

Climate Ready Estuaries Website

Visit the Climate Ready Estuaries Website to find information on climate change impacts and adaptation, including:

Basic Information

What are the projected climate change impacts to coastal systems? What can be done to address these impacts?

Where You Live

Where are the National Estuaries and what climate change impacts assessment and adaptation efforts are underway in your region?

Explore Climate Ready Estuaries

Learn how the program is working with coastal managers to advance coastal adaptation to climate change.

Coastal Toolkit

What tools and information will help you get started assessing climate change vulnerabilities, finding data, and developing adaptation plans?

www.epa.gov/cre

PROGRAM CONTACTS

If you are a coastal manager with specific questions on the program, please contact:

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For media or press inquiries, please visit
www.epa.gov/newsroom/contact-us.htm.



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ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The Climate Ready Estuaries (CRE) program is a partnership between EPA and the National Estuary Programs (NEPs) to address climate change in coastal areas. This effort is building additional capacity in coastal communities as they prepare to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Climate Ready Estuaries is supporting NEPs and coastal communities in becoming “climate ready” by providing tools and assistance to:

- Assess climate change vulnerabilities
- Engage and educate stakeholders
- Develop and implement adaptation strategies
- Share lessons learned with other coastal managers

PROTECTING CRITICAL RESOURCES

Estuaries are places where rivers meet the sea. They are highly productive and unique ecosystems. Millions of people live, work, and play in estuaries, and they are home to many industries critical to our nation’s prosperity. However, estuaries are projected to be particularly vulnerable to many climate change effects. Impacts that may occur include:

- Damage to and loss of wetlands, coastal property, and infrastructure due to inundation and more severe coastal storms.
- Changes to water availability and quality, including impacts to groundwater and drinking water.
- Changes in habitat, fisheries, and other plant and animal distributions.

Get Ready!

Coastal resource managers can reduce these risks, reduce future costs, and improve resiliency by acting now to identify areas that are particularly vulnerable, establish monitoring that will warn of impending changes, and develop and implement adaptation plans.



Tools and Resources for Estuaries

Assess, Plan, Take Action!

A Coastal Toolkit of information products, data, tools, workshops, and technical assistance is available to all NEPs and other coastal managers. This Toolkit, available on the CRE Website (www.epa.gov/cre), provides information and resources related to:

 **Monitoring climate change**

 **Finding data**

 **Tools for assessing risk and vulnerability**

 **Adaptation planning**

 **Smart growth in the context of climate change**

 **Sustainable financing options**

CRE IS UNDERWAY!

EPA is providing targeted assistance to NEPs to identify climate change vulnerabilities, develop adaptation plans, and begin to implement selected actions within these plans.

To learn more about the programs EPA is working with under Climate Ready Estuaries, visit the CRE Website.

www.epa.gov/cre/explore.html