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POWER IN NATURE COALITION APPLAUDS GOVERNOR NEWSOM FOR SIGNING 30X30 CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY BILL INTO LAW

SB 337 is Championed by Senator Dave Min and Codifies California's Commitment to Protect 30 Percent of Land and Coastal Waters by 2030

Sacramento, CA - Today the Power in Nature Coalition applauded Governor Newsom for signing Senate Bill (SB) 337 and thanked Senator Dave Min (SD-37) for championing the bill. SB 337 codifies into law Governor Newsom's bold vision to protect 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030 and is critical to addressing the climate and biodiversity crisis.

"I want to thank the Power in Nature Coalition for their tireless support in passing this bill, which will ensure we are protecting our open spaces and preserving our precious biodiversity," **said Senator Dave Min.** "I appreciate the support of my colleagues, who approved this bill on an overwhelming bipartisan basis, as well as Governor Gavin Newsom, who has been a true champion for the environment. Our wilderness and coastlines are at the heart of who we are as Californians, and the passage of SB 337 will safeguard this key part of our California identity for generations to come, and serve as a buffer against climate change and the extinction crisis."

By protecting 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030, California will protect biodiversity, expand equitable access to nature's benefits, support Tribal initiatives, and safeguard places that help the state achieve climate resilience. SB 337 ensures the state's dedication to the 30x30 goal will last beyond the current administration. The 30x30 goal was originally part of [Executive Order N-82-20](#) issued by Governor Newsom in 2020. Since the 30x30 deadline will extend past the Governor's term, it was necessary to establish the goal in statute to ensure it remains a commitment for future administrations through 2030.

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) estimates California must protect 6 million acres of land and an additional half a million acres of coastal waters by 2030 to achieve its 30x30 goals. So far, California has conserved 24.4% of its lands to meet this goal, according to [CNRA's May progress report](#). The state must conserve an estimated 750,000 acres per year between now and 2030 to meet its goal. California's existing Marine Protected Area network

conserves 16 percent of coastal waters and adapting this network of ocean parks is one opportunity to meaningfully get closer to the 30 percent target.

Research shows that [1 million species are at risk of extinction](#) and [wild vertebrate populations have dropped 69%](#) since 1970. California is in one of the world's 36 biodiversity hotspots and the state has the [highest concentration of imperiled species in the U.S.](#)

"SB 337 is an important step to conserve California's unparalleled natural treasures," said **Pamela Flick, California Program Director for Defenders of Wildlife, which sponsored the bill.** "We thank Governor Newsom and Senator Min for their leadership codifying 30x30. The state is a globally significant biodiversity hotspot with the highest concentration of species that can't be found anywhere else on Earth. California's future depends on us achieving 30x30, and we are excited to continue working towards this goal."

Protecting California's unique biodiversity and ecosystems will help the state adapt to and withstand the effects of climate change. Scientists worldwide agree that a minimum of 30% and as much as 70% of the Earth's lands and coastal waters must be protected in order to safeguard biodiversity and stabilize the planet's climate.

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About the Power in Nature Coalition

Power In Nature is a statewide coalition of over 100 community groups, environmental and conservation organizations, land trusts, indigenous organizations and tribal members dedicated to advancing California's 30x30 commitment. The Power In Nature coalition has identified nearly 100 potential 30x30 projects across the state and works on a broad range of issues including biodiversity protection, climate resilience, equity, recreation, outdoor access and social justice. For more information, please visit [our website](#).