

# Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan

An implementing project of **BAY ADAPT**



## WHAT IS THE REGIONAL SHORELINE ADAPTATION PLAN?

Rising sea levels from climate change are already encroaching along our shorelines and will only accelerate in the coming decades. The impacts of sea level rise – and resources to plan and prepare for them – are unevenly distributed across the nine-county Bay Area. If everyone “goes it alone,” we risk maladaptation - catastrophic consequences such as unintentional flooding of our neighbors, leaving behind communities most at risk and with the least resources to adapt, and missing out on opportunities to find shared solutions that benefit both local communities and the region as a whole.

The Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan (RSAP) will set the region on a path towards more coordinated and consistent local adaptation planning that advances our shared goals together. The Shoreline Plan will be collaboratively developed and include:

**Regional Guidelines**

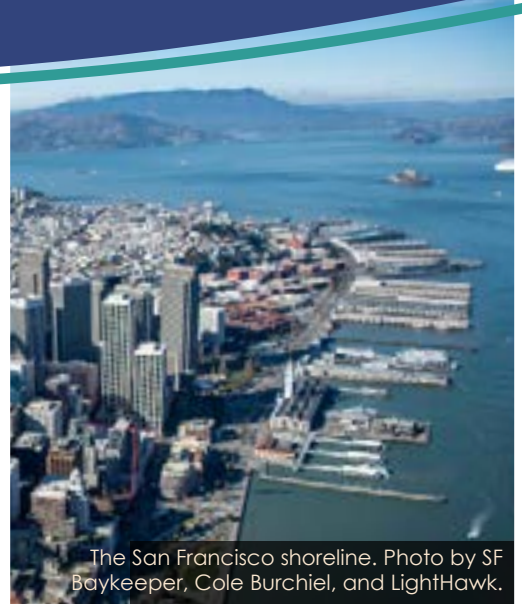
**Sub-Regional Shoreline Plans**

**Online Regional Adaptation Map**

Following adoption of the Vision and Regional Guidelines by BCDC's Commission by the end of 2024, BCDC will support cities and counties to develop sub-regional shoreline plans that are consistent with the guidelines to ensure that the region is prepared for sea level rise both locally and in alignment with the region.

## WHAT WILL THE RSAP DO?

- Adaptation that **coordinates** with neighboring jurisdictions
- Priority resources to **frontline communities**
- Long-term **health of wetlands**
- Strategy for **adaptation implementation** based on risk
- Common **standards and methods** for plans, policies, and science
- **Pipeline of funding** that reduces burdens on jurisdictions
- Track and measuring progress towards a **collective vision**



The San Francisco shoreline. Photo by SF Baykeeper, Cole Burchiel, and LightHawk.

## WHO IS BCDC?

The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (“BCDC”) is a California State regulatory and planning agency in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area with a mission to **protect and enhance the resources of the San Francisco Bay and ensure its responsible and productive use for this and future generations.**

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

## WHAT IS BAY ADAPT?

**Bay Adapt: Regional Strategy for a Rising Bay** is a BCDC-led initiative that brings together partners across the San Francisco Bay Area to establish regional agreement on the actions necessary to protect people and the natural and built environment from rising sea levels. The **Joint Platform** was adopted by BCDC in 2021 and has been endorsed by 55 cities and counties, regional, state, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations and more.

[www.BayAdapt.org](http://www.BayAdapt.org)



Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve. Photo by Stanislav Sedov, CC BY 2.0.

## WHAT IS SB 272?

SB 272: Sea Level Rise Adaptation and Planning (Laird, 2023) requires local governments along the San Francisco Bay shoreline to develop “subregional shoreline resiliency plans.”

It requires BCDC to develop subregional resilience plan guidelines by end of 2024, which will be built on Bay Adapt’s Guiding Principles, and developed in coordination with the California Coastal Commission, the Ocean Protection Council, and the California Sea Level Rise State and Regional Support Collaborative, for use by local governments as they develop plans. Subregional plans must be submitted to BCDC for review and approval by January 1, 2034.

The bill also includes an important carrot: Projects and strategies contained within approved plans by BCDC or CCC will be prioritized for State funding.

## HOW ARE WE ALIGNED?

Bay Adapt, The Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan, and SB 272 are **aligned**, **on track** and **linked to funding**.

### BENEFITS OF SB 272

#### REGIONAL PREPARATION

The RSAP and SB 272 will establish common, regionwide standards and support for plans that transcend jurisdictions and issue areas.

#### COORDINATION

The RSAP and SB 272 will compel communities to prepare adaptation plans that prioritize disadvantaged communities, science and critical infrastructure – without endangering their neighbors, habitat, or infrastructure.

#### PRIORITIES & FUNDING

The RSAP and SB 272 will help us plan where and when to make smart investments that prioritize at-risk, low-income communities, natural areas, and the critical infrastructure, and links those plans to state funds to implement them.

#### ALIGNED

BCDC’s Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan mirrors the basic blueprint of SB 272.

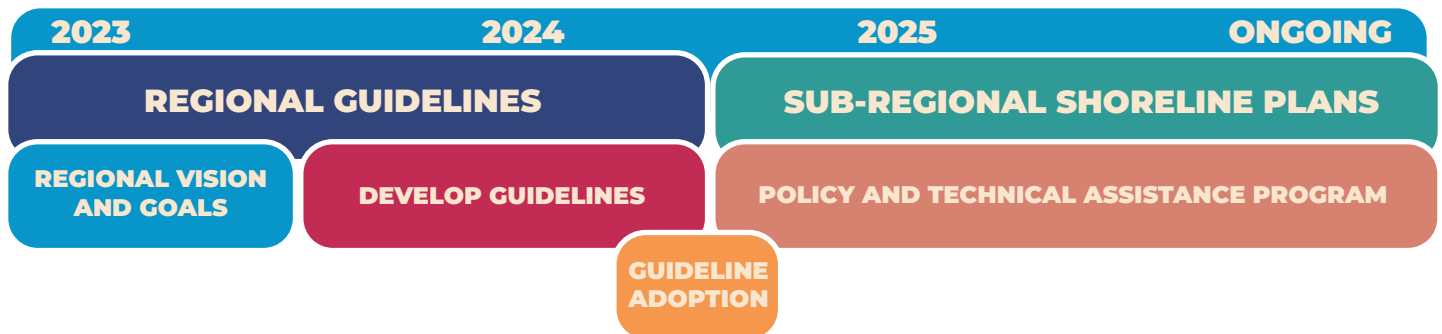
#### ON TRACK

BCDC is on track to develop Guidelines by end of 2024, in alignment with SB 272 requirements.

#### LINKED TO FUNDING

Grant funding for developing plans will be available starting at the end of 2023 from the Ocean Protection Council.

## PROJECT TIMELINE



For additional questions, please contact the Project Manager of the Shoreline Plan, Jaclyn Mandoske at [jaclyn.mandoske@bcdca.gov](mailto:jaclyn.mandoske@bcdca.gov). This work is supported with grant funds provided by the Ocean Protection Council and the State Coastal Conservancy.