

Climate Resilient Monterey Bay

CLIMATE RESILIENT MONTEREY BAY REGIONAL MONITORING PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Climate Resilient Monterey Bay Regional Monitoring Program (CRMB-RMP) is a coordinated monitoring effort to assess the extent, health, function, and resilience of coastal wetlands and dunes in the Monterey Bay region. By integrating ecological, geomorphic, and socio-economic data, the program establishes a cohesive regional approach to tracking environmental change and evaluating the performance of restoration and adaptation projects. The resulting analyses and reports will provide a foundation for climate adaptation planning, guide project design, and support ongoing adaptive management throughout the Monterey Bay region.

PROJECT LOCATION

This effort spans the Central California coast from Año Nuevo to Garrapata State Park and focuses on coastal wetlands and dunes. Monitoring will occur within NOAA CRRC-funded flood-risk reduction project sites and surrounding areas managed by local, county, and regional partners.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Program objectives include creating a network of partners within the Monterey Bay region & aligning with other state efforts, and developing a standardized framework for monitoring of coastal wetlands and dunes within this region. Additionally, they are advancing scientific knowledge on wetland and dune function, while informing state and local climate resilience grant, management, and regulatory programs. Lastly, throughout this grant, we will evaluate the regional socio-economic benefits and impacts of coastal restoration.

MONITORING TEAM

The initiative is led by the Central Coast Wetlands Group at San Jose State University Research Foundation, working in partnership with federal, state, regional, and local agencies and organizations. Key collaborators include the City of Santa Cruz, CA State Parks, Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency (PRFMA), Land Trust of Santa Cruz County (LTSCC), Pajaro Storm Drain Maintenance District of the County of Santa Cruz, Elkhorn Slough Foundation (ESF), Coastal Conservation & Research (CC&R), Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC), and the Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT). Together, these groups provide monitoring expertise, contribute existing datasets, implement standardized field protocols, coordinate socio-economic data collection, and support integrated analyses that inform regional climate adaptation efforts.

ADAPTATION STRATEGY

Regional Collaboration
and Capacity Building



PARTNERS



Central Coast Wetlands
Group,
San Jose State
University Research
Foundation

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