

SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA'S

PRIORITY ISSUES FOR 2009

1. Fighting Global Warming, Generating Clean Energy and Stimulating Green Jobs

Both President-elect Obama and Governor Schwarzenegger have recognized the importance of curbing climate change and the potential for energy efficiency and renewable energy to create green jobs while reducing pollution. Sierra Club California will work with the Legislature, Governor and Air Resources Board to speed our state's transition to a green economy that sustains both jobs and our atmosphere.

We can make nation-leading progress this coming year by:

- Raising the Renewables Portfolio Standard to 33% or higher by 2020, with policy reforms to improve implementation
- Requiring major polluters to pay for their greenhouse gas emissions, with revenues used to benefit clean energy, public transit, preparedness, green jobs and low-income consumers
- Protecting community health while we address global warming by including strong smart growth measures and safeguards against "hot spots" of local pollution

2. Safeguarding Our Water Supply

California's current water policies are failing to provide our people, our economy, and our environment with adequate supplies of clean, affordable water. We must respect, and adjust to meet, the natural limits on our waters and waterways – including limits posed by climate change.

To that end, Sierra Club California will work to:

- Promote statewide water conservation and efficiency, including enacting into law the Governor's call for urban water agencies to achieve a 20% reduction in per capita water use statewide by 2020
- Advance a comprehensive solution to the problems of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta that restores the Delta ecosystem while providing a reliable water supply for the state
- Build best management practices for urban water agencies by revising existing BMPs for water loss detection, and develop new BMPs for water recycling

3. Protecting Consumers from Toxic Products

Bipartisan 2008 legislation gives the Department of Toxic Substances Control the authority to ensure that consumer products, like toys, linens, and shampoo, sold in California are safe for our families.

In 2009, we will build on that breakthrough by working with DTSC to put its new regulatory framework in place and to implement additional measures that promote greener chemistry.

4. Preserving Our Natural Heritage

As California's wild salmon teeter on the brink of extinction, we will continue to pressure the Board of Forestry to fix the flawed logging rules that are destroying salmon habitat.

And we will work in the Legislature to ensure that California's beautiful coast, desert, ocean and parks are protected, and that our diverse (but diminishing) species and habitats are safeguarded from such disparate threats as development and global warming.