

State Level Adaptation Initiatives: California's Experience

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Adaptation Challenges

- California is large and very diverse
- There is a lack of scientific data to determine future climate change impacts on the State's transportation infrastructure

- Sea Level Rise
- Precipitation
- Heat Events



California Efforts

Nov. 2008: Governor Schwarzenegger's Executive Order S-13-08

2009: California Climate Adaptation Strategy

- California Natural Resources Agency lead the effort to create the Climate Adaptation Strategy
 - 7 Sectors including energy and transportation
 - Caltrans has 4 long term and short term strategies
 - The first strategy to Develop a climate vulnerability assessment and adaptation plan for California's transportation planning infrastructure has been implemented.

National Academy of Sciences

West Coast Sea Level Rise Assessment

- Study of sea level rise along the coasts of California, Oregon and Washington
- Total cost of the project is \$346,000
- California sponsors are Caltrans, Dept. of Water Resources, Energy Commission, Ocean Protection Council and California State Water Resources Control Board
- Scheduled for completion March 2012

Interim Sea Level Rise Assumptions

- The National Academy of Sciences study will not be complete until March 2012
- Collaborating with the State's Coastal – Ocean Climate Action Team (CO-CAT) and other state agencies
- Adopt sea level rise scenarios for the interim until the study is released

Caltrans Vulnerability Assessment

- Assess and create an adaptation plan for California's transportation infrastructure.
- Project includes:
 - Hot spot map
 - Adaptation Plan