



What They're Saying

Newsom Administration, State Agencies Launch Updated California Climate Adaptation Strategy

Secretary Wade Crowfoot, California Natural Resources Agency:

"Californians understand that climate change threatens our safety and prosperity. We already feel the effects of catastrophic wildfire, worsening drought, and extreme summer heat—with some Californians much more vulnerable than others. Recognizing this, actions are underway across the state to protect our residents and communities and to adjust our infrastructure, investments and approaches to adjust to this new normal. Our updated Climate Adaptation Strategy will be a critical guide in this work. It aligns efforts taking place across different sectors, sets clear priorities to shape these efforts, and pinpoints needed actions to build climate resilience in our communities, economy and ecosystems. This Strategy allows us to continue to lead the world combatting worsening climate change and adjust to its impacts that are already here."

Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly, California Health and Human Services:

"Climate change is impacting the health of Californians, and those facing inequities in our state are hurt first and worst. But California is not standing still," said California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly. "The California Climate Adaptation Strategy puts forth a comprehensive and forward-looking set of actions to protect our communities in the face of the climate crisis and to build community resilience to the climate impacts to come, particularly for those experiencing the greatest vulnerability. On behalf of the California Health and Human Services Agency, I am honored and humbled to be a part of this critical fight to ensure a climate-resilient, healthier, and more equitable future for all."

Secretary Natalie Palugyai, California Labor & Workforce Development:

“At the heart of the climate change conversation is a workforce conversation. To effectively prepare and plan for the new climate conscious economy requires recognizing the impacts on our workforce and intentionally looking for the opportunities to create good jobs across various sectors. California's Climate Adaptation Strategy will provide key inputs to inform the strategies and investments across the State's workforce system in support of California's workers and employers at the front lines of this transition.”

Director Samuel Assefa, California Governor's Office of Planning and Research:

“Every corner of California is impacted by climate change and the choices we make today will define the future for our state, our communities, and our children. The California Climate Adaptation Strategy charts an actionable path towards a climate resilience future,” said Office of Planning and Research Director Samuel Assefa. “The Adaptation Strategy comes on the heels of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report, which calls for global transformational adaptation actions. As the IPCC report outlines, there is much work to do to adapt to a changing climate, especially for the most vulnerable among us, and the Adaptation Strategy serves as the state's framework to guide equitable adaptation actions that build community resilience across California.”

Director Dee Dee Myers, California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development:

“Our climate crisis requires urgent and persistent attention. The California Climate Adaptation Strategy outlines concrete steps to help us reduce the risk of climate-driven disasters while preparing for changes we know might come. Together, they will help us ensure a robust and thriving California economy well into the future.”

Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez, Business, Consumer Services and Housing

Agency: “The California Climate Adaptation Strategy is a critical guide in our efforts to increase resilience and resources for people and neighborhoods in some of our most climate vulnerable communities. At the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency we are committed to working in partnership with communities to better integrate housing in neighborhoods and minimize the impact of climate by building housing close to transit, jobs, and community serving amenities such as schools, healthcare centers, grocery stores and banks.”

Director Mark Ghilarducci, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services:

“Much of the work done today by Cal OES is directly related to the consequences brought on by a changing climate. It is a state and national security issue, and we must treat it as such. This is a global challenge that calls for our full focus and attention. Urgent action is needed now through mitigation,

education, preparedness and enhanced response such as what is laid out in the state Climate Adaptation Strategy, so that we do not face even more severe disasters in years to come," said Mark Ghilarducci, Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Secretary Jared Blumenfeld, California Environmental Protection Agency:

Extreme weather caused by climate change is hitting California's disadvantaged communities first and worst. Farmworkers and Angelenos alike suffer under triple digit extreme heat, drought is preventing communities from getting drinking water, and kids are suffering from increased asthma hospitalizations. By coming together and implementing this adaptation roadmap, we can future-proof California for all Californians.

Secretary Toks Omishakin, California State Transportation Agency: "Working together to build climate resilience allows us to go further, faster," said California State Transportation Agency Secretary Toks Omishakin. "In this Climate Adaptation Strategy, we move beyond the broad recognition of the need to build partnerships to making collaboration and coordination a necessary action to deliver results."

Secretary Karen Ross, California Department of Food and Agriculture:

"Few challenges are more critical at this point in time than climate adaptation," said Karen Ross, secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. "Our agency is pleased to partner in this effort, as agriculture joins with all Californians to share a stake in a plan that is integrated, outcome-based and transparent, with accountability built-in."

Chair David Hochschild, California Energy Commission:

"The Energy Commission is committed to continuing to support climate research that helps bring together the best available science to inform better planning and decision making," said Chair David Hochschild. "Our investments will not only improve the state's scientific abilities but also bring important solutions directly to communities facing climate impacts like extreme heat that affects not only public health but the health of the electricity grid."