



SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS AT THE CHILE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION MEET UP
PRODUCED BY THE CHILE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION EXCHANGE (CCCX) IN
COLABORATION WITH THE CHILE CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON MAY 13, 2022
AT THE DAVID BROWER CENTER IN BERKELY CALIFORNIA

Maisa Rojas, the Minister of the Environment appointed by President Gabriel Boric sent a video with pre-recorded opening remarks outlining the priorities of the new Administration emphasizing a new climate change framework law, community engagement and equity, an expanded coastal zone and a focus on marine protected areas.

Constitutional scholar **Javier Couso** brought us up to date on the constitutional process underway. The constitutional convention will have completed its work by July 4 and assuming that the convention approves the draft now being finalized by a 2/3rds vote there will be a national plebiscite on the new constitution September 4. If a majority approve Chile will have a new constitution. If not, it's back to the current 1980 "neo-liberal" constitution.

Matías Alcalde described the Chile California Council (which serves as the fiscal sponsor of the CCCX project) and how the CCCX project advances the environmental agenda of the Council which also includes information sharing on energy, education and culture. The Council, in collaboration with CORFO, is planning to open an innovation hub in Berkeley later in the year.

www.chile-california.org

Carolina Martinez, Charles Lester and **David Tecklin** discussed the framework for a new law of the coast for Chile. The proposal that has been in development since 2019 is the product of numerous groups that have come together as Observatorio de la Costa. A major change would be regulating a coastal zone instead of simply the edge.

<https://www.observatoriodelacosta.cl>

David briefly recounted how the CCCX assembly of a group of legal scholars to explore the relevance of the public trust doctrine to the new constitution led to a report which recommended a concept "inspired by the public trust doctrine" called "la custodia publica de la naturaleza" which imposes an obligation on the State to assert a higher level of protection to certain facets of nature. The concept of la custodia publica gained currency in the constitutional discussions and may be included in the new constitution. The report is available on the CCCX website: www.cccx.cl

We then had a series of presentations on a variety of interesting organizations and collaborations:

Geoff Schadlow spoke on the work the UC Davis Tahoe Research Center is doing with Chile Lagos Limpios at the lakes in Northern Patagonia and the use of computer-based modeling to develop science-based strategies for protecting watersheds.

<https://tahoe.ucdavis.edu>

<https://chilelagoslimpios.cl>

Peter Hodum spoke about the community-centered bird conservation work his organization Oikanos is doing on Chilean islands.

<https://www.oikonos.org>

Tania Correa, the Chile Program Director of The Nature Conservancy and **Serena Lomonico**, a California-based fisheries expert described TNC's Chile Marine Program and Coastal Finfish Project which includes electronic monitoring and bycatch reduction, kelp science and aquaculture and community-based conservation.

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/latin-america/chile/>

Dirk Rosen, Founder and President of Marine Applied Research and Education (MARE) gave us a primer on the value of marine protected areas and how they work in practice and he showed us the cool underwater drone and submersible technology that MARE has developed to monitor marine protected areas.

<https://maregroup.org>

Economist and author **John Reid** who is the founder and past president of the Conservation Strategy Fund told us about Nia Tero which works in solidarity with Indigenous peoples to sustain their homelands and cultures. John also discussed *Ever Green: Saving Big Forests to Save the Planet*, the book he wrote with Tom Lovejoy about the importance of the five mega forests on earth.

<https://www.niatero.org>

<https://evergreenforestbook.com>

<https://www.conservation-strategy.org>

Emilia Carrara from AIDA (Intergovernmental Association for Environmental Defense) discussed their strategy for marine ecosystem protection and climate litigation in Patagonia where they are working to reduce environmental hazards such as salmon farming and deep sea mining.

<https://aida-americas.org/en>

Pilar Silva came up from Chile to brief us on Tompkins Conservation which now works along the Route of Parks in Chilean Patagonia through Rewilding Chile with a three-part strategy of park creation and expansion, ecological restoration including an ecologically coherent network of marine protected areas and community outreach.

<https://www.tompkinsconservation.org>

<https://www.rewildingchile.org>

Finally **Helen Lopez** with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding that CALfire and CalOES entered into with CONAF in Chile to share best practices, technical expertise and training on emergency management on wildfire suppression.

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov>

<https://www.fire.ca.gov>