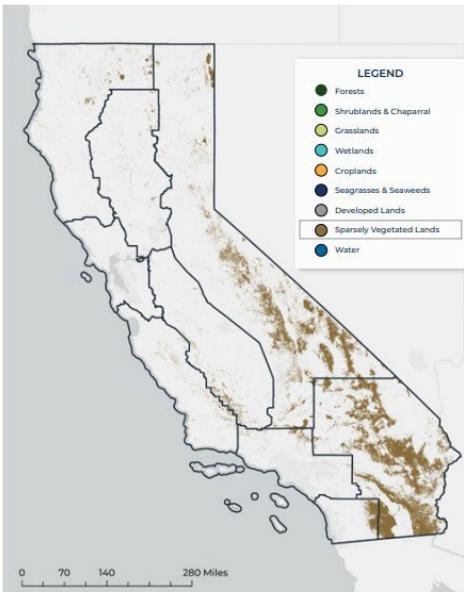
STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
DEVELOPED LANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
GRASSLANDS



STATEWIDE LAND COVER MAP
SPARSELY VEGETATED LANDS



AB1757 EAC

Big Picture

Recommendations

The Core Approach

The state must improve management, restoration, and conservation at the landscape scale to stabilize our State's natural ability to sequester carbon

Carbon

The Expert Advisory Committee (EAC) finds that the state can achieve reductions of 250-400 MMT CO₂ in 10 years by investing in our Natural and Working Lands.

Return on Investment

NWL Investments sequester carbon at a lower cost-per-ton compared to investment in other emissions sectors.

Risk Management

NWL Investments will substantially lower CO2 emissions and will also help significantly address other climate risks such as catastrophic fire, floods, and biodiversity losses.

Vulnerable Communities

Co-benefits of Nature Based Investments will better serve the state than investments elsewhere by improving the resilience of California's most vulnerable communities, both urban and rural.

Water

These investments are necessary to stabilize water security across the state.

The Scale and the Urgency

Investment in the NWL sector should be commensurate with the gains made in reducing CO2 levels, increasing new investment in the sector to at least \$10 billion over the next 5 years.

AB 1757

**Expert Advisory
Committee Members**

EAC Members and Affiliation

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, California Environmental Justice Coalition
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

EJAC Discussion & Direction on Priorities for Future Workshops and Sequencing of Expert Input

AB 1757 Outcomes Summary

- Convened Expert Advisory Group & Quantified Carbon Targets
- Defined: Climate Smart, Nature *Based Solutions*, Natural & Working Lands
- Issued recommendations that clearly elevate the benefit of investing Nature Based carbon sequestration.
- Provide geographic and sequencing considerations for the implementation of 2022 Scoping Plan Measures
- California need not to wait for 2027

EAC Expert Working Groups

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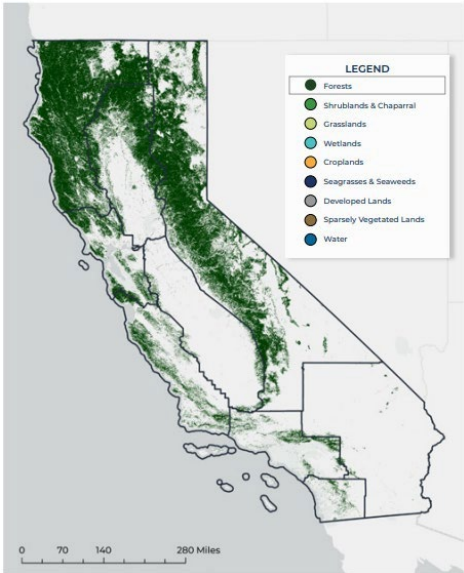


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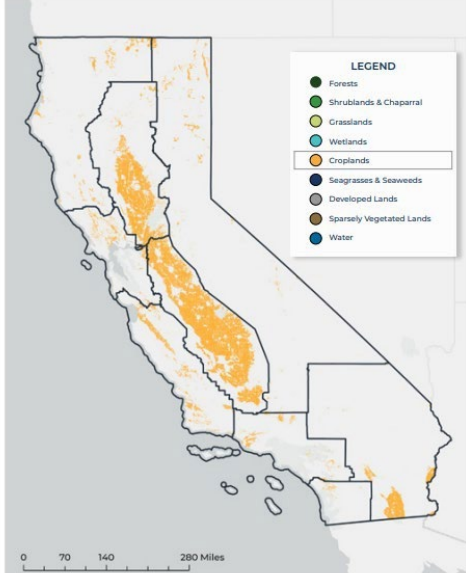
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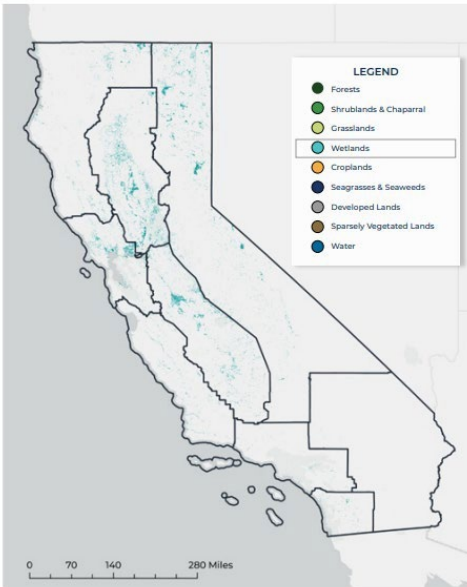
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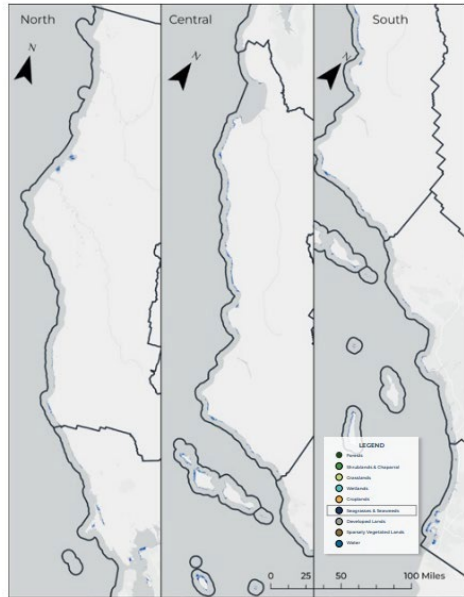
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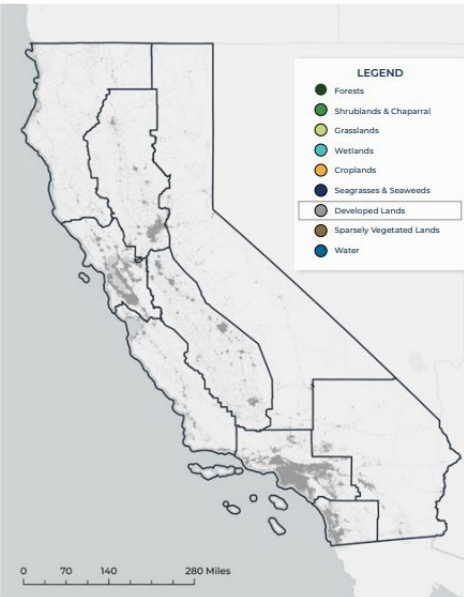
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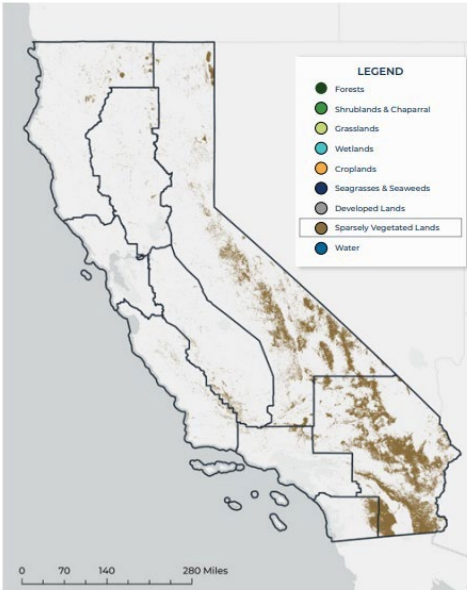
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Public Comment