

\$32 Million For Coastal Conservation, Restoration and Resilience



NOAA

Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, Monterey.

On August 1, the Department of Commerce and NOAA announced the availability of \$20 million for state and territory coastal management programs, and \$12 million for national estuarine research reserves to support projects that increase climate adaptation and coastal community resilience to natural hazards and extreme weather.

The investments, available under the [Inflation Reduction Act](#), are part of the Biden Administration's Investing in America agenda, which will build on the work of the nation's 34 [state coastal management programs](#) and the 30 sites of the [National Estuarine Research Reserve System](#).

In California, the California Coastal Commission oversees the state's coastal management program and ensures that federal actions, licenses and permits with a foreseeable effect on any coastal use or natural resource in the coastal zone are consistent with the state program.

“Our ocean, coasts and Great Lakes are critical to our nation's economy,” said NOAA Deputy Administrator Jainey Bavishi. “Thanks to President Biden's Investing in America agenda, this funding helps us take a proactive approach toward keeping coastal areas, communities and economies — which are home to 40% of the U.S. population — resilient in the face of a changing climate.”

The funding will help the two programs implement projects, initiatives and programs that increase climate resilience. Funds may be used for the following activities:

- Implementing state and reserve priority projects and initiatives that increase the resilience of coastal communities and align with the objectives of the Coastal Zone Management Act.
- Implementing priority, high-impact restoration and conservation projects in coastal ecosystems nationwide.
- Increasing staffing capacity needed to support coastal community resilience, nature-based infrastructure and conservation projects, including planning, partnership building and project implementation.

Many of these investments will complement and leverage other projects designed to build climate-ready coasts using [Infrastructure Law](#) and [Inflation Reduction Act](#) funding.