

Crescent City Harbor District

Del Norte County

Site Description

Crescent City Harbor District (CCHD) is situated on a low-lying portion of the Pacific coast in northern California. In 1931, CCHD was formed in accordance with Statutes of 704 and originally consisted of tide and submerged lands measuring 400 acres. The CCHD owns and controls land and tideland properties seaward of the 1948 ordinary high-water mark bounded by Crescent City to the west, Crescent Beach to the east, a U.S. Highway 101 corridor to the north, and Lighthouse Way Breakwater to the south. CCHD's property is bounded by a series of breakwaters, except to the north where the boundary becomes less linear. These sovereign lands were granted in 1963, and CCHD now consists of approximately 4,052 acres of land and water area.

Like much of California, CCHD and the surrounding areas are vulnerable to extreme coastal events combined with rising seas. Extreme events such as storm surges and tsunamis can and have caused widespread adverse impacts to coastal resources and infrastructure without the addition of higher sea levels.

Coastal Hazards considered:
tidal inundation, storms/tsunamis, earthquakes, saltwater intrusion, shoreline change



Granted Land Type:
Smaller Harbor/Marina with Recreational Amenities or Natural Assets

Public Trust Uses

Primary Uses: Commerce, Navigation

Secondary Uses: Environmental Stewardship, Fisheries, Recreation



Modeling system used for mapping:
NOAA

Sea level rise scenarios/elevations
[LINK TO FULL ASSESSMENT](#)

Vulnerable Public Trust Resources	
Built Facilities	Pump-out station, boat ramps, docks, dredge ponds, breakwaters, maintenance/storage buildings, office/retail buildings, restrooms, roads/parking areas, seafood processing plants, shipyard building, solar array, seawall, synchro-lift, travel-lift, utilities, and groin
Natural Assets	Beaches

Proposed Adaptation and Mitigation Measures

Protect

Repair areas of seawall where armor-stone has slipped into harbor, compromising the integrity of the wall; replace and elevate steel seawall that supports Citizens Dock, CCHD Office, public hoist, and seafood freezers; elevate concrete seawall along the Anchor Way breakwater; repair and elevate Whaler Island groin seawall.

Accommodate

Develop sea level rise mitigation plans and structure elevation program; establish damage pile replacement program; evaluate littoral drift and beach nourishment options to maintain beaches; develop a debris management plan; replace and elevate synchro-lift and travel-lift docks.

Retreat

Limit new development in mapped hazard area; where appropriate, support retrofitting, purchase or relocate structures located in high hazard areas, prioritizing those structures that have experienced repetitive losses and/or are in high or medium ranked hazards.

Partnerships

In light of the 2011 tsunami triggered by the Tohoku earthquake, the CCHD focuses much of its efforts towards disaster preparedness and post-disaster recovery plans. Given the existing partnerships that have been developed for disaster preparedness, the discussion of sea level rise can be incorporated into regional planning and coordination. In addition, the CCHD currently relies on its Board of Harbor Commissioners, the City of Crescent City, Del Norte County, the Redwood Coast Tsunami Work Group, the NOAA tidal gauge, its vast network of businesses, technical consultants, academic institutions, and public agencies to monitor and address other climate resilience goals.

Anticipated Costs of Sea Level Rise (millions)*

	Current	2030 (12 in.)	2050 (24 in.)	2100 (72 in.)
Assets at Risk or Repair and Replacement Costs		\$2.8	\$56	\$141
Losses in Non-Market Value		\$1.1	\$11	\$32.7
Cost of Adaptation				\$98.5

* Assets at Risk from Table 6, p. 17; Non-market Value from Table 5, p. 17; Adaptation Costs combine Totals from Table 7 and 8, pp. 19 and 20.