

---

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

---

## SB 1268 (Gonzalez) - Outdoor public recreation spaces: equitable access

**Version:** April 23, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** May 11, 2026

**Policy Vote:** N.R. & W. 5 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Ashley Ames

**Bill Summary:** This bill would establish the Outdoors for All initiative, to be administered by the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA).

### **Fiscal Impact:**

- CNRA estimates ongoing costs of \$250,000 annually (General Fund) for staff support and potential consulting costs to develop and produce strategy updates and progress reports as required by this bill.

**Background:** CNRA administers the Outdoors for All initiative championed by Governor Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom. CNRA published a strategy (Strategy) for the initiative in November 2023 identifying six priorities:

- 1) Establish Spaces for People and Nature to Thrive.
- 2) Foster Belonging.
- 3) Connect People and the Outdoors.
- 4) Co-Create with Communities.
- 5) Build Equitable Career Pathways and a Representative Workforce.
- 6) Align Funding to Achieve Outdoors for All.

**30x30.** California's 30x30 initiative to conserve 30% of the state's land and coastal waters by 2030 is part of an international movement to conserve natural areas across our planet, through which scores of countries have established their own 30x30 commitments. California's initiative seeks to protect and restore biodiversity, expand access to nature, and mitigate and build resilience to climate change.

**Equitable Outdoor Access Act.** The Equitable Outdoor Access Act (AB 30, Kalra, Chapter 939, Statutes of 2022) established that it is the policy of the state to 1) ensure all Californians have equitable opportunities to the benefits of nature; 2) maximize public access to public lands; and 3) prevent and minimize the intentional and unwarranted limitation of sustainable public access to public lands.

**Proposed Law:** This bill would:

1. Establish common definitions for relevant terms in the bill, including:
  - a. "30x30 goal."
  - b. "Agency."
  - c. "Outdoors for All initiative"

- d. "Outdoor public recreation spaces."
2. Establish the Outdoors for All initiative to be administered by CNRA in consultation with State Parks and other relevant state agencies.
3. Require CNRA to implement all of the following priorities provided in the Outdoors for All Strategy published by the agency on November 15, 2023:
  - a. Establish outdoor public recreation spaces for people and nature to thrive.
  - b. Foster belonging.
  - c. Connect people and the outdoors.
  - d. Cocreate with communities.
  - e. Build equitable career pathways and a representative workforce.
  - f. Align funding from federal, state, regional, and private sources to achieve the initiative's goals.
4. Codify the position of Deputy Secretary for Access at CNRA.
5. Require CNRA, on or before December 31, 2028, and every five years thereafter, to update the Outdoors for All Strategy, as provided.
  - a. Require CNRA to consult with diverse stakeholders, including community-based organizations, local governments, and environmental justice advocates, to ensure inclusive decisionmaking and prevent loopholes.
  - b. Require CNRA to host at least three public meetings as part of the update process.
  - c. Provide at least one 30-day public comment period on the update.
  - d. Post the final update on its website.
6. Require CNRA, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to submit a report to the Legislature detailing the progress made to achieve the initiative's goals, including implementing and updating the Outdoors for All Strategy.
7. Make relevant findings and declarations.

**Related Legislation:**

AB 900 (Papan, Chapter 385, Statutes of 2025) requires CNRA to develop strategies to reduce barriers and increase support for stewardship of conserved lands.

AB 2440 (Reyes, Chapter 716, Statutes of 2024) requires CNRA to prioritize promoting and supporting partnering state agencies and departments that acquire and steward state land, and requires the 30x30 progress report include information on the amount of funding expended by each partnering state agency and department for land and water conservation, science and research, public outreach and engagement, and managing, monitoring, and restoring conserved lands and water, as well as information on state funding invested in equitable outdoor access.

SB 1402 (Min, 2024) would have required all state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions, and conservancies to consider the 30x30 goal when adopting, revising, or establishing plans, policies, or regulations that directly affect the use of coastal waters or land, management of natural resources, or biodiversity conservation. This bill was held on the Assembly Appropriations suspense file.

AB 30 (Kalra, Chapter 939, Statutes of 2022) established the Equitable Outdoor Access Act.

**Staff Comments:** This bill would formalize and expand CNRA's role in the Outdoors for All initiative, requiring CNRA to administer, consult, plan and update strategy, conduct public engagement, and report annually to the Legislature. Most requirements largely align with existing CNRA policy focus and staffing and, according to CNRA, many activities appear to be absorbable. However, this bill would add recurring statutory deliverables (progress reports and a 5-year strategy updates with prescribed public processes) that would likely require staff support and potential consulting costs.

**-- END --**