



2026 Legislative Platforms

State Platform

Funding:

1. *Advocate for long-term, multi-year funding for our agency partners for climate related projects and ensure eligibility for NCCPs and HCPs.

Activities: Coordinate with the conservation community for funding for land acquisition through the new GGRF funding.

Activities: Support proposals that could provide increased funding for NCCPs and HCPs, including dedicated funding or eligibility and increased competitiveness for applications from NCCPs and HCPs.
2. *Work with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) and state agencies on new funding and continued roll out of existing funding for NCCP and HCP implementation through the state budget.

Activities: Advocate for funding for land acquisition grants, restoration and recovery grants, wildlife connectivity grants, planning grants, habitat ESA section 6 grants, management and monitoring grants.
3. *Advocate for Proposition 4 and other public funding guideline development to include increased funding for Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCP) and Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP), including dedicated funding streams and increasing their competitiveness for funding
4. *Support funding for dedicated CDFW staff to support implementation of NCCPs.
5. Work with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to make the Local Assistance Grant program more useful to individual plans, including streamlining how contracts are established and seeking more funding.
6. Develop a multi-year strategy to increase dedicated funding for land acquisition and restoration.

Policy:

1. *Support legislation that will advance and protect NCCPs and HCPs.

Activities: Support AB 1083 (Connolly) to protect the definition of “natural and protected lands” and protect habitat for sensitive species.

2. *Address any language that is detrimental to NCCPs and HCPs in 2026 legislation.

Education & Relationship Building Platform:

1. *Engage the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) on the integration of NCCPs and HCPs into 30x30 priorities and any state action plans.
2. *Continue development of legislative champions for the Coalition.

Activities: Coordinate education campaigns for CHCPC members and their legislative representatives through in-district meetings or a Sacramento Lobby Day.

Regulatory Platform

1. *Track and push for the inclusion of long-term management funds with the discussion of 30x30 and other land acquisition goals.
2. *Work with the CDFW and the WCB to expedite project approvals and permitting. This includes supporting the Cutting the Green Tape initiative, restoration and acquisition projects, scientific collection permits with CDFW, and ensuring that projects submitted to WCB are moved to the Board for consideration in a timely manner.
3. Work on achieving alignment between NCCPs/HCPs and state resource regulatory permitting including permits from the Regional Waterboards, State Waterboard, CDFW Lake and Streambed Alterations Agreements (LSAA-1600).
4. Work with CDFW to establish a standardized NCCP amendment process.

Federal Platform

1. Participate in the Government Relations Committee [GRC] of the National HCP Coalition.
2. Seek additional funding for the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation

*2026 Priorities

Fund [CESCF, Endangered Species Act, Section 6] in partnership with the National HCP Coalition's GRC. For FY 2026-2027, seek a total of \$110 million, including \$85 million for HCP land acquisition and \$25 million for Recovery land acquisition.

3. Continue to engage with USFWS and DOI as needed on Section 6 HCP land acquisition and planning NOFO language discussions with the USFWS through the GRC.
4. Comment on updates to the USFWS's handbook.