# Blue Solutions for Climate Action Planning

Sea-Level Rise & its Impacts on Coastal Communities



Director, Environmental Conservation





### **Port of San Diego Jurisdiction**







5 public piers



museums & attractions



hotels



22 parks



artworks



restaurants



sponsored events



## **Drivers of Adaptation**

#### Protect Public Trust Resources

Commerce, Fisheries,
 Navigation, Recreation,
 Environmental Stewardship

#### Working waterfront

 Coastal-dependent infrastructure

#### Regulatory directives

- AB 691
- Port Act
- Coastal Commission

Port Master Plan Update





## Plans and Policies at the Port of San Diego





## **Assembly Bill 691**

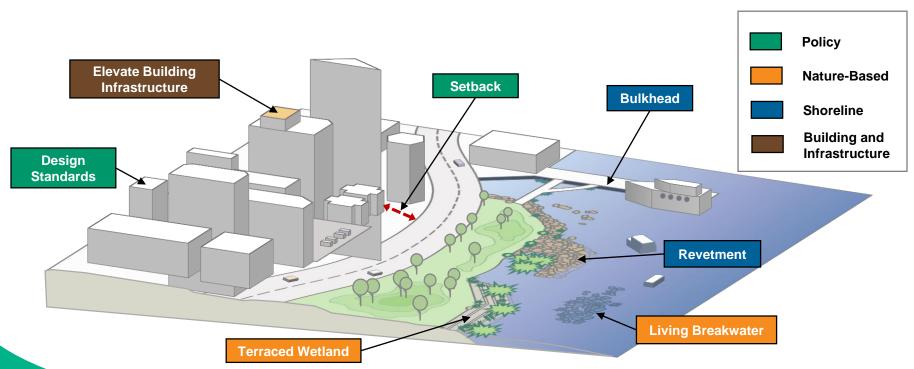
- Trustees of granted public trust lands
  - ✓ Submit a description of how trustee proposes to address sea level rise
  - ✓ Evaluate the impacts of sea level rise: 2030, 2050, and 2100
  - Estimate financial impacts
  - ✓ Collaborate with stakeholders
  - ✓ Identified monitoring indicators







#### **Visualizing Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategies**





#### Port of San Diego and the U.S. Navy

- The Port of San Diego is one of seventeen strategic ports
- Multiple collaborative efforts between the U.S. Navy and the Port of San Diego
  - Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
  - Memorandum of Agreement to coordinate on sea level rise and coastal flooding around San Diego Bay
  - San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership
  - Partnership Intermediary Agreement to help drive Blue Economy Innovation in San Diego Bay and test pilot projects with Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division



## San Diego Bay Wave Monitoring Pilot Project







- Measure wave activity
- Refine sea level rise modeling
- Develop flood forecast tools
- Inform resiliency measures



## **Natural Climate Solutions**















# Leading by Example: Investment and Innovation

# **Long-term Natural Resource Management**

- Restoration Efforts
  - Seeks to restore lost habitat
  - Increases resiliency to climate change
- Mitigation Banking
  - Create wetlands habitat to offset future impacts









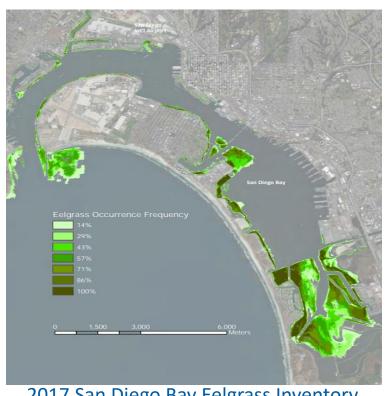
## **Coastal Carbon Sequestration**



Salt marsh and eelgrass habitats are natural carbon sinks that bury carbon in the ground at much greater rates than terrestrial forests



# **Eelgrass**



#### 2017 San Diego Bay Eelgrass Inventory

## San Diego Bay accounts for:

- 50% of all eelgrass in Southern CA
- 15% in entire state



# **Restoration & Mitigation Banking**





## **Mitigation Banking**



Restoration will result in

189%

increase in carbon sequestered by the year

**2100**.

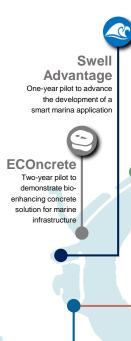


## **Blue Economy**



Innovation Launching Pad





#### Sunken Seaweed One-year pilot to

Five-year pilot to demonstrate shellfish nursery operation using the Floating Upweller Nursery System technology (FLUPSY)

San Diego Bay Aquaculture



Blue Economy Incubator Portfolio

#### **ecoSPEARS**

Two-year pilot to demonstrate in-situ technology to extract contaminants from marine sediment

demonstrate sustainable

seaweed aquaculture



#### Zephyr Marine Debris Removal

One-year pilot to demonstrate custom-made vessel designed to collect marine debris



#### Rentunder

Two-year pilot to demonstrate Boatwash as alternative to current in-water hull cleaning practices

#### **Red Lion Chem Tech**

One-year pilot to demonstrate technology to remove dissolved copper from seawater using absorbent media filtration material









#### **Leading by Example:**

#### Investment and Innovation | Blue Economy Incubator



Zephyr Trash Skimming Boat



Sunken Seaweed



**EConcrete** 



ecoSPEARS



## **3D Ocean Farming**



- Bioremediation
- Carbon sequestration
- Food production
- Fisheries enhancement



# **Seaweed Aquaculture**





#### **ECOncrete**



- 3-year pilot project to demonstrate new design of an innovative bioenhancing concrete solutions for marine infrastructure
- Comprehensive monitoring plan (biological & structural)



#### **Conclusion**



- Natural Resource Management
- Habitat Restoration
- Mitigation Banking
- Innovative Technology
- Aquaculture