

KAMALA D. HARRIS  
U.S. Senator for California



## California Public Lands Protection Package

California's public lands are a crucial component of the state's \$92 billion outdoor economy, which supports nearly 700,000 jobs and provides both residents and visitors from around the world the opportunity to enjoy the state's beaches, parks, rivers, mountains, and more.

Yet over the past three years, the current administration has undertaken a systematic effort to strip protections from public lands and waters, opening them up to mining and fossil fuel development. Furthermore, the administration has worked to roll back rules ensuring Americans' continued access to clean air and clean water.

U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris (D-CA) is introducing the *Protecting Unique and Beautiful Landscapes by Investing in California (PUBLIC) Lands Act*, a bill that will expand protections for California's public lands while increasing recreational access for local communities and visitors from across the world. Together, the legislation proposes expanding protections to more than 1 million acres of public wildlands across the state, including nearly 600,000 acres of new wilderness and over 100,000 acres of new national monument. The bills combines three previously introduced bills:

- The *Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act*, led in the House by Rep. Jared Huffman (CA-2), will restore historically damaged forests and watersheds, establish and expand wilderness, and improve outdoor recreation opportunities and access throughout Northwest California.
- The *Central Coast Heritage Protection Act*, led in the House by Rep. Salud Carbajal (CA-24), will designate new portions of the Los Padres National Forest and Carrizo Plain National Monument as wilderness and establish a 400-mile long trail from Los Angeles County to Monterey County.
- The *San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act*, led in the House by Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27), will expand the boundaries of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, protect wilderness and wild rivers, and establish a new National Recreation Area.

During her tenure in the Senate, Harris has been a champion for the nation's public lands. She has sponsored the *Outdoors for All Act* to increase outdoor opportunity in underserved urban communities. In 2019, her bills to establish a national monument at the site of the St. Francis Dam disaster and to preserve and improve historic buildings and sites at Historically Black College and Universities were signed into law as part of the *National Resources Management Act*. And in 2018, her bill to expand the John Muir Historic Site was signed into law.