



PCL INSIDER: News from the Capitol

Vote for the Environment on June 3rd

You've likely seen those colorful candidate signs lining the streets of your neighborhood, which means it's that time of year: election season! While the November ballot may hold some big-ticket choices, don't forget about the upcoming primary election on **Tuesday, June 3rd**. We work with your legislators every day, and we know personally how important it is to make your voice heard. Will the individuals who represent you speak up for the environment and for your community? Will they push for cleaner air, safer water, and healthier ecosystems – protecting the people and places you love? While PCL does not endorse candidates, some of our colleagues do, including the [California League of Conservation Voters](#) and [Sierra Club California](#). You can still [register to vote](#) until May 19th, if you haven't already, and you can apply for a [vote-by-mail ballot](#) until May 27th.

Momentum to Reform Groundwater Management This Year

After decades of look-the-other-way attitudes towards problems of poor groundwater management –over pumping, land subsidence and depletion of water in streams and other important wildlife habitat – these avoidance tactics have given way to serious discussion about real solutions. The state's record-low water levels and the Governor's drought declaration have spurred significant interest in taking swift action to address unsustainable use of groundwater in California. The Administration, Legislature, and stakeholders are currently holding conversations that could lead to major policy reforms by the end of August. Two groundwater bills have been introduced: [AB 1739](#) (Dickinson) and [SB 1168](#) (Pavley), and we expect to see one or both act as vehicles for these significant groundwater management changes.

Last month, PCL's Jonas Minton presented thoughts on an approach to achieve sustainable groundwater management at a workshop jointly convened by the California Natural Resources Agency, CDFA, and Cal/EPA. He mentioned key issues for the success of any approach, including recognition of the connection between groundwater and surface water, not allowing sustainability targets to be met by further harming the environment (through 'paper water' or water unsustainably imported from other watersheds), and ensuring that those impacted by groundwater depletion – including environmental, environmental justice, and tribal voices – have representation in management decisions.

Apply Now for Summer Internships

Looking for a worthwhile and fun internship this summer? PCL currently has four positions open! We are recruiting a **Development Intern** to assist with prospective donor research, event planning, grant research, and more. We are also looking for an intern to assist with the development of our **50/50 Project** as we approach the 50th anniversary of PCL and PCL Foundation. The project will explore the past 50 years of environmental policy and outline a vision for California's environment 50 years in the future. In addition, we are looking for a **Legislative Intern** to support our work in the Capitol, including analyzing policy issues, researching and preparing background information on sponsored bills, and preparing comment letters on non-PCL sponsored bills. Lastly, we are seeking a **Land Use Intern**, who will assist with the development of our Transportation & Land Use Reform Project. This project will identify ways to promote sustainable land use and transportation patterns that will reduce GHGs and create more livable communities. We will be considering applications on a rolling basis and will begin interviews this week, so apply **now!** For a full description and application information, please click [here](#).

Save the Date: San Diego CEQA Community Workshop

The next CEQA Community Workshop will take place on **Saturday, July 19, 2014**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Normal Heights Community Center in San Diego. Registration is \$25.00, including lunch. Join us to learn how to use CEQA more effectively and to mobilize around this essential law. For more information or to register, please click [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Beverley Newman at bnewman@pcl.org.



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