

PRIORITY POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR CALIFORNIA'S NEXT GOVERNOR

WATER, CLIMATE, AND WILDFIRE

NOVEMBER 2018



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November 29, 2018

Dear Governor-Elect Newsom,

Congratulations on taking the helm of California government with a strong voter mandate, healthy economy, and budget surplus. Your leadership, and clear priorities for ensuring all Californians have the opportunity to thrive, give us hope for a better future.

Chances are good that in the next four years California will be confronted with catastrophic wildfire, drought, and flood. Climate change makes each less predictable and potentially more severe; we remain stunned by the death and devastation of the Camp and Woolsey fires in Butte and Los Angeles counties last month. You will lead a state where hundreds of thousands of people live at risk of wildfire – or lack safe drinking water, affordable homes, and clean transportation options.

As you build your administration, Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) and UC Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment (CLEE) offer these near-term actions to enable California to better manage these challenges. RLF and CLEE developed these recommendations following three convenings with diverse, practical problem-solvers and policy experts (listed below). Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg and CLEE's Ethan Elkind moderated the discussions focused on drought, flood, and safe, affordable water supplies; climate mitigation, transportation, and housing; and wildfire and forest management. Though the participants represented sometimes divergent interests, they agreed on many priority actions. The recommendations are not comprehensive; they are immediate and high impact executive, regulatory, and legislative actions to take on the water, climate, and wildfire crises.

Several themes emerged from our discussions. First, we recommend that you appoint dedicated leaders with the ability to cut across diverse mandates, jurisdictions, and stakeholder interests to address each crisis. The brightest expert will not be able to help manage crises of the magnitude we are seeing without the ability to draw people to your vision and win support for the difficult steps that must be taken. Panelists also endorsed strengthening the state's relationship with cities and counties, using incentives to spur local government actions that align with statewide goals, such as building new housing near jobs or zoning to avoid wildfire.

They agreed that some situations warrant regulatory hammers, such as provision of safe, affordable drinking water and sewer service to unincorporated communities. The experts also emphasized that you may achieve much simply by publicly articulating your goals and convening leaders to anticipate the implications of technological breakthroughs such as autonomous vehicles. Finally, the hard-to-predict effects of climate change bear on all these issues. Wherever possible, state investments should further long-term climate mitigation and resilience.

Among our top recommendations:

- Forge a comprehensive, coordinated state water policy that uses available tools and resources to provide drinking water to those in need and ensure water for ecosystem recovery.
- Set ambitious annual targets for forest restoration and treatment and task a new wildfire-focused appointee with ensuring they are met by working across agency boundaries.
- Realign state transportation, housing, and other infrastructure funding and policies to support the state's per-capita driving miles, greenhouse gas reduction, and affordable housing goals.

The attached documents contain more detail. We welcome the opportunity to engage with you on this work and to help connect you with experts for more information about any of these recommended actions. We wish you the greatest success.

Sincerely,



Michael Mantell, President
Resources Legacy Fund



Ethan Elkind, Director, Climate Program
UC Berkeley Law Center for Law, Energy, and the
Environment

Expert Panels

Water

Curt Aikens, *Yuba Water Agency*
Mark Cowin, *California Department of Water Resources*
(former)
Wade Crowfoot, *Water Foundation*
Thomas Esqueda, *CSU Fresno*
Veronica Garibay, *Leadership Counsel for Justice and
Accountability*

Maurice Hall, *Environmental Defense Fund*
Ellen Hanak, *Public Policy Institute of California*
Jim Levine, *Bay Area Council*
Cannon Michael, *Bowles Farming*
Peter Moyle, *UC Davis*
Meegan Nagy, *Reclamation District 108*
Kathleen Schaefer, *UC Davis*

Climate, Transportation, and Housing

Peter Calthorpe, *Calthorpe Associates*
José Carmona, *Energy Foundation*
Peter Hathaway, *California Transportation Commission*
(former)
Kip Lipper, *California State Senate*
Mike McKeever, *Office of Mayor Darrell Steinberg*

David Mogavero, *Mogavero Architects*
Ann Notthoff, *Natural Resources Defense Council*
Preston Prince, *Fresno Housing Authority*
Rebecca Saltzman, *Bay Area Rapid Transit (Director)*
Alvaro Sanchez, *The Greenlining Institute*
Arnie Sowell, *NextGen America*

Wildfire

Alan Abbs, *California Air Pollution Control Officers Association*
Jim Branham, *Sierra Nevada Conservancy*
Karen Buhr, *California Association of Resource Conservation
Districts*
Larry Camp, *Forest Landowners of California*
Sandy Dean, *Humboldt Redwood Company and Mendocino
Redwood Company*
Kim Delfino, *Defenders of Wildlife*
John Exline, *United States Forest Service*
Rich Gordon, *California Forestry Association*

Staci Heaton, *Rural County Representatives of California*
Eli Ilano, *Tahoe National Forest*
Jonathan Kusel, *Sierra Institute for Community and
Environment*
Julia Levin, *Bioenergy Association of California*
Geoff Margolis, *California Department of Insurance*
Paul Mason, *Pacific Forest Trust*
Scott Stephens, *UC Berkeley*
Craig Thomas, *Sierra Forest Legacy*
Cedric Twight, *Sierra Pacific Industries*

Organizers and Facilitators

Darrell Steinberg, *Mayor of Sacramento, California State Senate President Pro Tem (former)*
Saúl Gómez, *RLF* Nancy Vogel, *RLF*

Ethan Elkind, *CLEE* Ted Lamm, *CLEE*

CALIFORNIA WATER: PRIORITY POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR THE NEXT GOVERNOR

California recently suffered a record drought, immediately followed by record rainfall and floods. Climate change will make droughts and floods more severe and frequent than they have been historically. Odds are high the next governor will deal with one or both such disasters.

How will the next governor address these threats while restoring river systems, stabilizing agricultural supplies, and assuring disadvantaged communities clean, affordable drinking water supplies? Based on a recent convening organized by Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) and UC Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment (CLEE), California water policy leaders offer the following executive, legislative, and regulatory actions the governor could take immediately:

Governance and Planning

- 1. Capture the new governor's priority actions on water in a succinct, cohesive guidance document with clear objectives that serves as the roadmap for his appointees and the public over the next four years.**
- 2. Convene a Governor's Water Coordinating Council to guide cross-agency actions to carry out this plan.**
 - Convene monthly with leaders of the California Dept. of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources Agency, Environmental Protection Agency, Dept. of Food and Agriculture, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and other relevant agencies.
 - Regularly include local, tribal, environmental justice, federal, and other stakeholders.
 - Facilitate streamlined, one-stop permitting review of projects that meet the governor's priorities.
 - Make it a Council priority to ensure that the public benefits from recent and future bond initiatives, such as 2014 Proposition 1's \$2.7 billion investment in new water storage projects, are fully realized.
 - Prioritize effective coordination of surface and groundwater storage and conveyance systems.
 - Spur the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to update flood control manuals that govern reservoir operations.
- 3. Select five high-priority projects to complete within five years.**
 - Direct Council appointees to prioritize completion of five major projects that integrate multiple priorities and include safe, affordable drinking water for all California communities.
- 4. Create new incentives and opportunities for regional and watershed-based resource management.**
 - Better integrate land use, water supply, water quality, environmental protection, and flood and drought planning at a watershed level, possibly under existing structures such as Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and/or councils of governments or newly created regional tools.
 - Structure state grant funding to drive Integrated Regional Water Management Planning and sustainable groundwater planning to provide incentives for comprehensive resource management.
 - Increase funding for a regional approach to sewer service in disadvantaged communities, similar to [SB 1215](#).
- 5. Ensure full, on-time implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).**
 - Fund state agency oversight and continue grants to local agencies to meet technical, planning, and other SGMA compliance needs.
- 6. Review the California Endangered Species Act for ways to encourage/streamline multi-benefit projects.**
 - Expand safe harbor provisions to enable projects that provide net species and ecosystem benefits.
 - Increase flexibility by easing species recovery requirements for beneficial projects under Natural Community Conservation Plans, exploring existing exemptions, or creating "attainment area" provisions.
- 7. Accelerate consolidation of small drinking water systems.**
 - Direct the Water Board (and add staff) to accelerate state consolidation orders under [SB 88](#) and [AB 2501](#) and utilize state funding to incentivize consolidations.
- 8. Commission a stakeholder group to design a system that dedicates a volume of water to the environment to be managed for ecosystem recovery.**
 - Appoint a state entity with the authority to trade and move the water as necessary.
 - Track ecological results and hold that entity accountable for producing positive benefits.

Funding

- 1. Assemble a coalition to support a major new financing package to address near- and long-term needs.**
 - Develop a new bond initiative to fund priority projects that serve the public interest and cannot be funded by local or federal sources, including orphan projects that have been previously approved but not funded.
 - Ensure bond dollars are spent to achieve the governor's priorities, address needs of vulnerable communities, advance regional planning and integration, and leverage local dollars.
- 2. Find an additional source of funding, such as existing greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program revenues, opt-out fees on water consumption, or fertilizer fees, for near-term support of the operation and maintenance of affordable, safe drinking water projects for communities in need.**
- 3. Direct the Coordinating Council to conduct comprehensive oversight of state water funds.**
 - Track state moneys raised and spent, ensure efficient expenditure, and enhance reporting from local bodies.
 - Speed allocation of bond dollars and other funds to local agencies.
- 4. Leverage the governor's "bully pulpit" to build public understanding of state water priorities.**
 - Explain funding and infrastructure needs in the State of the State address and early public speeches, emphasizing safe, affordable drinking water for all Californians and the need for enhanced flood protection.

Science, Data, and Technology

- 1. Establish a centralized data and science program that emphasizes information-based, collaborative approaches to monitoring and managing water.**
 - Appoint a water science advisor or advisory body in the Coordinating Council to identify data and technology needs, facilitate data aggregation, and spearhead coordination of agency science assessments.
 - Require that new regulations reflect the coordinated agency science assessments.
 - Assess statewide water data needs and finish building the data sharing portal begun under [AB 1755](#).
 - Fully support the Water Data Administration Fund.
- 2. Create a transparent water rights database that improves administration of water rights.**
- 3. Spearhead new technologies and data collection efforts that support the governor's priority actions.**
 - Offer competitive grants for research projects, akin to the Electric Program Investment Charge program.
 - Focus on predicting atmospheric rivers, pinpointing drought vulnerability, identifying failing private wells and wastewater treatment systems, and detecting flood-vulnerable building stock.

If achieved, the actions recommended above could help the next governor achieve the following policy priorities:

1. Solve drinking water supply, quality, and affordability problems;
2. Increase investment in storage capacity and conveyance that benefit people and ecosystems;
3. Replace the site-by-site approach used for flood system improvements and ecosystem restoration with broader strategic funding that reduces flood risks and improves the environment;
4. Incentivize multi-stakeholder cooperation on water planning and infrastructure (including natural infrastructure); and
5. Improve local land-use planning to anticipate water supply shortages.

If undertaken, the actions recommended above should be informed by the following shared aspirations:

- New policies will prioritize public health, including safe drinking water and wastewater for all communities.
- Funding and regulatory decisions will encourage multi-benefit, multi-species, watershed-scale projects that enhance water reliability and access.
- New projects will integrate ecosystem restoration and protection.
- State-level decision making will integrate sovereign tribal governments.

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING: PRIORITY POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR THE NEXT GOVERNOR

California must tackle transportation emissions if the state is going to meet its goals of cutting greenhouse gas emissions 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045. The transportation sector now accounts for 41 percent of California's emissions, more than any other source. While California has taken steps to align its transportation and land use planning policies with greenhouse gas reduction targets and mandate zero-emission vehicle adoption, overall transportation emissions continue to increase, while a lack of access to reliable and efficient transportation exacerbates structural inequities. Solving this challenge requires additional efforts to locate housing, jobs, services, and transit together so that Californians, particularly low-income residents, can drive fewer miles to get to their destinations.

How will the next governor drive alignment of the state's land use, transportation, and carbon-reduction policies to achieve California's ambitious goals? Based on a recent convening organized by Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) and UC Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy and the Environment (CLEE), California climate, transportation, and housing policy leaders offer the following executive, legislative, and regulatory actions the governor could take immediately:

Governance and Planning

- 1. Strengthen implementation of [SB 375](#) to realize significant reductions in transportation emissions.**
 - Direct the Air Resources Board to require Metropolitan Planning Organizations to conduct significantly more aggressive scenario analyses that determine vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reductions necessary to achieve strengthened regional greenhouse gas reduction targets, advance the statewide goal of 25 percent lower transportation emissions, and increase the agency's capacity and authority to secure these reductions.
 - Consider amending SB 375 or use existing Air Resources Board authority to require regional entities to designate Priority Development Areas and require member jurisdictions to update zoning and permitting processes to support more affordable infill housing in order to receive state transportation funds.
- 2. Appoint a housing leader within the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.**
 - Direct the appointee to identify legislative and regulatory changes throughout state government that can increase infill housing supply and affordability and accelerate general plan and zoning updates to achieve state housing and climate change mitigation goals.
- 3. Support legislation for statewide "up-zoning" of small-scale commercial zones in transit or infill areas to mixed-use zones, including "grand boulevard" pilot programs and bus rapid transit-anchored projects.**
 - Realign state funding to provide significant incentives to local governments to change the zoning of commercial zones to increase transit-accessible, affordable housing and reduce VMT.
 - Consider options to expedite permitting of affordable housing near transit that minimizes displacement risk for low-income or disadvantaged community residents or businesses.
- 4. Catalog appropriate vacant state land to develop or sell for private development of affordable housing.**
- 5. Set stringent housing, transportation, and greenhouse gas reduction criteria for cities seeking to form, annex new land, change their boundaries, or take other "sphere of influence" actions.**
 - Align new annexation requirements and Local Agency Formation Commission processes with SB 375 improvements described above.

Funding

- 1. Realign state transportation, housing, and other infrastructure funding and policies to support the state's VMT reduction, greenhouse gas reduction, and affordable housing goals.**
 - Direct Caltrans to set implementation standards linking an increasing percentage of [SB 1](#) long-term gas tax funds to local achievement of affordable infill housing, transportation, and greenhouse gas-reduction goals (after completion of fix-it-first work), and promote legislation as necessary to enforce the standards.
 - Require local projects to meet state housing, transportation, and climate goals – including mitigation, adaptation and resiliency – in order to receive state matching or administered federal funds.
 - Direct the Transportation Commission to prioritize VMT-reducing state-level investments and local project proposals, based on the housing and climate emergencies.

- Ensure the Caltrans Director and Transportation Commission appointees prioritize climate mitigation and adaptation and projects that benefit low-income and disadvantaged populations.
2. ***Champion a new tax increment tool that focuses on reducing homelessness and achieving greenhouse gas reduction goals.***
 - Align new tax-increment-funded housing or redevelopment agencies with enhanced SB 375 implementation.
 - Emphasize the potential for savings in police, fire, health care, and other local government costs.
 - Fund demonstration projects through the Strategic Growth Council’s Transformative Climate Communities grant program.
 3. ***Bolster the greenhouse gas cap-and-trade program to increase the level and reliability of funding for infill housing and transit projects through securitization options.***
 - Ensure a price on carbon is in place beyond 2030 through cap-and-trade or an equivalent mechanism.
 - Direct the Air Resources Board to set minimum credit prices and reduce free allowances in a manner that increases long-term revenue and certainty, creating opportunity for revenue-backed bond financing.
 - Consider legislative amendments to increase the current allocations of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund moneys to affordable infill housing and transit projects, including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program and the Transformative Climate Communities Program.
 4. ***Reinvigorate the Infrastructure Economic Development Bank with seed funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and other budget sources to support housing, transportation, and climate projects.***
 - Appoint an executive director focused on VMT reduction as a top priority.
 - Use one-time budget surplus funds to seed the bank.
 - Work with the State Treasurer and Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development to coordinate infrastructure finance priorities and resources.
 5. ***Promote and authorize congestion pricing in urban areas with quality transit options through executive leadership and support of legislation such as the [AB 3059](#) “Go Zones” pilot program.***
 6. ***Appoint a blue-ribbon commission to study and recommend how to align future funding sources with anticipated revolutions in transportation sharing, autonomy, and electrification.***
 - Ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent on leveraging new technologies that advance greenhouse gas goals.
 - Focus on VMT reduction and [SB 743](#) implementation to counter potential increases from autonomous technologies and on new freight technologies that reduce emissions in vulnerable communities.
 - Consider requiring autonomous and fleet vehicles to be shared and zero-emission.

If enacted, the actions recommended above could help the next governor achieve the following policy priorities:

1. Allocate a greater share of state dollars to local governments that help meet the state’s climate and housing goals by advancing infill and affordable housing development and avoiding harm to disadvantaged communities;
2. Promote regulatory changes that ease approval of equitable, affordable infill housing near transit;
3. Establish stronger state standards and incentives for local governments to zone land for more affordable housing near major transit hubs, while protecting the public process provided by CEQA; and
4. Consider performance-based metrics for annual transportation revenue allocations to encourage jurisdictions to invest in non-single occupant vehicle modes of transit.

If undertaken, the actions recommended above should be informed by the following shared aspirations:

- All Californians will have equitable access to affordable, quality housing and efficient transportation.
- The state’s public and private transportation networks will adapt to a future based on shared, autonomous, and electric vehicle technologies.
- Housing and land use policies will advance climate and transportation goals while addressing the state’s housing supply and affordability crisis and the needs of disadvantaged and low-income communities.
- Health, mobility, climate resiliency, and quality of life will improve.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE: PRIORITY POLICY SOLUTIONS FOR THE NEXT GOVERNOR

The wildfires of 2018 have been the largest and deadliest in California's history, far surpassing records just set in 2017. Wildfires can be ecologically beneficial under normal conditions, but decades of fire suppression, warmer average temperatures, extended drought, and inadequate vegetation management are contributing to larger, more severe, and more destructive fires; the fire season now lasts all year and threatens entire towns and suburbs. Climate change modeling suggests the trend will accelerate, dislocating thousands of people, straining state resources, increasing air pollution that endangers health and safety, and threatening water supplies. Meanwhile, local governments continue to approve development in wildfire-vulnerable areas.

What actions now will give the next governor the best chance of managing and controlling wildfires to reverse these catastrophic trends? Based on a recent convening organized by Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) and UC Berkeley Law's Center for Law, Energy & the Environment (CLEE), California wildfire and forest management policy leaders offer the following executive, legislative, and regulatory actions the governor could take immediately:

Governance and Planning

- 1. Appoint a leader in the Governor's Office with a singular wildfire focus, authority to coordinate state policies, and sufficient staff and resources to carry out the governor's priorities.**
 - Drive collaboration across relevant agencies on wildfire, climate, public health and safety, ecosystems, water quality, land use, and bioenergy and wood products.
 - Identify and leverage all funding sources available for strategic forest, woodland, and chaparral management.
 - Develop distinct strategies to address fuel reduction and risk management for different types of vegetation (e.g., forest and chaparral), communities (e.g., wildland-urban interface), and geography.
- 2. Charge the appointee with developing and implementing state incentives for local governments to limit new development in high-risk areas and to fire-harden existing communities and infrastructure.**
 - Provide funds to cities and counties to accelerate integration of the Office of Planning and Research's Wildfire Hazard Planning Guidelines into general plans and zoning.
- 3. Charge the appointee with meeting aggressive acreage targets for wildland restoration and treatment.**
 - Ramp up strategically located fuels treatment and restoration on wildlands to reach a level of half a million acres a year within four years, focusing on surface and ladder fuels that are the primary drivers of wildfire; regularly assess progress and set interim and/or higher targets if necessary and feasible.
 - Set targets for different types of treatment, vegetation, and owner (e.g., public, large private, small private).
 - Establish an interagency working group that includes relevant state, local, and federal entities to complete permitting on the strategic landscape level (hundreds to thousands of acres), similar to the Renewable Energy Action Team.
- 4. Create a comprehensive, statewide, data-driven mapping program to identify high-priority areas in order to direct vegetation treatment and emergency response investments.**
 - Include support for existing and innovative emergency notification and information-sharing technologies.
 - Use the data to direct utilities to prioritize investment in power line and equipment safety measures.
- 5. Drive landscape-level wildfire planning and vegetation treatments.**
 - Direct the new appointee to convene local and regional decision makers to identify incentives for landscape or regional approaches to forest and chaparral health and wildfire prevention planning, including existing funding such as the \$1 billion available over five years under [SB 901](#) and resilience directives under [SB 1260](#).
 - Insist that the federal government speed treatment of federal wildlands through Good Neighbor Authority, master stewardship, and other agreements, and invest sufficiently to meet state forest treatment goals.
 - Direct the Board of Forestry to complete the Vegetation Treatment Program Environmental Impact Report in 2019 in order to streamline the permitting of prescribed burning and fuels reduction.
- 6. Modify the state's grant funding approach to be more strategic and proactive.**
 - Replace competitive grant making with a process that identifies in advance targeted ecological and geographical goals and locations for investment, and distributes funds to projects that will achieve them.

7. Quantify and account for the emissions related to wildfires as part of the state's climate change mitigation programs and calculate the emissions benefits of removing landscape fuels.

- Direct the Air Resources Board to develop strategies to mitigate wildfire-related emissions.
- Direct the Air Resources Board to quantify, and require fuel-removing entities to account for, the emissions potential of removed materials – enabling the state to reward and incentivize practices that minimize emissions (in particular uses that remove fuels from high-risk areas).
- Direct the Air Resources Board to consider the long-term emissions benefits of controlled fire.

Economics and Infrastructure

1. Increase the role of biomass in state energy policy to incentivize landscape-level fuels treatment, generate jobs, and cut climate and air pollution.

- Direct the Air Resources Board, Public Utilities Commission (PUC), Energy Commission, and CAL FIRE to develop a plan for the long-term use of biomass energy facilities to facilitate forest thinning while considering the state's forest carbon and treatment goals, disproportionate air quality impacts to communities near facilities, costs to ratepayers, and rural economic development.
- Direct the PUC to account for environmental benefits of biomass energy, such as reductions in wildfire risk, when implementing climate goals and renewable energy procurement programs.
- Require the PUC to accelerate review and modification of the Bioenergy Market Adjustment Tariff (BioMAT) Program and consider legislation to adjust the allowable size of facilities and total amount procured under [SB 1122](#), based on the results of the interagency process described above.
- Direct the Energy Commission and PUC to use Electric Program Investment Charge and cap-and-trade funds to support the development of community-scale biomass energy facilities.
- Direct the Department of Food and Agriculture to use Healthy Soils Program grants to foster a biochar market.

2. Require governments to build with low-carbon wood products that improve local forest health.

- Require all state buildings and all local buildings funded by the state to use, where appropriate, wood products like cross-laminated timber from projects that contribute to forest health.
- Promote legislation to add wood products to the Buy Clean California Act.

3. Initiate and fund workforce development and community college initiatives for careers in forestry, forest and vegetation management, fire restoration, prescribed fire, and wood products industries.

Public Education and Understanding

1. Use the governor's "bully pulpit" to connect wildfires to urban water supplies, air quality, and the economy. Emphasize that solutions will take years but must begin now.

2. Set and publicize measurable long-term goals for public safety and health, air quality, and greenhouse gas emission reduction consistent with the Forest Carbon Plan and treatment acreage goals above.

3. Direct CAL FIRE to accelerate adoption of defensible space measures under existing law (SB 901).

4. Direct CAL FIRE to work with the Insurance Commissioner and the insurance industry to ensure company risk models recognize landscape treatments and other measures taken to reduce risk.

5. Increase funding for the University of California cooperative extension, Resource Conservation Districts, county governments, local Fire Safe Councils, and worker retraining programs to conduct targeted local outreach and education.

- Increase funding to the UC cooperative extension program to place wildfire experts across the state to work with landowners to reduce risk, and fund counties with chaparral and wildland-urban interface to contract for these services.
- Allocate state funds to Resource Conservation Districts for non-industrial landowner and public education.
- Maximize delivery of Proposition 68 funds for conservation corps and other youth programs.

If enacted, the actions recommended above could help the next governor achieve the following policy priorities:

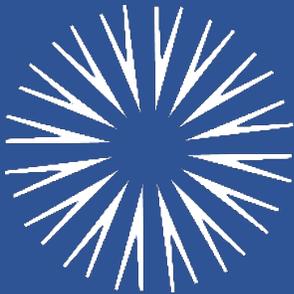
1. Accelerate the pace and scale of strategic, ecological vegetation treatments through landscape-level collaboration;
2. Coordinate spending of state funds to maximize forest and chaparral health, minimize wildfire vulnerability, and increase fire resilience across flammable landscapes;
3. Reduce the impact of wildfire on the safety of wildland communities, greenhouse gas emissions, and air pollution;
4. Encourage community-scale, wood-fired bioenergy facilities, and other industries that support landscape-level fuel reduction and a vibrant market for California wood products; and
5. Increase public and political understanding of and resolve for what will be a decades-long effort.

If undertaken, the actions recommended above should be informed by the following shared aspirations:

- California landscapes will function with fire in a beneficial manner that safeguards homes and communities.
- Californians will harden structures, create defensible space, and treat landscapes in order to live with wildfire.
- California's need to reduce landscape fuels and create firebreaks will generate rural jobs.
- California's approach to wildfire will vary with ecosystem, terrain, ownership, and community and take into account the carbon emissions and public health dangers of catastrophic, uncontrolled wildfire.

*For more information, contact Nancy Vogel at nvogel@resourceslegacyfund.org,
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