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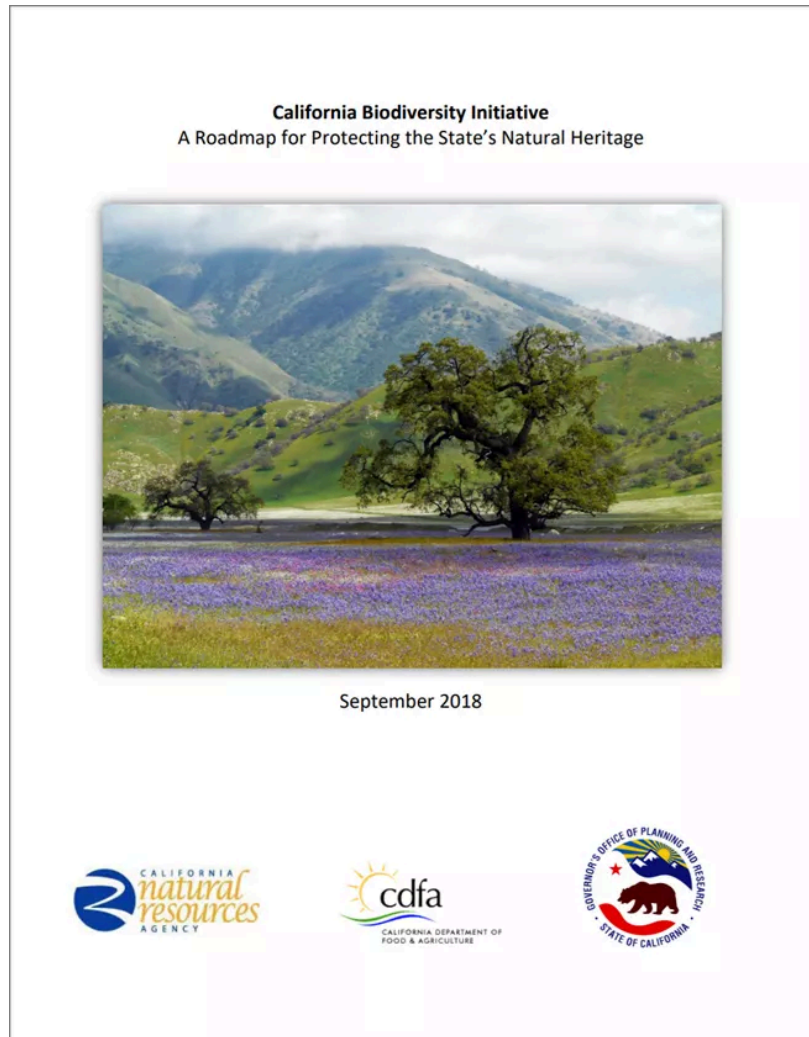
State Launches California Biodiversity Initiative

February 2019 - California is a globally significant biodiversity hotspot. It is home to an impressive variety of plants, animals, and ecosystems, many of which are found nowhere else. In recent years, the State's leaders [committed to protect](#) (<http://www.californiabiodiversityinitiative.org/pdf/california-biodiversity-charter-2.pdf>) this valuable biodiversity. Then, in September 2018, the State launched the [California Biodiversity Initiative](#) (<http://www.californiabiodiversityinitiative.org/>) to begin realizing that commitment.

The Initiative has several broad goals, including preserving native species, protecting and restoring all types of California ecosystems, and improving ecosystem functions. An accompanying [roadmap document](#) (<http://www.californiabiodiversityinitiative.org/pdf/california-biodiversity-action-plan.pdf>) outlines initial efforts, as well as long-term actions aimed at achieving those goals. Initial efforts include completing vegetation maps for the entire state, updating a statewide habitat connectivity

assessment, and seedbanking California's plants, among many others. In the longer-term, the Initiative plans seven focus areas, ranging from biodiversity research and strategic land management, to education and an emphasis on collaboration and partnerships.

Check out the [California Biodiversity Initiative's website](#) (<http://www.californiabiodiversityinitiative.org/>) to learn more.



(<http://www.californiabiodiversityinitiative.org/pdf/california-biodiversity-action-plan.pdf>).

[See more from the Bay Area Nature & Science Blog.](#)
(<https://www.nps.gov/rlc/pacificcoast/blog.htm>).

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