

# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge Grant

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CMSF

CALIFORNIA  
MARINE  
SANCTUARY  
FOUNDATION



# What is the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation?

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Non-profit organization founded August 11th, 1995

Dedicated to protecting and enhancing coastal and marine environments, through dozens of projects across:

- **Marine Conservation**
- **Water Quality**
- **Climate Change Adaptation**
- **Coastal Restoration**



# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge



On January 19th, 2023 President Biden and Governor Newsom toured the devastation from Santa Cruz County's winter storms, estimated at over \$90m in damages



# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge



Six Months later the President announced the administration's plan to battle climate change and protect the environment during a visit to Palo Alto

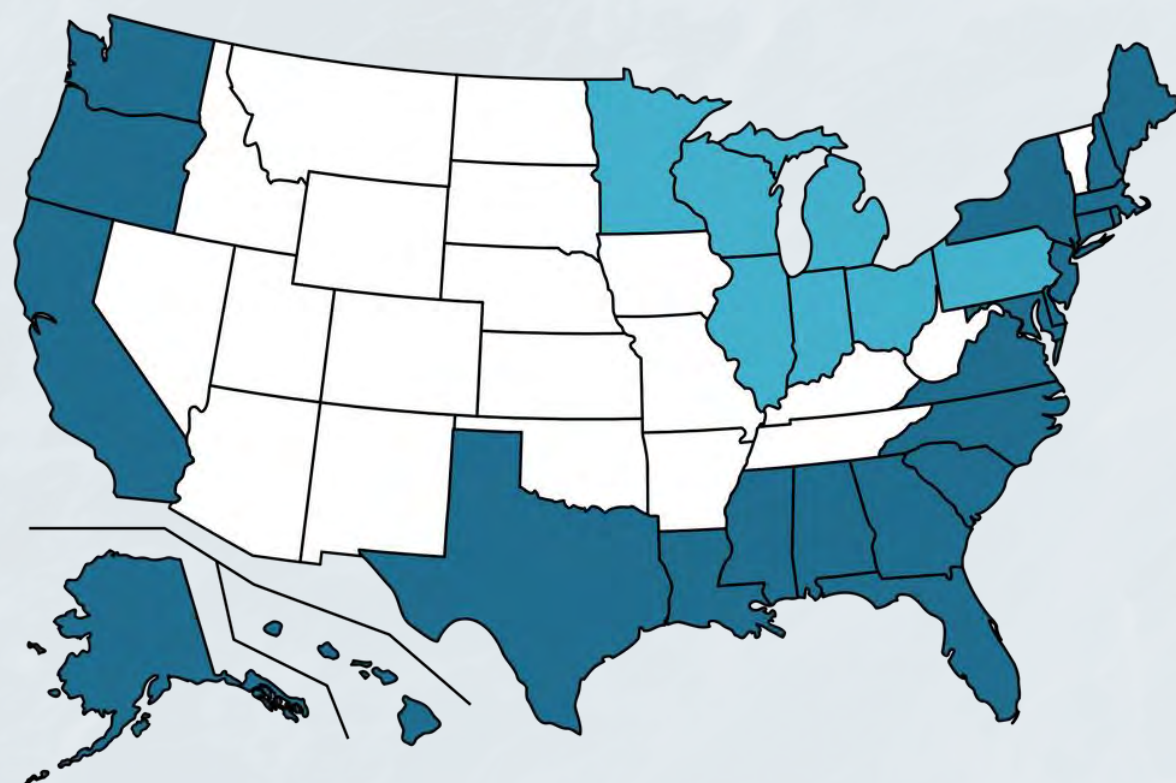




OFFICE FOR  
**COASTAL  
MANAGEMENT**

# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

Cornerstone of Biden's plan was a \$575m competitive challenge grant program focused on collaborative projects that increase the resilience of coastal communities to extreme weather and other climate change impacts, including sea level rise and drought.





# NOAA Climate Resilience Regional Challenge

\$575m Total Funding from President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act



## Risk Reduction

Projects will reduce risk to coastal communities and ecosystems from weather and climate impacts.



## Regional Collaboration

Working across geographic and organizational boundaries increases the likelihood of widespread impact – and success!



## Equity and Inclusion

Ensuring that underserved and underrepresented populations are involved and benefiting from these projects is important.



## Enduring Capacity

The projects will help the coastal communities of today and tomorrow.

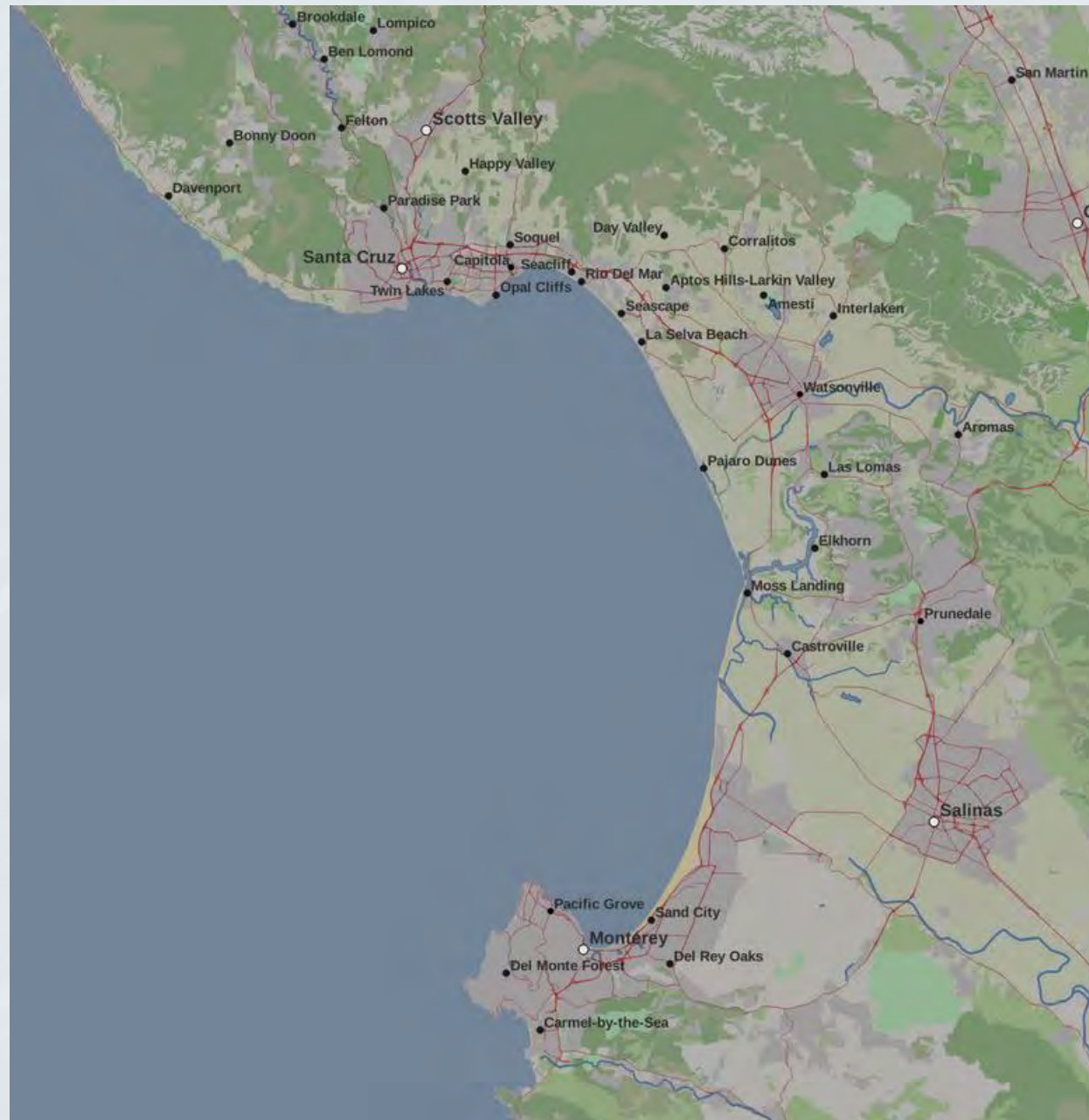


## Regional Collaboration

Equity & Inclusion

Risk Reduction

Enduring Capacity



- In July 2023 CMSF put out a broad call to Monterey Bay Area agencies and organizations to explore the possibility of collaborating on a unified, region-wide approach for reducing climate risks associated with **sea level rise, storm surges, river flooding, and wildfires.**
- **The response was overwhelming!!!**
- **Nearly a hundred individuals, representing dozens of government agencies, resource districts, academic/research institutions, and nonprofits, came together.**
- **On July 21st CMSF facilitated a virtual meeting to decide upon an approach for responding to those risks on a regional scale.**



## **Regional Collaboration**

**Equity & Inclusion**

**Risk Reduction**

**Enduring Capacity**



**CALIFORNIA MARINE  
SANCTUARY FOUNDATION**

CaliforniaMSF.org

1. **California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (lead)**
2. **Big Sur Land Trust**
3. **California State Parks**
4. **California State University Monterey Bay**
5. **Central Coast Climate Collaborative**
6. **Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association**
7. **Central Coast Wetlands Group**
8. **City of Santa Cruz**
9. **City of Watsonville**
10. **Coastal Conservation & Research**
11. **Collaborative for Right Relations**
12. **Community Foundation Santa Cruz County**
13. **Ecology Action**
14. **Elkhorn Slough Foundation**
15. **Four Directions**
16. **Groundswell Coastal Ecology**
17. **Hartnell College**
18. **Land Trust Santa Cruz County**
19. **Monterey Bay Climate Justice Collaborative**
20. **Monterey Bay Climate Project Working Group**
21. **Monterey County Water Resources Agency**
22. **Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency**
23. **Pajaro Storm Drain Maintenance District**
24. **Peninsula Open Space Trust**
25. **Regeneración**
26. **Resource Conservation District of Monterey County**
27. **Santa Lucia Conservancy**
28. **University of California Santa Cruz**
29. **Watsonville Wetlands Watch**



## Regional Collaboration

### Equity & Inclusion

### Risk Reduction

### Enduring Capacity



The benefits derived from adaptation activities will flow largely to the marginalized and disadvantaged communities occupying the low-lying, flood-prone coastal areas within the Monterey Bay region.

- Watsonville
- Pajaro
- Las Lomas
- Castroville
- Low-income neighborhoods in Santa Cruz

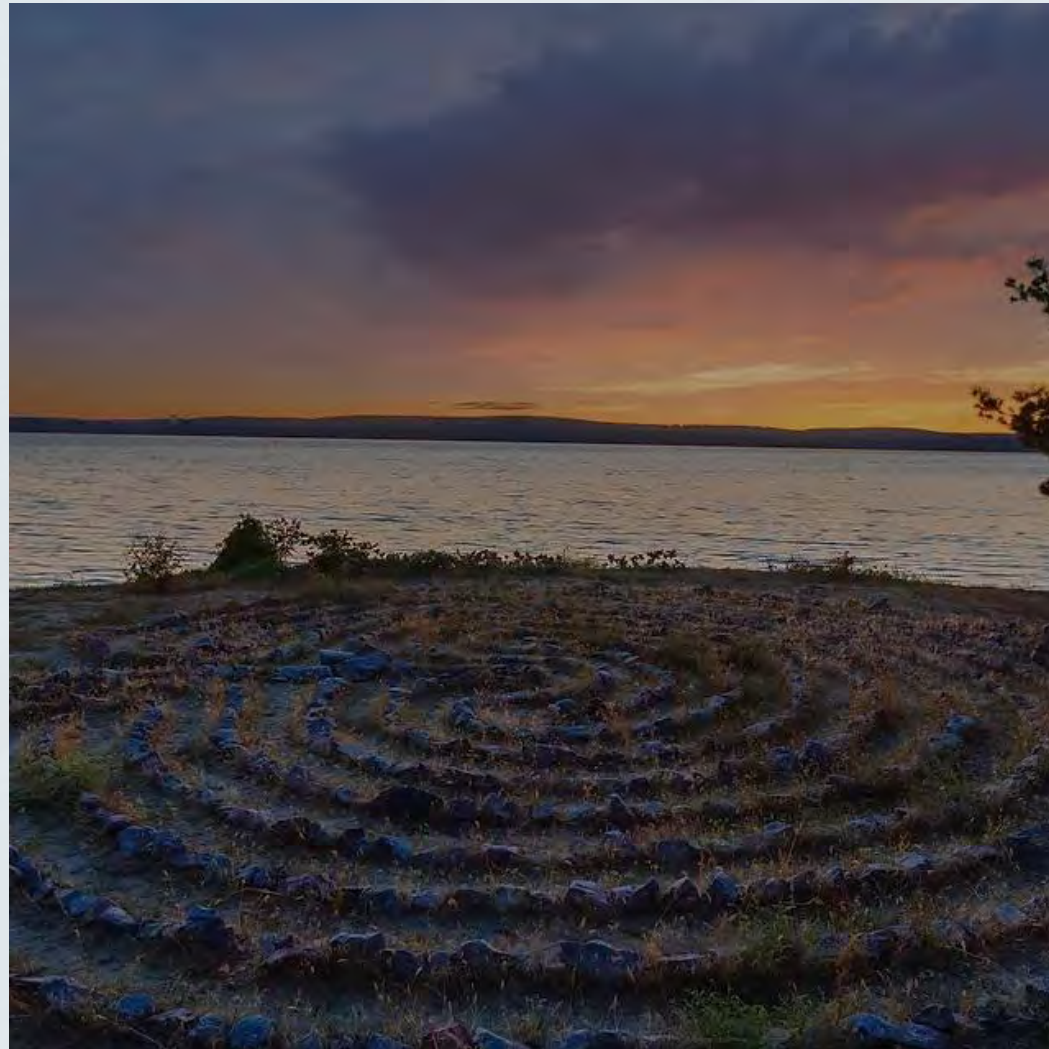


**Regional Collaboration**

**Equity & Inclusion**

**Risk Reduction**

**Enduring Capacity**



**To ensure that marginalized, underrepresented, and disadvantaged communities and Tribal groups continue to be meaningfully engaged we have devised a robust engagement plan for collaboration, including dedicating:**

- **\$1.8M for Disadvantaged Community Engagement through a partnership with Regeneración and Ecology Action**
- **\$1.6M for Tribal Engagement through a partnership with the Collaborative for Rights Relations and Four Directions Consulting**