



Technical Advisory Council

Item 10: State Extreme Heat Action Plan

Mar. 6, 2026

Introduction

The 2022 Extreme Heat Action Plan provides a strategic and comprehensive set of state actions to adapt and build resilience in the face of extreme heat. It outlines California's all-of-government approach to mitigating the health, economic, cultural, ecological, and social impacts of increasing average temperatures and heat waves. The plan is comprised of four tracks to organize the actions: awareness, community response, the built environment, and nature-based solutions. The action plan was developed as part of the state's 2021 update to California's Climate Adaptation Strategy, in recognition of the need for an updated, integrated approach to addressing extreme heat. The Extreme Heat Action Plan provides an update to and expansion of the state's 2013 report on extreme heat ("Preparing California for Extreme Heat Guidance and Recommendations").

Building on the foundation of the 2022 Extreme Heat Action Plan and in alignment with California's broader climate resilience efforts, the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (LCI) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) are co-facilitating the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan to reflect current state actions and priorities from across state agencies, departments, boards, commissions and conservancies. Mandated by SB 306 (Caballero, 2023), this update ensures California's approach to extreme heat adaptation remains strategic, data-driven, and responsive.

CNRA and LCI worked closely with interagency partners throughout Fall 2025 to produce the first draft of the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan. This draft was recently released for public comment and includes new and updated actions based on input from agency partners. Twenty-four percent of the actions are considered "New," which means they were not in the 2022 Action Plan or have been reclassified as "established actions" (these actions were "recommended" in the 2022 plan because they were not underway at the time). Thirty-two percent of the actions are considered "Updated," which means that they have received modifications to their language and/or updates to their list of supporting agencies.

During the public comment period, LCI and CNRA will organize both in-person and virtual workshops and facilitate Tribal engagement to disseminate the draft 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan and gather feedback on updated and new actions. In-person regional

workshops will take place in Fresno, Redding, Riverside, the Coachella Valley, San Diego, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, and Sacramento. Data collected from these workshops – and more broadly through the public comment process – will be shared with agency partners in Spring 2026 and incorporated into the final 2026 Plan slated for release by July 1, 2026.

The public comment draft of the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan can be found [here](#).

Additional Background Material

The Extreme Heat Action Plan Update embodies a collaborative interagency effort among 60 agencies, departments, boards, commissions, and conservancies with actions organized around four main tracks and 13 track-specific goals:

- *Action Track A: Build Public Awareness and Notification*
 - Goal 1: Build public awareness about extreme heat through targeted communications and campaigns
 - Goal 2: Support actionable climate science and research to inform risk assessments and decision-making
 - Goal 3: Improve accuracy and accessibility of heat modeling and data to inform decision-makers
- *Action Track B: Strengthen Community Services and Response*
 - Goal 1: Invest in social resilience
 - Goal 2: Protect California’s workers and economy from the impacts of extreme heat
 - Goal 3: Support local planning and response measures to extreme heat events
- *Action Track C: Increase Resilience of our Built Environment*
 - Goal 1: Protect critical infrastructure
 - Goal 2: Support heat resilient and cooler communities through relevant regulations and codes
 - Goal 3: Invest in cool buildings and surfaces
 - Goal 4: Utilize science-based frameworks and tools
- *Action Track D: Utilize Nature-Based Solutions*
 - Goal 1: Promote nature-based solutions to reduce extreme heat risks
 - Goal 2: Support nature’s ability to withstand and adapt to increasing temperatures
 - Goal 3: Reduce heat risk to water supply and systems

Actions within the plan are also split into two categories:

- *Established actions* are underway and being implemented. Most established actions within the plan feature examples that highlight current programs, tools, or initiatives. The examples listed are non-exhaustive and don't fully encompass all the work currently taking place under the given action.
- *Recommended actions* would address important needs, and implementation may require additional or new resources. Some recommended actions detail further context and direction for the action.

Discussion Questions

- How can we best engage the public on the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan during the public comment period and after its release in Summer 2026?
- How can the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan better support extreme heat engagement and coordination among state agencies?
- How can we make the 2026 Extreme Heat Action Plan more accessible and relevant to local practitioners and community members?
- How do we effectively integrate additional items into the plan, such as case studies, reflections on progress, and next steps?