



## 4C Newsletter | March 2025



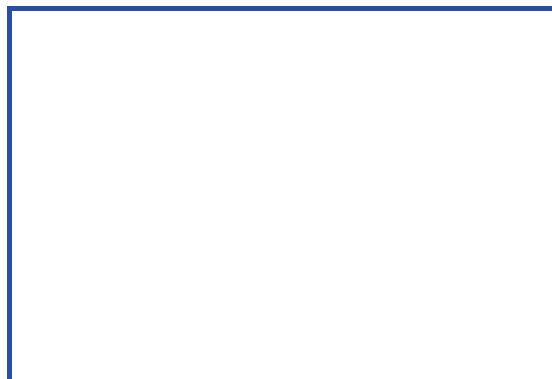
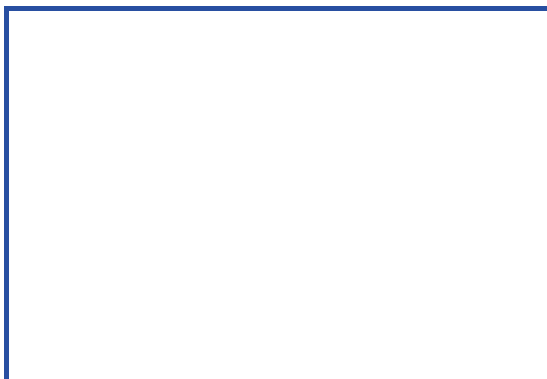
We hope you are looking forward to our transition into spring! This newsletter includes 4C updates, news, and events relevant to the Central Coast, including:

- Provide news and updates from the region and beyond
- Detail available funding and grant opportunities related to climate
- Announce events and webinars that are occurring this spring
- List potential job opportunities that are upcoming

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

## 2025 4C Member Activities

**Congratulations to 4C's new leadership!**





**Em Johnson, Chair**

"As chair of Central Coast Climate Collaborative, I'll work to align our region to statewide strategies and support to operationally define Collaborative roles and accountability mechanisms to cultivate a healthy executive committee culture."



**Juan Lares, Vice Chair**

"I see 4C as a vital platform for collaboration, and as Vice Chair, I would focus on strengthening cross-sector partnerships, broadening engagement, and advancing climate resilience through an inclusive, justice-driven approach."

## **Thank you for joining the March 12th Member Meeting**



Thank you for joining the 4C March Member Meeting! We appreciate your time and engagement as we work together to advance equitable climate solutions across the Central Coast. We announced our newly elected officers, Em Johnson and Juan Lares, shared a climate news roundup, highlighted 4C's 2025 workplan—including grant writing services and the Resilience Hubs Toolkit—shared upcoming events and regional convenings, and heard from our members on their highlights. We're looking forward to the year ahead and the opportunities to collaborate on regional climate initiatives. Mark your calendars for our **next member meeting on May 14th from 12–2 PM**—we hope to see you there!

## **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. Our first grant writing workshop opportunity will be at our **next member meeting on May 14th from 12–2 PM**.

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.

## News & Resources

### Regional



### City of Santa Cruz Council adopted a combined Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Climate Adaptation Plan

The city updated its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) and because climate adaptation and hazard mitigation share a common goal of reducing impacts from natural and climate-related hazards that are expected to increase in frequency and intensity due to climate change, the City used this plan update as an opportunity to update and incorporate its 2018–2023 Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP) into its LHMP. It is the first of its kind to be approved by FEMA. [Find the report here.](#)

### Santa Barbara County Regional Climate Collaborative impact report

In March 2025, the Santa Barbara County Regional Climate Collaborative celebrated its 5<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary with a Network Event and the release of its [5-Year Impact Report](#). Highlights include:

- Over 60 organizations and 110 individuals active across the Collaborative

- \$3.5 million secured for the Collaborative and its members to develop and implement regional programs for climate resilience and capacity building
- 6 subcommittees focused on equity, clean energy, sea level rise, building decarbonization, land stewardship and community resilience in Carpinteria
- \$22,000 in stipends paid to individuals on the Equity Advisory & Outreach Committee

Last year, the Collaborative launched the Resilient Cuyama Valley Initiative and the Guadalupe-Lompoc Initiative to support grassroots initiatives to develop plans and projects to enhance climate resilience, build local capacity and engage the community. To learn more about the Collaborative and to view the Report online, visit [countyofsb.org/collaborative](https://countyofsb.org/collaborative).

## **Do you love Santa Cruz and Monterey coastal State Parks and State Beaches? Please take this survey!**

This study seeks to better understand public values as they relate to coastal State Parks lands from Año Nuevo Point to Garrapata Creek to inform the Monterey Bay Living Shorelines Program (MBLSP). The MBLSP is developing tools, strategies, and a framework to help manage and protect coastlines, with a focus on planning and implementing nature-based projects that enhance coastal resilience against the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, erosion, and coastal storms. [Take the Survey.](#)

## **State**

### **Proposition 4: Overview**

In November 2024, California voters passed Proposition 4: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, affectionately referred to as “the Resilience Bond.” In the following document we provide an overview of the Proposition, an in depth view of the funding allocations, specific Central Coast applications, and resources. You can find more information [here](#).

### **California Climate Bond: Grant Programs Feedback**

The California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) will serve as the coordinating agency for the rollout of the Proposition 4 Climate Bond (overview provided above). In order to improve the accessibility and effectiveness of state grant programs, the CNRA invites you to share your experiences with grants by completing their survey. Your input will help inform Climate Bond implementation in the months ahead. **Responses are due on April 18th 2025 at 5:00pm.** [Find the survey here.](#)

### **Lessons from Influential Reports on the Woolsey Fire continue to be Relevant for the Palisades Fire**

Climate Resolve and Resilient Cities Catalyst published two landmark reports in 2021; [Lessons from the Woolsey Fire](#) and [Exhausted: Workers Confront Heat and Wildfire Smoke](#). The reports were influential, spurring new laws and protective regulations. [ABC News](#) recently cited the Woolsey report’s finding that in 2021 “most homes were chronically underinsured” – a problem that was also true in the Palisades Fire.

## **Request for Proposals**

### **ARCCA Business Plan Consultant RFP Now Open**

The Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) is seeking qualified consultants to develop a comprehensive business plan guiding our transition to

a statewide entity serving California's climate adaptation needs. Budget up to \$30,000 with **proposals due April 18**. Final deliverables due July 18. Find [RFP here](#). Contact [admin@arccacalifornia.org](mailto:admin@arccacalifornia.org) for details.

## Santa Barbara County Wildfire Resilience Collaborative RFP

The Santa Barbara County Wildfire Resilience Collaborative (WRC) received a grant from the California Coastal Conservancy to develop wildfire resilience and habitat restoration plans at 10 sites in Goleta and southern Santa Barbara County. Draft plans are available on the [WRC website](#). The WRC requests proposal submissions from consultants with experience in environmental review and CEQA analysis of watershed and riparian restoration projects designed to reduce wildfire risk and improve native habitats. Please see the RFP [here](#). **Proposals are due April 11, 2025, at 5 PM PDT**. See the attached RFP for details or contact Christina McGinnis at [mcginnisenv@gmail.com](mailto:mcginnisenv@gmail.com).

## Funding & Grant Opportunities



### Federal Opportunities

#### [NOAA's 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. 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.

**Eligibility:** The grant is open to non-profits, for-profit organizations, Native American tribal organizations, and state or local governments.

**Deadline:** Applications are due by April 16, 2025.

#### [FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance](#)

This grant program makes and estimated \$600,000,000 of federal funds available to reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and within NFIP-participating communities.

**Eligibility:** States, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local governments

**Deadline:** Application deadline is April 18, 2025.

## [NOAA Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Tribes and Underserved Communities](#)

\$20 million in funding is available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support coastal habitat restoration projects. Of this, 15% is reserved for U.S. federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and tribal organizations. NOAA will accept proposals ranging from \$75,000 to \$2 million will be accepted, with typical awards between \$250,000 and \$1 million.

**Eligibility:** Tribes and underserved communities

**Deadline:** Applications are due by May 12, 2025.



## State and Regional Opportunities

### [Tribal Wildfire Resilience Grants](#)

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) announced up to \$5 million in funding for Tribal Wildfire Resilience projects. CAL FIRE is soliciting applications for projects that support California Native American Tribes in managing ancestral lands, implementing and promoting Traditional Ecological Knowledges in wildfire resilience, and creating wildfire safety for tribal communities.

**Eligibility:** Eligible applicants are California Native American Tribes, and tribal-led nonprofit organizations with documentation.

**Deadline:** Applications due by 12 pm on March 28, 2025.

### [2026 California Sea Grant Biennial Request for Proposals](#)

The California Sea Grant College Program is soliciting proposals for applied research projects that address California Sea Grant's 2024-2027 Strategic Plan within the following focus areas: Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (SFA) and Resilient Communities and Economies (RCE). Proposals will be accepted into one of three tracks, each with their respective priorities and requirements: Indigenous Fisheries and Aquaculture, Graduate Research Fellowships, and Cultivate Awards. A total of \$3,200,000 is available for funding across the three research tracks.

**Eligibility:** California-based public agencies, Native American tribes and tribally-led entities, public or private universities, or nonprofit corporations.

**Deadline:** Deadline for proposals April 7th, 2025.

### [CDFA Farm to Community Food Hubs Program Grants](#)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Farm to Community Food Hubs Program will award up to \$13.75 million in competitive grants for organizations developing and expanding new and existing community food hubs to increase the purchasing of local, climate-smart, and nutritious foods by schools and other institutions

in California. Up to 10 percent of the available funding will be set aside for projects led by California Native American Tribes and tribal-led nonprofit organizations.

**Deadline: Applications due by 5 pm on April 14, 2025.**

### [California Coastal Conservancy Grants](#)

The State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) offers ongoing grants for projects that enhance public access, natural resources, working lands, and climate resilience across California's coast and the nine SF Bay Area counties. Priority is given to nature-based solutions and advancing projects from concept to implementation. Grants typically range from \$200,000 to \$5,000,000.

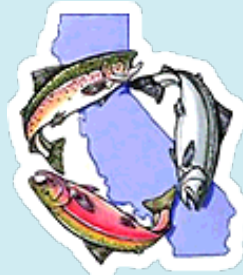
**Eligibility:** Eligible activities include property acquisition, project planning (feasibility, design, community involvement), and construction/monitoring.

**Deadline: Ongoing**

### [3C-REN Commercial Energy Savings Program](#)

3C-REN Commercial Energy Savings Program is a locally driven program that provides incentives and resources to businesses in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties to help businesses achieve their energy goals. The program offers incentives for energy efficiency upgrades, flexible solutions for small to medium-sized businesses, support for businesses seeking to lower greenhouse gas emissions, among other services.

## Events & Webinars



### **Advancing Tribal Stewardship Through Cultural Fire**

**April 1, 2025 | 1pm**

Join the Karuk Tribe and the State of California for a public webinar for more information on "Advancing Tribal Stewardship Through Cultural Fire," scheduled for April 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. [Register here.](#)



### **CCCJN Presents: A Community-Led Vision for a Central Coast Green New Deal**

**April 23 & 24, 2025**

Join the Central Coast Climate Justice Network for a presentation of findings from the Green New Deal Framework for California's Central Coast. Together, we'll explore community-driven solutions for climate resilience, social equity, and economic transformation.

This event is a call to action for Santa Barbara and Ventura County residents to engage in climate justice efforts and help shape the future of our region based on community voices.

### Two Opportunities to Join:

#### Daytime Session

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 | 1:30-2:30 PM

Register: [gnd.cccjn.org/day](https://gnd.cccjn.org/day)

#### Evening Session

*\*Spanish & Mixteco interpretation will be available for this session\**

Thursday, April 24, 2025 | 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Register: [gnd.cccjn.org/eve](https://gnd.cccjn.org/eve)

#### Questions?

Email [Juan.Lares@cccjn.org](mailto:Juan.Lares@cccjn.org) or visit [cccjn.org/events](https://cccjn.org/events)



**Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival**  
**April 26 & 27, 2025**



Join us for the 55th Annual Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival at Alameda Park on April 26-27, 2025! This free, community-organized event is one of the longest-running and largest Earth Day festivals on the West Coast, presented by the Community Environmental Council (CEC) and co-produced with CarpEvents. This year's theme, "Our Power, Our Planet," highlights the call for renewable energy and environmental action. Enjoy a weekend filled with over 200 eco-friendly exhibitors, a plant-forward food court, a Green Car Show, live music, a beer & wine garden, a kids' zone, and much more. It's a perfect opportunity to connect with local nonprofits, explore sustainable solutions, and be inspired to take action for a greener, more sustainable future. Don't miss out on this celebration of community and environmental stewardship! [Learn more here!](#)

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We are updating our listserv! Please update your contact information by emailing us at [centralcoastclimate@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastclimate@gmail.com)

[Central Coast Climate Collaborative](#)

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