



4C Newsletter | January 2025

Happy New Year Central Coast Climate Resilience Practitioners!

In today's newsletter, you'll find 1) upcoming 2025 4C member activities, 2) news and updates relevant to the Central Coast region, 3) funding and grant opportunities related to climate, and 4) upcoming events and webinars.

Would you like to include an announcement, job position, or regional update in a future newsletter? Please email us at centralcoastclimate@gmail.com.

The Central Coast Climate Collaborative Team extends our heartfelt support to all those impacted by the devastating fires in Los Angeles. We are deeply grateful to the first responders who are working tirelessly to contain the fires and safeguard lives and property.

The confusion caused by the recent White House executive orders on funding programs creates a challenging moment for many of us who are grant recipients/applicants. The key to navigating this we think will be to do contingency planning, stay nimble, and over-comply with grant requirements. Some recommendations for you and your colleagues:

- Deadlines still matter. Application deadlines for open opportunities remain active.
- While reviews are paused, most will likely resume later—so stay on track with your submissions. Make sure you are 100% clear on your award obligations and that you remain 100% in compliance with your grant award contract. This includes project and financial reporting compliance.
- Adapt to new priorities. Use this time to align your projects with emerging administrative goals and explore new funding opportunities. Language matters and in some cases shifting language choices for competitiveness may be helpful.
- Compliance is key. Stick to reporting deadlines, approved timelines, and expenditure guidelines.
- Document everything meticulously to prepare for increased scrutiny.
- Build relationships. Engage with new stakeholders and decision-makers within agencies. Strengthening these connections now will pay off when activity resumes.
- Stay proactive, not reactive. Anticipate changes, monitor policy shifts, and keep your financial and program documentation flawless.

- Be prepared for possible cancellation of grants. Do contingency planning and risk assessment for your organization.
- You can reach out to your Congressional representatives who oversee the districts affected by your project. It's best to be short, succinct, and to the point. Request that representatives obtain more information and clarification regarding the disbursement of funding.

Here are some of the resources that may be useful for you that other CA climate collaboratives are considering:

- [Environmental Protection Network - Federal Funding Opportunities and Guidance](#)
- [National Council of Nonprofits: Impact of Executive Orders on non-profits](#) (updated regularly)
- [California Climate and Energy Collaborative \(CCEC\) Resources](#) (living document)

Upcoming 2025 4C Member Activities

Member Meetings

Our first member meeting of the year will take place **Wednesday, March 11th, 12-1pm PT**. 4C members will have the opportunity to share updates, learn about federal, state, and regional climate funding opportunities, and provide feedback to guide 4C's work plan including new member services set to launch in 2025. A formal invitation will be sent to 4C members with additional event details, including registration information. If you are interested in attending but not yet a member or unsure of your membership status, please contact 4C staff at centralcoastclimate@gmail.com. We hope you can join us!

Grant Writing Technical Assistance and Funding Workshops

Through funding from the [Guadalupe-Lompoc Initiative \(GLI\)](#), 4C members will have the opportunity to access **grant writing technical assistance in 2025 and 2026**, which will include workshops dedicated to grant funding opportunities. Join the member meeting on March 11th to learn more about this opportunity.

As a reminder, the GLI is a multi-year collaborative effort that supports community-serving organizations and local governments across Santa Barbara County with capacity building, planning, project development, and community engagement so they can address air quality, extreme heat, water supply, food security, and wildfire risk.

Become a 4C Member

Not yet a member? Please consider joining today. Benefits of membership include:

- Network with climate leaders and practitioners in the Central Coast region
- Exchange knowledge on best practices, replicable strategies, and innovative solutions on climate mitigation and adaptation
- Support for regional grant funding proposals and initiatives
- Find up-to-date climate change news, resources, opportunities, events
- Engage to align state, regional, and local efforts: research and applied science, policies, programs, plans, and projects
- Expand leadership and awareness on equitable climate action and adaptive solutions
- Participate in working groups

We offer [membership reciprocity](#) with other select climate groups. We also have a [sliding scale for membership dues](#), depending on size and type of organization. Social and environmental justice groups join for free! See [Membership Form](#) for details.

Regional Announcements



Summary of Governor's 2025-2026 California Budget Proposal

Please note the recent Governor's Budget is heavily focused on the urgent need to address the devastating wildfires in Southern California. The budget is likely to change in the May budget amendment.

Governor Newsom's proposed \$322.2 billion budget for 2025-26 reflects the challenges of balancing addressing California's immediate wildfire response needs and planning for long-term recovery. The budget proposal prioritizes climate resilience across California, with a focus on wildfire prevention, water management, and coastal protection. Key investments include \$325 million for wildfire resilience programs, such as local fire prevention grants, home hardening, and forest health projects. The budget also allocates significant funds for flood protection, groundwater management, water recycling, and coastal resilience, helping the state's most vulnerable regions adapt to increasing climate risks. Included is also \$231.5 million for dam safety and climate resilience, improving infrastructure to better manage water resources.

For the Central Coast, these initiatives are crucial in addressing the region's vulnerability to wildfires, water scarcity, and coastal erosion. The funding for fire prevention, water security, and coastal protection will enhance local preparedness and safeguard communities and ecosystems. Investments in habitat restoration and flood management will support the region's agricultural sector and natural resources, while projects like offshore wind energy development align with the Central Coast's commitment to sustainable growth. In general, the budget prepares the region with resources to strengthen climate resilience and ensure long-term environmental and economic stability.

**Community Voices Wanted: Join County of Santa Barbara
Guadalupe Lompoc Committee!**

HELP SHAPE CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Apply to join the Guadalupe-Lompoc Initiative Coordinating Committee!

CONTRIBUYE A FORTALECER LA RESILIENCIA CLIMÁTICA EN EL CONDADO DE SANTA BÁRBARA

¡Aplica para unirse al Comité Coordinador de la Iniciativa Guadalupe-Lompoc!

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ Live or work in Lompoc, Guadalupe, or a nearby area
- ✓ Are a trusted community leader with strong local connections

DETALLES

- ✓ Community members are eligible to receive \$100 per meeting hour
- ✓ Applications due by Sunday, February 16th, 2025

ELEGIBILIDAD

- ✓ Resides o trabajas en Lompoc, Guadalupe o en un área no incorporada cercana
- ✓ Eres un líder comunitario de confianza con fuertes conexiones locales

DETALLES

- ✓ Los miembros de la comunidad son elegibles para recibir \$100 por hora de reunión
- ✓ Las solicitudes deben enviarse antes del domingo, 16 de febrero de 2025

Apply Now



www.CountyofSB.org/GuadalupeLompoc

Aplica Ahora



www.CountyofSB.org/GuadalupeLompoc

The Santa Barbara County Regional Climate Collaborative is seeking three community members to join the Coordinating Committee for the Guadalupe-Lompoc Climate Action Initiative (GLI), a multi-year effort helping organizations and governments address challenges like air quality, extreme heat, water supply, food security, and wildfire risk. If you live or work in or around Guadalupe or Lompoc, this is your chance to support meaningful local climate action by coordinating projects, fostering community engagement, and sharing resources. Applications are due Sunday, February 16th, 2025—apply today or share with your network! [Fill out the application.](#)

Apply to Host a Climate Fellow

Applications are now open for organizations to host a California Climate Action Corps Fellow for the 2025-26 service year! Public agencies, Tribes, nonprofits, and educational institutions can apply by February 14, 2025, to bring passionate emerging leaders into their climate work. [Learn more here!](#)

Funding & Grant Opportunities

Federal Opportunities

The CSCI is now accepting grants to help communities accelerate climate resilience plans and projects

The Climate Smart Communities Initiative (CSCI) is now accepting grant applications to help communities accelerate their climate resilience plans and projects. To be eligible for consideration, a community must be located in the United States and facing significant climate-related challenges, based on environmental as well as socioeconomic considerations. For the purposes of the grant program, a community must be represented by a community-based organization and a local, regional or tribal government entity working collaboratively, and they must complete the application in partnership with an adaptation professional. The initiative will accept applications into March of 2025, and expects to announce the awards in the summer of 2025. [Read more on prior grant recipients.](#)

Coalition for Green Capital is now accepting applications for projects under EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

Coalition for Green Capital (CGC) welcomes applications for financing of projects or portfolios of projects that qualify under the EPA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) through the “Request for Proposals for Financial Assistance for Qualified Projects or Portfolios of Qualified Projects” (RFP No.1). To learn more about the RFP and the instructions for submission, [learn more here!](#)

Applications are now open for the latest round of Partners for Places grants

The Partners for Places grant program fosters equitable and sustainable communities in the U.S. and Canada by supporting partnerships between local governments, frontline community groups, and place-based funders. Since 2012, it has awarded about \$12 million, with over \$23 million in investments for urban sustainability projects, green stormwater infrastructure, community gardens, affordable housing, and vibrant public spaces. For the latest round of Partners for Places grants, these matching awards provide partnership investments between \$45,000 and \$100,000 for one-year projects, or between \$75,000 and \$150,000 for two-year projects, with one or more local foundations required to provide at least a 50% matching grant. There is a strong emphasis on racial equity and empowering frontline communities most affected by injustice and environmental harm. Applications for Round 22 are open until February 28, 2025. [Learn more here!](#)

IRA Federal EPA Thriving Communities via Resource Legacy Fund and SEES

The Thriving Communities Grantmaker Program, funded by the Inflation Reduction Act, aims to advance climate and environmental priorities through partnerships with experienced community-based grant-makers in Region 9, including California and Tribal Nations. Eligible entities include nonprofits, tribal governments, local governments, and higher education institutions, with grants ranging from \$150,000 to \$350,000 for assessment, planning, and project development. Activities may address air and water quality, green infrastructure, toxic substance cleanup, disaster resilience, and environmental justice training. Projects must benefit disadvantaged or environmentally burdened communities, with additional support for capacity-constrained organizations. Applications are open now. [Learn More!](#)



NOAA just released its final round of funding for

Transformational Habitat Restoration

NOAA Fisheries has announced its final round of funding for the Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grant. This opportunity supports projects that restore marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems while enhancing resilience to climate hazards. The grant is open to non-profits, for-profit organizations, Native American tribal organizations, and state or local governments. With no match requirement, the program will provide up to \$100 million in total funding, with a maximum of \$10 million per project. Funded projects will span a three-year timeframe. Applications are due by April 16, 2025. [Learn more here!](#)

Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities

NOAA has announced \$20 million in funding to support coastal habitat restoration and climate resilience projects, with a focus on benefiting tribes and underserved communities. This funding is part of the Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and represents the third and final round of this opportunity. Of the total funding, 15% is reserved specifically for U.S. federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and organizations representing tribes through formal legal agreements. The remaining funds are open to all eligible applicants, aiming to foster meaningful engagement in restoration activities for tribes and underserved communities. Proposals can request federal funding between \$75,000 and \$2 million, with typical awards ranging from \$250,000 to \$1 million. Applications must be submitted by May 12, 2025. This opportunity underscores NOAA's commitment to advancing environmental justice and climate resilience in coastal areas. [Learn more!](#)

State and Regional Opportunities

Senate Bill 1 Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant Program

The Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Grant Program provides funding to local and regional governments in California to develop sea level rise (SLR) adaptation plans and implementation projects that enhance coastal resilience. With \$19.97 million currently available, the program supports projects in two tracks: pre-planning and planning (Track 1) and implementation (Track 2, anticipated in mid-2025). Updated application materials include new project categories and revised criteria for San Francisco Bay multi-jurisdictional adaptation plans. The next deadline for full Track 1 proposals is March 21, 2025. Technical assistance is available to disadvantaged communities, small or rural areas, tribes, and other eligible applicants. [Learn more here!](#)

California Coastal Conservancy Grants

The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) accepts grant applications on an ongoing basis for projects that benefit public access, natural resources, working lands, and climate resilience on the California coast and in the entirety of the nine SF Bay Area counties. The priority is to advance nature-based solutions where possible, with a focus on on-the-ground project development, including getting from concepts to implementable projects. Funded activities may include: (1) property acquisition; (2) project planning, including community capacity-building and involvement, feasibility, design, environmental review, permitting; and (3) construction and project-related monitoring. The funding does not have a maximum or minimum grant amount, but SCC anticipates that most grants will fall within the range of \$200,000 to

Events & Webinars

Virtual Conference on Solutions for Climate Change February 2-7 at Cal Poly



Explore ways to engage with solutions to the climate crisis at [Climate Solutions Now](#) (Feb 3-7). This virtual Cal Poly event is open to everyone – all are welcome!

Discover opportunities for engagement with solutions to the climate crisis for students, faculty, industry, local government, and members of the general public. Climate Solutions Now elevates the climate work being done in education and communication, policy development, technology, and industry practice. View [AGENDA](#) and the 75+ speakers at this all-virtual conference, [SPEAKER LIST](#). [GET YOUR TICKETS!](#)

Public Listening Sessions: 2026-2030 OPC Strategic Plan February 21, 2025

The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) is seeking early public feedback to inform OPC's forthcoming 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. Building from the current [2020-2025 Strategic Plan to Protect California's Coast and Ocean](#), the new Strategic Plan will guide OPC's work to protect California's coast and ocean through 2030. A draft 2026-2030 Strategic Plan will be released in late Spring 2025 for written public comment. Please share your priorities to inform this draft Strategic Plan using the form below by 11:59 p.m. Friday, February 21, 2025 (Extended Deadline). [Learn more and register.](#)

In-person listening sessions will be held across the state to inform the draft 2026-2030 Strategic Plan. Please register for the listening session(s) you plan to attend. Please note important access and transportation information on the registration form. Each listening session will begin with an introductory presentation, although members of the public are welcome to attend at any time during the two-hour listening sessions. Upcoming dates and locations:

- Wednesday, February 12, 2025 (San Francisco)
- Tuesday, February 28, 2025 (Long Beach)

[Learn more and register!](#)

Call for Sessions for the California Climate and Energy Forum **July 9-10, 2025 | San Jose, CA**

The 16th Annual CCEC Forum, themed “Hope in Action: Local Leads the Way,” will spotlight the critical role of local leadership in shaping a sustainable future amidst an uncertain climate landscape. With the urgency of the climate crisis growing and the growing clarity that it is local action that will lead the way, this two-day event will convene local and regional governments, State agencies, community-based organizations (CBOs), nonprofits, and private sector leaders to explore bold, actionable solutions. By showcasing how grassroots initiatives and regional collaborations are driving innovation and equity, the forum underscores the importance of local action as the cornerstone of climate resilience and progress. This call for session proposals will help ensure that the forum will feature engaging sessions and new innovative activities to help climate and energy leaders and practitioners connect to learn about innovative projects and strategies, share best practices, and troubleshoot challenges.

Proposals due Friday, February 7th. Funding can go towards attending Forum and working on a GLI focused Session. [Learn more.](#)

We are updating our listserv! Please update your contact information by emailing us at centralcoastclimate@gmail.com

[Central Coast Climate Collaborative](#)

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