



August 20, 2025

The Honorable Mike McGuire
Senate President pro Tempore
California State Senate

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker of the Assembly
California State Assembly

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Senate Budget Committee
California State Senate

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
California State Assembly

The Honorable Ben Allen
Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee 2
California State Senate

The Honorable Steve Bennett
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 4
California State Assembly

RE: Prioritize Proposition 4 Implementation in FY 2025-26

Dear pro Tem McGuire, Speaker Rivas, Senator Wiener, Assemblymember Gabriel, Senator Allen, and Assemblymember Bennett:

On behalf of the undersigned coalition of organizations who represent the key supporters and funders of Proposition 4 (Prop 4), we write to respectfully urge the Legislature to appropriate **at least \$2.7 billion** in Prop 4 investments for fiscal year 2025-26. Specifically, our coalition recommends the Legislature take action to dedicate the following investments from Prop 4:

- Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience: \$1.2B
 - Projects to provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water
 - Water reuse and recycling projects
 - Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program
 - Water conveyance projects
 - Equitable allocation between Salton Sea Authority and Salton Sea Conservancy
 - Salmon and migratory bird restoration projects
- Wildfire and Forest Resilience: \$440M
 - Wildfire prevention projects such as vegetation management and fuels reduction
 - Investments to reduce community risk and increase local community preparedness
 - Investments to support the Wildfire Conservancy and California Fire Foundation
- Coastal Resilience: \$330M
 - Coastal resilience projects, including the San Francisco Bay programs
 - Marine fisheries, island, and kelp restoration projects
 - Sea level rise mitigation and adaptation and coastal and flood management projects
- Protect Biodiversity and Accelerating Nature-Based Climate Solutions: \$340M

- Investments to support the Wildlife Conservation Board programs
- Clean Air: \$228M
 - Investments to upgrade California port facilities and infrastructure to prepare for offshore wind projects

The passage of Prop 4 is thanks to the leadership of the Legislature and the overwhelming support of California voters, with more than 9 million Californians voting to invest \$10 billion in climate resilience. The increasing prevalence of megafires, extreme weather, flooding, and aridification demonstrate the urgent need for Prop 4 funding to address the immediate safety and wellbeing of Californians. Given the cuts to and uncertainty around federal funding for natural resources, state investments are more important than ever.

Deploying Prop 4 this year will save California billions in future costs. Without intervention, the cost of climate change to California is [estimated](#) to reach \$113 billion annually by 2050. However, in 2025, the cost of natural disasters to California has already surpassed the amount. The total economic cost of the fires that devastated Southern California in January is estimated to be more than \$250 billion, making it one of the costliest natural disasters in U.S. history. By investing in natural resources and climate resilience, California can reduce the cost of future disasters: [analyses](#) suggest that on average each \$1 of investment in resilience saves up to \$13 economic costs, damages, and cleanup. California cannot afford to delay implementation of Prop 4 funding.

We urge the Legislature's continued leadership in appropriating Prop 4 investments this year. We look forward to continuing to work with and support the Legislature's implementation of Prop 4 in a manner that upholds the commitment made by and to the voters.

Sincerely,

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California Policy Director
The Nature Conservancy

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