

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)

Sea Level Rise Adaptation in **San Francisco Bay**



Storms, Flooding and Sea Level Rise Conference | November 18, 2025

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 Regional Shoreline
Adaptation Plan
An implementing project of BAY ADAPT



An evolving Bay shoreline

BCDC, the first coastal zone management agency in the US, just turned 60!

Bay or River?

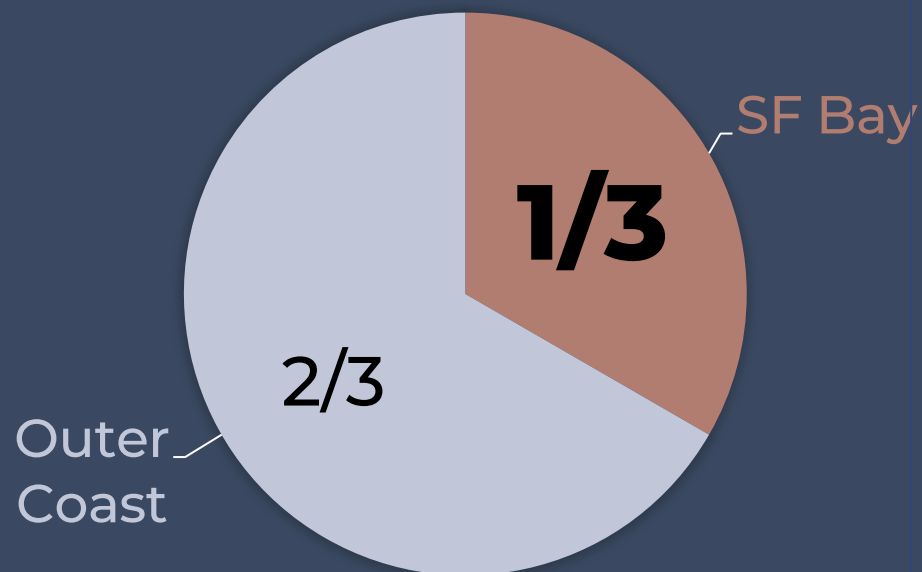


Courtesy Oakland Tribune

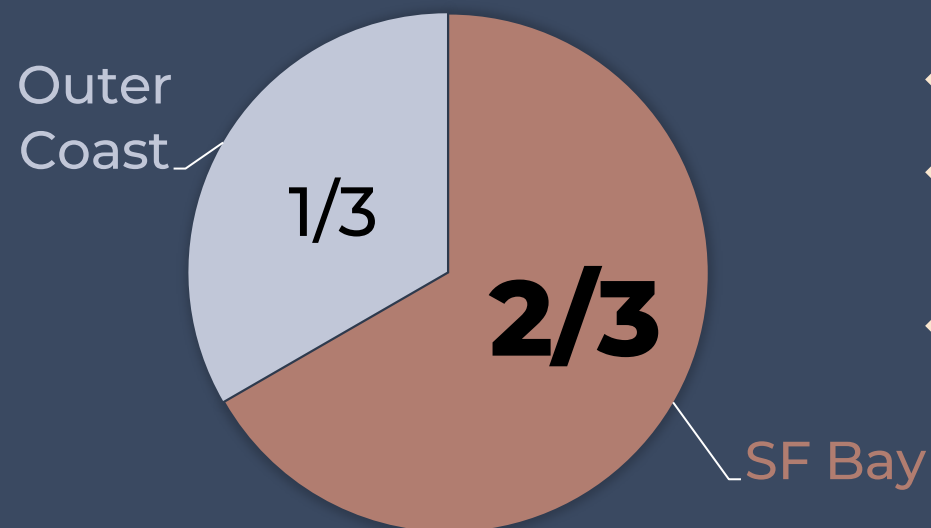


2/3 of California's sea level rise impacts will be felt in the Bay Area

SHARE OF THE CA COASTLINE



SHARE OF PROJECTED SEA LEVEL RISE DAMAGES



- ❖ Temporary Flooding
- ❖ Shoreline Erosion
- ❖ Permanent Inundation
- ❖ Groundwater Rise

What will it cost to adapt?

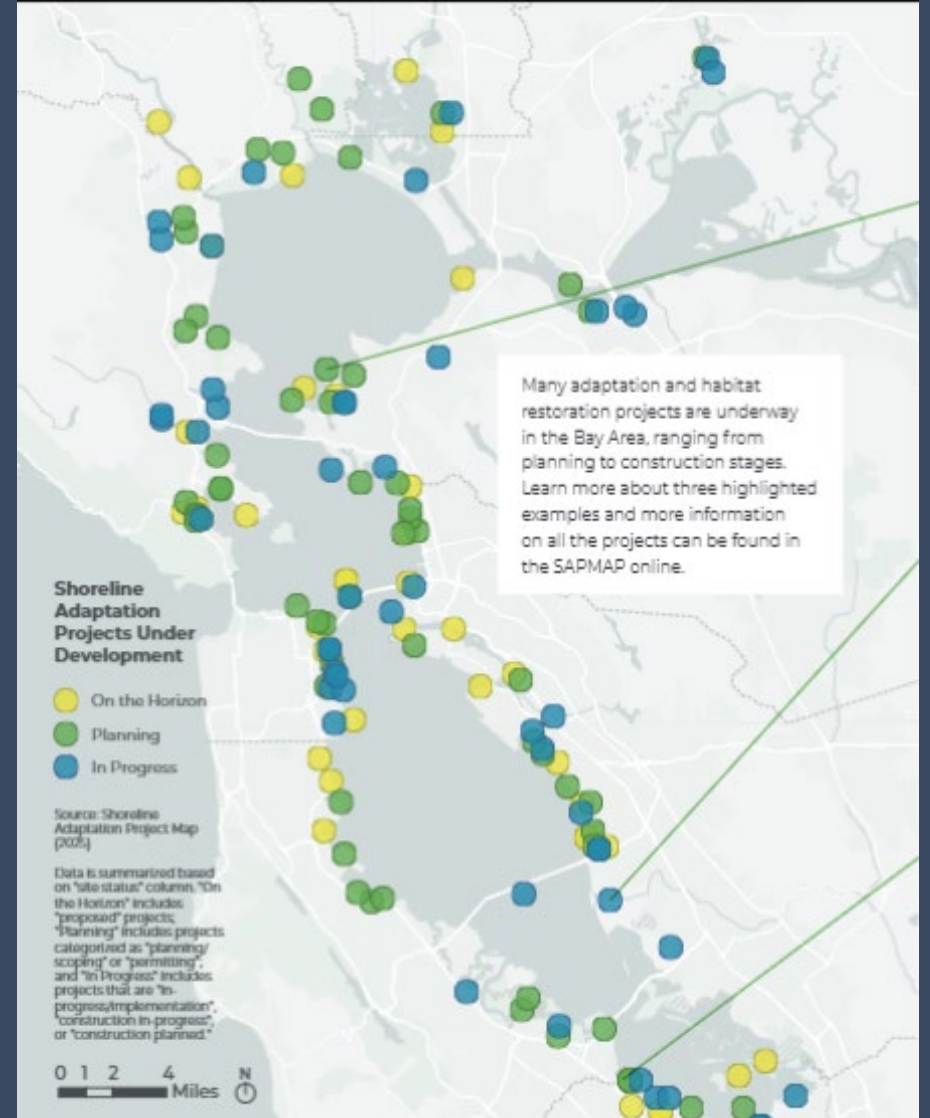
\$97 billion

Estimated cost of flooding & sea level rise adaptation through 2050

\$230+ billion

Estimated value of a subset of assets at risk through 2050

We stand to lose much more if we do not act.





Adopted
December
2024!

Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan:

One Bay Vision,
Strategic Regional Priorities,
and Subregional Shoreline
Adaptation Plan Guidelines

December 2024



San Francisco
Bay Conservation
and Development
Commission (BCDC)

Planning as a region

- ✓ SB 272: A new mandate
- ✓ RSAP: Vision, Strategic Regional Priorities, and Guidelines for Subregional Shoreline Adaptation Plans
- ✓ Assistance to 50+ cities & counties



OCEAN
PROTECTION
COUNCIL



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A shared vision for adaptation



Community
Health and
Well-being



Ecosystem
Health and
Resilience



Development,
Housing, and
Land Use



Critical
Infrastructure



Public
Access and
Recreation



Transportation
and
Transit



Shoreline
Contamination



Governance
and Flood
Control

RSAP subregional plan guidelines

Plan Element Requirements

- A** Planning Process
- B** Existing Conditions
- C** Vulnerability Assessment
- D** Adaptation Strategies and Pathways
- E** Land Use and Policy Plan
- F** Project Implementation and Funding
- G** Project List

Minimum Standards



Coastal Flood Hazards
and Sea Level Rise
Scenarios



Minimum Categories
and Assets



Equity Assessment



Adaptation
Strategy Standards



Adaptation Strategy Standards

Maximize the benefits of shoreline uses and Baylands habitat.

Improve community health, economic development, infrastructure, and housing needs.

Create pathways to respond to changing flood risks over time.

SBI GRANTS ARE CATALYZING PROGRESS

Funding to date will catalyze 15 SF Bay Subregional Plans - 51% of jurisdictions

Funded Subregional Plans:

- Contra Costa County
- City of Richmond
- Town of Mill Valley \$965K
- City and County of San Francisco
- Solano County, Vallejo, Fairfield, Suisun City and Benicia
- City of Brisbane
- Town of Tiburon
- City of Alameda
- City of Oakland
- Cities of Emeryville, Berkeley, and Albany
- Santa Clara County and the cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale, San Jose, Santa Clara, and Milpitas
- Cities of Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City, Menlo Park, and East Palo Alto
- Cities of Hercules and Pinole
- City of Pittsburg



Accelerating Resilience through Regulatory Innovation

- Streamlining regionwide permit program and routine projects
- Policy improvements for beneficial reuse of sediment for wetland resilience
- Exploring new regionwide permit for restoration projects and allowing restoration of a certain size to be approved administratively
- Improving our services





Putting it all together

We *can* deliver resilience but it requires:

- An implementation mindset
- New and creative models of funding and partnerships
- Science and technical innovation
- Climate leadership at all levels