

SEE A DRAMATIC ILLUSTRATION OF SEA-LEVEL RISE

Learn about shoreline impacts of climate change during 'Shrinking Shores' event (((DATE)))

((YOUR DATELINE)) – We live, we work, and we play along the bay shoreline. Sea-level rise will impact our ability to do all three, as structures flood, beaches are lost, and important animal habitat is inundated. Where structures remain dry, the infrastructure supporting them may be flooded, impeding our ability to even access them!

On ((DATE)), (((THIS JURISDICTION))) will host an informational event about sea-level rise at (((NAME OF PLACE))). The event is part of statewide campaign called Shrinking Shores where local governments provide a physical demonstration that illustrates the dramatic impacts of rising sea level through the end of the century.

At (((NAME OF PLACE))) that day, story-poles (((OR SIGNS OR ANY METHOD YOU CHOOSE))) showing the heights of sea level through 2100 will be placed on the shoreline. Shrinking Shores organizers will staff a booth near the "Year 2100" level of the beach. Experts will be available to discuss the science behind the predicted rises. Visitors will get a chance to sign up to participate in local climate change planning.

(((THIS JURISDICTION))) and others up and down the California coast are working to create awareness of the issue before it drastically changes life near our shorelines. The goal is to educate and get more people involved in the process of planning for a coordinated response to sea-level rise.

Sea-level rise is already threatening billions of dollars' worth of homes, businesses, roads and infrastructure statewide. Local governments are caught in an awkward position; they need to level with people about the realities of sea-level rise without resorting to a doomsday approach and an urgent warning to head for higher ground. Communities will be better prepared to meet the challenges by assessing what is vulnerable to rising tides, creating opportunities for residents to learn from the experts, and by involving everyone in collaborative planning for the expected environmental changes.

(((QUOTE FROM COORDINATOR OR EXPERT ... SOMETHING LIKE THIS:))

"You know the phrase, 'Draw a line in the sand' and how it's used as a dare or a warning? We're basically daring and warning people that they might want to care about this and participate in measures that address it," said (((JURISDICTION COORDINATOR))). "It's a very slow-moving emergency, but it is an emergency."

OR

"While we know these changes are happening, we do not know how soon we will see more dramatic impacts. By beginning to prepare now, we can find ways to live with higher water levels as well as create suitable defenses."

(((ADD DETAILS ABOUT LOCALIZED EFFORTS)))

(((ADDRESS CALL TO ACTION, ADD WEB LINKS, PHONE NUMBERS))).

Important Facts about Shrinking Shores

- Shrinking Shores takes place June 9th at _____ from _____ am to _____ pm.
- Shrinking Shores provides a physical demonstration of how shorelines will be altered with sea level rise and erosion
- Local jurisdictions are participating as far south as San Diego County and as far north as Humboldt County
- Until recently, the California State scenarios for future sea level rise estimated an increase of five feet by 2100. The newest state [Sea Level Rise Science Report](#) estimates are higher and include a scenario for ten feet by 2100!
- A recent study from the US Geological Survey estimates that as much as 67 percent of southern California's beaches could be lost to sea level rise by 2100.
- It's not too late! Although we will experience an increased rate of sea level rise no matter what we do now, we can still prevent catastrophic sea level rise by curbing our greenhouse gas emissions.