

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY



WHAT IS THE CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY?

California is required by statute to issue a statewide strategy to adapt to the impacts of climate change every three years. Previous iterations of this Strategy have been referred to as “Safeguarding California.” The last update was released in 2018.

What's new?

California is on the frontlines of the climate crisis. Our approach to climate adaptation has evolved to reflect the existential threat we now face.

The updated strategy builds on successful elements of previous strategies, and reflects recent efforts to double down on protecting communities, our economy, and nature from the impacts of climate change. This update:

1. Organizes the state’s climate adaptation efforts around six outcome-based resilience priorities, and increases our ability to measure progress.

These priorities reflect and reinforce regional climate resilience priorities; were developed through robust public engagement and in consultation with California Native American tribes; and specify timeframes and metrics to drive progress and enable accountability.

2. Breaks down silos and unifies collective climate adaptation efforts across all sectors and regions.

An outcome-based approach sets strategic direction, supports coordinated, integrated efforts, recognizes how climate adaptation is implemented on the ground, and reflects our commitment to integrating climate resilience into the work of all state agencies.

3. Makes it easier for Californians to understand and contribute to California’s climate resilience agenda.

Presented as an interactive website, the Strategy provides a central hub for information on the state’s climate resilience actions. The website will stay updated to track progress and adjustments, and integrate emerging best available science.

CALIFORNIA'S CLIMATE RESILIENCE PRIORITIES

The Strategy shows how the state's efforts fit together to deliver on six priorities for climate resilience action in California:

- *Strengthen Protections for Climate Vulnerable Communities*
- *Bolster Public Health and Safety to Protect Against Increasing Climate Risks*
- *Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Climate Science*
- *Build a Climate Resilient Economy*
- *Accelerate Nature-Based Climate Solutions and Strengthen Climate Resilience of Natural Systems*
- *Partner and Collaborate to Leverage Resources*

NEXUS WITH OTHER PLANS

Addressing the climate crisis requires transformational, systems-wide changes, and unprecedented collective action. California is driving toward these shifts through an increasingly integrated approach, with a broad range of plans that advance climate action. These can be generally organized into four plan types.

Climate actions across all plan types inform one or both of the state's central frameworks for addressing climate change – the Scoping Plan and California's Climate Adaptation Strategy:

Statewide climate action plans are centrally focused on delivering climate change action across California. Examples include the:

- *Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure*
- *Putting California on the High Road: A Jobs and Climate Action Plan for 2030*
- *State Agency Sea-Level Rise Action Plan for California*
- *Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy*

Sector-based strategies address many of California's most pressing challenges and include but are not exclusively focused on climate change-centered actions. Examples include the:

- *Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan*
- *Water Resilience Portfolio*
- *Integrated Energy Policy Report*
- *California Department of Health's Strategic Plan*

Regionally-focused strategies are developed by state entities to address climate change and other critical challenges in line with regional conditions and priorities. Examples include the:

- *Central Valley Flood Protection Plan*
- *Salton Sea Management Program*
- *Integrated Vulnerability Assessment of Climate Change in the Lake Tahoe Basin*
- *San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's Adapting to Rising Tides*

State stewardship plans guide approaches to state operations and stewardship that advance climate action and our broader policy agenda. Examples include the:

- *State Parks Sea Level Rise Strategy*
- *Department of General Services Sustainability Plan*
- *CalPERS' Investment Strategy on Climate Change*
- *CalSTRS' Net Zero Implementation Framework*

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