

# Pacific Coast Highway at Elkhorn Slough Natural Infrastructure Pilot Project



**Goal:** Explore multi-benefit adaptation approaches for coastal & habitat highway resilience for the Pacific Coast Highway along Elkhorn Slough in Monterey Bay.

ct Kelly Leo: [kleo@tnc.org](mailto:kleo@tnc.org)

A man with a balding head and a shocked expression, wearing a blue suit, is pointing his right index finger upwards. He has a large, ornate ring on his finger. The background is a dark, textured wall.

**Of coastal property at risk  
from SLR & flooding by 2100**

***ONE BILLION DOLLARS!***



90 miles of PCH  
at risk of flooding  
by 2100





**Protecting  
infrastructure is  
their obligation**

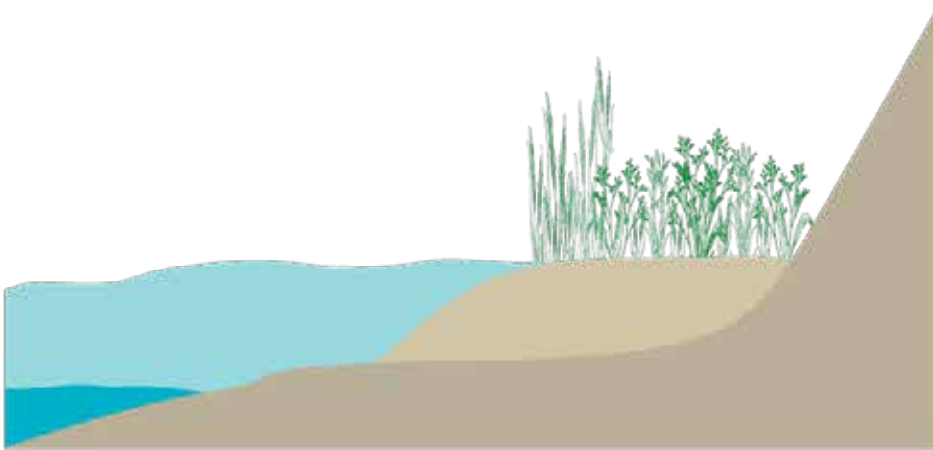




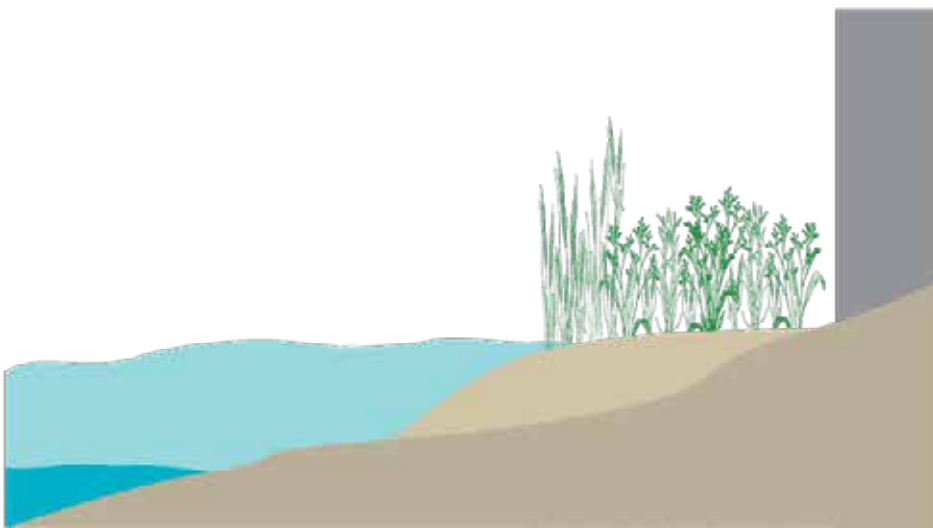
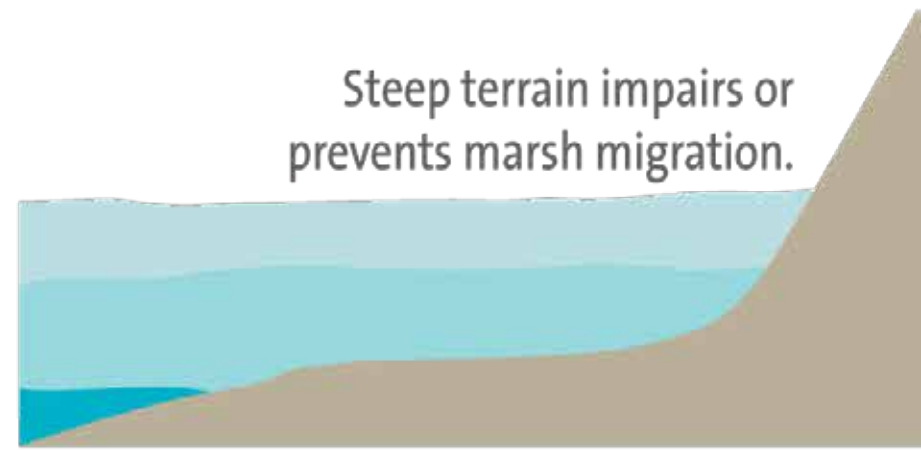


# BARRIERS TO MARSH MIGRATION

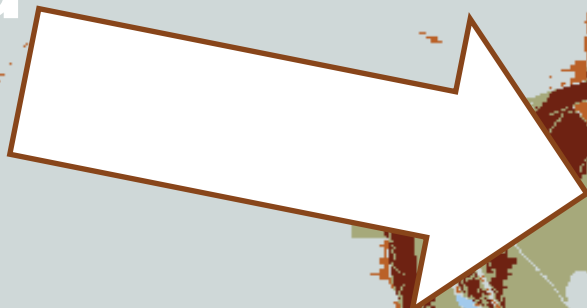
Current Sea Level



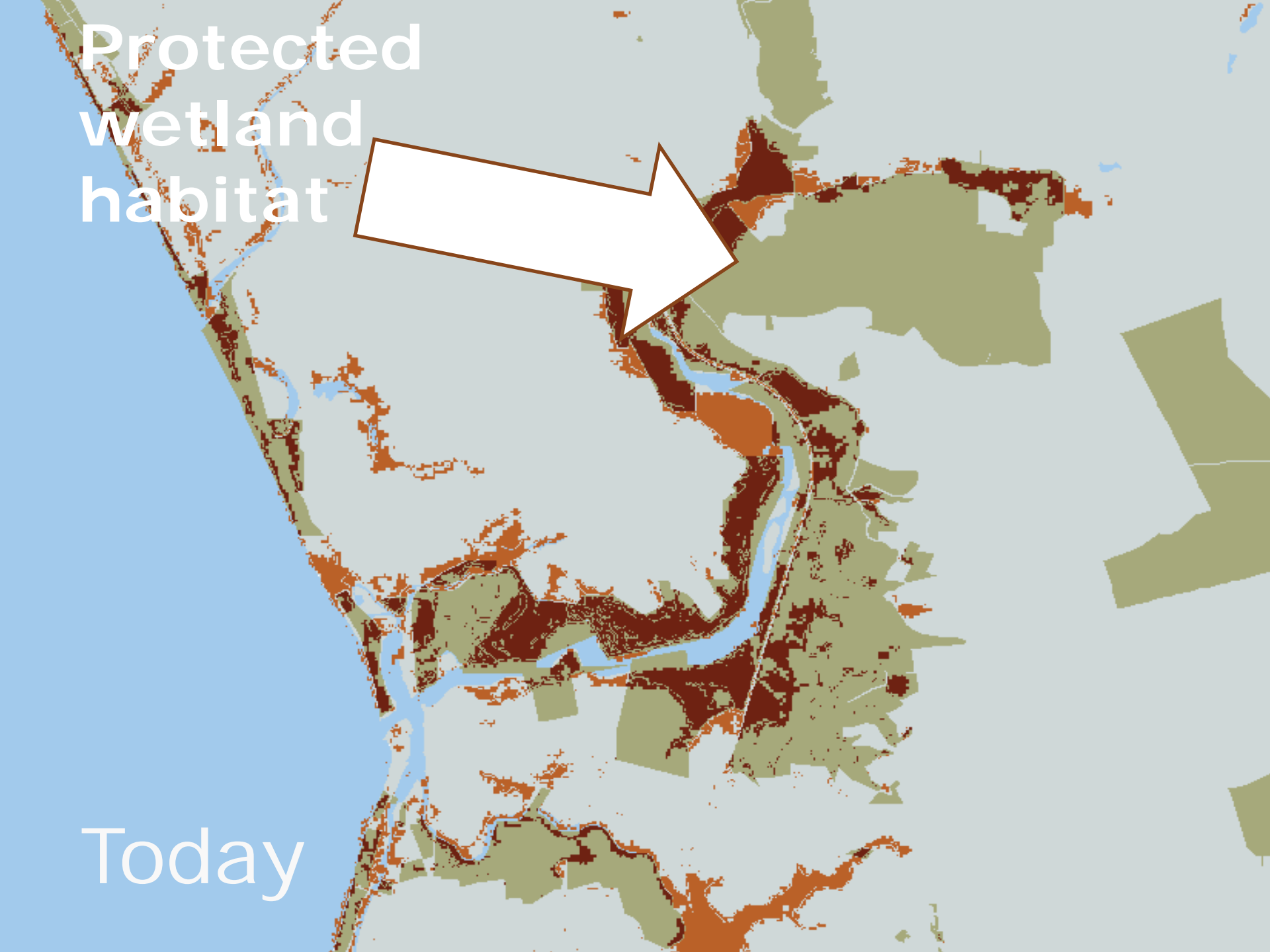
Future Sea Level



Protected  
wetland  
habitat



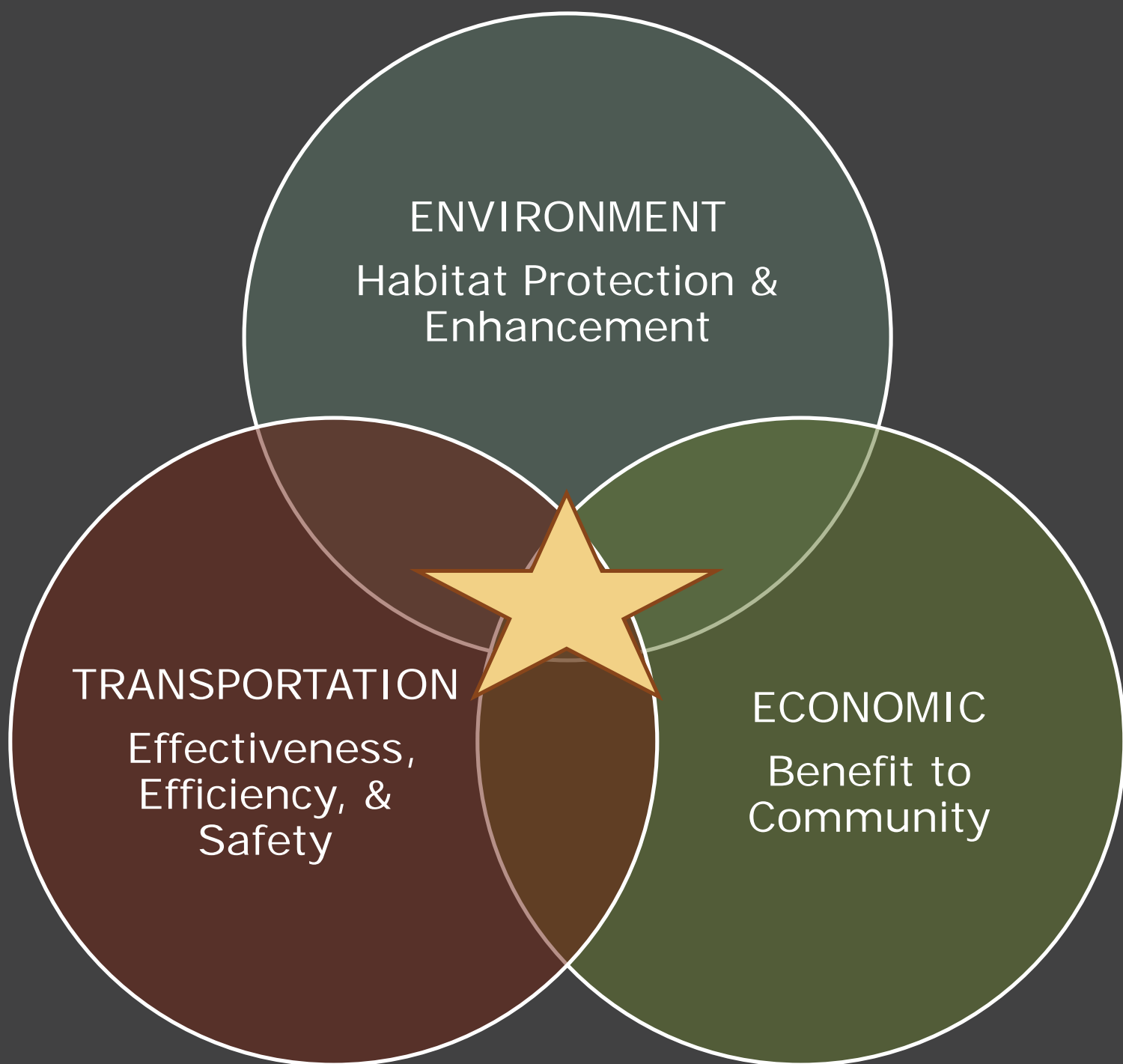
Today









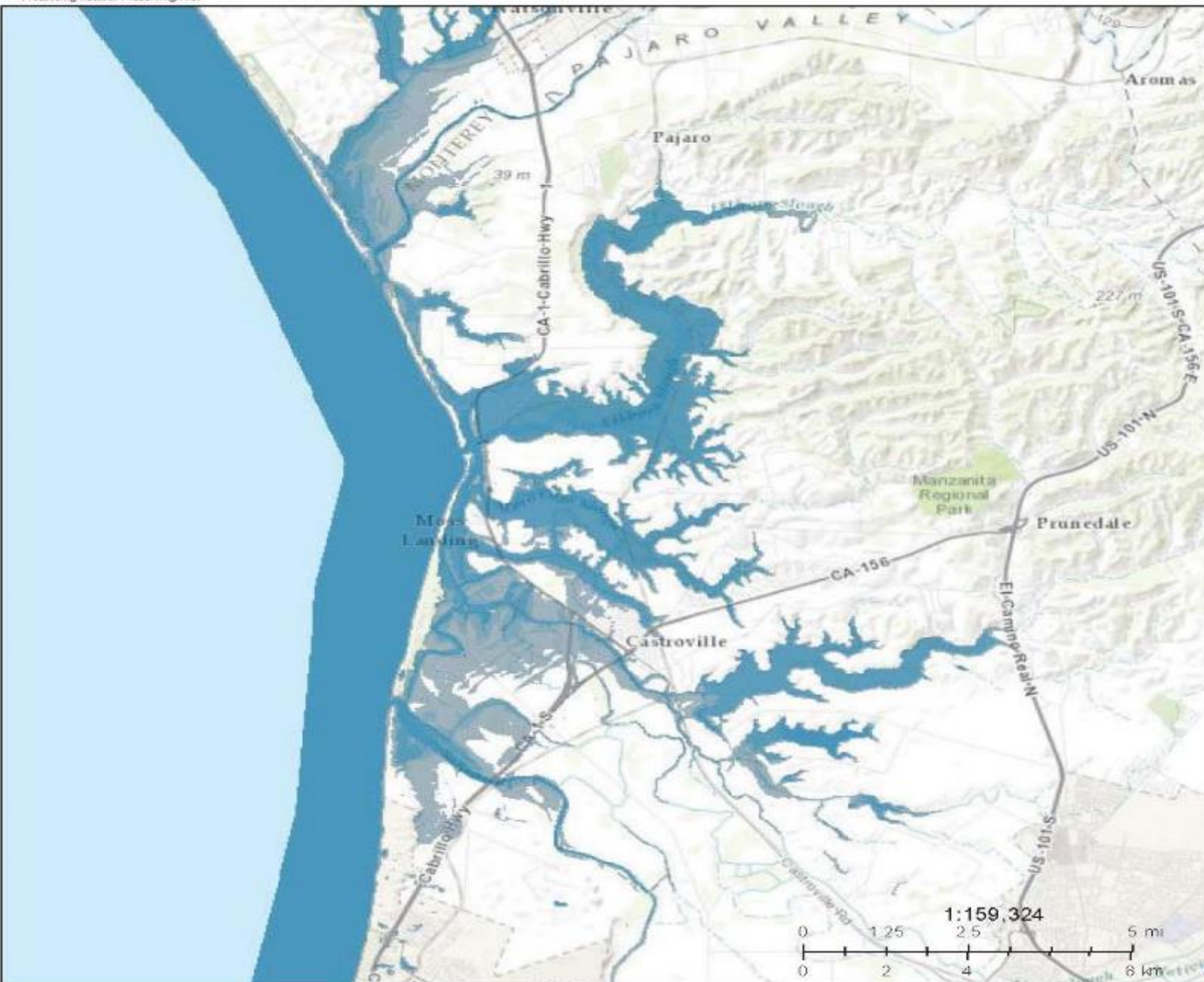


# Habitat & Highway Vulnerability to SLR & Flooding





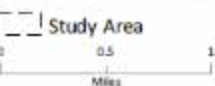
- 1 Sea Level Rise Scenario
- 2 Sea Level Rise Scenario
- 3 Sea Level Rise Scenario



Nearly 2 miles of  
PCH @ Elkhorn  
Slough inundated  
at EMHW by 2100

3.6 miles  
vulnerable to  
flooding

As soon as  
2050....



\*Extreme Monthly High Water is approximately 33 cm (13 inches) above Mean Higher High Water at the Monterey tide gage, or 2.0 meters (6.6 feet) NAVD83.







**Thousands of acres could be impacted  
by 5 miles of HWY management**

Biophysical  
Analysis of  
Alternatives

Economic  
Analysis

Facilitation &  
Communication



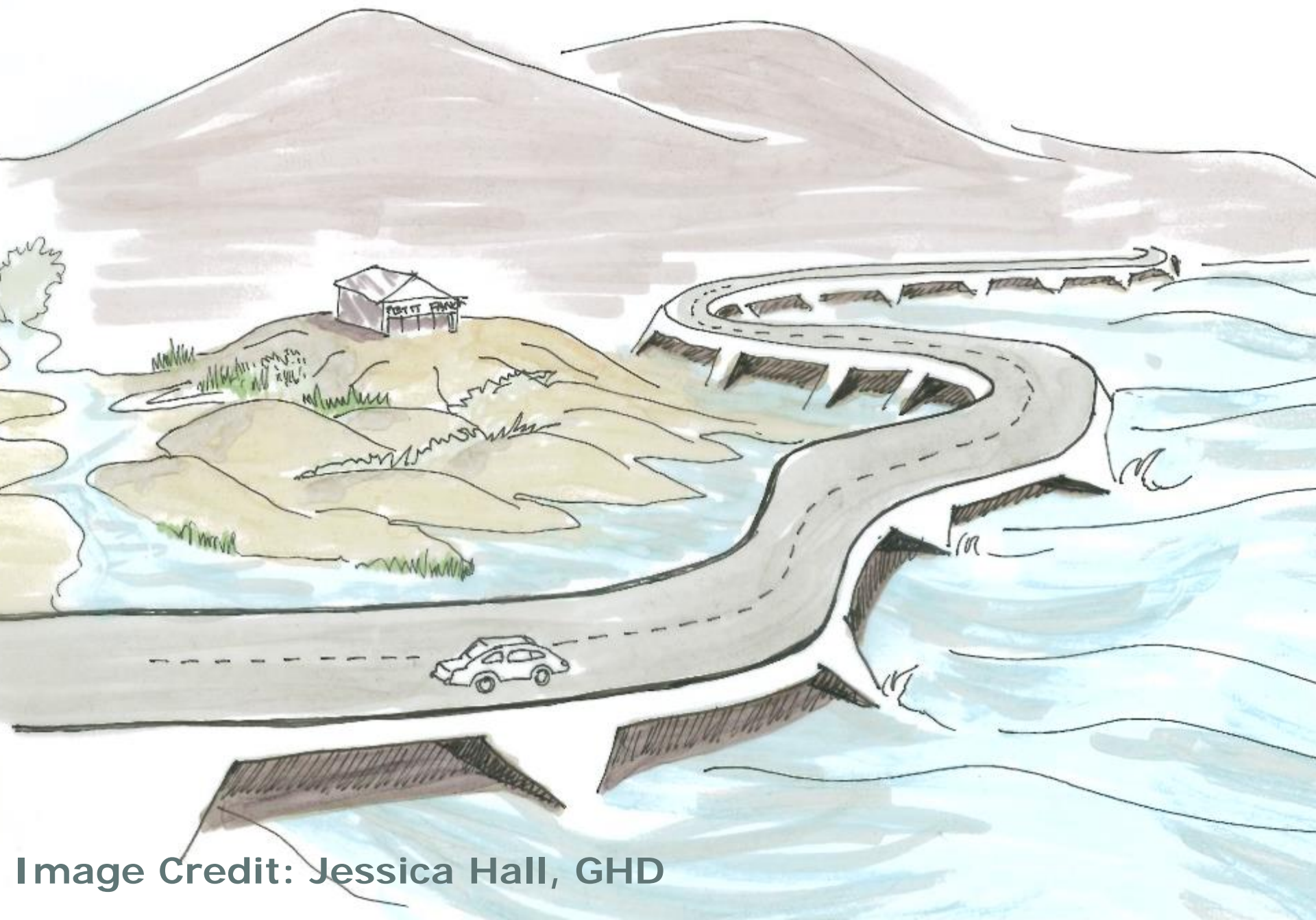


Image Credit: Jessica Hall, GHD

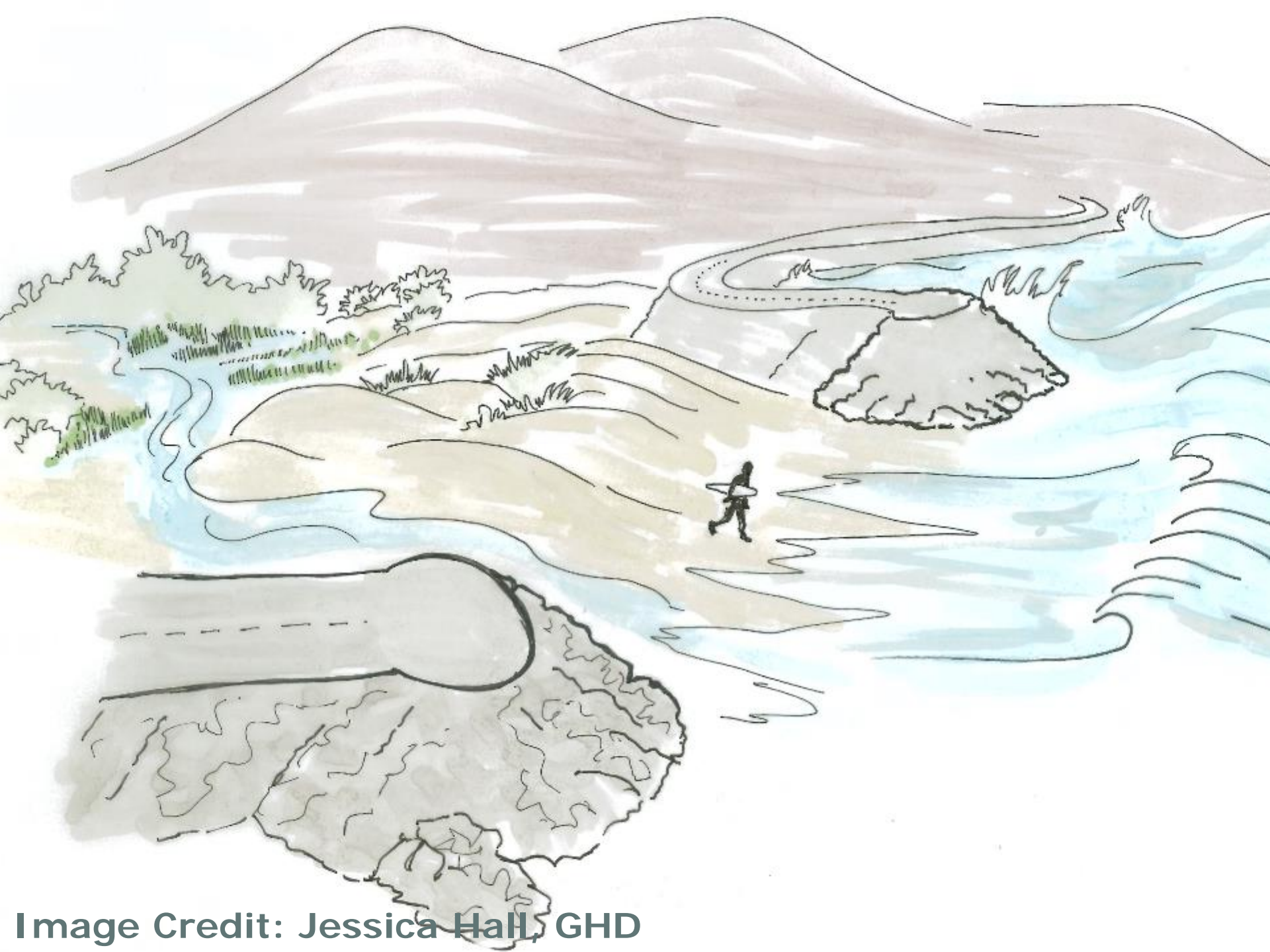


Image Credit: Jessica Hall, GHD





Image Credit: Jessica Hall, GHD

Eaton St

Lakes Park

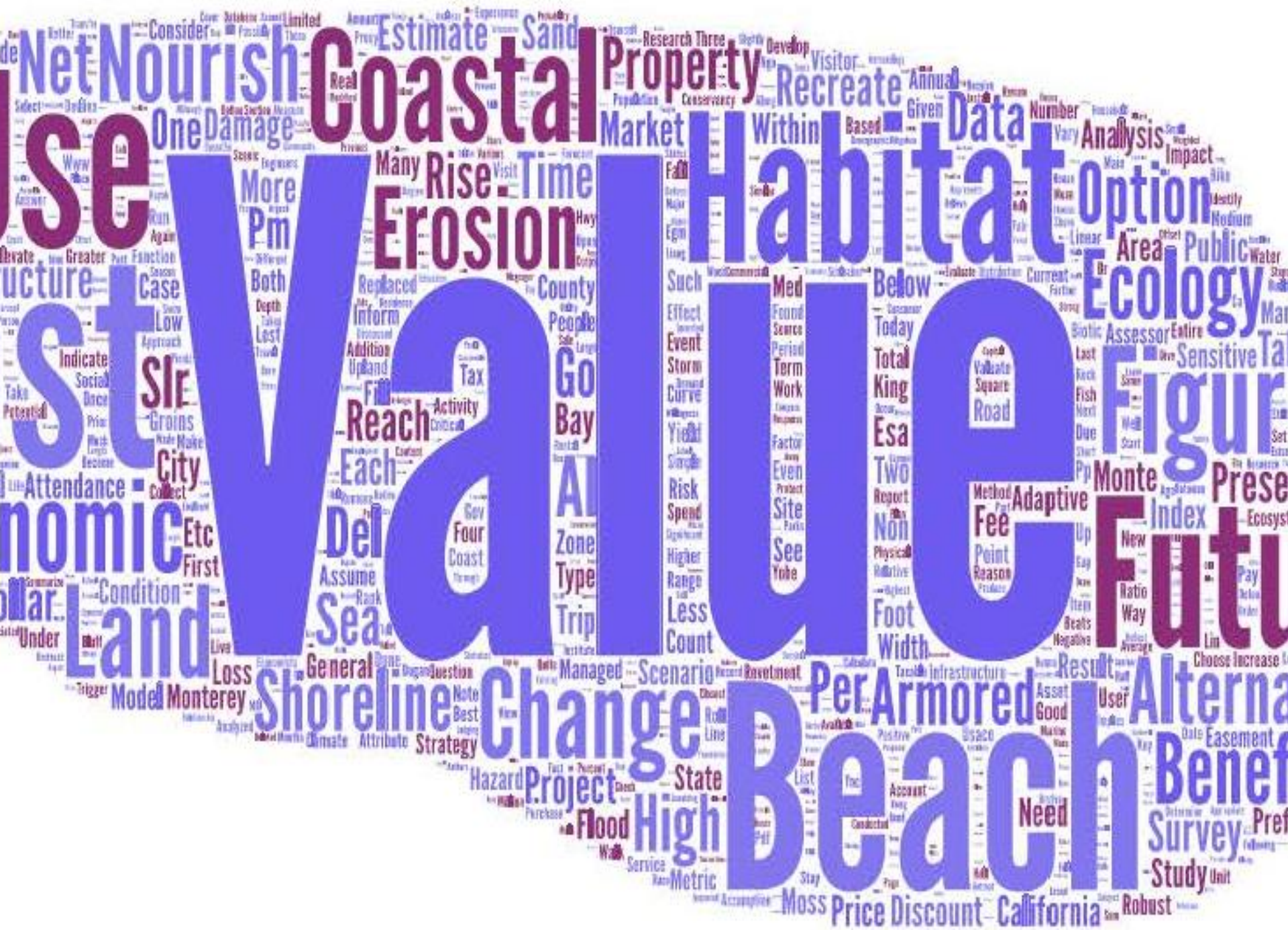


DeLores St

Calculating alternate  
routes, please wait...

Carmel St











An aerial photograph of the San Francisco Bay Area serves as the background. A teal-colored rectangular overlay covers the top portion of the image. On the left side of the teal area, there is a vertical line of small blue dots. The title text is positioned within this teal area.

# **BAY AREA RESILIENCE BY DESIGN CHALLENGE**

**UNITING THE BEST LOCAL AND GLOBAL  
MINDS TO WORK TOWARD A MORE  
RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

A large yellow bracket graphic is positioned to the left of the descriptive text, spanning the height of the paragraph.

**The Bay Area Resilience by Design Challenge joins government, community leaders, and stakeholders from around the region to address challenges affecting the resiliency of our neighborhoods, environment, and infrastructure in this era of climate and seismic uncertainty.**







Image Credit: Jessica Hall, GHD



# THANK YOU!

[kleo@tnc.org](mailto:kleo@tnc.org)

