CLIMATE CHANGE Vulnerability Assessment & Pilot Project

Photos: Peter Dobbins/Friends of the Garcia River (FrOG)

Prepared for:

Caltrans

Del Norte Local Transportation Commission

Humboldt County Association of Governments

LAKE APC

MCOG

Prepared by:

ESA PWA

GHD

Impacts of Climate Change and Variability on Transportation Systems and Infrastructure: Gulf Coast Study, Phase I
Chapter 1: Why Study Climate Change Impacts on Transportation?

1.0 Why Study Climate Change Impacts on Transportation?

Lead Authors: Robert C. Hyman, Joanne R. Potter, Michael J. Savonis, Virginia R. Burkett, and Jessica E. T

Transportation is such
consider its importanc
transit, rail, marine, an
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Transportation pr
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4. H

The world is not on track to meet the target agreed [upon] by governments to limit the long-term rise in the average global temperature to 2° Celsius. Global greenhouse emissions are increasing rapidly and, in May 2013, carbon-dioxide levels in the atmosphere exceeded 400 parts per million for the first time in several hundred millennia.

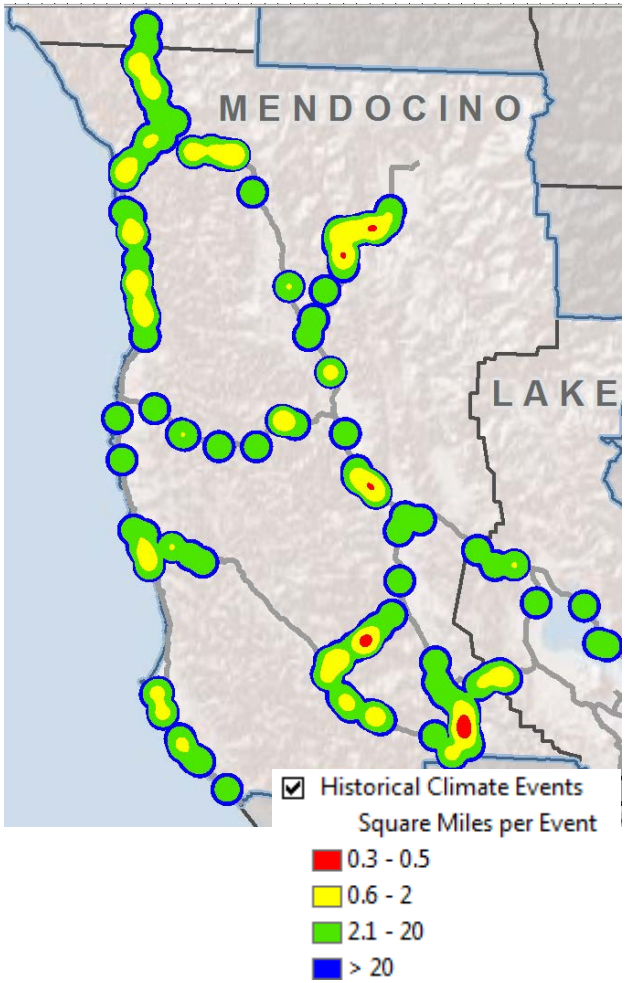
—Executive Summary
Redrawing the Energy-Climate Map
International Energy Agency
June 2013

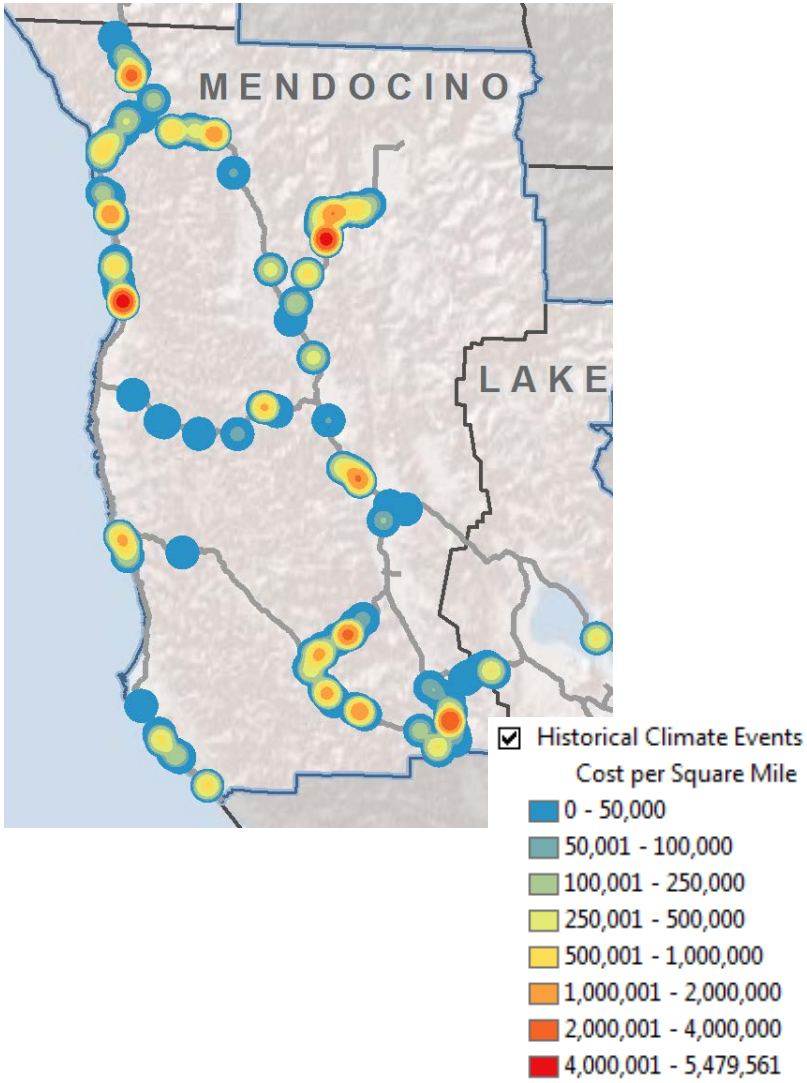
Courtesy of CALTRANS

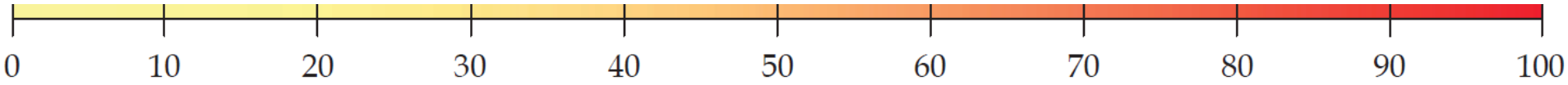
Photo: Brian Birke, Creative Commons Attribution License

Photo: laffy4k, Creative Commons Attribution License

Historic Maintenance Events



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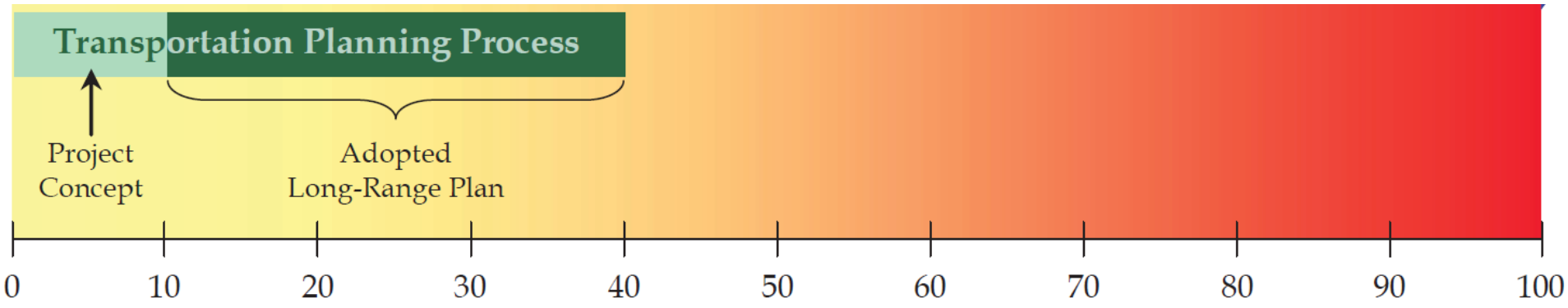
Transportation Planning Process
Project Concept
Adopted Long-Range Plan
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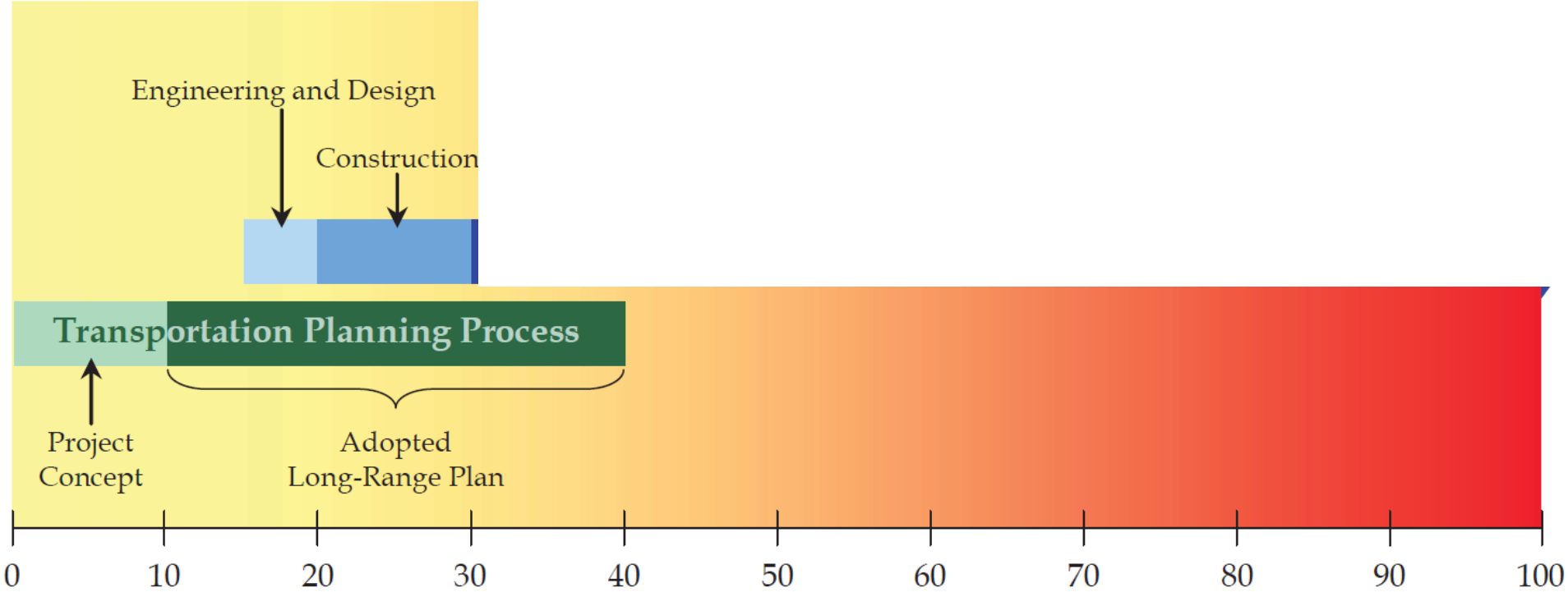
Engineering and Design
Construction
Transportation Planning Process
Project Concept
Adopted Long-Range Plan
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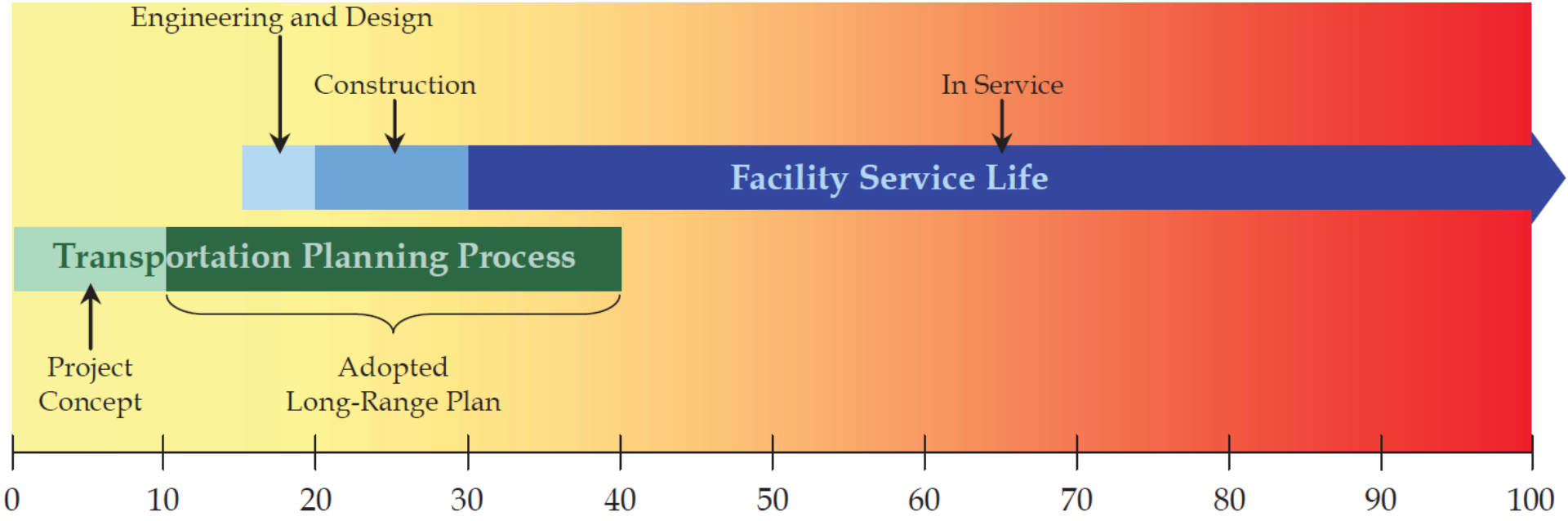
Engineering and Design
Construction
In Service
Facility Service Life
Transportation Planning Process
Project Concept
Adopted Long-Range Plan
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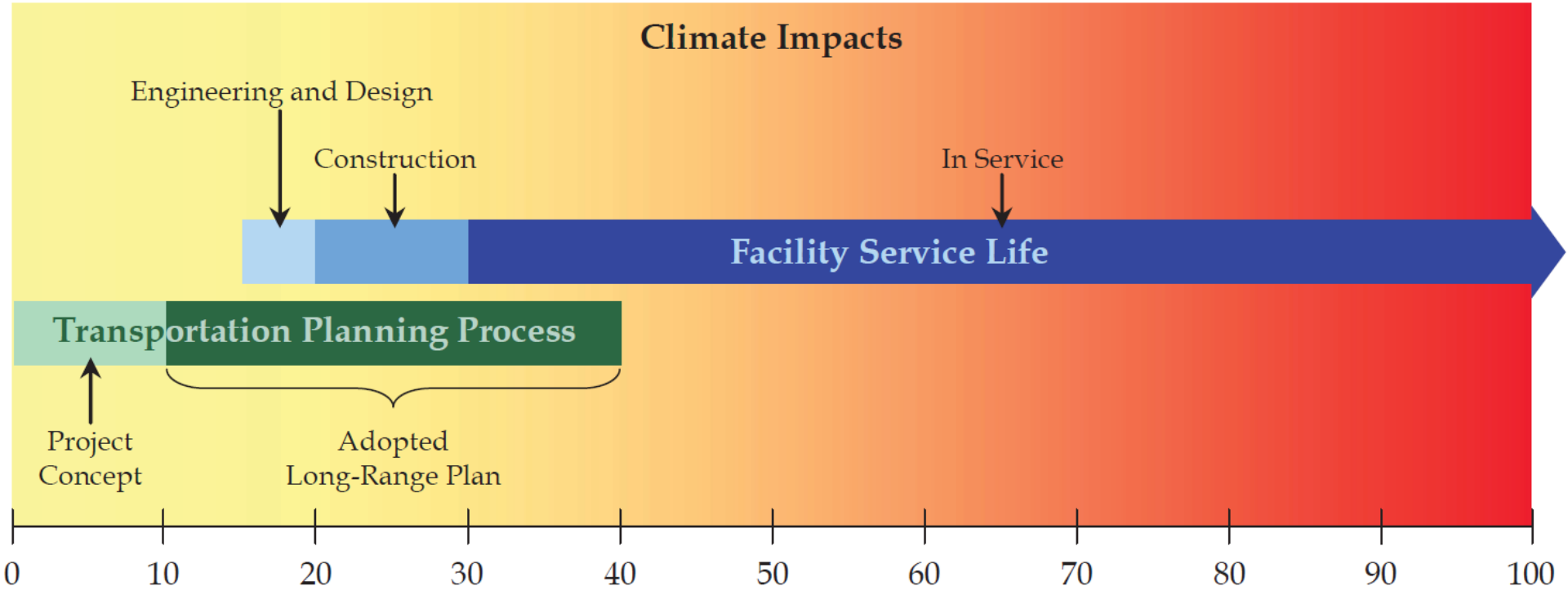
Climate Impacts
Engineering and Design
Construction
In Service
Facility Service Life
Transportation Planning Process
Project Concept
Adopted Long-Range Plan
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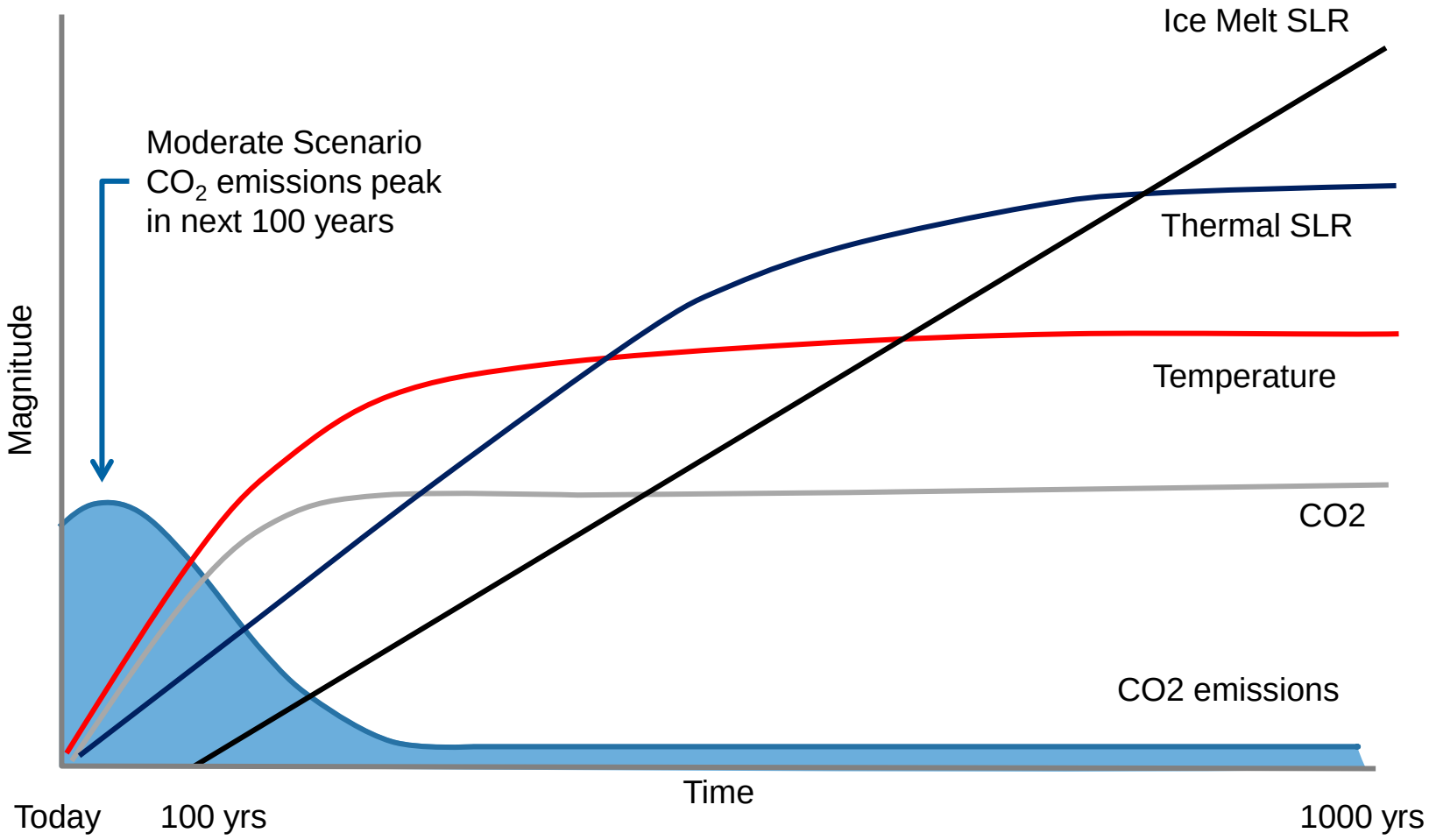
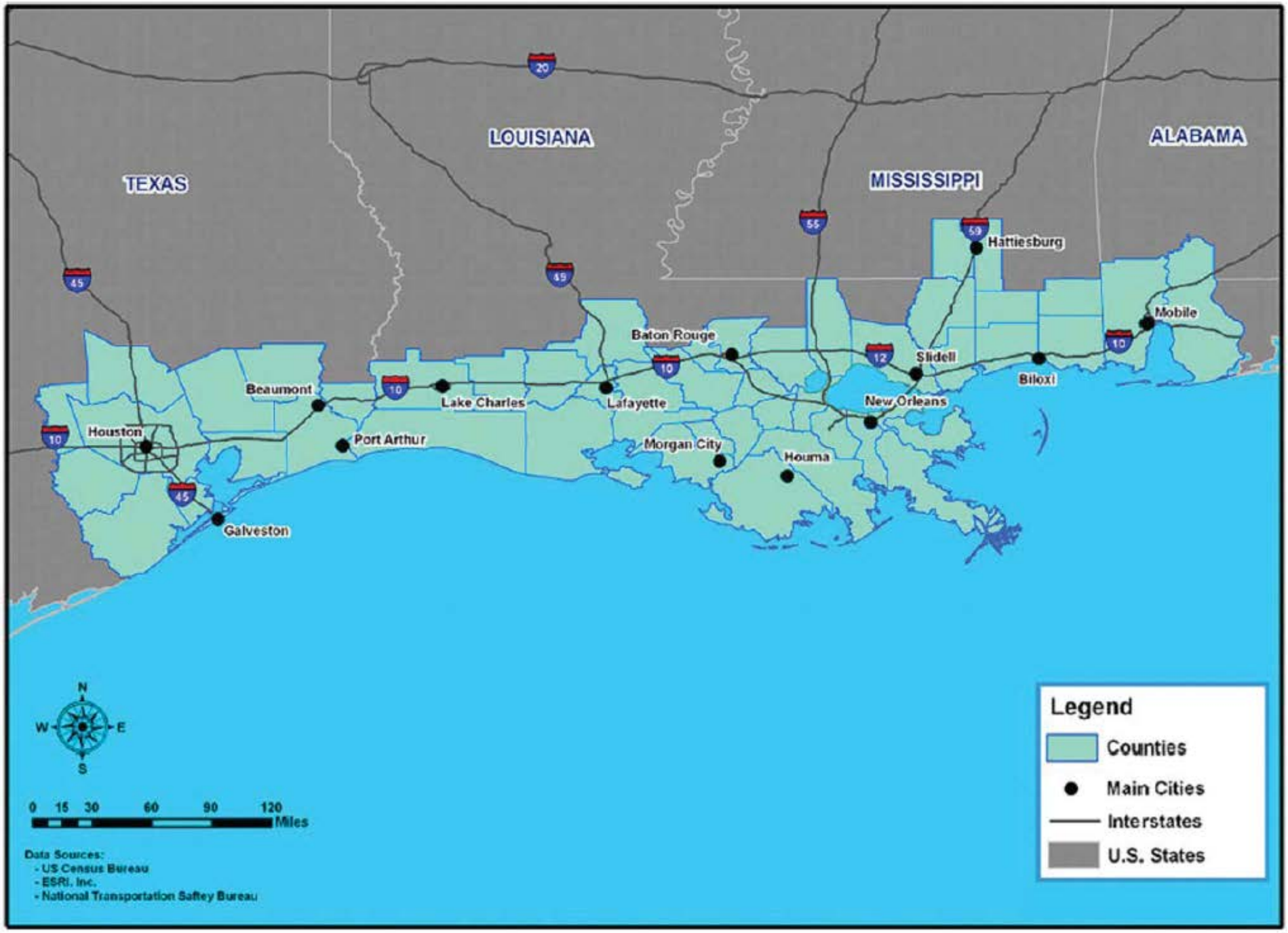

Ice Melt SLR
Moderate Scenario
CO_2 emissions peak
in next 100 years
Thermal SLR
Magnitude
Temperature
CO2
CO2 emissions
Time
Today
100 yrs
1000 yrs

Climate Change Scenarios

2050

Extreme Climate Change Models

Moderate Climate Change Models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LOUISIANA
MISSISSIPPI
ALABAMA
Hattiesburg
Mobile
Baton Rouge
Slidell
Biloxi
Beaumont
Lake Charles
Lafayette
New Orleans
Houston
Port Arthur
Morgan City
Houma
Galveston
N
W
E
S
0 15 30 60 90 120
Miles
Data Sources:
- US Census Bureau
- ESRI, Inc.
- National Transportation Saftey Bureau
Legend
Counties
Main Cities
Interstates
U.S. States

PROJECT HISTORY

2008 Gulf Coast Study

↓

FHWA Conceptual Model for Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments

↓

2010 Pilot Studies (5)

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FHWA Climate Change & Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessment Framework

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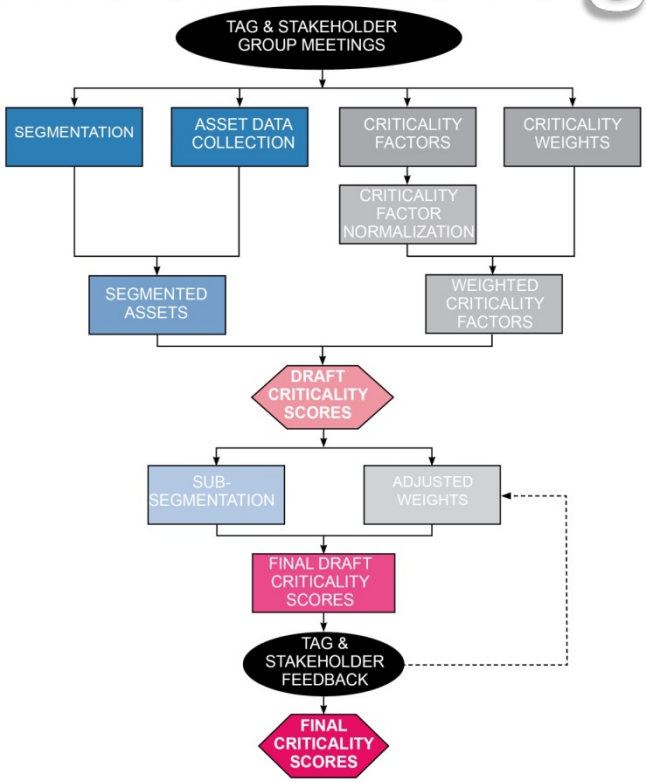
2013 Pilot Studies (19)

↓

?

D1CCPS Project: Process vs. Product

Methodology

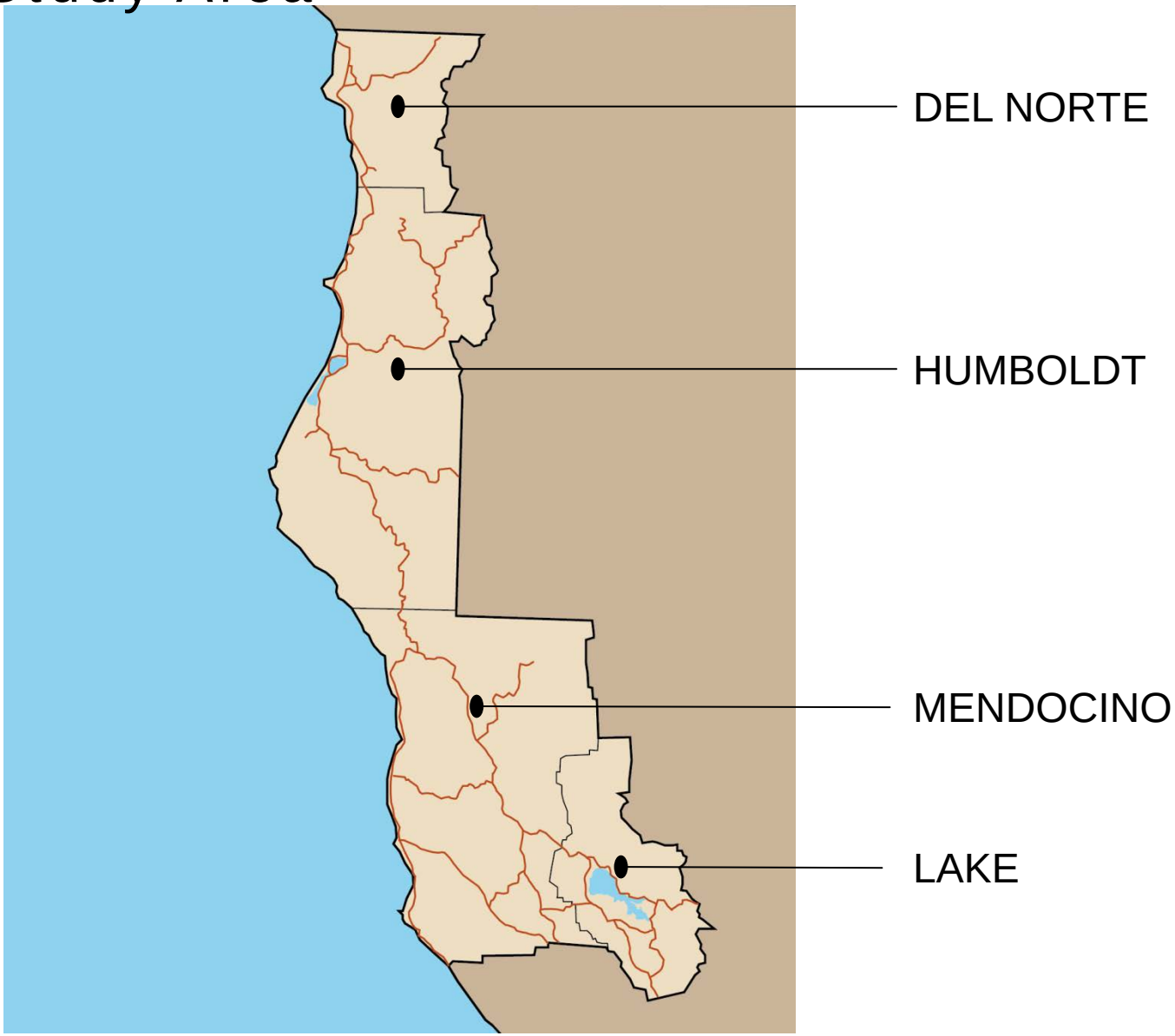


Project Objectives

1. Identify **Vulnerabilities**

2. Analyze **Adaptation Options**

Study Area



Exposure

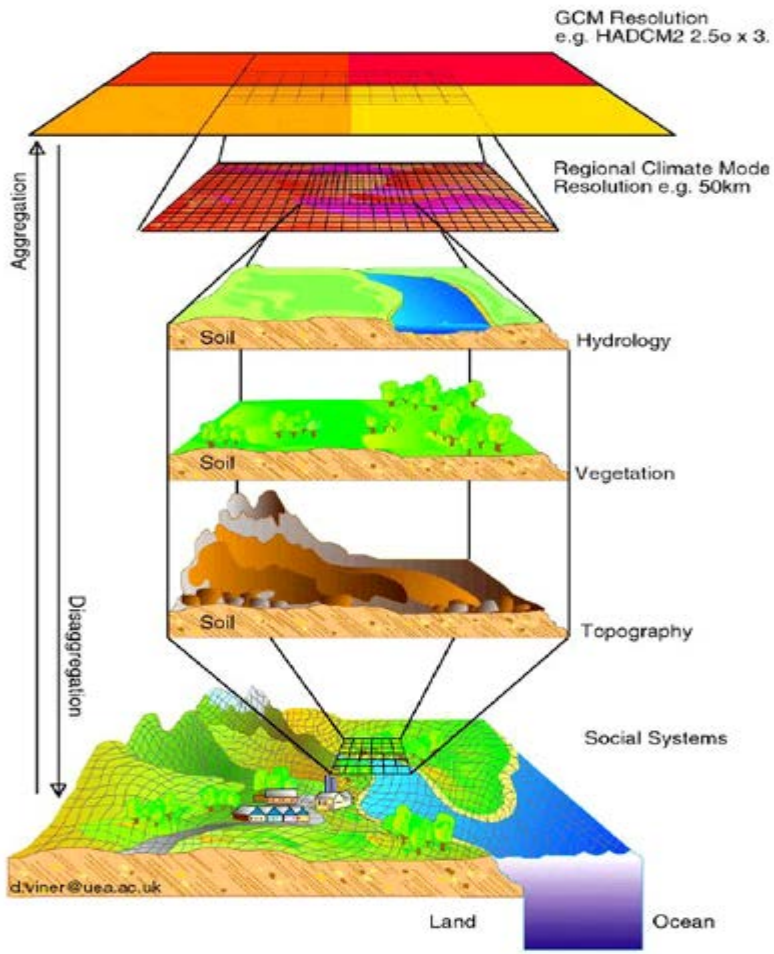
Climate Change Effects

- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Runoff
- Sea level rise
- Coastal erosion hazards
- Wildfire

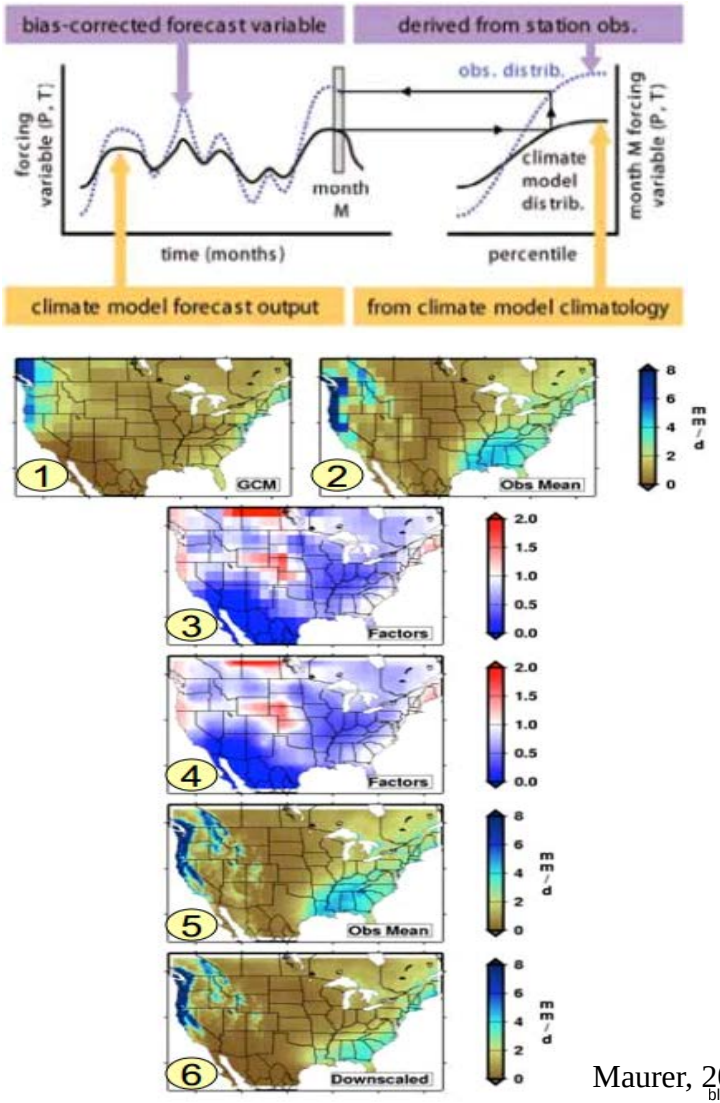
Moderate & Extreme changes at 2050 and 2100

How do we know?

Dynamical



Statistical



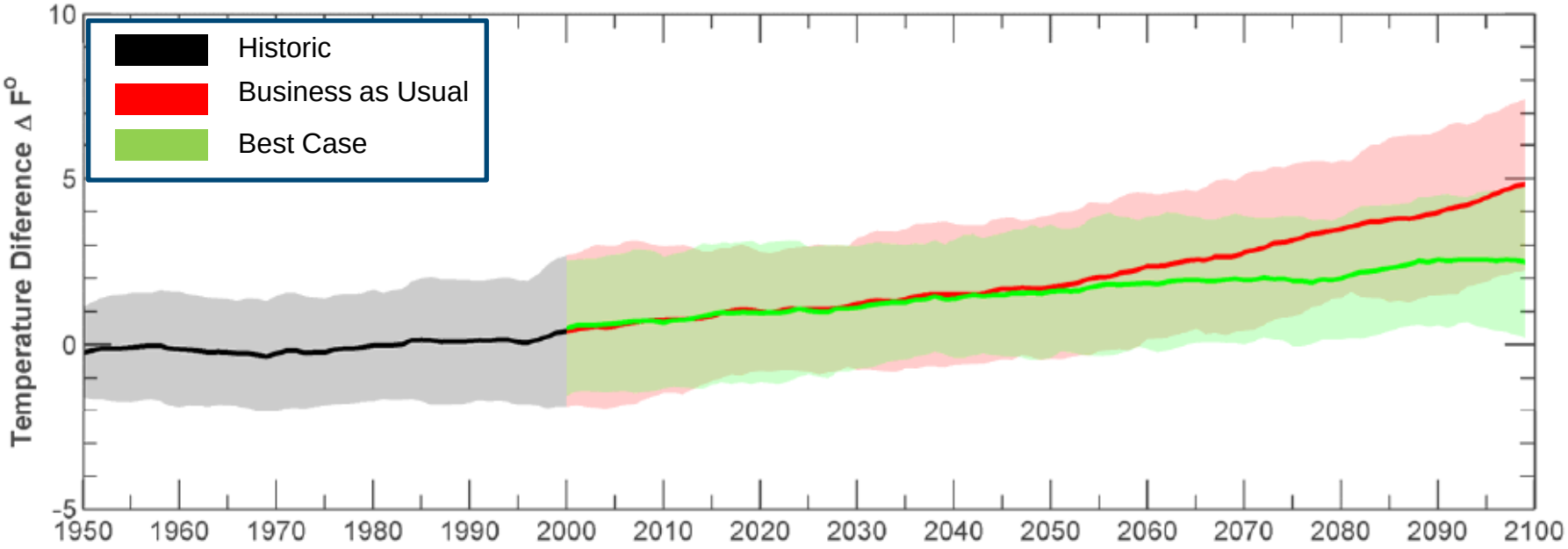
David Viner, Climatic Research Unit, University of East Anglia, UK

Maurer, 2008

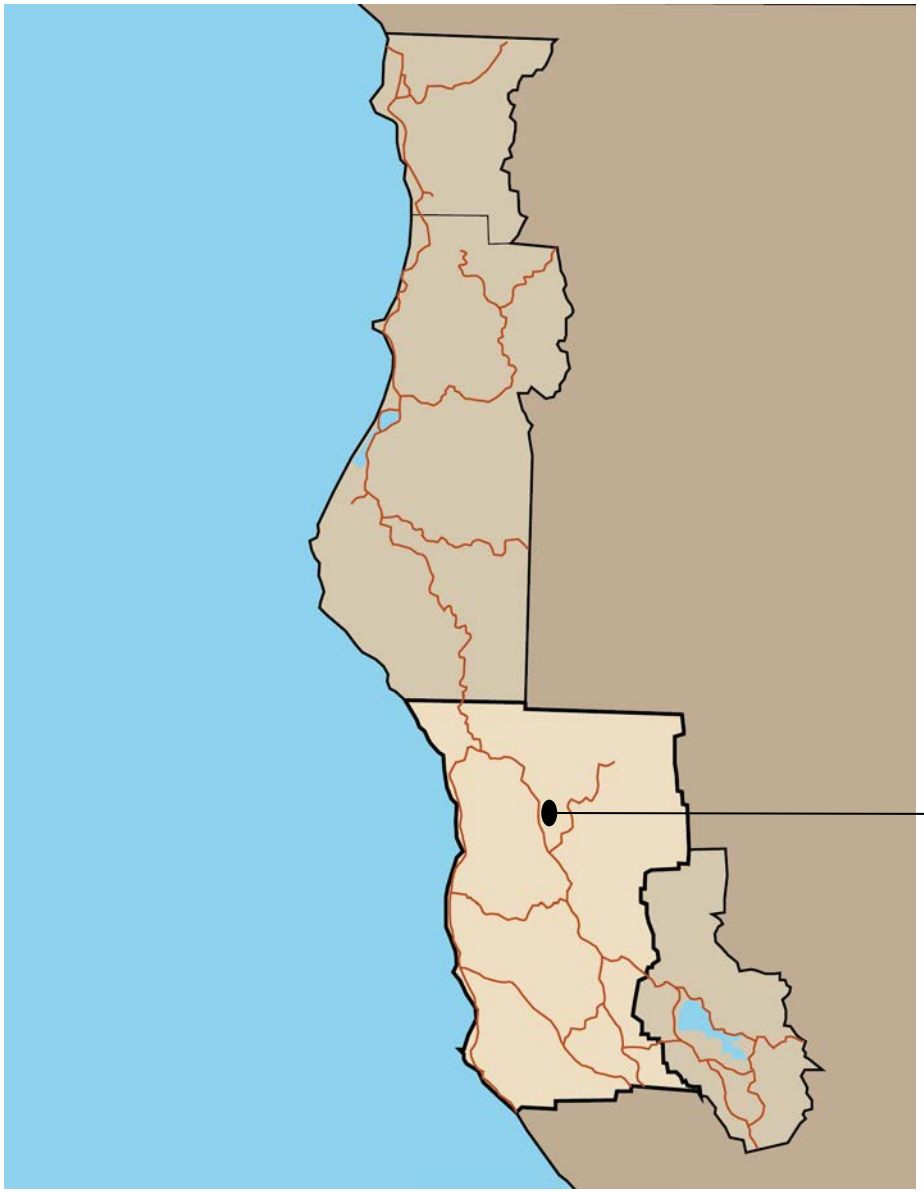
RESULTS OF EXPOSURE ANALYSIS

Climate Change Effects

Changes in Average Daily Maximum Temperature



Mendocino County

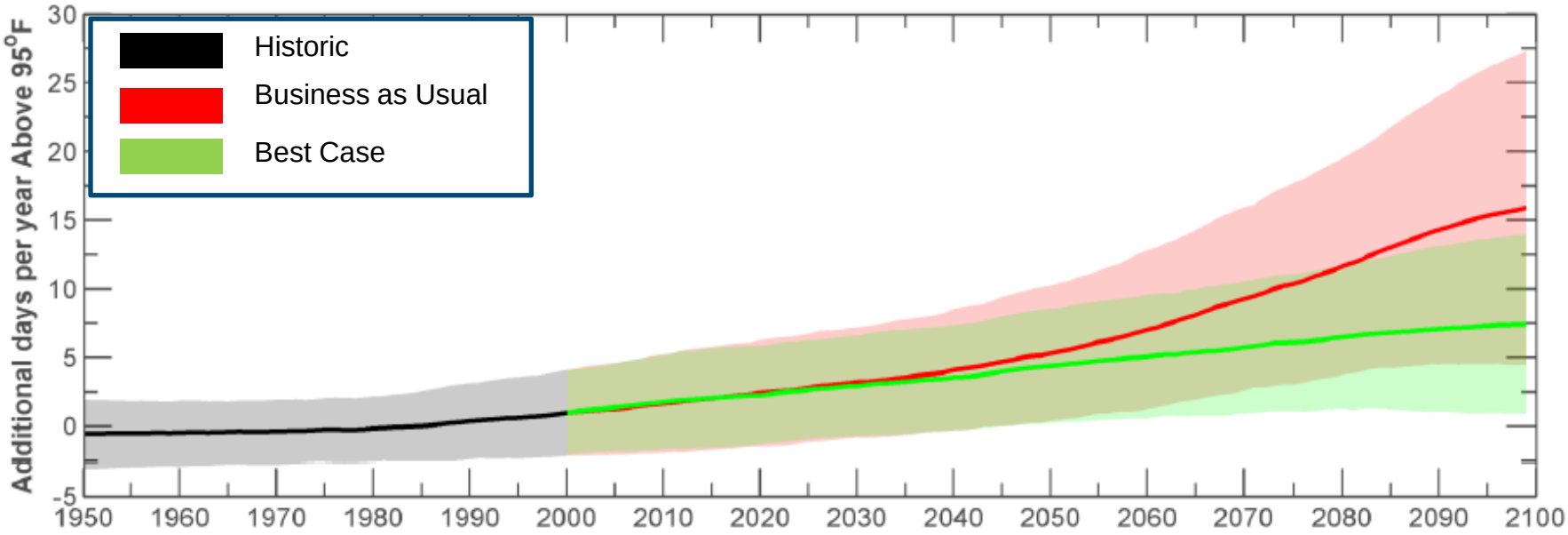


MENDOCINO
+3.0 to 3.4°F - 2050
+4.0 to 6.7°F - 2100

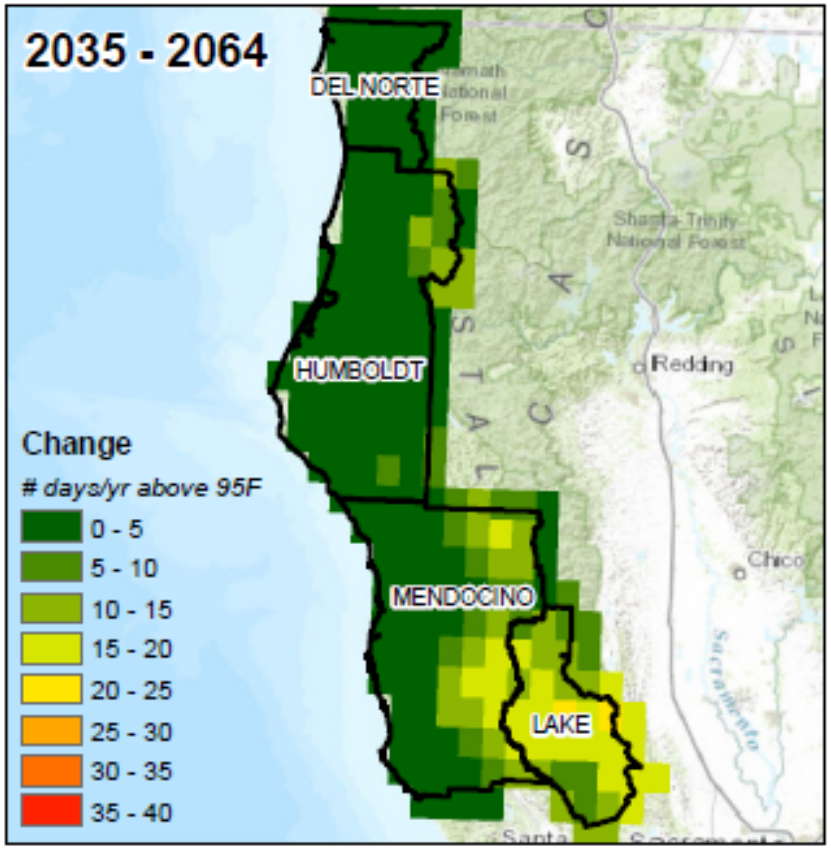
Increased average temperature

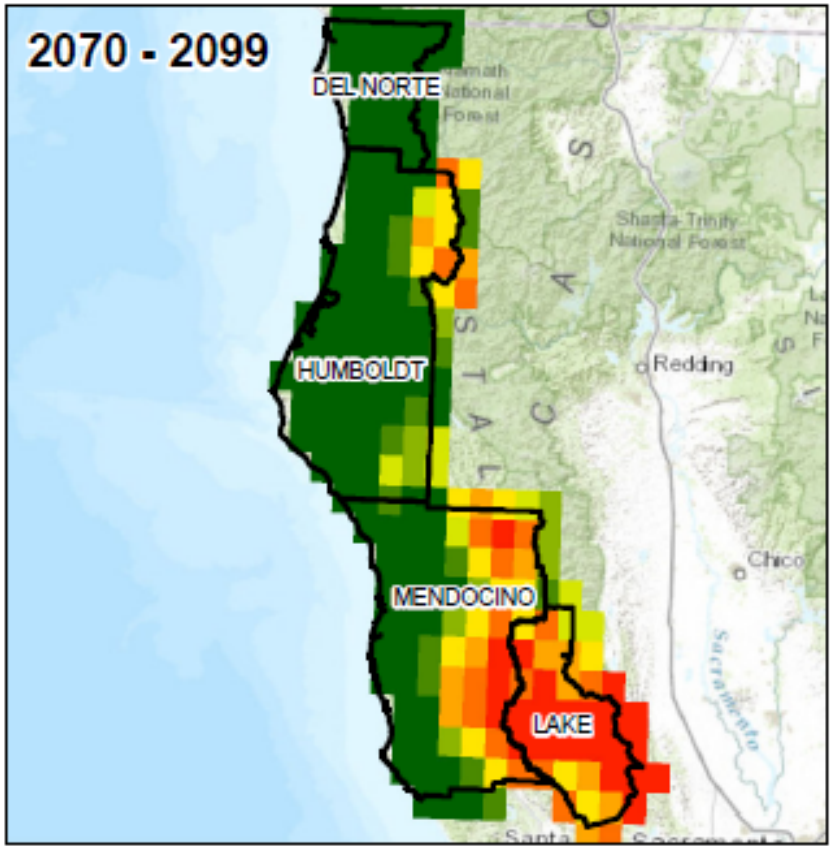
Climate Change Effects

Extreme Temperature (additional days above 95F)



Extreme Temperatures





Increased days above 95°F.

Sea Level Rise

King Tides Rising

Sea Level Rise

2000 0 in

2050

12-14 in

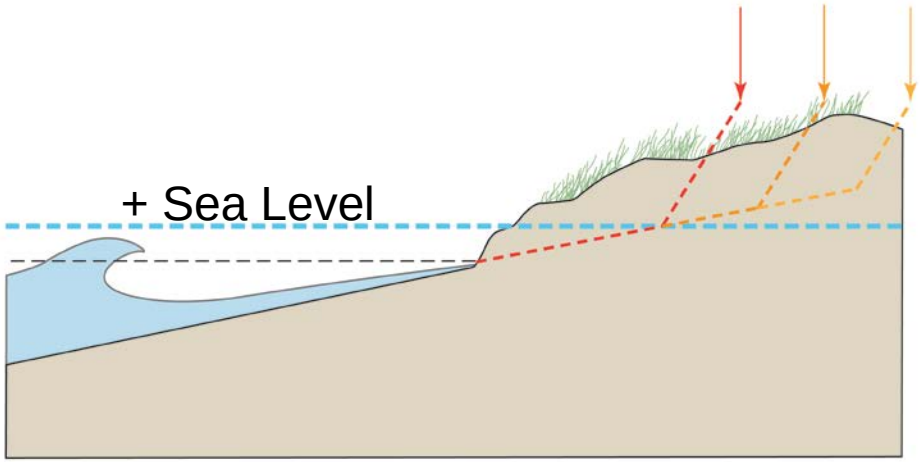
2100

36-55 in

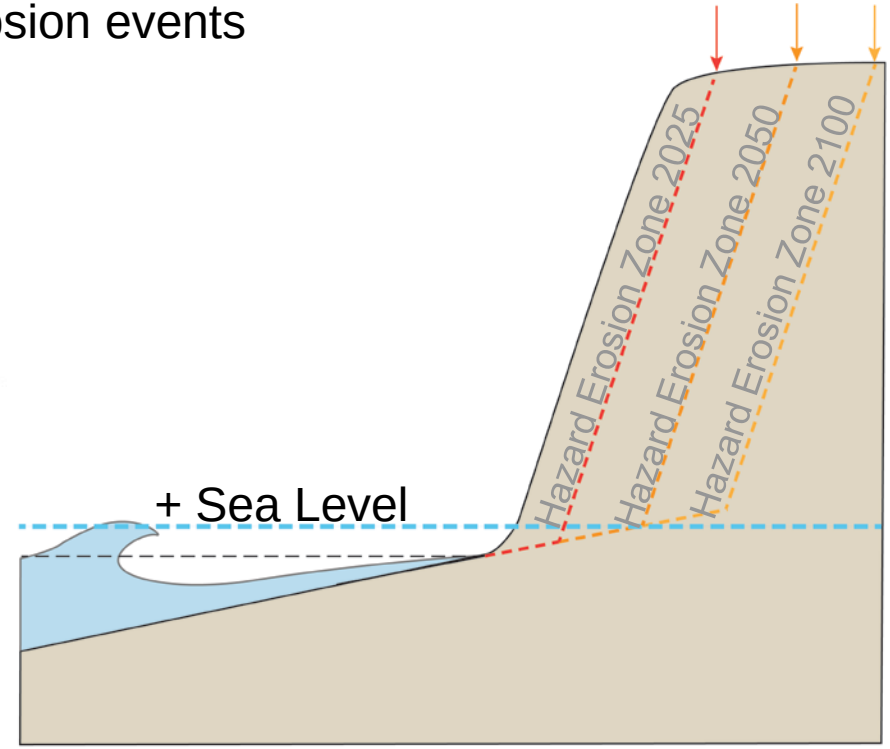
2100+ ?? in

Coastal Erosion

Erosion is episodic
Acceleration of background erosion events

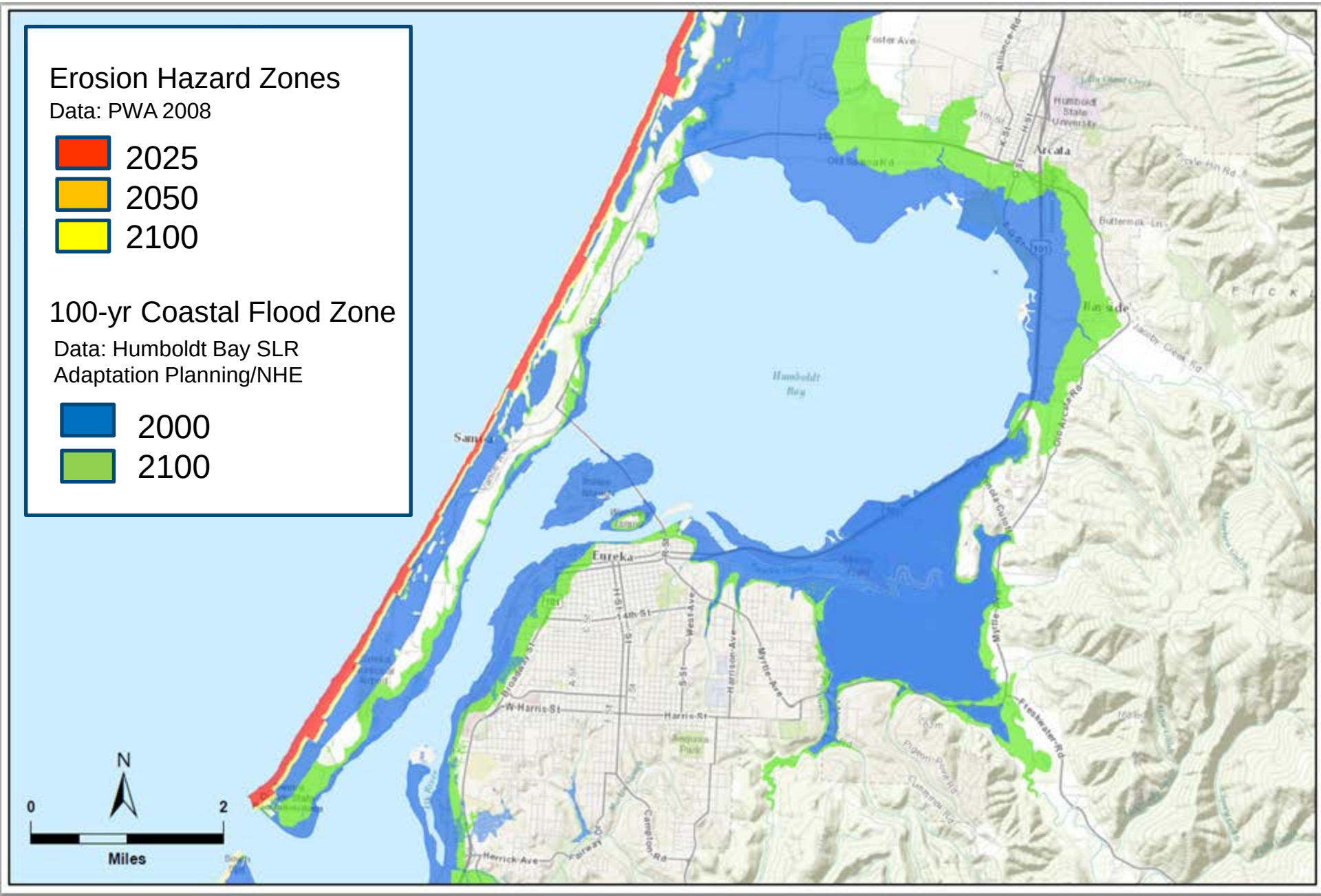


Dunes

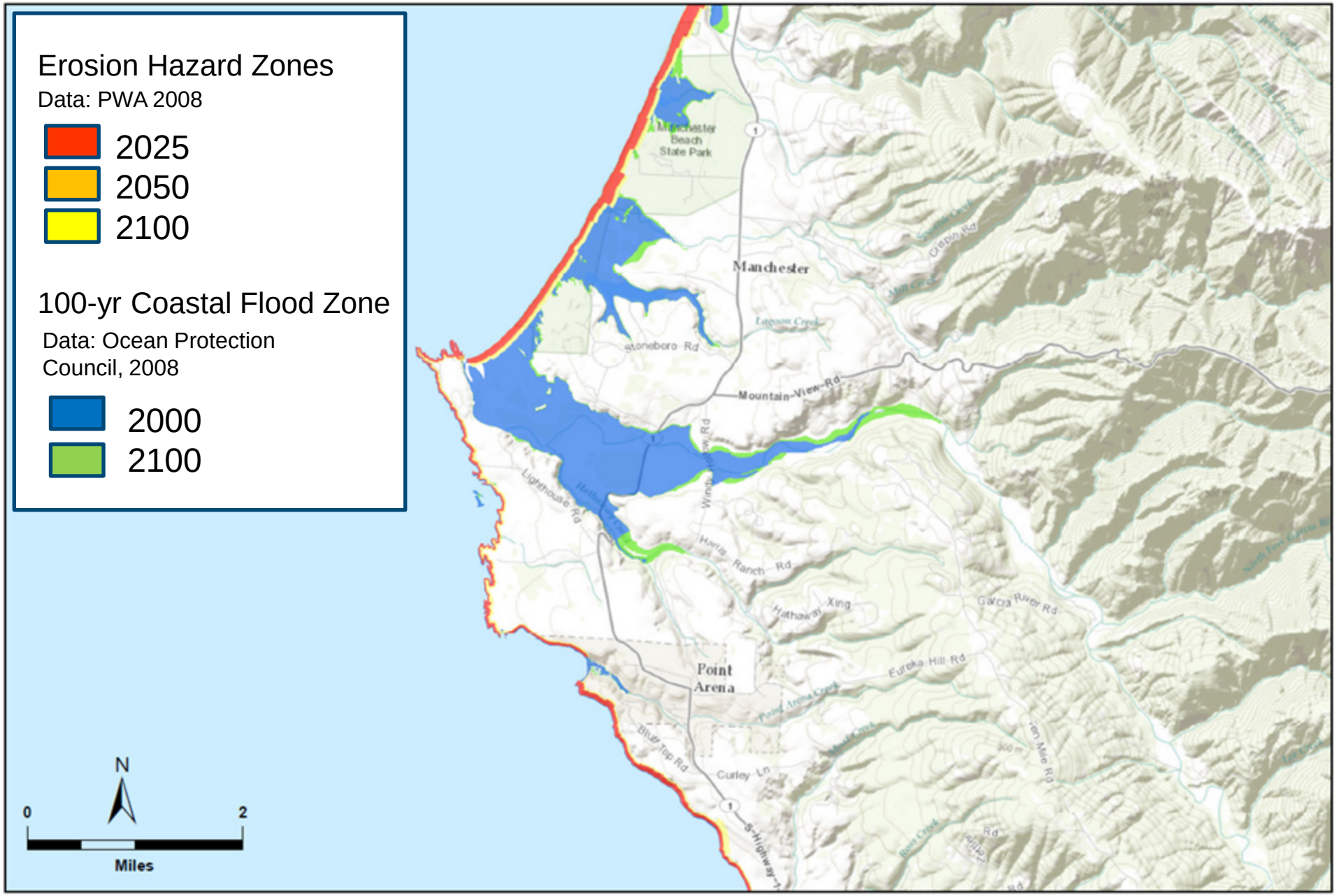


Bluffs

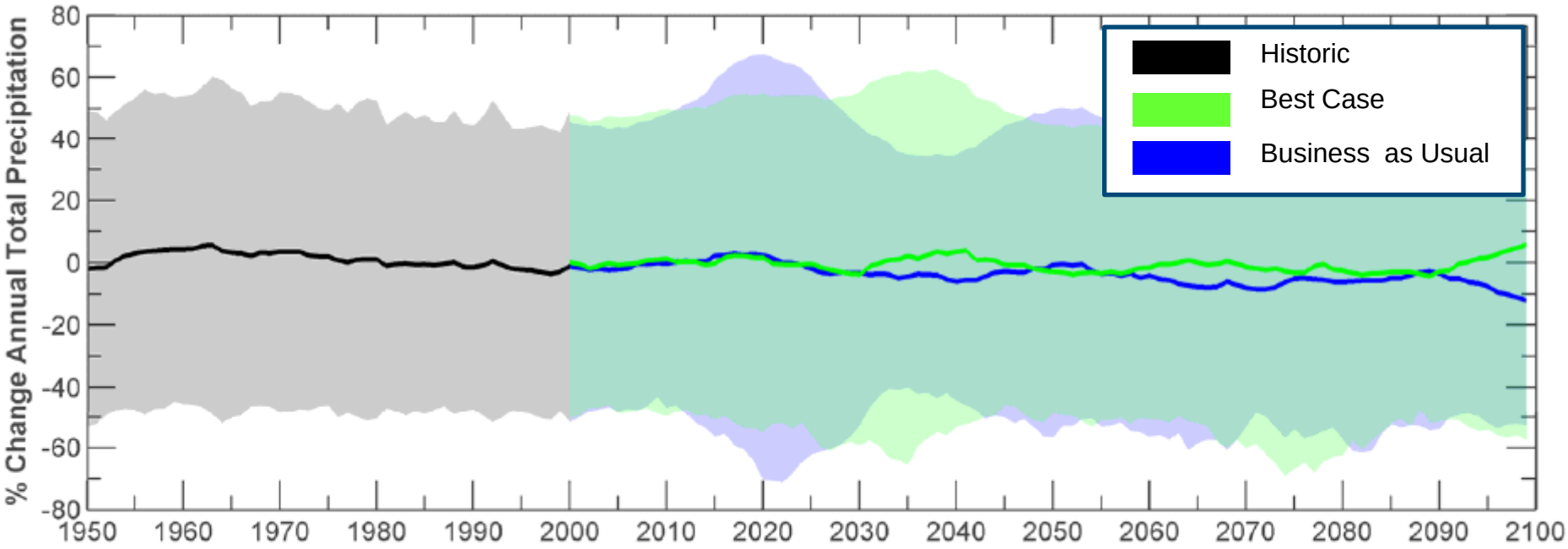
Coastal Hazards



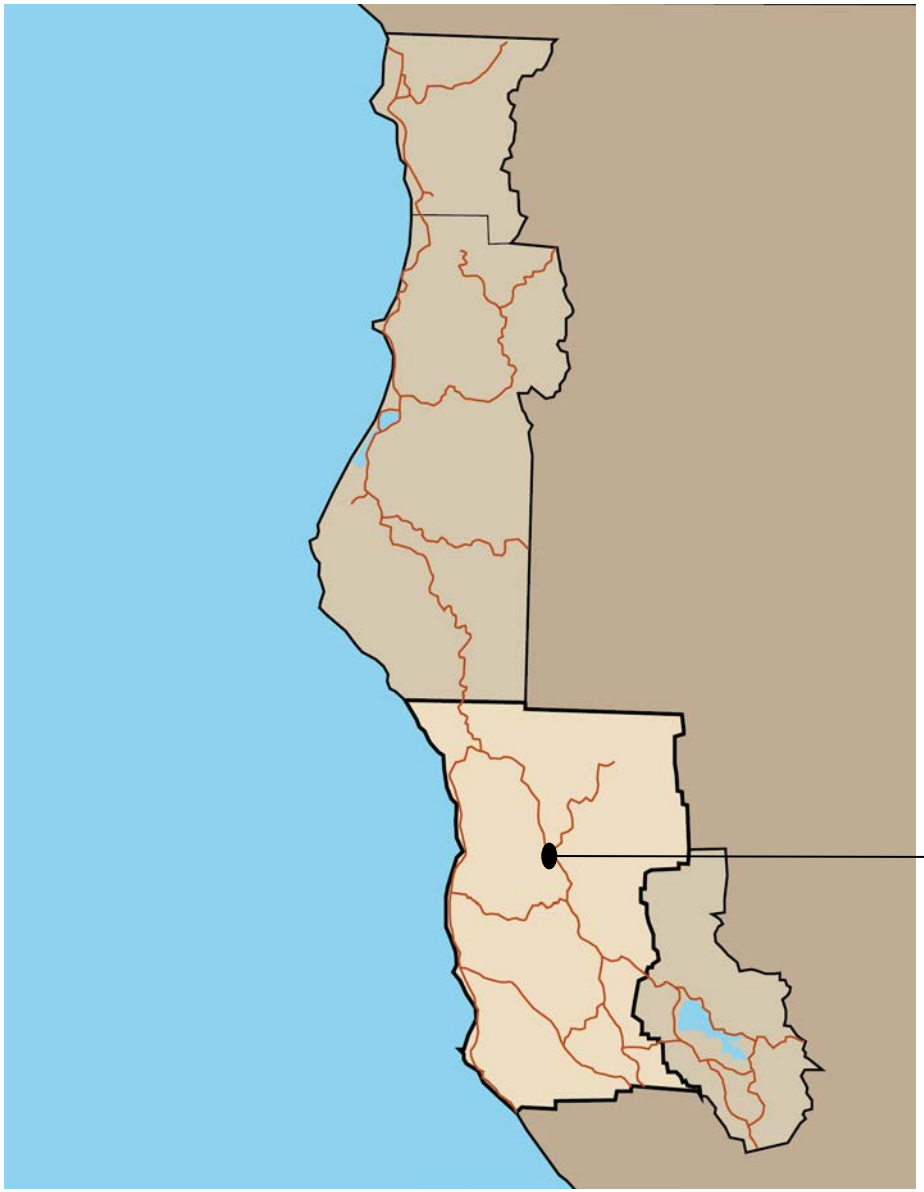
Coastal Hazards



Rainfall change



Mendocino County



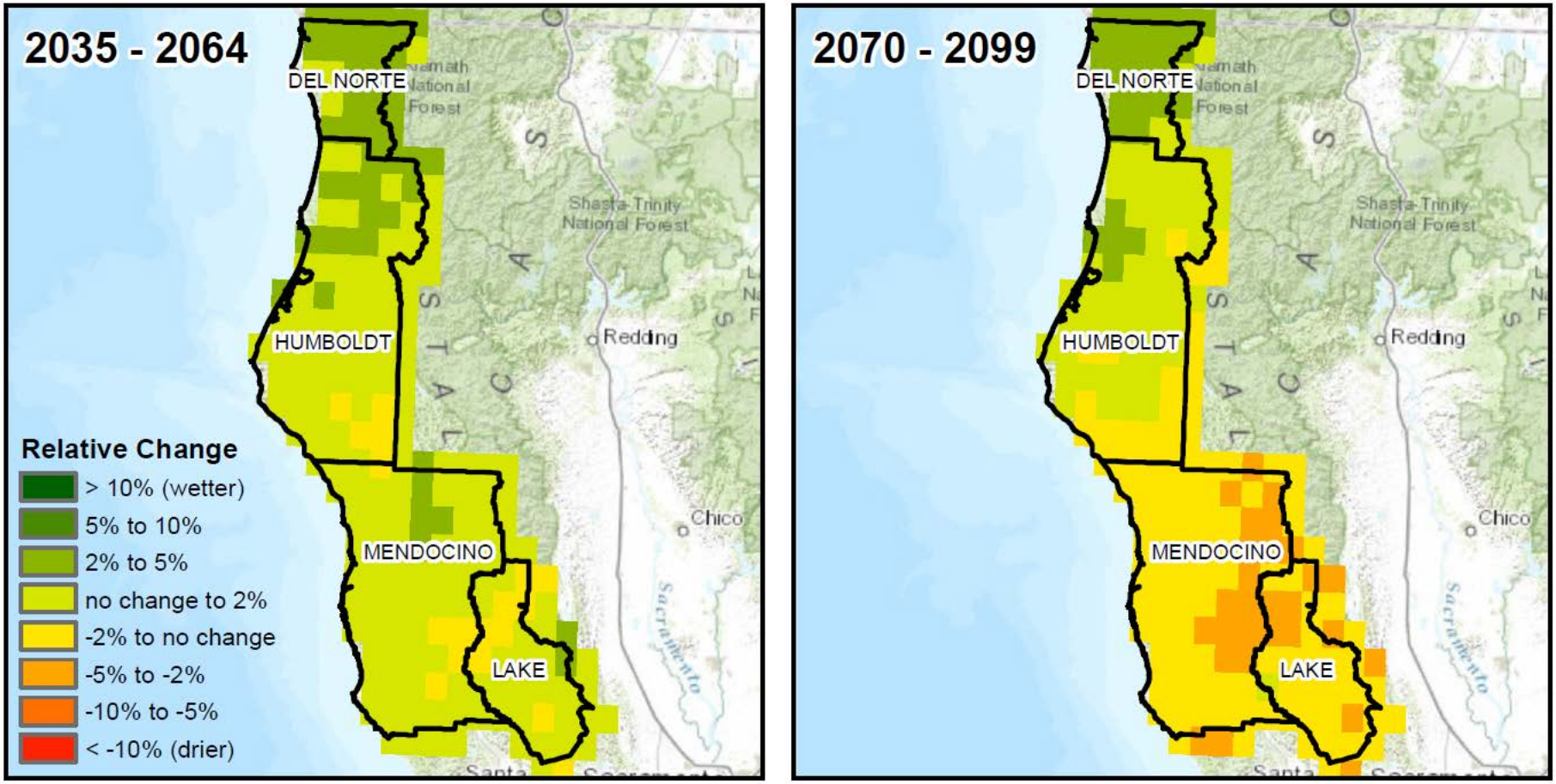
MENDOCINO

-4.6% to -0.8%	2050
-6.8% to -3%	2100

Changes in average rainfall

Extreme Precipitation

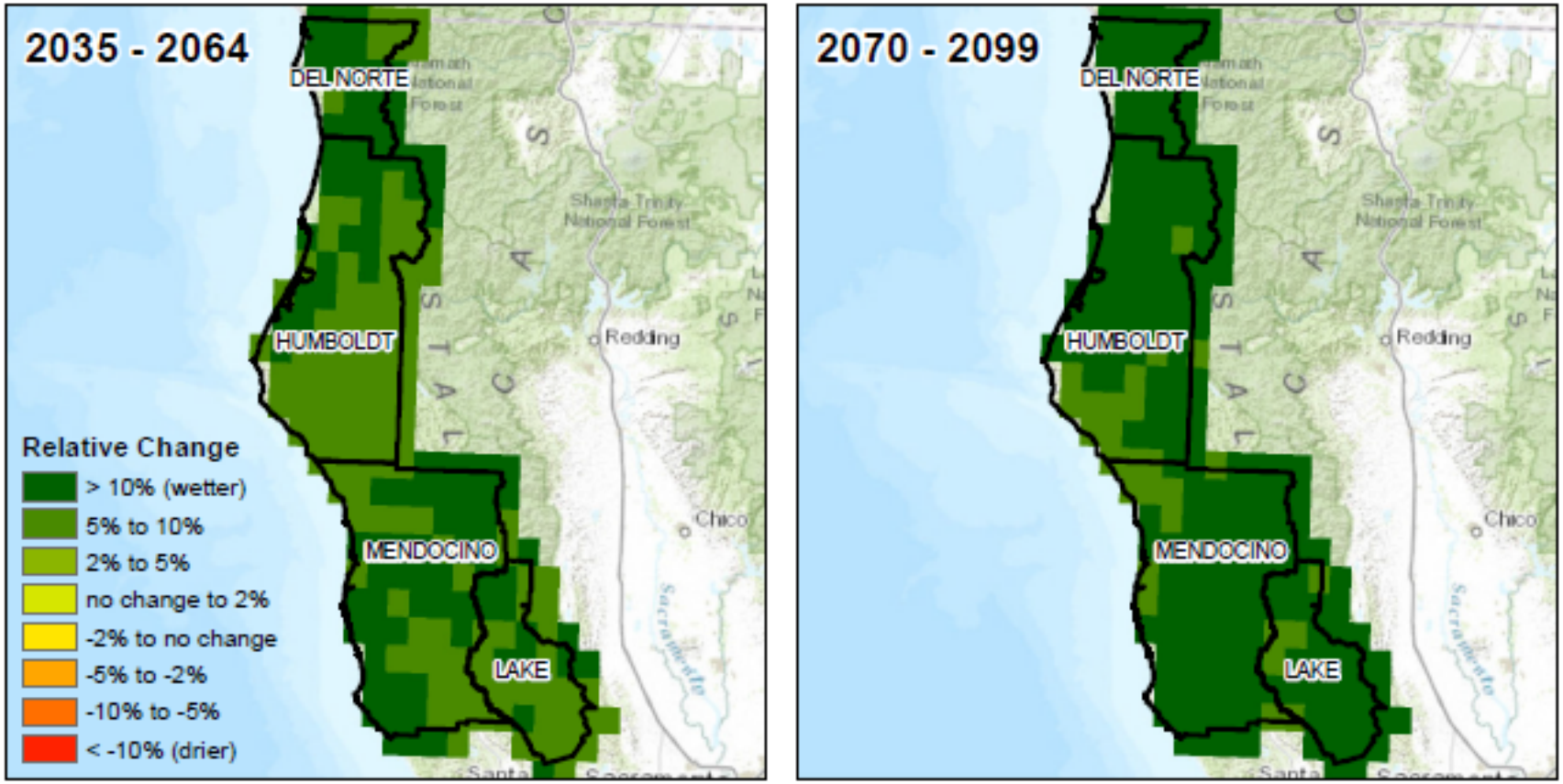
Moderate Scenario



Changes in extreme rainfall

Extreme Precipitation

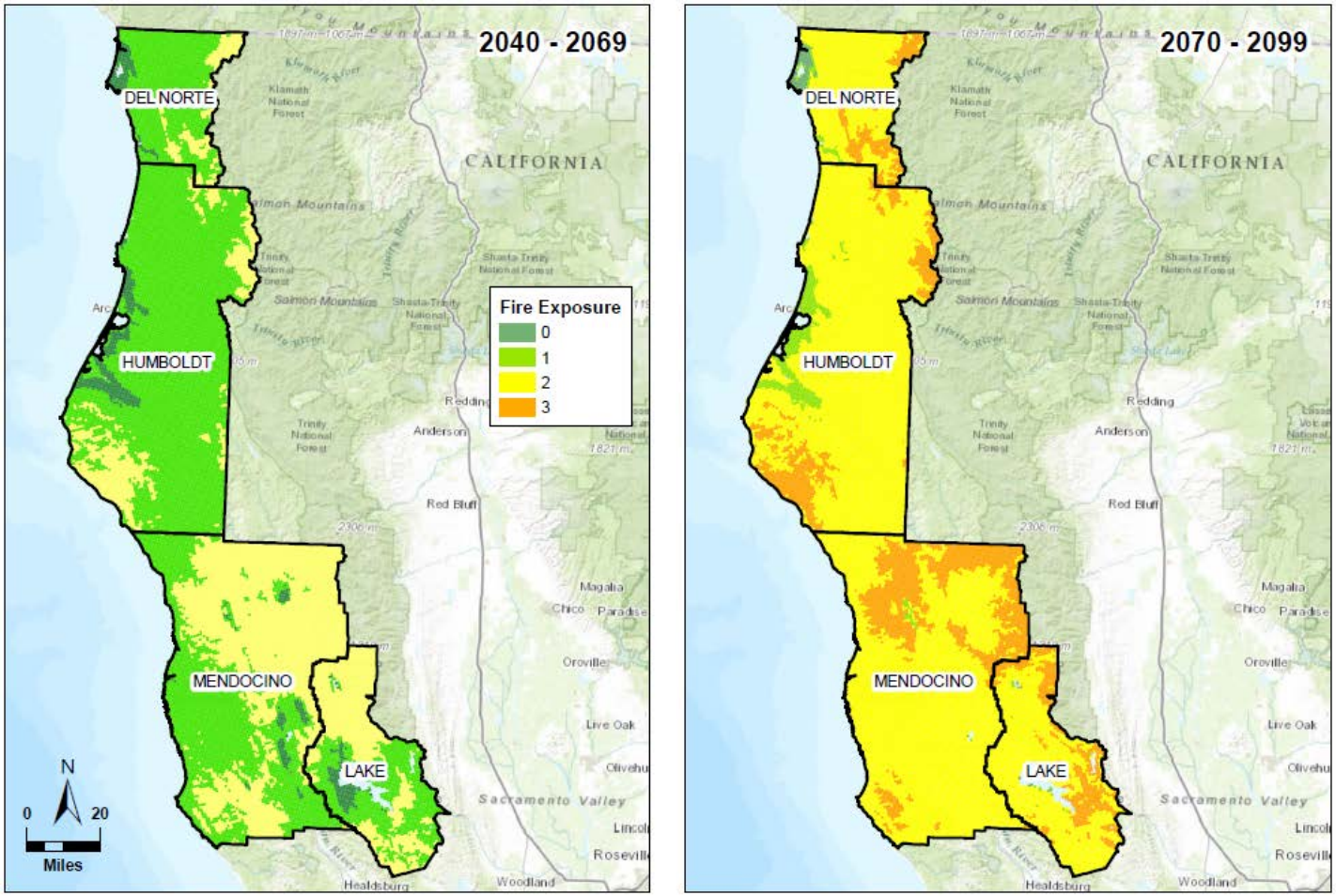
Wet scenario



Changes in extreme rainfall

Wildfire Exposure

Moderate Scenario



Data: DWR, 2014

Changes wildfire risk

What is “Potential for Impact”

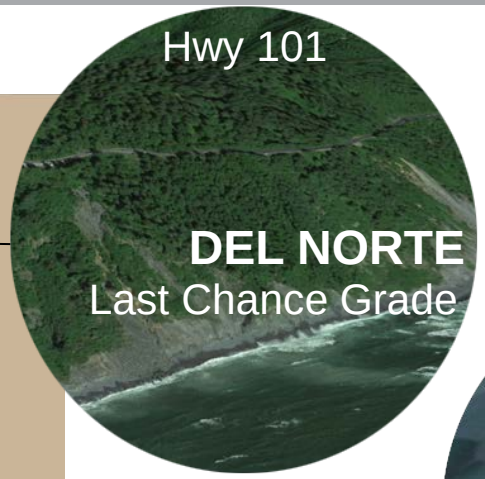
Delay

Temporary Closure – Damage

Failure

ADAPTATION Prototype Sites

ADAPTATION Sites

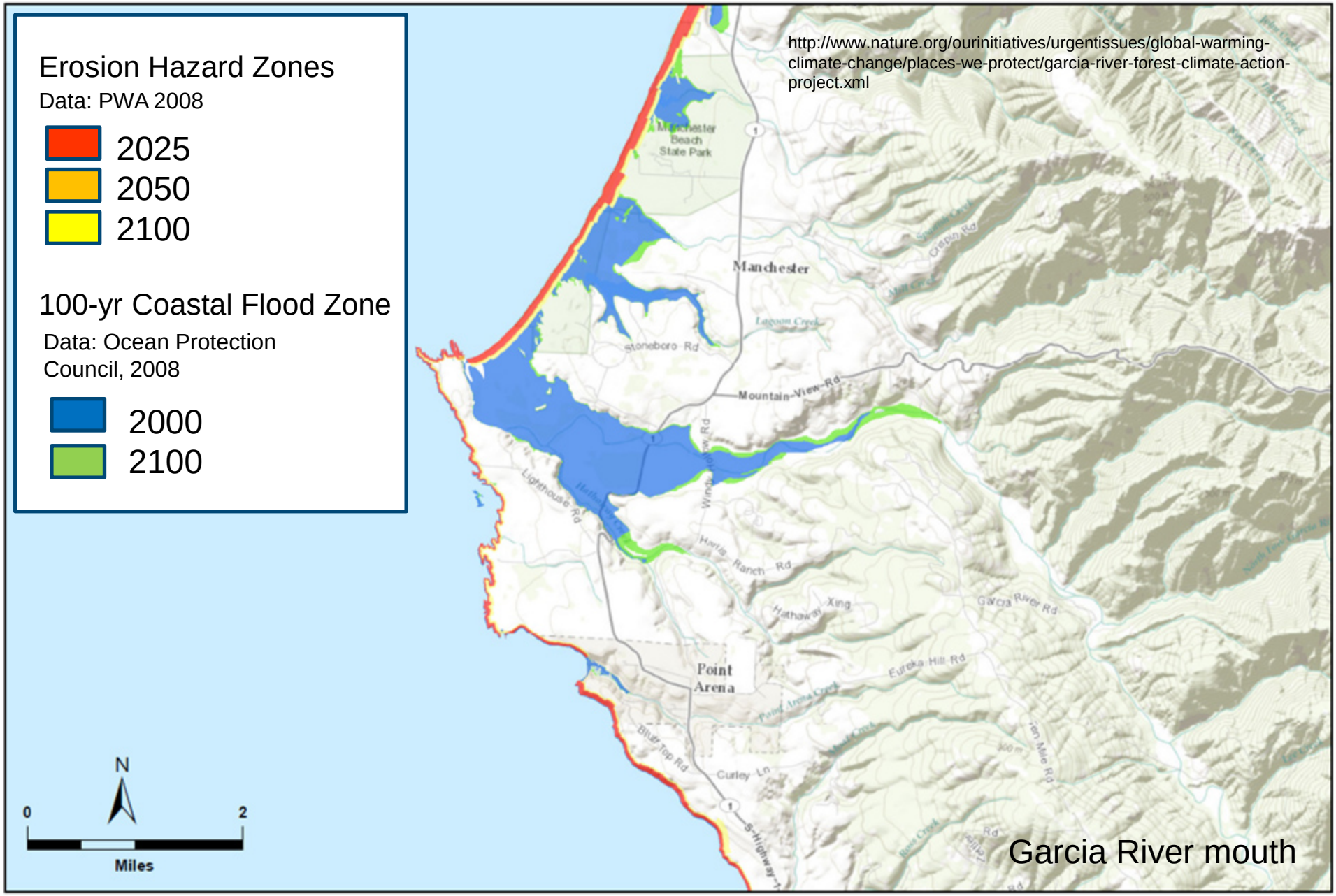


ADAPTATION Sites

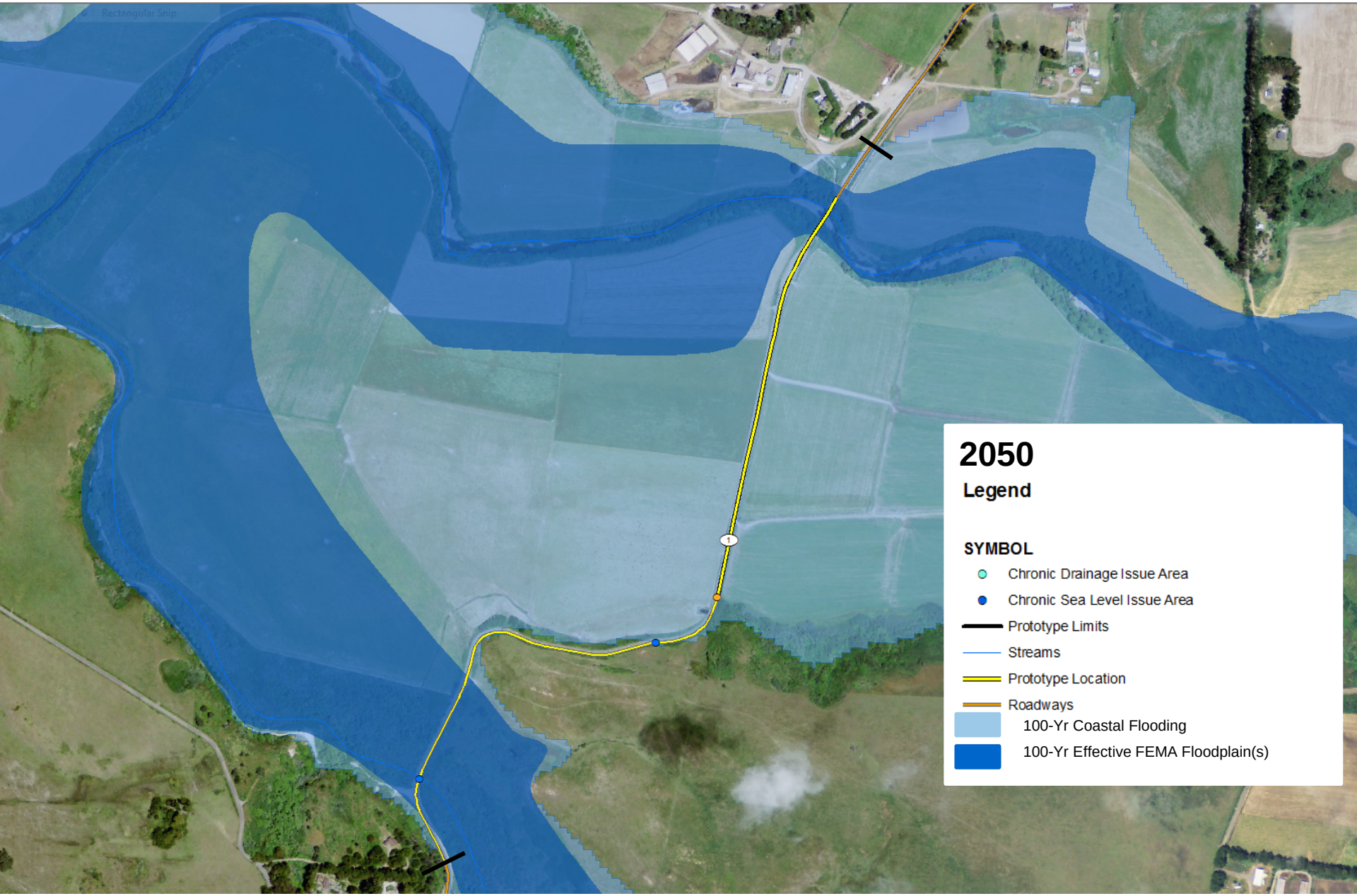
Mendocino County

Garcia River mouth

Mendocino County



Mendocino County



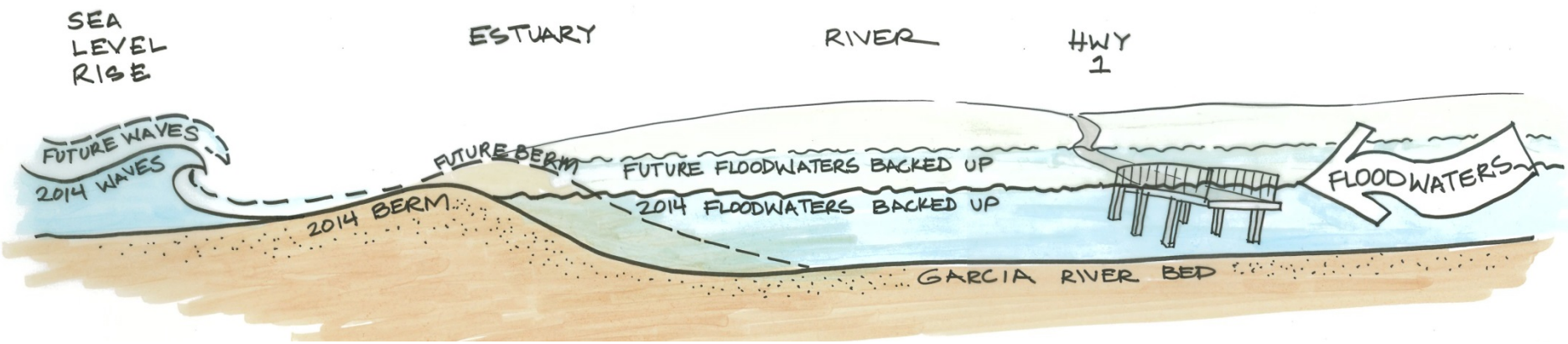
Mendocino County

2002 high flows and low flows

Photos: Peter Dobbins/Friends of the Garcia River (FrOG)

Garcia River mouth

Mendocino County



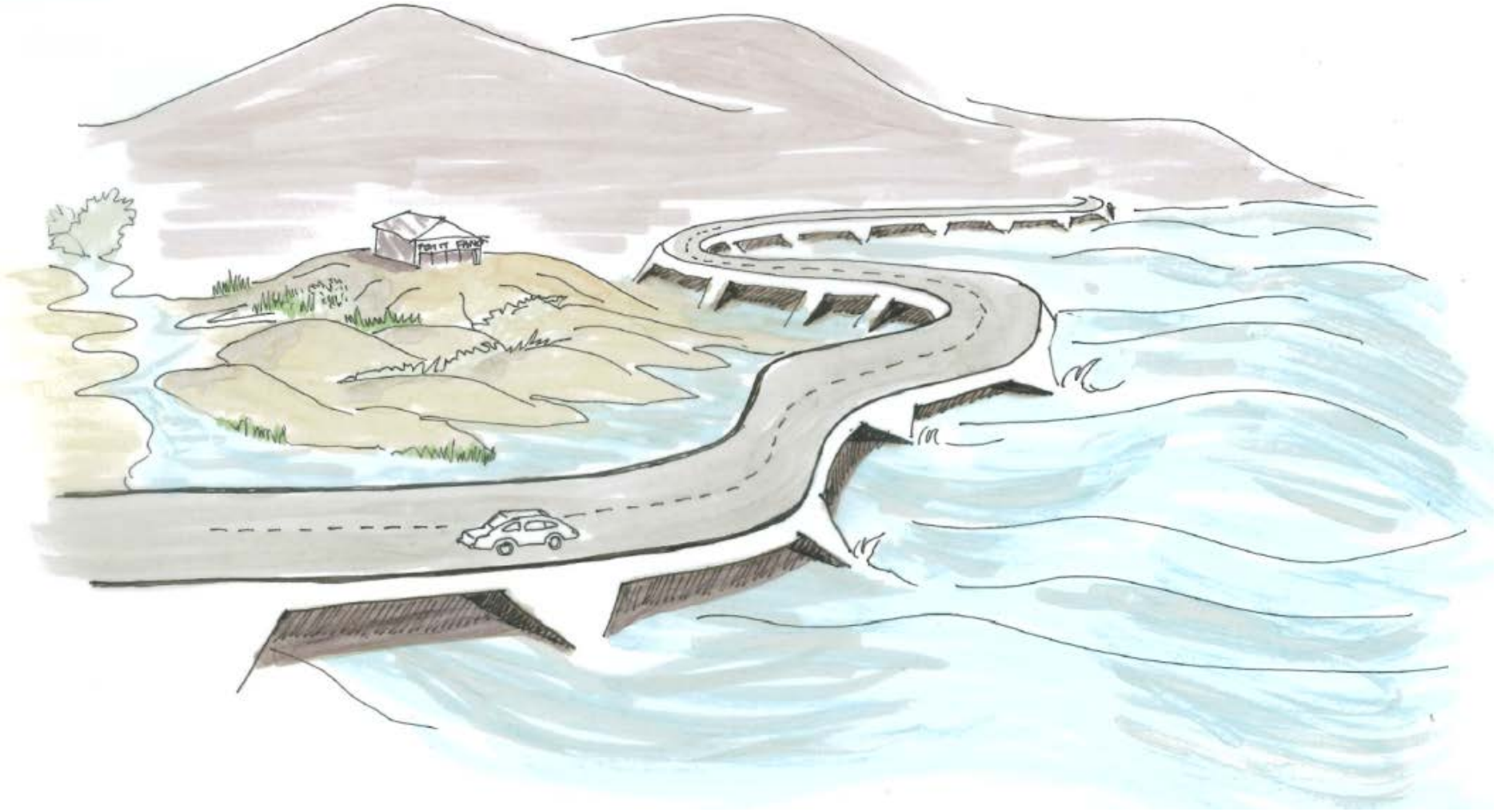
ADAPTATION Options

Adaptation approaches

Existing

Adaptation approaches

Defend



Adaptation approaches

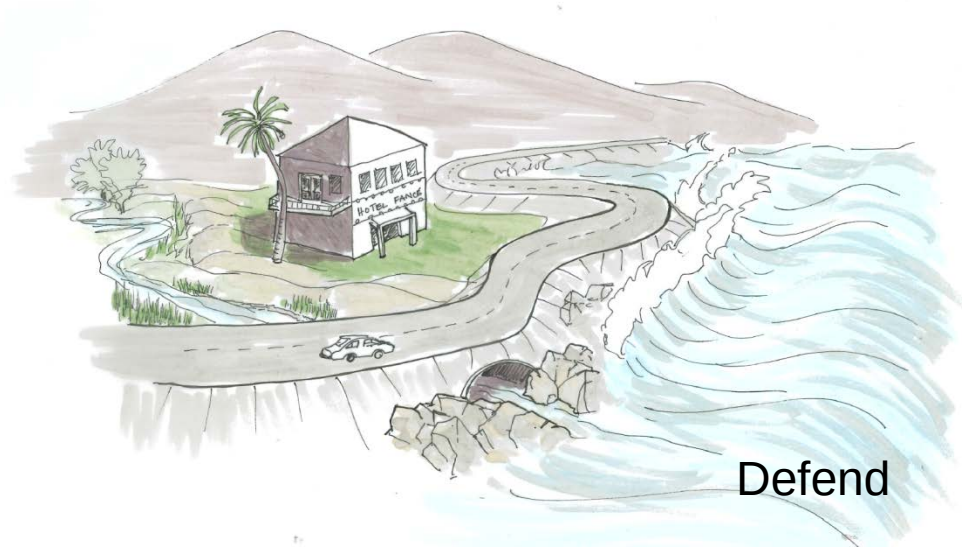
Adapt

Adaptation approaches

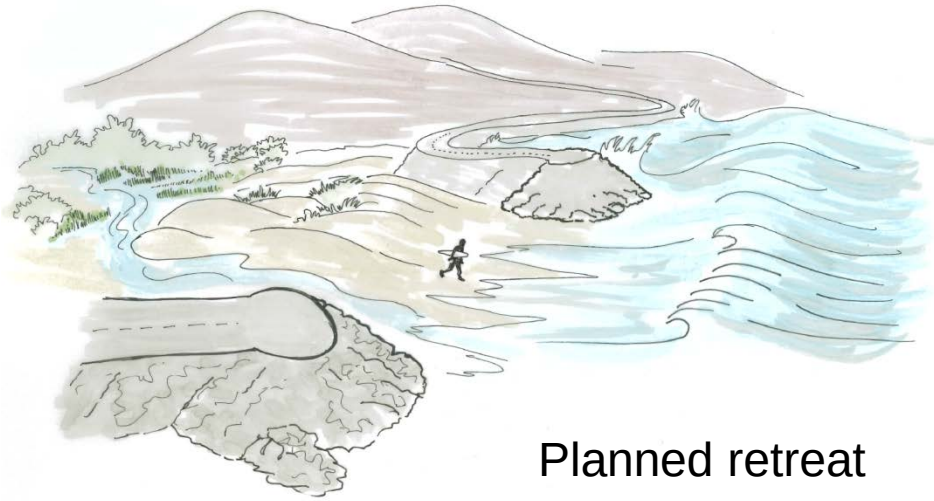
Planned Retreat

Adaptation approaches

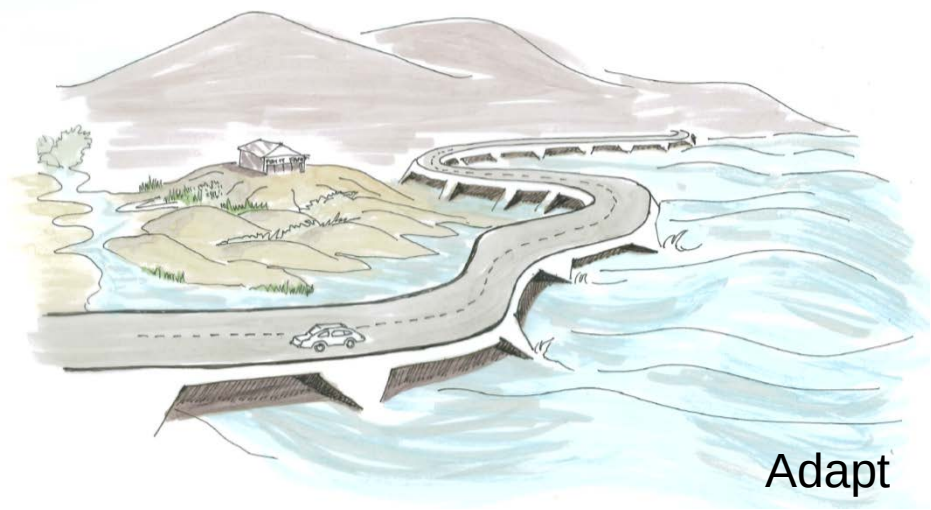
Forced Retreat



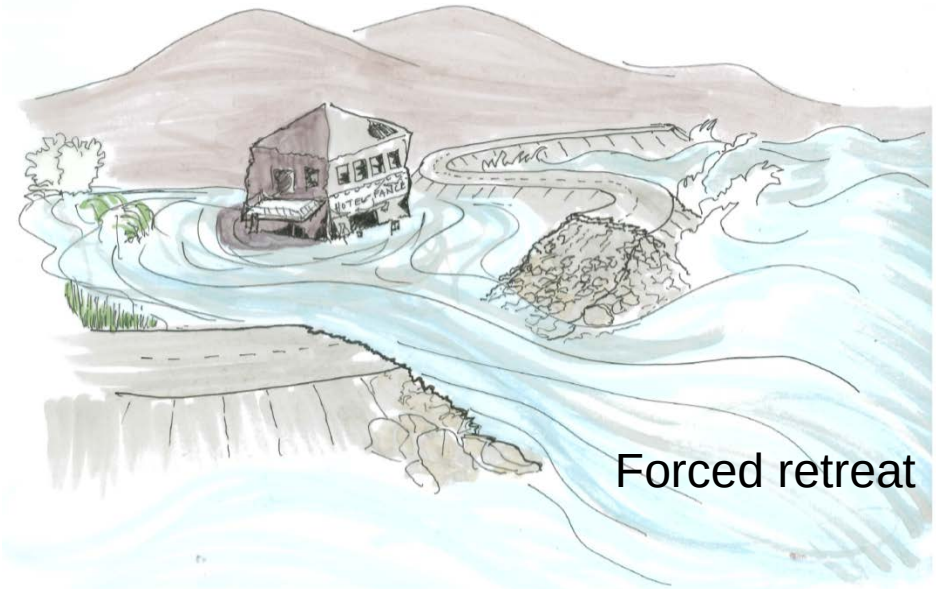
Defend



Planned retreat



Adapt



Forced retreat

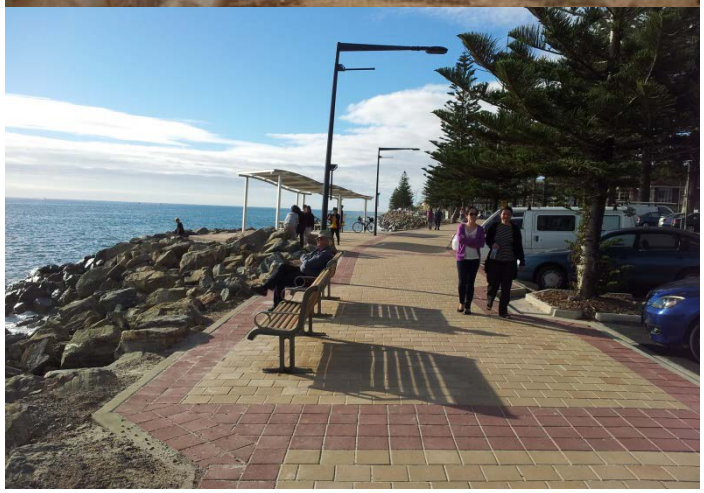
Adaptation approaches

Adaptation approaches

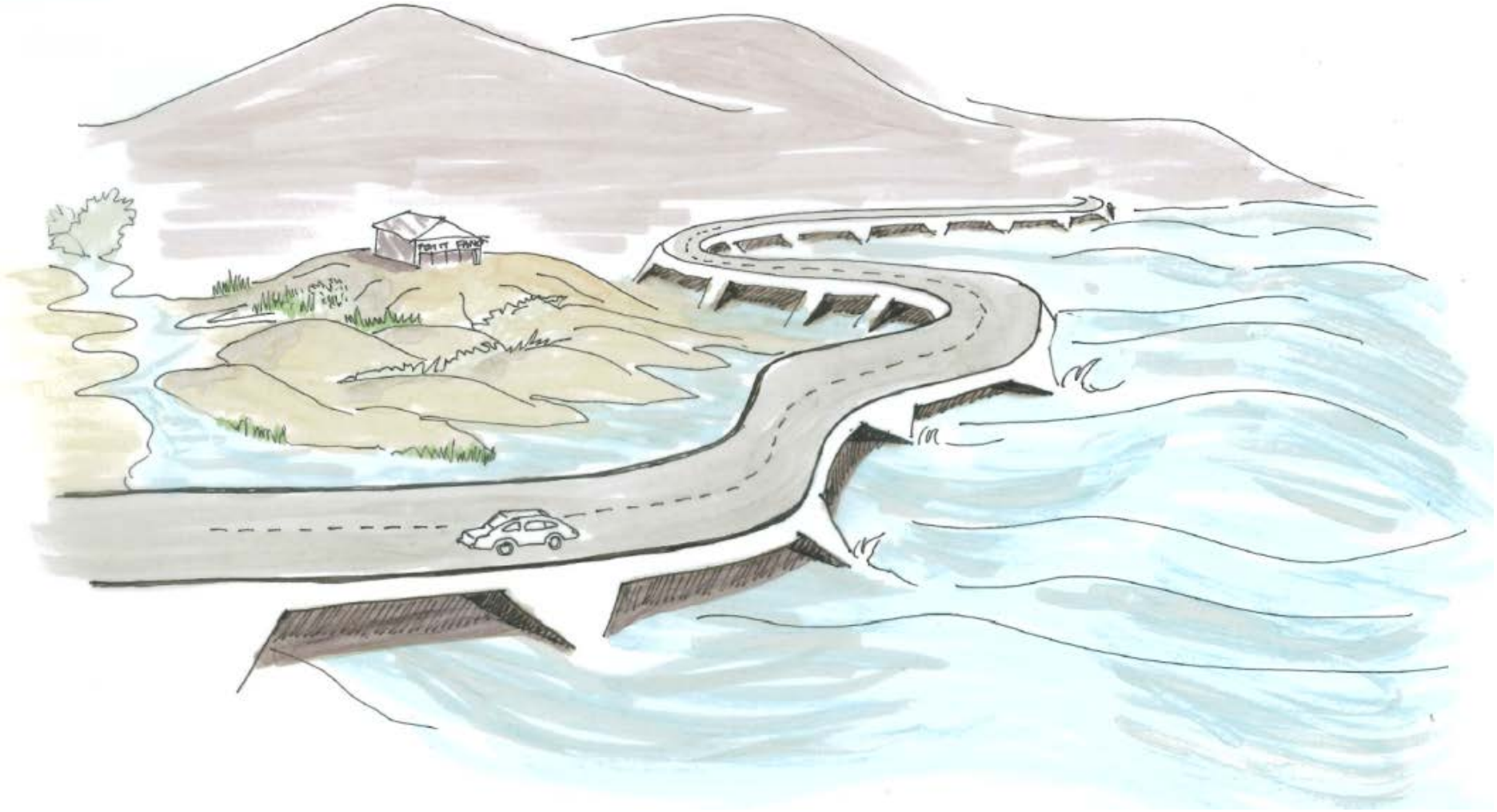
Defend

Flood Walls

Levees/
Dikes



Adaptation approaches



Adaptation approaches

Adapt

Photo: California Coastal Records Project

Floodable Bridges

Photo: Google Earth

Adaptation approaches

Raise bridges & roads

Photos: Peter Dobbins/Friends of the Garcia River (FrOG)

Armor roads

Photo: MoBikeFed, , Creative Commons Attribution License

Adaptation approaches

Adaptation approaches

Planned Retreat

Photo: Google Earth

Image: Ocean Beach Master Plan

Adaptation approaches

Re-route & Retreat

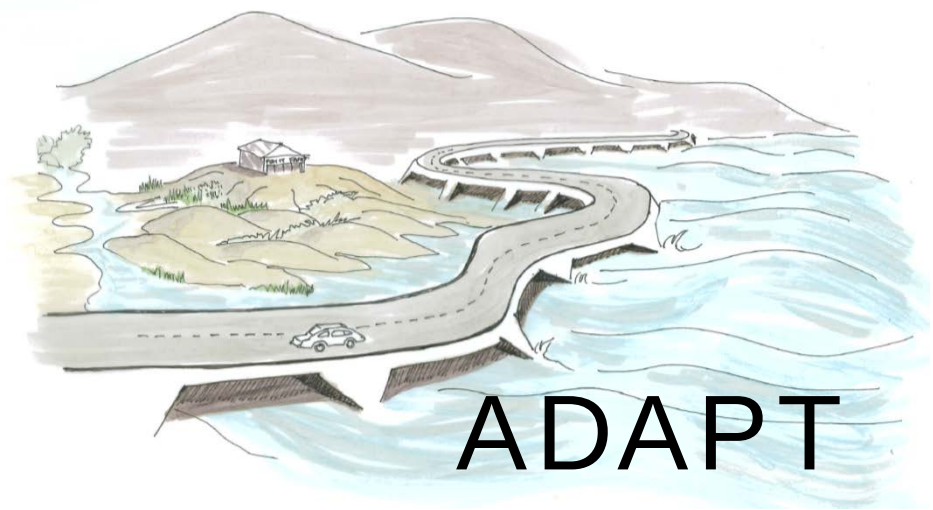
Adaptation approaches

Forced Retreat

No Action:

Flooding
& Road
Closures

Adaptation approaches



Adaptation approaches

Adaptation Assessment Criteria

- Total Capital Investment
- Usable Life
- Equivalent Annual Cost
- Effectiveness (level of performance)
- Implementation Timeline
- Flexibility
- Environmental Considerations
- Social Considerations

Group Discussions

What are your top priorities for adapting to climate change impacts?

- Total Capital Investment
- Usable Life
- Equivalent Annual Cost
- Effectiveness (level of performance)
- Implementation Timeline
- Flexibility
- Environmental Considerations
- Social Considerations

What adaptation options do you feel are most appropriate for the Eureka to Arcata 101 Corridor?

Project website

http://www.northcoastclimatechange.com

DISTRICT ONE CLIMATE CHANGE PILOT STUDY

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PILOT STRATEGY FOR CRITICALLY VULNERABLE ASSETS IN A NORTHWEST CALIFORNIA PROJECT

RELATED LINKS

- CalTrans District One

DISTRICT ONE – CLIMATE CHANGE – PILOT STUDY – (D1CCPS)

Project Background

The planning department of Caltrans District 1 applied for and received a grant from the Federal Highway Administration to study the potential vulnerabilities of transportation assets to climate change throughout District 1 (Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and Lake Counties), and to identify and evaluate a range of adaption options to address the identified vulnerabilities at four prototype locations.

The study will begin with an inventory of transportation assets in District 1 and a subsequent analysis to determine which assets are critically vulnerable. Following this task, four pilot sites ("prototype locations") will be selected for further analysis during the "adaptation assessment" phase of the project. The adaptation assessment will identify options for adapting Caltrans infrastructure to the various climate change factors and will evaluate the level of protection, flexibility, relative costs, acceptability, constraints, and benefits of those adaptation options. The adaptation methodology will include criteria