



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NR#2016-19
December 6, 2016

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Kathryn Lyddan Named Assistant Director of California Division of Land Resource Protection

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Conservation (DOC) welcomes Kathryn Lyddan as Assistant Director of the DOC’s Division of Land Resource Protection (DLRP).

As Assistant Director in charge of DLRP, Lyddan will guide the Division in providing tools and implementing programs to help Californians make land-use decisions that balance today’s needs with our future environment. “Kathryn brings the Department of Conservation the perspective of both a farmland conservancy practitioner and leader for California’s diverse land use interests,” said DOC Director David Bunn. “As California continues growing across all sectors, Kathryn’s experience will help ensure that DOC remains engaged with landowners, local governments and researchers to conserving our natural resources, open spaces and agricultural productivity.”

California is both the most populated state in the nation and the largest producer of agricultural products. With millions of acres dedicated to agricultural use, the challenge of accommodating projected population growth while maintaining a healthy natural environment and supporting agricultural productivity has become increasingly complex.

Prior to joining the DOC, Kathryn served as the Executive Director of the Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust (BALT), a nonprofit established to preserve Contra Costa County’s productive agricultural land and build a vibrant local agricultural economy on the urban edge of the Bay Area. In addition to a farmland conservation program, Lyddan oversaw a wide range of food and farming projects, including the Contra Costa Buy Fresh Buy Local marketing campaign and the Brentwood-Richmond Farm 2 Table Community Supported Agriculture (CSA).

“California produces nearly half of the nation’s fruits and vegetables, and I believe that the protection of California’s agricultural resources is an essential component of building a sustainable future for California and

The Department of Conservation’s mission is to balance today’s needs with tomorrow’s challenges and foster intelligent, sustainable, and efficient use of California’s energy, land, and mineral resources.

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the nation,” said Lyddan. “After spending the past 13 years working at a local and regional level, I am honored to have the opportunity to bring my expertise and my commitment to DLRP.”

Lyddan, an attorney, spent ten years practicing land use and public finance law at a private law firm. She co-authored [*Sustaining Our Bounty*](#) (2011) and [*Triple Harvest: Farmland conservation for climate protection, smart growth and food security in California*](#) (2013). Lyddan was a 2008 Roots of Change Fellow and she has convened the Bay Area Agricultural Conservationists since 2012. She has a bachelor’s degree from University of California, Davis and a law degree from Hastings College of Law.

More information about the state’s Division of Land Resource Protection can be found at conservation.ca.gov/dlrp

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