

ACTION 15

Advance natural resource protection while increasing resiliency of shoreline communities in the Bay Area

Protect natural resources such as estuarine habitats and wildlife as an integral part of any effort to increase the resilience of shoreline communities at risk from flooding and rising seas.

TASK 15-1 Coordinate programs to provide technical assistance on best practices in climate change planning and adaptation for cities, counties, and other stakeholders.

BY 2016 Form a multi-stakeholder Bay Area Climate Technical Assistance Task Force and complete a work plan for coordinated assistance.

TASK 15-2 Integrate resiliency and natural resource protection into *Plan Bay Area*. Lay the groundwork for a more comprehensive regional resiliency effort.

BY 2017 Complete resiliency section in the 2017 update of *Plan Bay Area*.

TASK 15-3 Support local government efforts to develop shoreline vulnerability assessments that include assessment of natural resources as an asset category.

BY 2021 Complete vulnerability assessments for all nine Bay Area counties.

BACKGROUND

This CCMP action supports local and regional efforts to identify how current and future flooding will affect communities, infrastructure, ecosystems, and the economy, and helps build local and regional capacity to plan for and implement adaptation efforts. The action recognizes and supports the efforts of the Bay Area Regional Collaborative (BARC), its member agencies, and their partnership with the California State Coastal Conservancy, to develop a shared understanding of local and regional vulnerabilities to flooding and rising sea levels by integrating consideration of climate resiliency into the next update of *Plan Bay Area*.

BARC is a consortium of regional agencies that come together to address regional quality of life issues such as climate change that affect the activities of all members. Member agencies include the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), the Association of Bay Area Governments, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. BARC provides a mechanism through which its members can explore, develop, and collaborate on regional policies and best practices. Agency leaders can then decide to advance these policies and practices collectively and singularly, and in partnership with local stakeholders.

Each of the Bay Area's regional agencies is deeply engaged in work to mitigate climate change and make the Bay Area more resilient. Each has its own respective and distinct role and expertise, whether it's transportation, air quality, shoreline protection, or urban planning. Their collective effort through BARC, however, includes creating coordinated policies, increasing efficiencies, leveraging resources, and providing better services to local governments and special districts that are grappling with climate change challenges.

In addition to supporting *Plan Bay Area* updates, this CCMP action also acknowledges the opportunity for BARC to support efforts such as BCDC's Adapting to Rising Tides Program (ART Program). ART has conducted vulnerability assessments at the local, regional, and sector scales. ART has also developed a methodology for conducting assessments that incorporate society and equity, economy, environment, and governance that can inform additional assessments throughout the region.

Finally, this CCMP action reaffirms the importance of evaluating the vulnerability of natural shoreline systems to rising sea levels and extreme events as part of climate adaptation planning. Similarly, planning and evaluation should acknowledge the critical contribution of natural shoreline systems to reducing wave energy, storm surge, and flood risk for adjacent communities.

OWNER

Bay Area Regional Collaborative (Tasks 15-1, 15-2, 15-3)
CA State Coastal Conservancy (Task 15-2)

COLLABORATING PARTNERS

Association of Bay Area Governments/San Francisco Estuary Partnership, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission, SF Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board, various local municipalities

NEXUS

Actions 14, 16
Goals 1, 2, 4
Objectives a, e, f, l

