

# Caltrans Coastal Program and Interagency Agreement

FACT SHEET NO. 1 | SEPTEMBER 2014

## About the Caltrans Coastal Program

The Caltrans Coastal Program (CP) trains, educates and coordinates with Caltrans staff working on projects in the California coastal zone that must comply with the California Coastal Act. The California Coastal Commission (Commission), which implements the California Coastal Act, has a rigorous and complex process of reviewing and approving projects in the coastal zone. The CP serves as a link between Districts and the Commission, and assists Districts in navigating and understanding coastal policies and requirements.

## Interagency Agreement

The CP implements the Interagency Agreement with the Commission. The Interagency Agreement was established in 2000 to respond to the need for early and active Commission staff participation in Caltrans' project development process to comply with the Coastal Act and applicable Local Coastal Programs (LCPs). Past efforts to streamline scoping, coordination, and reviews with regulatory agencies were challenged due to lack of staffing and resources. As a result, there was frequently a lack of communication on projects in the coastal zone.

## Caltrans Coastal Program Coordination

The Interagency Agreement has allowed for closer coordination and communication of Caltrans and Commission staff throughout the project delivery process. Ongoing collaboration will aid both entities not only in meeting their statutory responsibilities, but also in fostering the creation of a modern multimodal transportation network that complements the spectacular resources—natural, cultural, and visual—of the state.

To learn more about the CP, contact Scott Williams at [scott.m.williams@dot.ca.gov](mailto:scott.m.williams@dot.ca.gov).

The Commission, in partnership with coastal cities and counties, plans and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone. Development projects (including transportation projects) in the coastal zone generally require a coastal permit from either the Commission or a local jurisdiction with a Commission-certified local coastal program (LCP). In addition, projects must meet the requirements of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

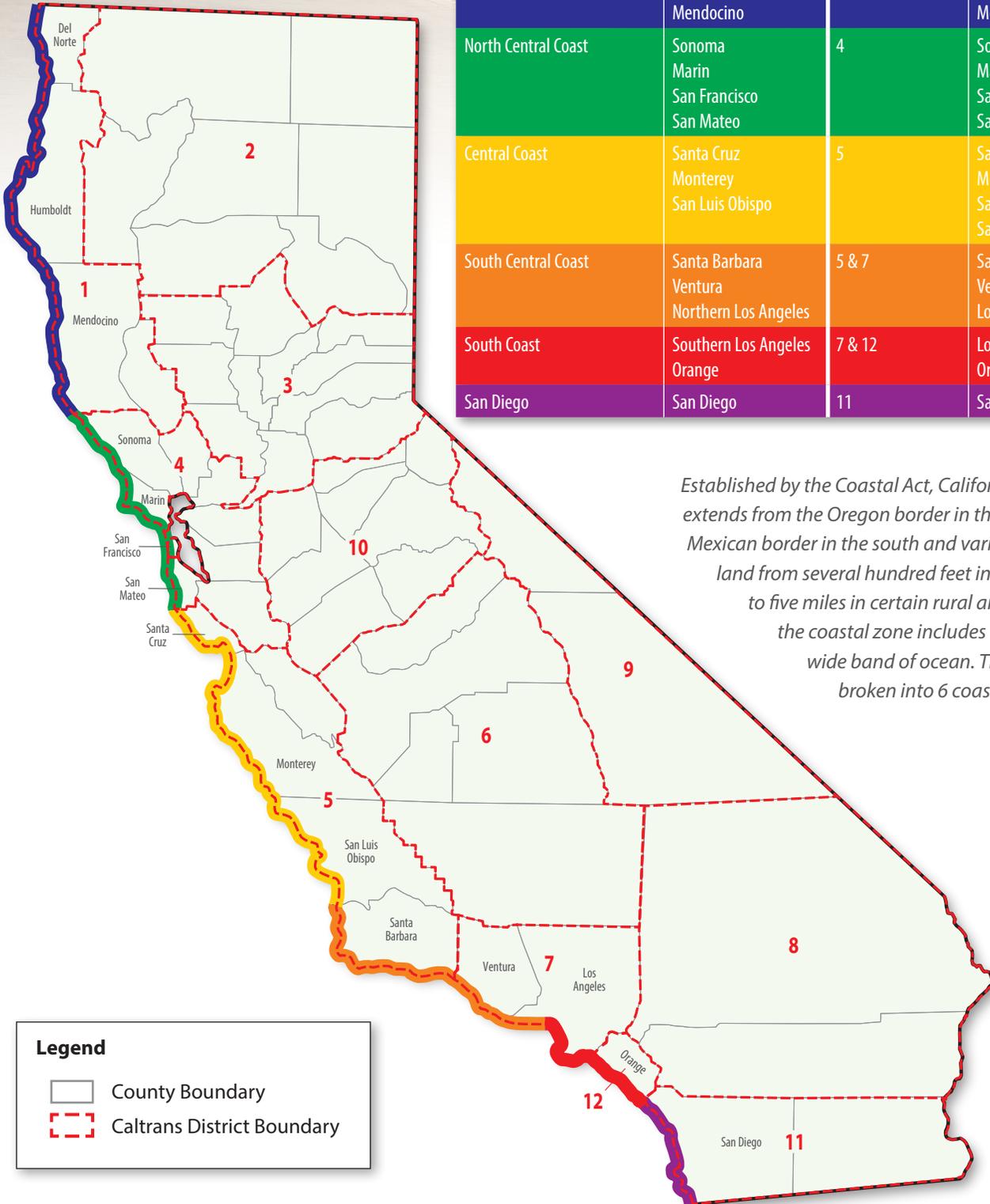
As the state department responsible for the transportation infrastructure in California, Caltrans is often involved in projects in the coastal zone. Such projects must satisfy the requirements of Caltrans' mission and regulations, as well as the policies of the Coastal Act. The project development process is the meeting place of engineering, resource protection, and aesthetic considerations that must be evaluated by both Caltrans and the Commission. Consequently, an effective working partnership between the two entities is important for both to meet their common mandate of serving the people of California.



# CALIFORNIA COASTAL ZONE

## COASTAL ZONE DISTRICTS

Coastal Commission Headquarters		Caltrans Headquarters	
San Francisco		Sacramento	
Coastal Commission District	Counties Served	Caltrans District	Coastal Counties Served
North Coast	Del Norte Humboldt Mendocino	1	Del Norte Humboldt Mendocino
North Central Coast	Sonoma Marin San Francisco San Mateo	4	Sonoma Marin San Francisco San Mateo
Central Coast	Santa Cruz Monterey San Luis Obispo	5	Santa Cruz Monterey San Luis Obispo Santa Barbara
South Central Coast	Santa Barbara Ventura Northern Los Angeles	5 & 7	Santa Barbara Ventura Los Angeles
South Coast	Southern Los Angeles Orange	7 & 12	Los Angeles Orange
San Diego	San Diego	11	San Diego



Established by the Coastal Act, California's coastal zone extends from the Oregon border in the north to the Mexican border in the south and varies in width on land from several hundred feet in urban areas up to five miles in certain rural areas, and offshore the coastal zone includes a three-mile-wide band of ocean. The coastal zone is broken into 6 coastal districts.

### Legend

- County Boundary
- Caltrans District Boundary