

NOAA PUBLIC MEETING:

Evaluation of the California Coastal Management Program

August 10, 2026 | Santa Monica, California

NOAA's Office for Coastal Management is holding this public meeting and two virtual public meetings on August 11 and 12, 2026, to gather input for the performance evaluation of California's coastal management program. These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to build upon the feedback received from the previous public meeting held in August 2024. During these public meetings, NOAA specifically seeks relevant stakeholder input regarding spaceport infrastructure, offshore oil production, pipeline maintenance, desalination projects, and undersea cables.

BACKGROUND

The National Coastal Zone Management Program is authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 and is a voluntary partnership between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states and territories. State and territorial coastal management programs balance the demands of coastal resource use, economic development, and conservation.

The Coastal Zone Management Act calls for the periodic evaluation of all federally approved coastal management programs. This evaluation examines the operation and management of California's coastal management program administered through three agencies—California Coastal Commission, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and California State Coastal Conservancy. Each evaluation assesses how the state addresses the national coastal zone management objectives contained in Section 303(2) of the Act, how the program implements and enforces the state coastal management program, and how well the program adheres to the programmatic terms and conditions of financial assistance awards.

NOAA began its periodic review of California's coastal management program in August 2024. On June 26, 2026, NOAA published a notice in the *Federal Register* notifying the public about its intent to hold additional public meetings.



When the evaluation is complete, NOAA's Office for Coastal Management will place another notice in the *Federal Register* announcing the availability of the final evaluation findings. Transcripts from this meeting and the virtual meetings will be available upon request via the dedicated comment email address: czma.california-evaluation@noaa.gov.

The most recent evaluation findings are available at coast.noaa.gov/czm/evaluations/evaluation_findings/index.html

PUBLIC MEETING PROCESS

In-Person Public Meeting: For today's in-person meeting, NOAA will proceed through the registered speaker list in the order of registration. Each speaker will have up to 3 minutes to provide comments. We will provide a time warning at the 2-minute-50-second mark. We ask speakers to conclude their remarks by the 3-minute mark to allow as many commenters as possible the opportunity to speak. At the 3-minute-5-second mark, the microphone will be muted to enable the next speaker to approach. Should we reach in-room capacity for today's public meeting, please feel free to watch the livestream by visiting the registration area for a QR code.

Over 100 speakers have registered in advance, and additional speakers have signed up on-site today. We will move through the speaker list using this process until 6:30 p.m. At that time we will close the public comment period for this meeting. If you are unable to provide comments today, NOAA encourages you to participate in the upcoming virtual public meetings or submit written comments to NOAA by August 22, 2026, via the email address provided below.

Virtual Public Meetings: Two virtual meetings will be held on August 11 and 12, 2026, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific Time, during which public comments will also be accepted. Register using the QR code to the right.

Written Comments: You may also submit written comments for inclusion in the findings to czma.california-evaluation@noaa.gov no later than Saturday, August 22, 2026.



MEDIA REQUESTS

Media inquiries can be directed to our NOAA public affairs office at oceanservicepress@noaa.gov.

