

# Climate change and Sea Level Rise: Impacts on Bayview Hunters Point

## Sea Level Rise

Over the past 100 years, the sea level along the California coast has risen by almost **8 inches**. According to NASA and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, 2015 was the warmest year since recorded history. The state government's California Climate Action Team estimated that sea level will rise an additional **10 to 17 inches by 2050** and **31 to 69 inches by 2100** or more. San Francisco Department of the Environment found sea level increasing by **11 to 19 inches by 2050**, and **30 to 55 inches by 2100**. Rising sea level will cause extreme events such as:

- ♣ Coastal flooding
- ♣ Storm surge
- ♣ Coastal erosion/shoreline retreat
- ♣ Wetland loss

One inch may not seem like much, but every inch of sea level rise covers 50-100 inches of shoreline.

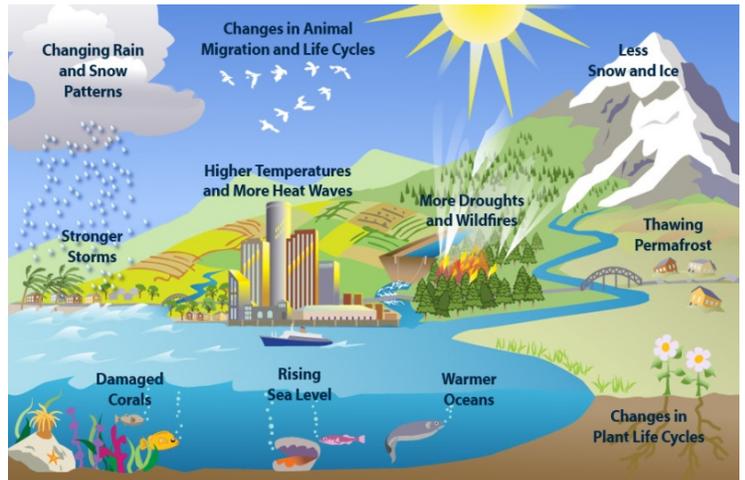
## Why does Sea Level Rise matter?

Rising seas pose a **threat to people** living near SF Bay & the ocean. Flooding also **endangers** different types of **resources**:

- ♣ Electric utility systems/power plants
- ♣ Storm water systems/wastewater treatment plants
- ♣ Transportation facilities
- ♣ Human and natural systems
- ♣ Wetlands/fisheries

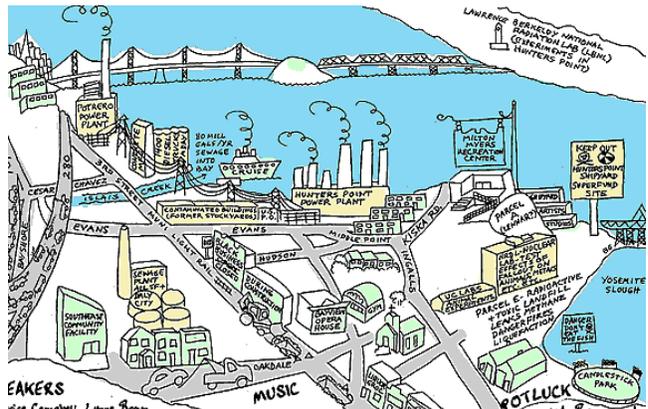
Among those affected by flooding, the most vulnerable will be seniors, young children and low-income people and communities of color due to the potential spread of toxic contamination and disruption of essential services.

Sea Level Rise in Bay Area  
 2100 ↑ 30-55 inches (or more)  
 2050 ↑ 11-19 inches



People and Property at Risk from Sea Level Rise in SF Bay Area (California Energy Commission)

	Current	39 inches	55 inches
SF People at Risk of Flooding	190	1,600	3,800
SF Transportation (miles)	3.4	29	53
SF Bay Area Property at Risk (\$)	\$29 billion	\$49 billion	\$62 billion



## Why is Bayview Hunters Point at Risk?

Residents of Bayview Hunters Point (BVHP) already suffer from health problems due to air, water and land pollution. Sea Level Rise could flood and negatively impact existing hazardous waste sites, transportation infrastructure and utilities – and the health and environment.



### ☠ Hazardous Waste Sites at Risk

BVHP's residents are exposed to many toxic pollutants and the neighborhood is already **at risk of flooding**. If the sea level rises and contaminated areas are flooded, **SF Bay and nearby neighborhoods will be further exposed to dangerous chemicals**.

Greenaction and residents want to make sure toxic sites are properly dealt with and do not pose a health threat in the present as well as in the future.

### ☠ Infrastructure at Risk

Flooding and closure of streets, roads and railways in BVHP could **prevent people from getting to work and block access to emergency routes**; it could also significantly **impact the local economy**.

Areas next to Islais Creek Channel (including Caltrain and Muni train rails) would be flooded if the sea level rises by 55 inches.

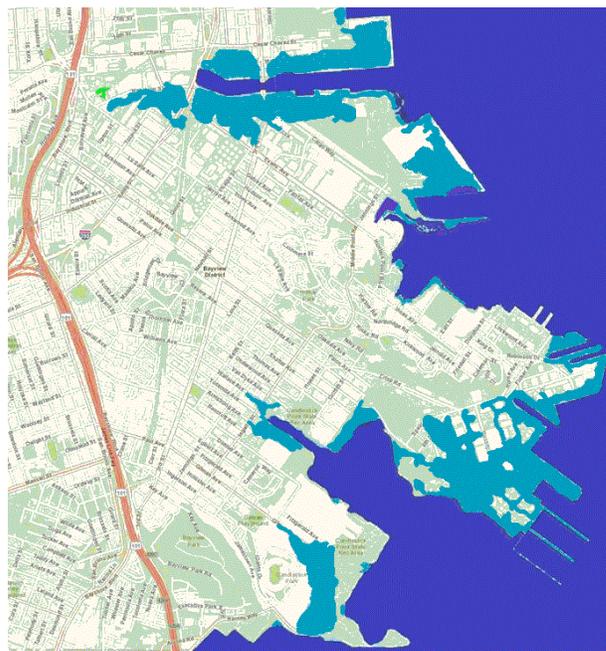
### ☠ Utilities at Risk

The Southeast Treatment Plant located in BVHP treats **80 %** of the San Francisco's sewage and **100 %** of the storm water from the city's sewer system. This facility is situated right across the street from residents without any physical barrier. Flooding could even deepen already existing problems by damaging pumps and other equipment and causing **discharges of untreated sewage**.

There are more than **150 Brownfield sites** in Bayview Hunters Point and surrounding areas in the southeast side of San Francisco.

### Sea Level Rise in Bayview Hunters Point

☠ Area at risk with 5 feet sea level rise



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**Brownfield** = A piece of industrial or commercial property that is abandoned or underused and often environmentally contaminated.

**Superfund** = Land contaminated by hazardous waste that has been identified by the Environment Protection Agency, as a site for cleanup because it poses a risk to human health and the environment.



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