

Agenda Item #10



Photo Credit: Coastal



## State of California Sea-Level Rise Guidance

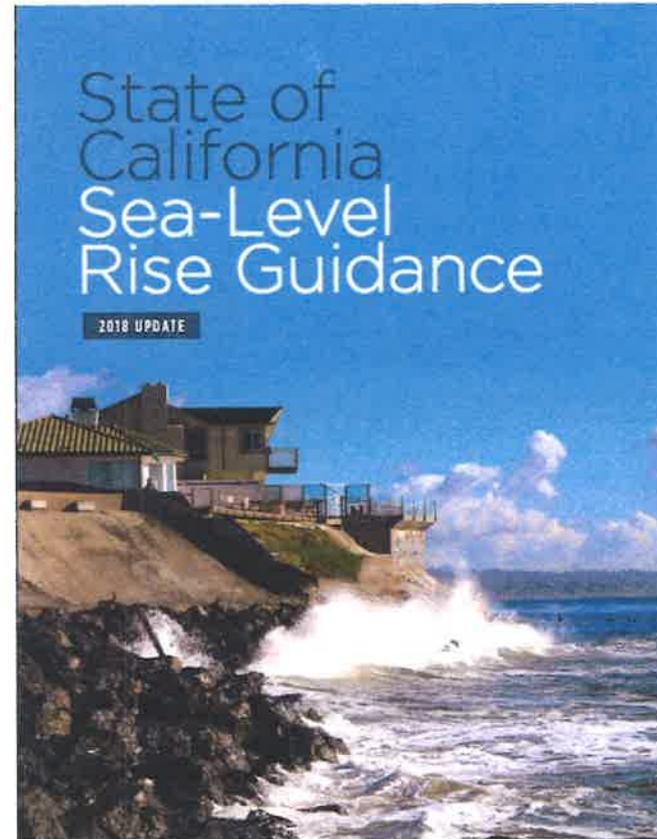
Deborah Halberstadt, Executive Director

July 19, 2018

# Content of Updated Guidance

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- Updated projections based on best available science
- Stepwise approach for evaluating projections, associated risk, and adaptation pathways
- Recommended adaptation strategies



# What Triggered this Update?

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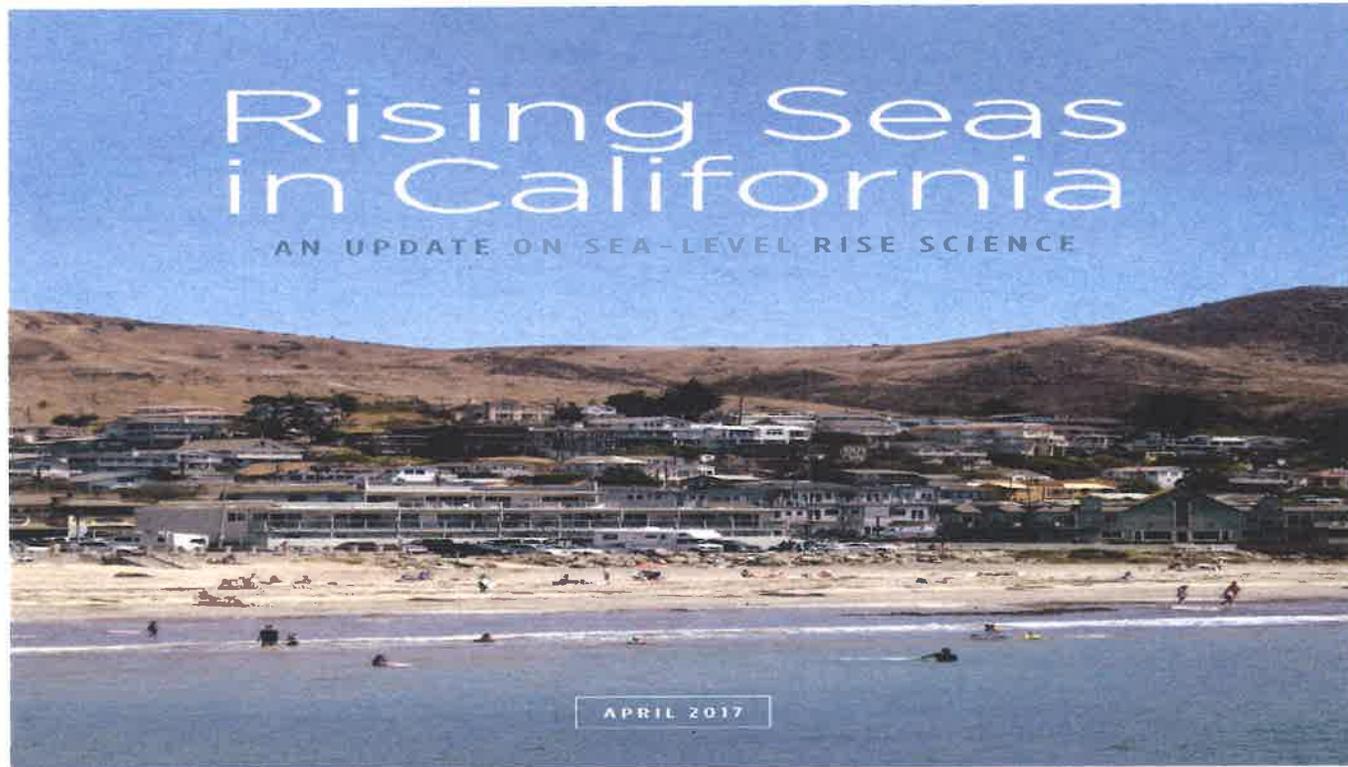
- Advances in sea-level rise science
- Need for guidance to help state *and* local governments plan for sea-level rise
  - Executive order B:30-15
  - SB 379 (Jackson)
  - SB 264 (Wieckowski)



Flooding of East Cliff Drive, Moran Lake, Santa Cruz County, January 20, 2010 King Tide (Photo credit: Dave Revell)

# Rising Seas in California: An Update on Sea-level Rise Science

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# Risk Analysis Decision Framework

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>> **STEP 1:** *Identify the nearest tide gauge.*

>> **STEP 2:** *Evaluate project lifespan.*

>> **STEP 3:** *For the nearest tide gauge and project lifespan, identify range of sea-level rise projections.*

>> **STEP 4:** *Evaluate potential impacts and adaptive capacity across a range of sea-level rise projections and emissions scenarios.*

>> **STEP 5:** *Select sea-level rise projections based on risk tolerance and, if necessary, develop adaptation pathways that increase resiliency to sea-level rise and include contingency plans if projections are exceeded.*



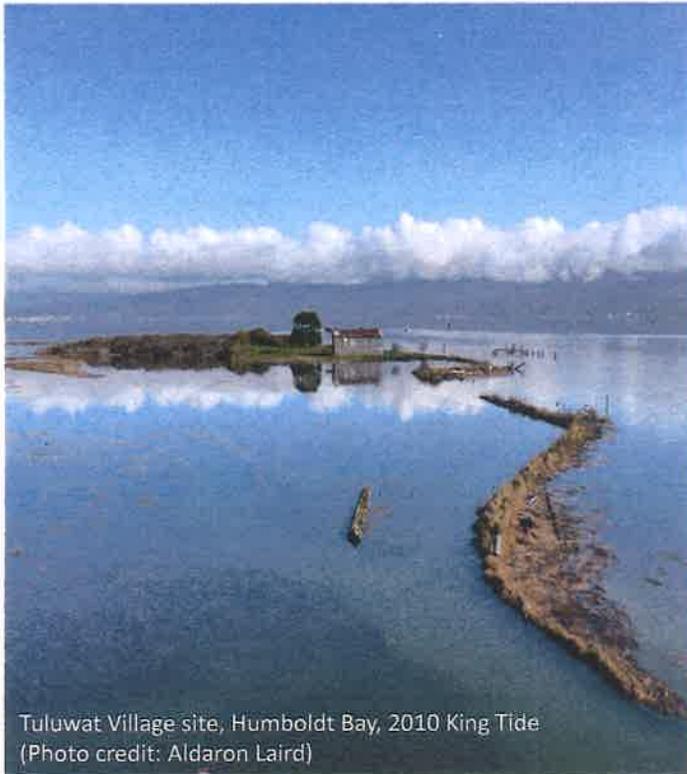
**TABLE 1: Projected Sea-Level Rise (in feet) for San Francisco**

Probabilistic projections for the height of sea-level rise shown below, along with the H++ scenario (depicted in blue on the right-hand side), as seen in the Rising Seas Report. The H++ projection is a single scenario and does not have an associated likelihood of occurrence as do the probabilistic projections. Probabilistic projections are with respect to a baseline of the year 2000, or more specifically the average relative sea level over 1991 - 2009. High emissions represents RCP 8.5; low emissions represents RCP 2.6. **Recommended projections for use in low, medium-high and extreme risk aversion decisions are outlined in red boxes below.**

		Probabilistic Projections (in feet) (based on Kopp et al. 2014)				H++ scenario (Sweet et al. 2017) *Single scenario
		Median 50% probability sea-level rise meets or exceeds...	Likely range 67% probability sea-level rise is between...	1-in-20 chance 5% probability sea-level rise meets or exceeds...	1-in-200 chance 0.5% probability sea-level rise meets or exceeds...	
				Low-risk Aversion	Medium - High risk Aversion	Extreme-risk Aversion
High emissions	2030	0.4	0.3 - 0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0
	2040	0.6	0.5 - 0.8	1.0	1.3	1.8
	2050	0.9	0.6 - 1.1	1.4	1.9	2.7
Low emissions	2060	1.0	0.6 - 1.3	1.6	2.4	
High emissions	2060	1.1	0.8 - 1.5	1.8	2.6	3.9
Low emissions	2070	1.1	0.8 - 1.5	1.9	3.1	
High emissions	2070	1.4	1.0 - 1.9	2.4	3.5	5.2
Low emissions	2080	1.3	0.9 - 1.8	2.3	3.9	
High emissions	2080	1.7	1.2 - 2.4	3.0	4.5	6.6
Low emissions	2090	1.4	1.0 - 2.1	2.8	4.7	
High emissions	2090	2.1	1.4 - 2.9	3.6	5.6	8.3
Low emissions	2100	1.6	1.0 - 2.4	3.2	5.7	
High emissions	2100	2.5	1.6 - 3.4	4.4	6.9	10.2
Low emissions	2110	1.7	1.2 - 2.5	3.4	6.3	
High emissions	2110	2.6	1.9 - 3.5	4.5	7.3	11.9
Low emissions	2120	1.9	1.2 - 2.8	3.9	7.4	
High emissions	2120	3	2.2 - 4.1	5.2	8.6	14.2
Low emissions	2130	2.1	1.3 - 3.1	4.4	8.5	
High emissions	2130	3.3	2.4 - 4.6	6.0	10.0	16.6
Low emissions	2140	2.2	1.3 - 3.4	4.9	9.7	
High emissions	2140	3.7	2.6 - 5.2	6.8	11.4	19.1
Low emissions	2150	2.4	1.3 - 3.8	5.5	11.0	
High emissions	2150	4.1	2.8 - 5.8	7.7	13.0	21.9

## Evaluate Impacts and Adaptive Capacity Across Range of Projections and Emissions Scenarios

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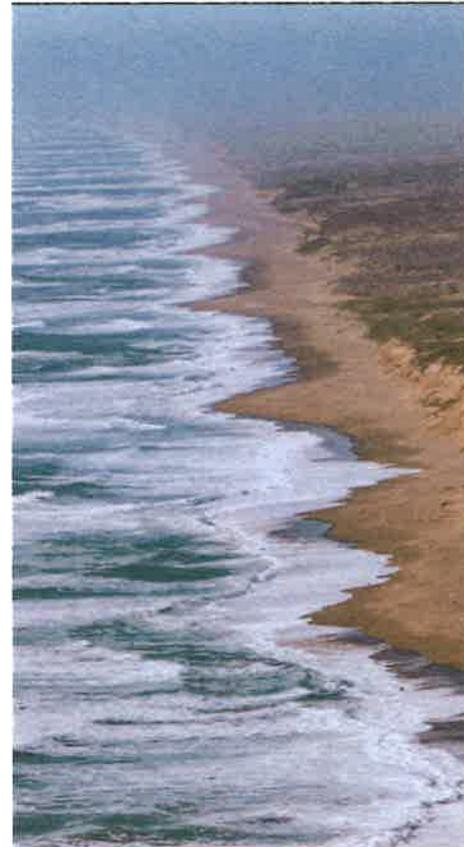


- *Consequence of potential impacts*
- *What is at stake*
- *Adaptive capacity/triggers*
- *Economic impacts*

# Planning & Adaptation Strategies

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- Social equity
- Coastal habitats and public access
- Water-dependent infrastructure
- Acute increases in sea-level rise
- Community and regional planning
- Local conditions
- Adaptive capacity



# Visualization Tools and Resources

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Surging Seas  
**Risk Finder**

**cal-adapt**

State Adaptation  
Clearinghouse

The Nature  
Conservancy 



# Implementing the Guidance

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Outreach

Funding



Ellen Finch

# Outreach Efforts

## State Partnerships

- Interagency SLR Team
- AB 691 Working Group
- State Adaptation Clearinghouse
- CO-CAT

## Local and Regional Partnerships

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Climate Adaptation Forum  
(August 27-29, 2018)
- Regional Workshops (Fall 2018)





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OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

In science-guided, collective action, we will maintain and enhance California's coastal habitats in the face of sea level rise, other climate change-induced challenges, and development, ensuring a protected coast for future generations to enjoy, replete with as much or more habitat and wildlife, as well as social, economic, and recreational benefits, as we have today.

# OPC Funding Opportunities

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## Competitive and Discretionary Grant Programs

- Prop. 1
- Prop. 68
- Prop. 84
- General Fund





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[www.opc.ca.gov](http://www.opc.ca.gov)

[Deborah.Halberstadt@resources.ca.gov](mailto:Deborah.Halberstadt@resources.ca.gov)

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