Senate Bill No. 85
CHAPTER 178

An act to add Section 1940 to the Fish and Game Code, to amend Section 12536 of, and to amend and repeal Sections 12846 and 12846.5 of, the Food and Agricultural Code, to add Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 12890) to Part 2.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to amend Sections 25173.7, 25174, and 25330.4 of, and to amend and repeal Section 25330.6 of, the Health and Safety Code, to amend Sections 5818.1, 5818.2, and 32580 of, and to add Sections 716, 5003.19, 5096.829, 5096.954, 5096.955, and 14317 to, the Public Resources Code, and to add Section 142 to the Water Code, relating to the environment, making an appropriation therefore, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor August 24, 2007. Filed with Secretary of State August 24, 2007.]

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 1940 is added to the Fish and Game Code, to read:

1940. (a) The Department of Fish and Game shall undertake the development of a vegetation mapping standard for the state.

(b) The development of a state vegetation mapping standard by the department shall be done in consultation with interested stakeholders, including, but not limited to, government agencies, nongovernmental conservation organizations, landowners, agriculture, recreation, scientific entities, and industry. Components of the standard shall include the following:

1. A published classification system for all natural and seminatural vegetation communities present in California with sufficient detail to meet the analytical needs of government and nongovernment entities. The classification shall be consistent with national standards adopted by the Federal Geographic Data Committee.
2. Methods for field data collection, image interpretation, and digital map production and attribution.
3. Manuals, training materials, tools, and database structures for use by parties interested in performing vegetation mapping according to the standard.
4. Documented methods for performing postproject accuracy assessments to quantify that validity of the work. Private and public landowners shall be given reasonable opportunity to review, and comment on the accuracy of, the data collected on their lands.
5. Mechanisms for integrating new map products that meet the standard into a cohesive database with the intent of eventually completing statewide coverage.

(c) The department shall submit a report to the budget committee of each house of the Legislature no later than January 10, 2008, providing its mapping standard and advising how the department will ensure that its standard will be updated to reflect changing technology and serve as the state’s center of expertise on vegetation mapping.

(d) The department may adopt regulations to implement this section.