

## Sierra Club California Priority Bills 2014 Session

September 2, 2014

Sierra Club California staff and its volunteer California Legislative Committee (CLC) review hundreds of bills each year, determining which to support, oppose or take no position on. From among those that we take a position, a number are placed on a priority list for special attention and effort. Below is the priority list for 2014 and the status of each bill as of the end of the legislative session. Generally, those bills that are on the governor's desk must be signed by the end of September in order to become law.

Sierra Club members can help encourage the governor to sign important bills by faxing a letter to him, containing the numbers and brief descriptions of the bills he should sign. Those bills are **highlighted in yellow** below. The fax number is: 916-558-3160.

### **Bills Sierra Club California Supports**

#### **AB 1671 (Frazier) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: water conveyance system.**

Summary: This bill would require that before the Department of Water and Power could begin construction on the giant Bay Delta tunnels the legislature would have to vote to authorize that construction.—**Pulled (dead for this year)**

#### **AB 1918 (Williams) Energy: design and construction standards.**

Summary: This bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to identify and implement methods to simplify the compliance process for building standards and energy and water conservation design standards for new residential and nonresidential buildings.—**Held in Senate Appropriations (dead for this year).**

#### **AB 2019 (Fong) Commercial fishing: drift gill net shark and swordfish fishery.**

Summary: This bill would place restrictions on using drift gill nets to take shark and swordfish.—**Failed in Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee**

#### **AB 2140 (Bloom) Marine mammals: protection of orcas**

Summary: This bill would make it unlawful to capture or hold in captivity or use a captive-bred or wild-caught orca for entertainment purposes.—**Held in Committee for Reassignment and Study**

#### **AB 2188 (Muratsuchi) Solar energy: permits.**

Summary: This bill would bring together best practices from solar permitting procedures currently used throughout the state to create a streamlined process for the permitting of small residential solar systems.—**Passed and sent to governor.**

#### **AB 2657 (Bloom) Environmentally sensitive areas: use of anticoagulants.**

Summary: This bill would prohibit the use of any poison, substance, or product, other than its use as a prescription drug under the direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, that contains one or more of specified anticoagulants, including brodifacoum and bromadiolone, in wildlife habitat areas that are in state parks, state wildlife refuges or state conservancies.—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

#### **ACR 90 (Rendon) Wilderness Act of 1964.**

Summary: This bill would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964 and proclaim the significance of continuing to protect national wilderness areas.—**Passed and completed.**

**SB 270 (Padilla) Single-use, carry-out bags.**

Summary: This bill would establish a statewide policy for restricting the use and distribution of plastic bags at grocery stores and other similar retail outlets—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

**SB 605 (Lara and Pavley) Short-term global warming pollutants.**

Summary: This bill would direct the California Air Resources Board to develop a strategy for addressing and reducing short-term global warming pollutants, include black carbon.—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

**SB 750 (Wolk) Building standards: water meters for multi-unit residences.**

Summary: This bill would require new multi-unit residential developments to include water meters or submeters for each residential unit to ensure that residents are able to determine the amount and cost of their unit's water use.—**Bill number changed to SB 411. Held in Assembly Rules (dead for this year).**

**SB 968 (Hill) Martins beach access.**

Summary: This bill would require the State Lands Commission to enter negotiations to re-establish public access to a beach recently closed by a new owner.—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

**SB 985 (Pavley) Stormwater resource planning.**

Summary: This bill would require local stormwater resource plans to identify opportunities to use existing publicly owned lands to capture and reuse stormwater.—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

**SB 1019 (Leno) Flame Retardants Labeling.**

Summary: This bill would ensure consumers' right to know whether the furniture they are purchasing contains added flame retardant chemicals.—**Passed and sent to the governor.**

**SB 1086 (De Leon) The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Rivers, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2014.**

Summary: This bill would provide the framework for a statewide park bond that will result in a reliable source of funding for parks.—**Did not move; dead for this year.**

**SB 1096 (Jackson) Coastal sanctuary: State Lands Commission: oil and gas leases.**

Summary: This bill would permanently safeguard a Marine Protected Area (MPA) in the Santa Barbara Channel from repeated attempts to extract oil.—**Failed on Assembly Floor.**

**SB 1125 (Pavley) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions reduction.**

Summary: This bill would require the California Air Resources Board, on or before January 1, 2016, and in consultation with specified entities, to develop reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions and short-lived climate pollutants, as defined, for 2030.—**Failed in Appropriations**

**SB 1132 (Mitchell) Oil and gas: well stimulation treatments (moratorium).**

Summary: This bill would impose a moratorium on fracking and well stimulation until a through report on its impacts in California is complete, a review process is complete, and the governor concludes that fracking and well stimulation will not harm public health, the environment and economic sustainability.—**Failed on Senate Floor**

**SB 1204 (Lara) California Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Technology Program.**

Summary: This bill would create the California Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Technology Program, to be funded from cap and trade revenues, to fund zero- and near-zero emission truck, bus, and off-road vehicle and equipment technology and related projects, as specified, with preference to be given to projects in disadvantaged communities.—**Passed and sent to governor.**

**SB 1275 (De Leon) Vehicle retirement and replacement: Charge Ahead California Initiative.**

Summary: This bill would adjust existing incentive programs to ensure broader use of and access to electric passenger vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure.—**Passed and sent to governor.**

**SB 1371 (Leno) Natural Gas Leakage Abatement.**

Summary: This bill would address climate change impacts and safety hazards caused by fugitive methane emissions from pipeline leaks.—**Passed and sent to governor.**

**SB 1168 (Pavley) and AB 1739 (Dickinson) Groundwater regulation.**

Summary: These companion bills will establish groundwater regulation for California.—**Passed and sent to governor.**

**Bills that Sierra Club California Opposes****AB 69 (Perea) Exemptions from Cap and Trade.**

Summary: This bill represents yet another attempt by the oil industry to escape its responsibility to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. The bill would undercut regulations that would include transportation fuel production in the cap-and-trade program created to implement AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act.—**Held in Senate Rules Committee.**

**AB 1635 (Brown) Radioactive Materials: Federal Regulation.**

Summary: This bill would place restrictions on the ability to regulate radioactive materials.—**Pulled (dead).**

**AB 1763 (Perea) Energy Plan.**

Summary: Disguised as an advance in energy planning, this bill would actually reduce the need for state energy planning to consider greenhouse emissions and other environmental impacts.—**Pulled (dead).**

**AB 2202 (Logue) Greenhouse gas reductions and fuels.**

Summary: This bill would exempt certain fuel marketers from greenhouse gas emissions reduction requirements.—**Failed in Assembly Natural Resources Committee**

**AB 2205 (Donnelly) Mammals: use of dogs to pursue bears and bobcats.**

Summary: This bill would allow the resumption of hounding of bears and bobcats, a cruel and environmentally destructive practice outlawed in 2013.—**Failed in Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee**

**AB 2417 (Nazarian) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: recycled water pipelines.**

Summary: This bill would allow the exemption of certain pipeline projects from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).—**Pulled (dead).**

**AB 2453 (Achadjian) Paso Robles Basin Water District.**

Summary: This bill would create a 9 person water district dominated by large landowners and exclude those who do not own property by incorporating an acreage-based voting model and landownership requirement.—**Passed and sent to Governor's desk.**

**AB 2633 (Allen) Recycling: plastic material.**

Summary: This bill would open the way for greater dependence on air-polluting waste-to-energy plants.—**Failed in Assembly Natural Resources Committee**

**SB 1289 (Fuller) Off-highway motor vehicle recreation: land transfer.**

Summary: This bill would allow expansion of the Johnson Valley Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Area onto adjoining, relatively undisturbed state-owned lands.—**Pulled (dead).**

**AB 1471 (Rendon and Atkins) Water bond.**

Summary: Replaces the \$11.1 billion Proposition 43 water bond with a smaller, \$7.5 billion Proposition 1 water bond. More than a third of AB 1471 funding would be directed to storage, and the criteria and other guidelines for that funding would give priority to three dams in the Central Valley whose construction Sierra Club opposes.—**Passed and Signed by the Governor.**

***Bills on Which Sierra Club California's Position Changed During the the Legislative Process*****SB 1319 (Pavley) Oil Spill Prevention and Response.**

Summary: This bill began as a bill that would assist with responding to oil spills and reduce the threats to public health and the environment from crude oil transport by rail. Gutted and amended in Senate to address a different topic. Club position changed to “no position”.

**AB 2145 (Bradford) Electricity: Community Choice Aggregation**

Summary: This bill began as a bill that would undercut the availability of renewable energy by creating hurdles for community entities that compete with large utilities.—**Amended to address Club's concerns; opposition dropped. Failed to come up for a vote in Senate (dead for this year).**