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Power in Nature Coalition Releases Statement on 2026 General Election Results

The coalition encourages Governor-Elect Becerra and newly elected state legislators to accelerate California's progress towards 30x30 commitment

SACRAMENTO, CA — Today, the Power in Nature coalition issued a statement on the results of the 2026 General Election, recognizing the election of Xavier Becerra as California's next Governor and welcoming the incoming class of state legislators.

Statement from Sandra Sanchez, Executive Director, Power in Nature Coalition:

"The Power in Nature coalition congratulates Governor-elect Xavier Becerra and California's newly elected state legislators. With just over three years remaining to protect 30% of our lands and coastal waters by 2030, we urge the incoming Becerra administration and state legislators to make the 30x30 goal a top priority.

As Attorney General, Xavier Becerra worked to protect clean water, public lands, and endangered species. And this fall, he strongly opposed the sell-off of part of Yosemite National Park to a developer. That is the kind of leadership we need at a time when our public lands and coastal waters are facing threats and rollbacks from the federal government.

At this time, 27.1% of California's land and only 21.9% of its coastal waters have been protected, making this a crucial moment for nature. It's also an incredible opportunity to expand access to nature for California residents and ensure that the benefits of this initiative reach those most affected by environmental harm.

Power in Nature comprises 500 organizations working on the ground to protect California's unique biodiversity. We look forward to being a resource to the new administration and state legislators in the coming years."

Background on 30x30:

Scientists worldwide agree that to protect life as we know it, we must conserve at least 30% of the Earth's lands and coastal waters by 2030. In 2020, Governor Newsom committed California to the 30×30 goal, and in 2023, that goal became state law.

California is leading the world towards 30×30, especially on the land side, but millions of acres still must be conserved in less than four years. Preserving the state's lands and coastal waters will help address the impacts of climate change, protect animal and plant species at risk for extinction, and expand access to nature for Californians.

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About the Power in Nature Coalition
Power in Nature is a statewide coalition of over 500 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, visit PowerInNature.org.