



SAN DIEGO
COASTKEEPER

Happy *Earth* Hour

Equity, Infrastructure, and
Climate Change, Oh My!



Last time on Happy Earth Hour....

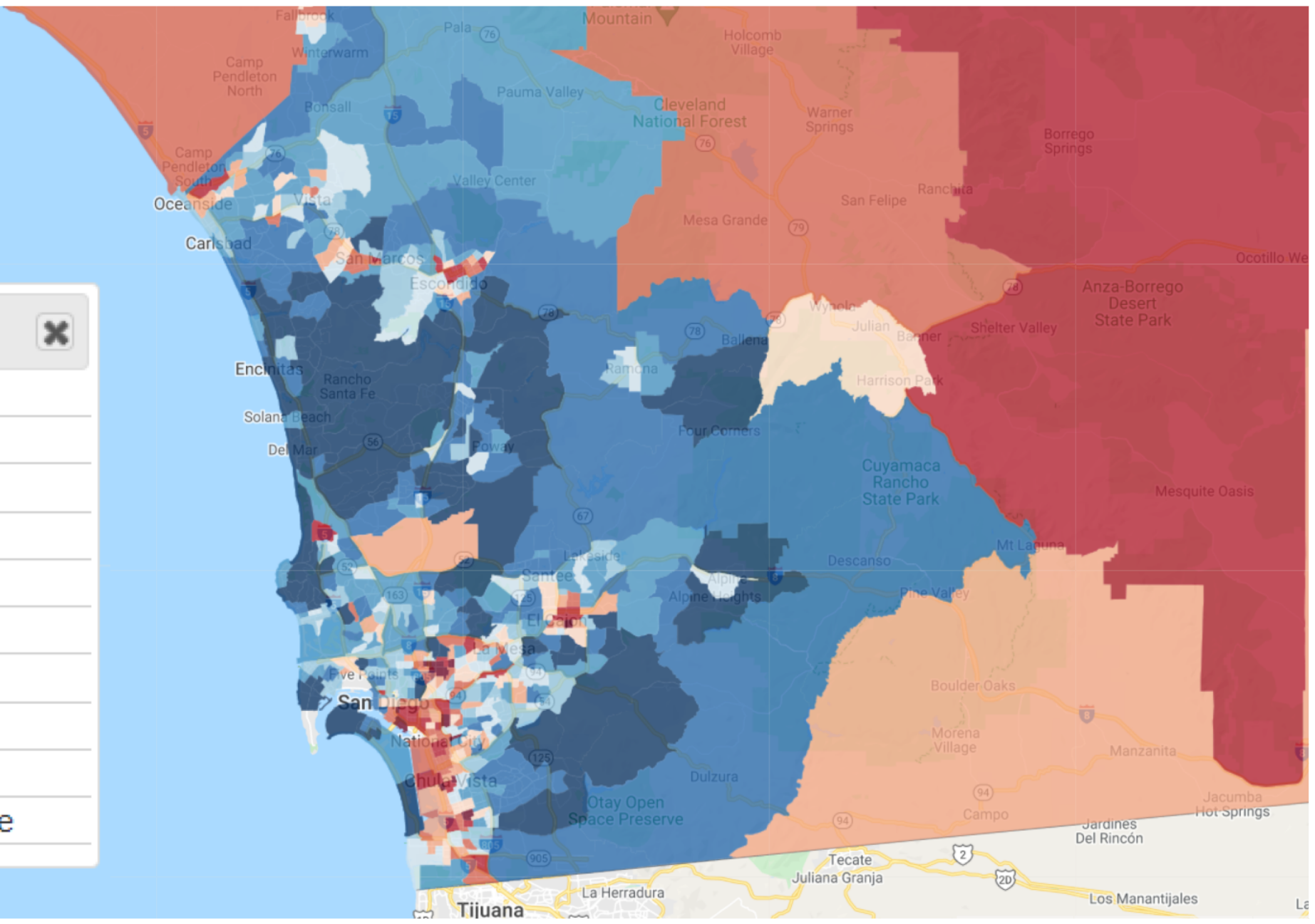
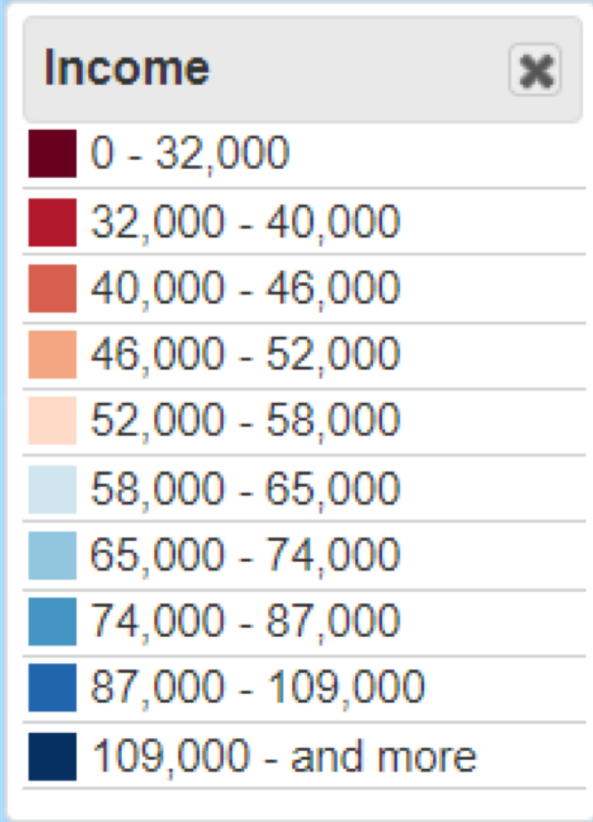
- San Diego's water supply, managed by the SDCWA, comes from a variety of different sources that are vulnerable to climate change.
- We are at the end of the water pipeline, so once we use the water it is flushed out to the ocean (sometimes untreated!)
- Poor management of water can leave San Diegans vulnerable to flooding, polluted coastal waters, unsafe drinking water, and more!

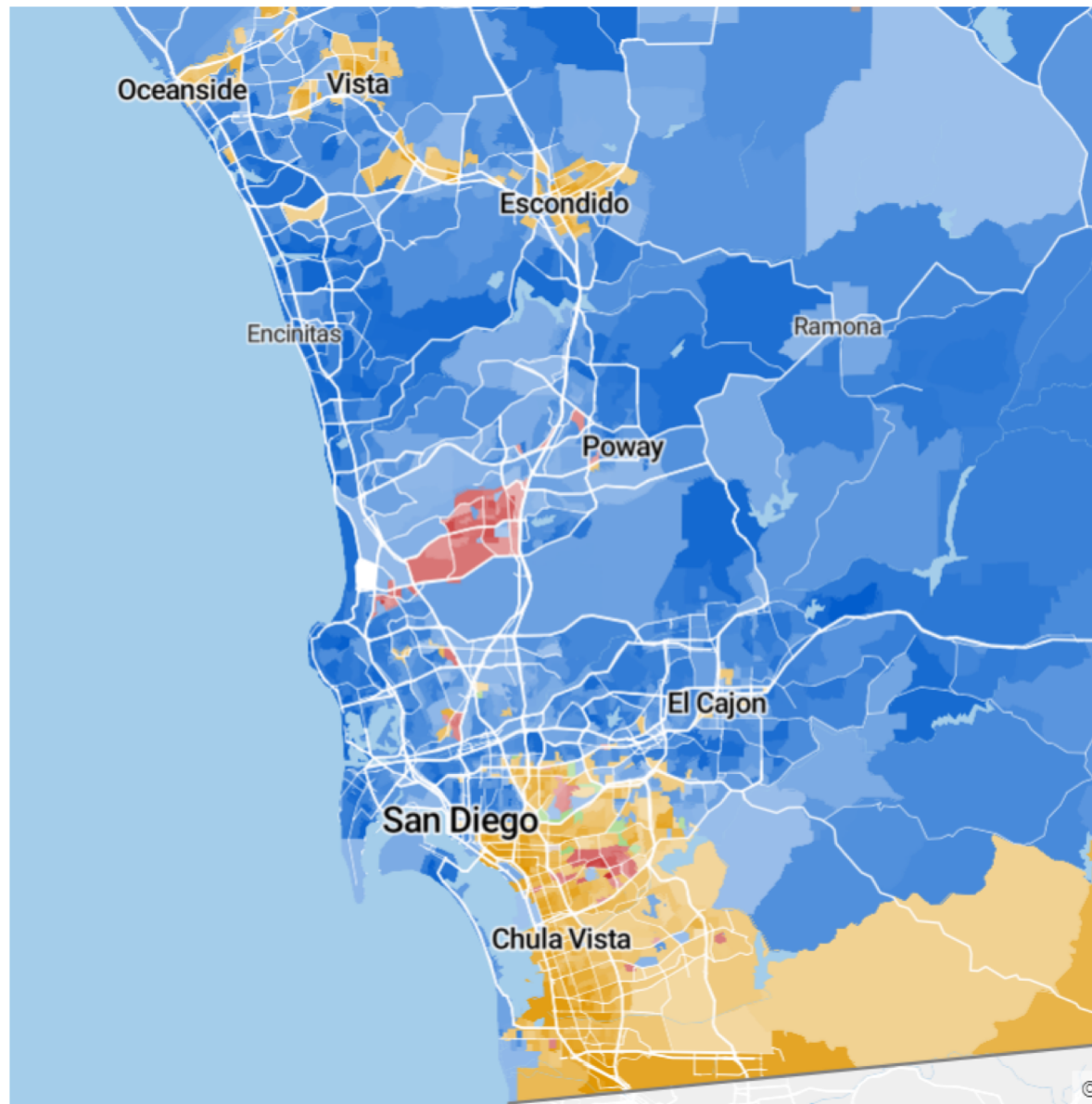


U.S. Water Alliance's Pillars of Water Equity

- Have access to safe, clean, affordable water and wastewater services.
- Share in the economic, social, and environmental benefits of water systems.
- Are resilient in the face of floods, drought, and other climate risks.

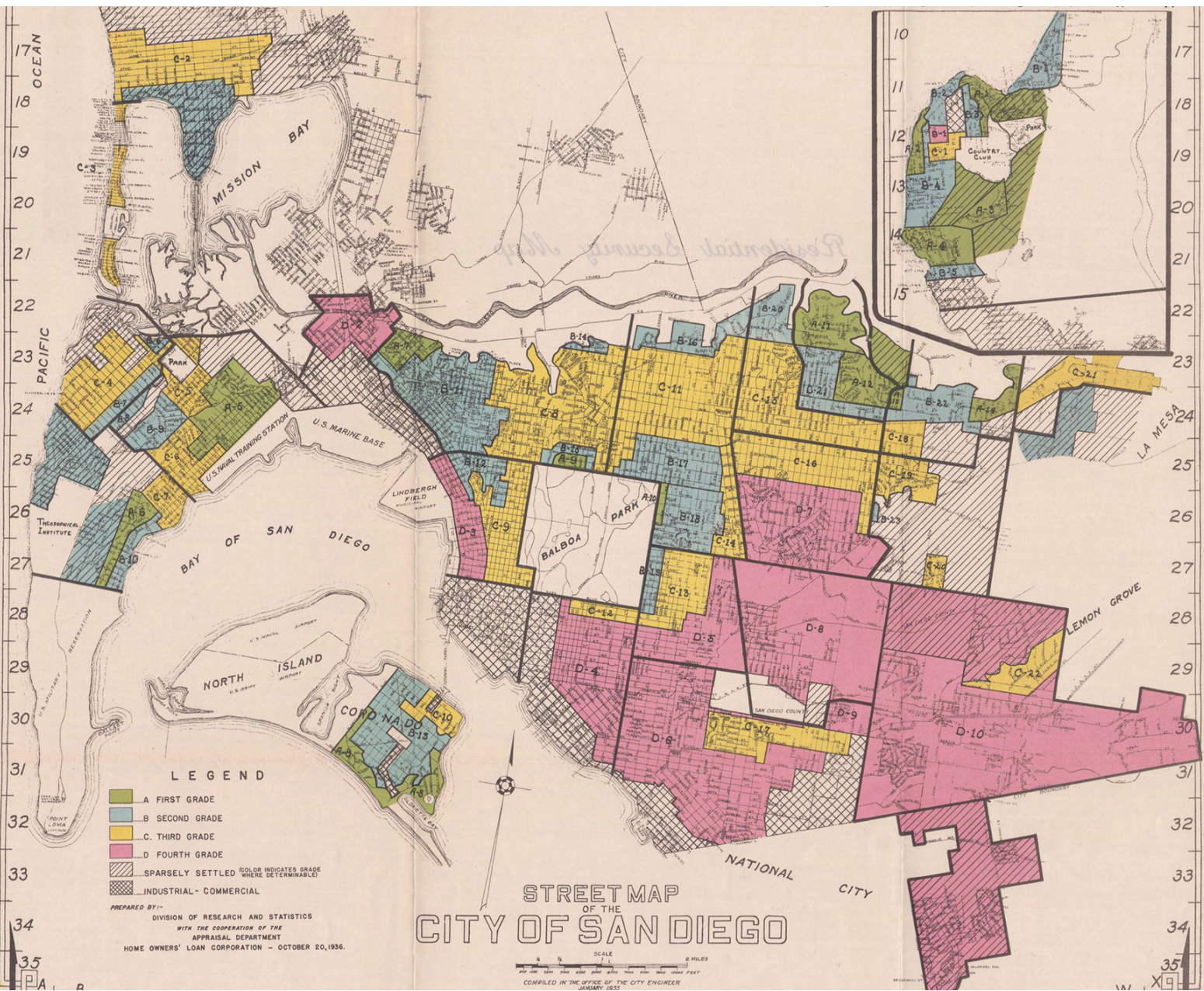
Source: [U.S. Water Alliance](#)





Majority Race Key





LEGEND

- A FIRST GRADE
- B SECOND GRADE
- C THIRD GRADE
- D FOURTH GRADE
- SPARSELY SETTLED (COLOR INDICATES GRADE WHERE DETERMINABLE)
- INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL

PREPARED BY: DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
 WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE APPRAISAL DEPARTMENT
 HOME OWNERS' LOAN CORPORATION - OCTOBER 20, 1936.

STREET MAP OF THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SCALE
 1" = 1 MILE
 1" = 1609 METERS

COMPILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ENGINEER
 JANUARY 1935

THE GOLDEN RULE

Lo
Has Been E

1 RESIDENCE PURPOSES ONLY
2 NO BUSINESS, FACTORIES, APARTMENTS OR LESS THAN \$5,000

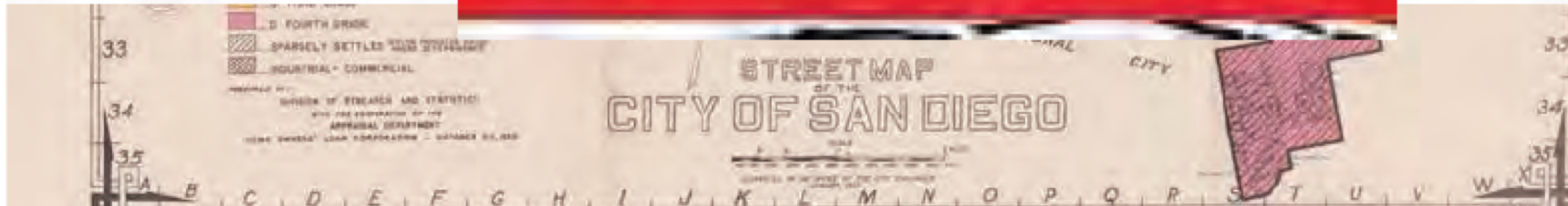
9 NO FENCES OR HEDGES OVER 30 IN. HIGH

6
RESTRICTED TO
CAUCASIAN
RACE

While the grounds are deflated
beautiful working out of this lot

San Diego's
Most Sel
Resid

Inspect the Tract an

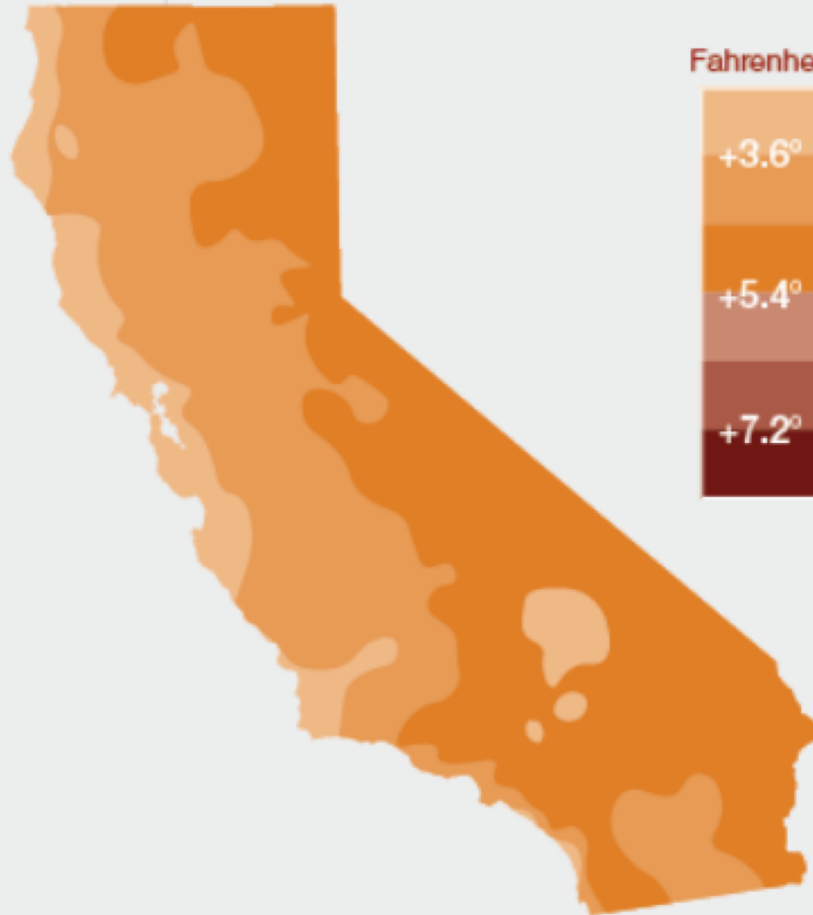




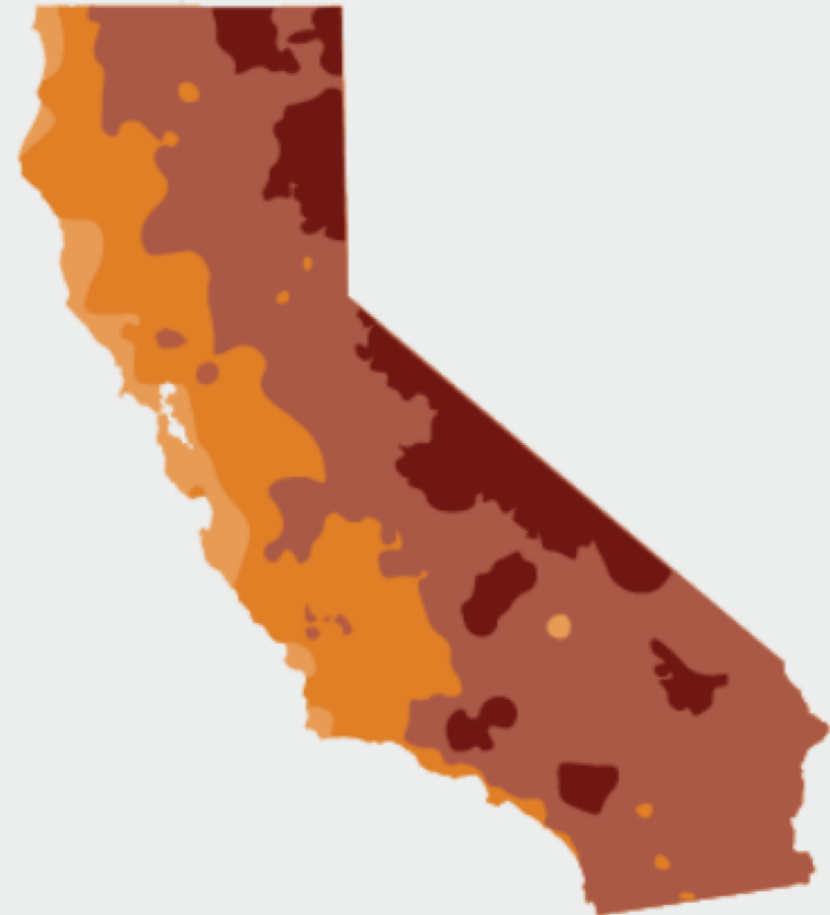
**How will climate change
affect San Diego's water?**

Projected Increases in Statewide Average Maximum Temperatures

Mid-Century 2035-2064

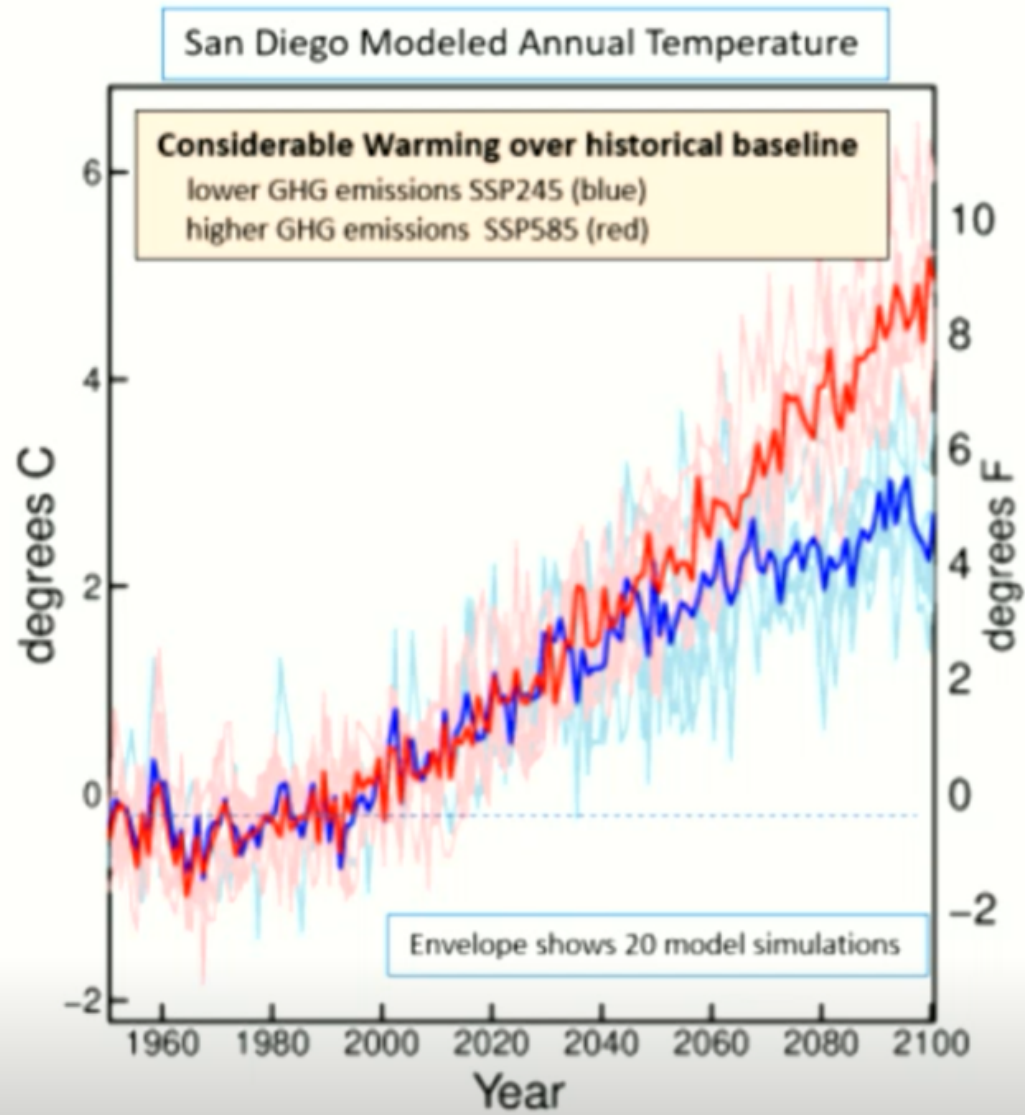


End of Century 2070-2099



Reflects changes from historical baseline 30-year average maximum temperatures (1961-1990). These estimates assume the moderate climate change scenario of "RCP 4.5," in which international practices result in the rate of worldwide greenhouse gas emissions slowly declining in the coming decades.

Data from www.Cal-Adapt.org



Projected Warming CMIP6 models

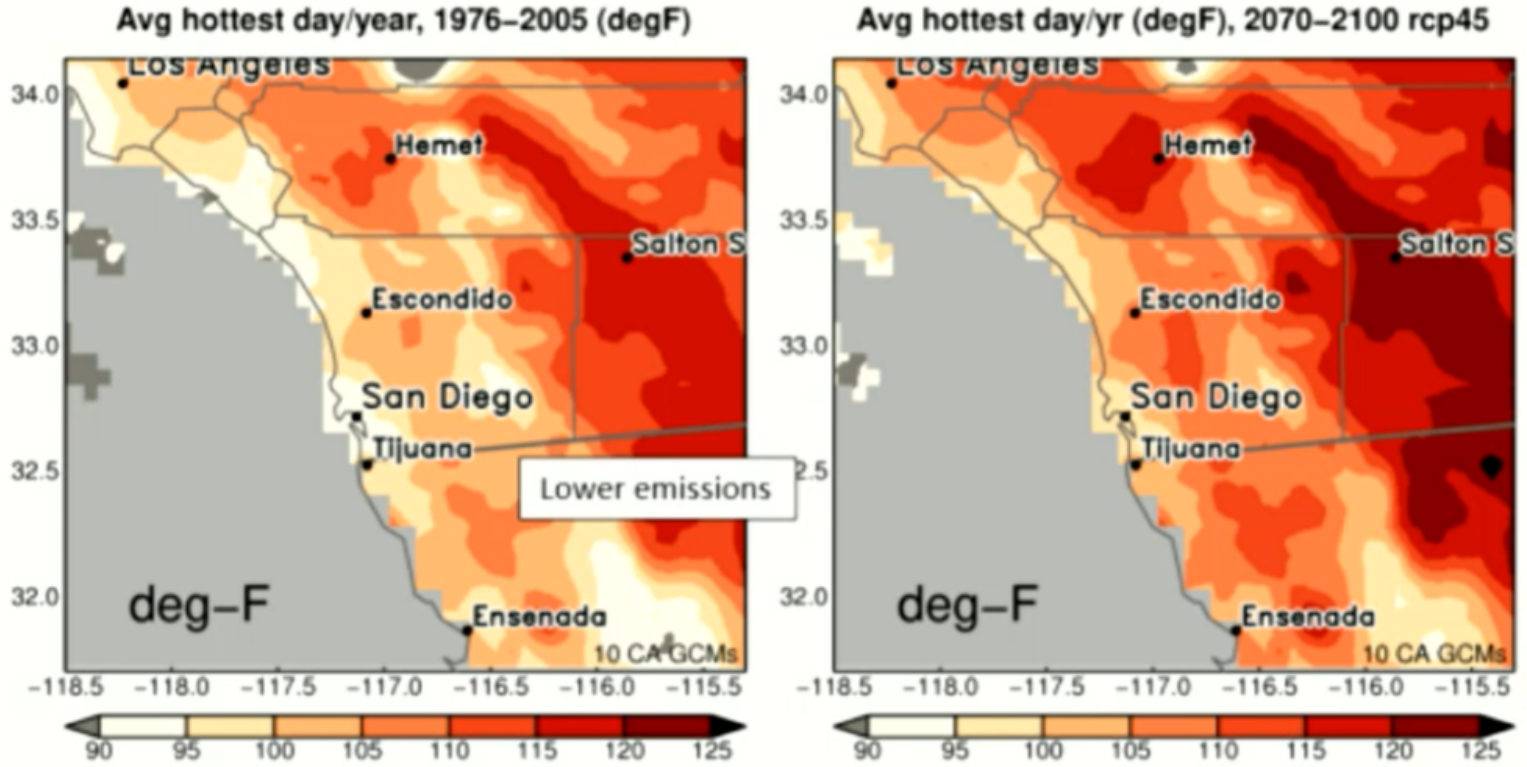
- *Because of greenhouse gas build-up, Earth is warming and committed to further warming and climate change*
- *We are observing early phase of warming*
- *Amount of future warming depends on greenhouse gas emissions*
- *Along coastal margin, warming will likely be less than inland because ocean buffers temperature rise*
- *First look: New CMIP6 global climate models produce similar but somewhat greater warming than those from CMIP5 (2015) era*

Source: Scripps Institution of Oceanography

- Extreme hot days will be even hotter
- Duration and number of heat waves will increase
- Drier spring & summer - > lengthens fire season.
- Rainfall: fewer, but larger and flashier, monsoon-type storms - > flooding
- Increased volatility of rainfall from year to year
- Region to become more arid, moisture deficit, impacts landscapes & demand

Hotter Temperature Extremes are Expected

Modeled Warmest day of the Year (°F) 2070-2100 vs. 1976-2005 CMIP5 RCP4.5



The duration and number of heat waves are also projected to increase
widespread consequences – e.g. health, energy and water demand, ecosystems

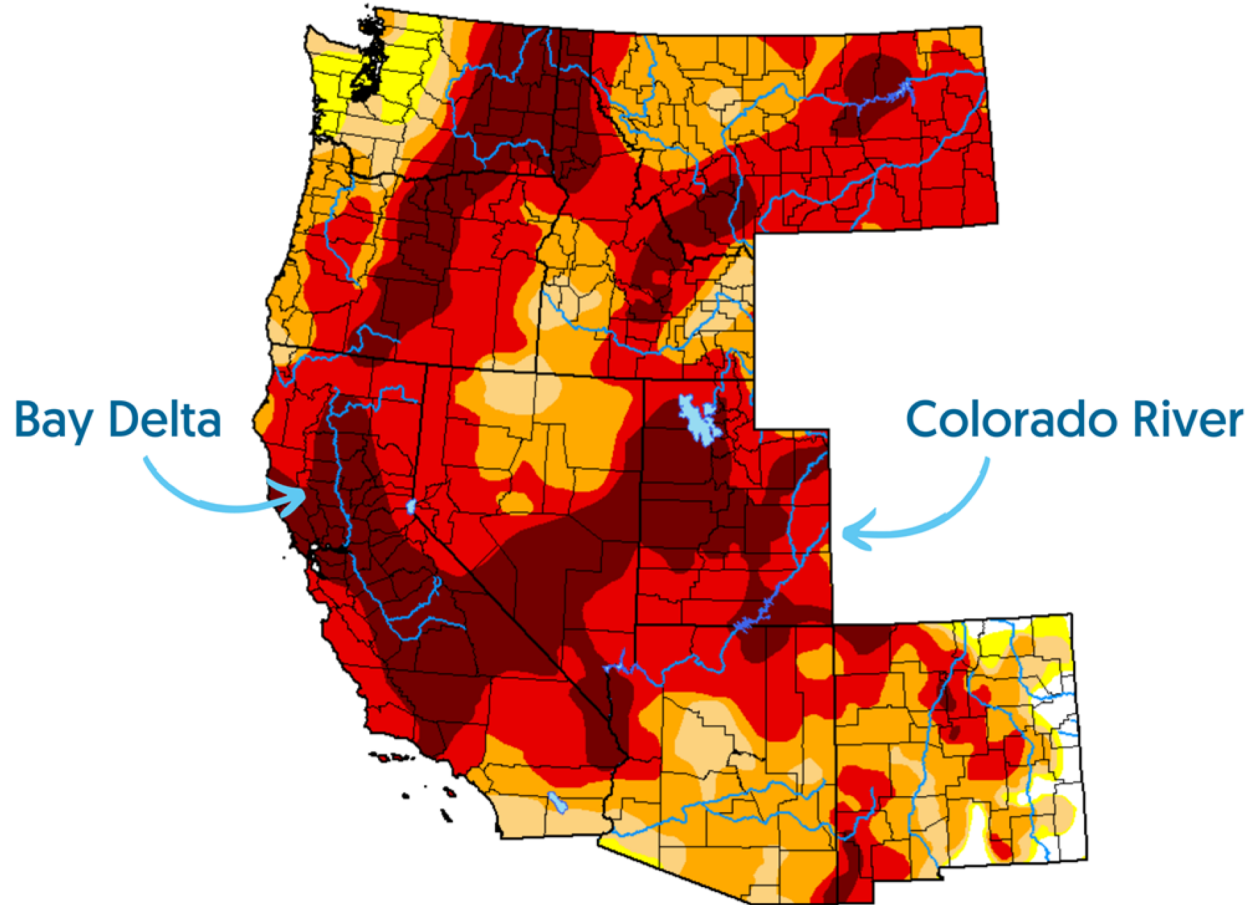
Current Drought

San Diego imports **70 percent** of our water supply from the Colorado River and the Sierra Nevada.

These regions, including ours, have entered a period of historic drought.

California uses 19% of its electricity for water transport and use.

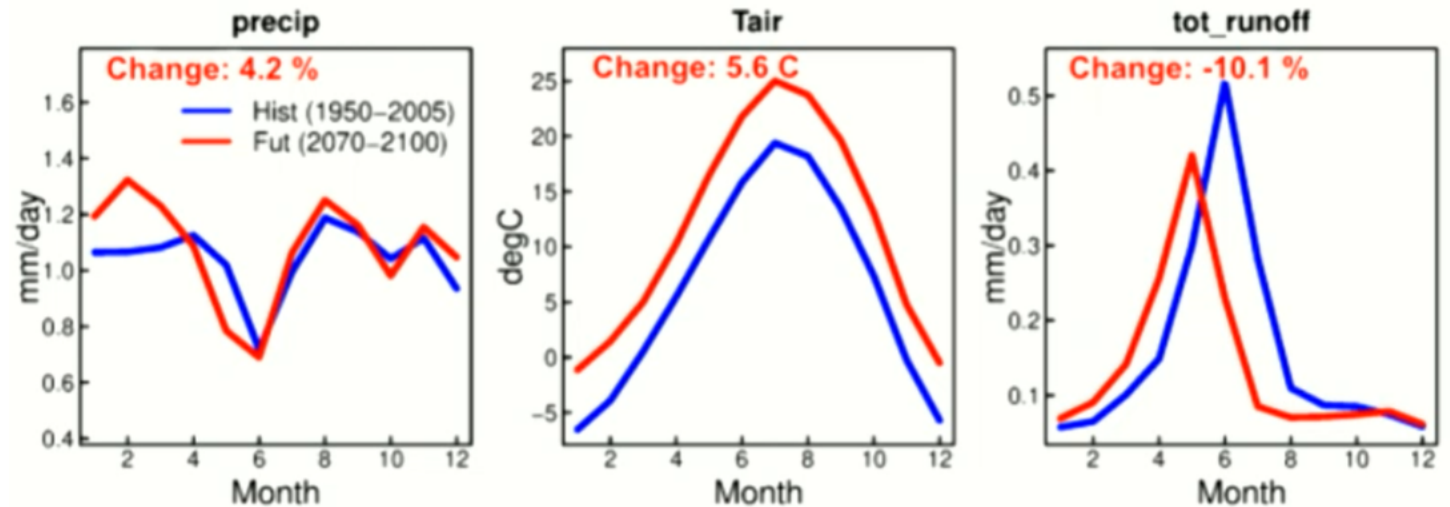
- Negative Feedback loop!



Water Supply and Climate Change

- BY 2070-2100:
- 10-20% reduction in Colorado River Supplies
 - 40 Million people
- Sierra snowpack to decline 50%, “optimistically”, and could be considerably more.
- With warming: greater wintertime flows, loess springs and summer runoff.

Projected change in Upper Colorado Basin annual cycle
RCP 8.5 2070-2100 (w.r.t 1950-2005)



- Wetter in winter, drier in spring
- Strong year-round warming, somewhat more in summer (5.6 C = 10 F)
- Runoff shifts ~1 month earlier, reduces about 10% (big increases in April, declines in July)



The California Aqueduct. (Photo: CA State Water Project)

State Water Project Announces 0% Allocation of Requested Water To Districts

We're looking at alternatives seriously now; may see some big advances in water reclamation, desalinization, and even newer agricultural methods

By [Evan Symon](#), December 2, 2021 12:31 pm

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced on Wednesday that the initial 2022 State Water Project (SWP) will be at 0% for the first time in state history due to the ongoing drought.



Minerals highlight the high water mark of the Lake Mead reservoir which has fallen to record lows.

John Locher/AP



Regional Conveyance System (RCS)

- SDCWA uses the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) to transport water to San Diego.
 - Owned by the Met and costs money to use.
- SDCWA proposed to spend **\$5-6 billion** to add another redundant straw in the glass.

Heavy Rain

Expect heavier and more erratic rainy seasons that will continue to overwhelm our 100-year-old+ infrastructure.

- Increased flooding
- Property damage
- Unsafe drinking water (boil advisories)
- Other infrastructure failures (sinkholes, pipe failures, etc.)



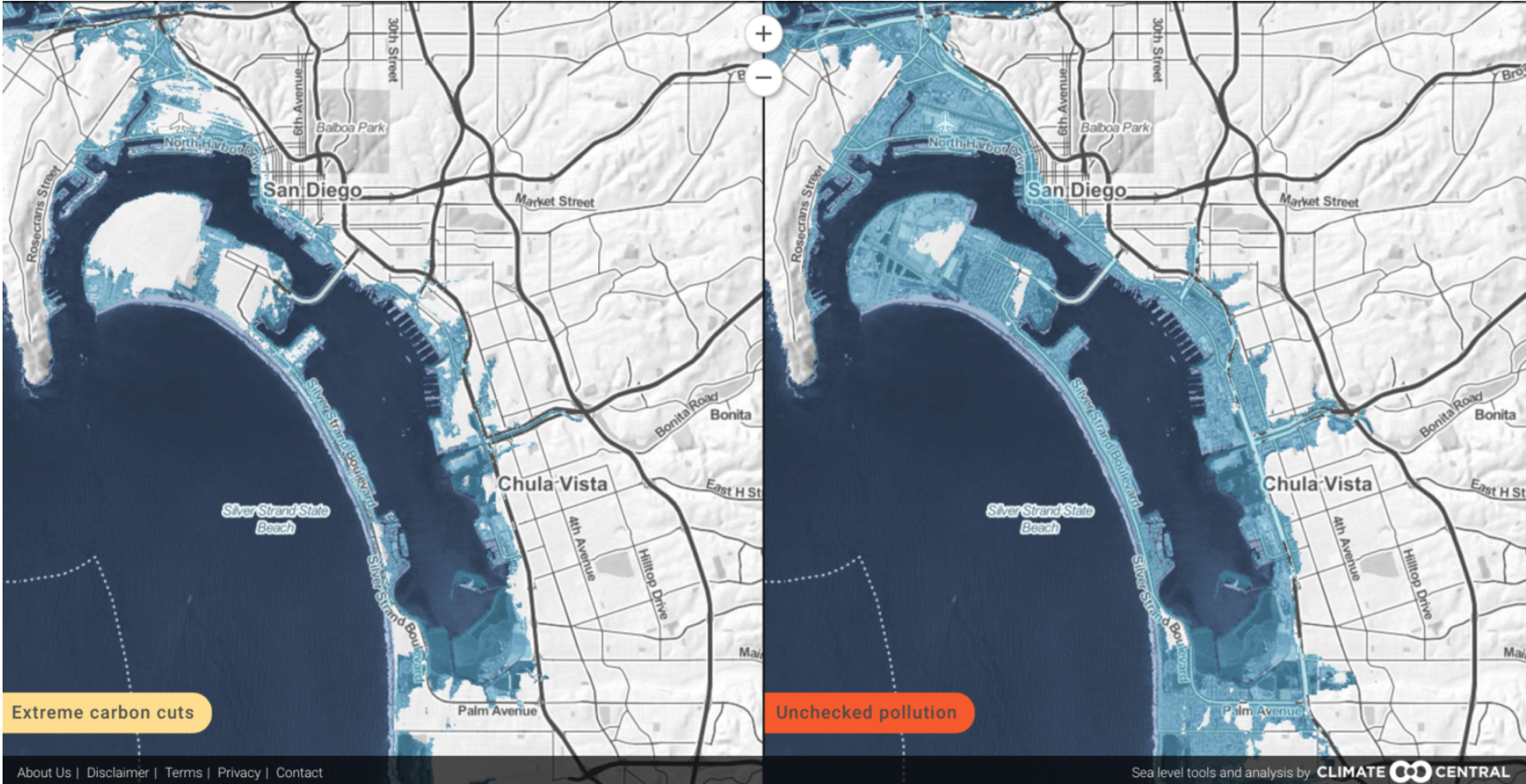
Flooding

High tide flooding days will begin to increase significantly by 2033.



Sea Level Rise

A projected additional 1.3-3.6 feet of sea level rise by 2100.

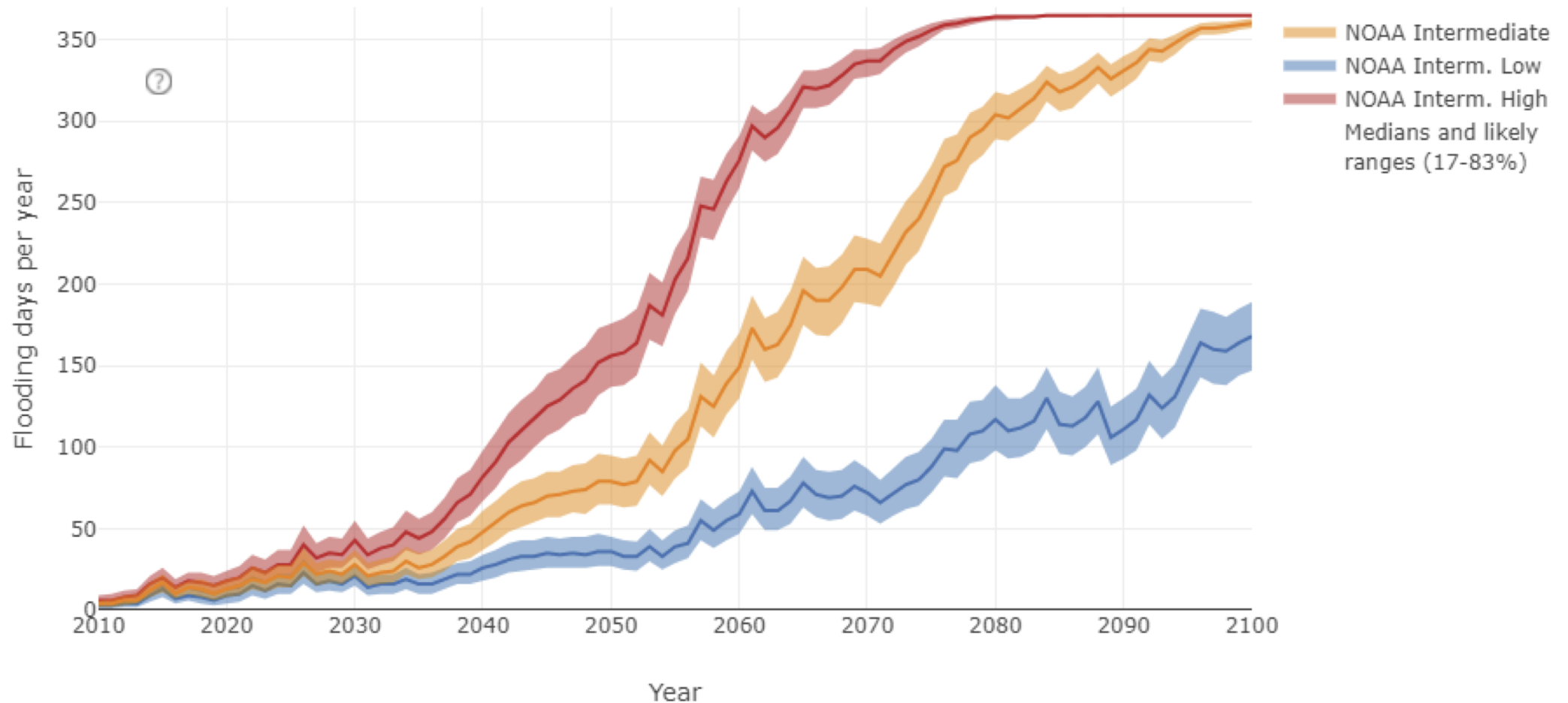


Flooding days during the 21st century

The graph below shows the number of days per year that sea level in **San Diego, CA** is projected to exceed **57 cm** above MHHW.

► [Read more](#)

Choose the local mean sea level projection(s) to use: ?



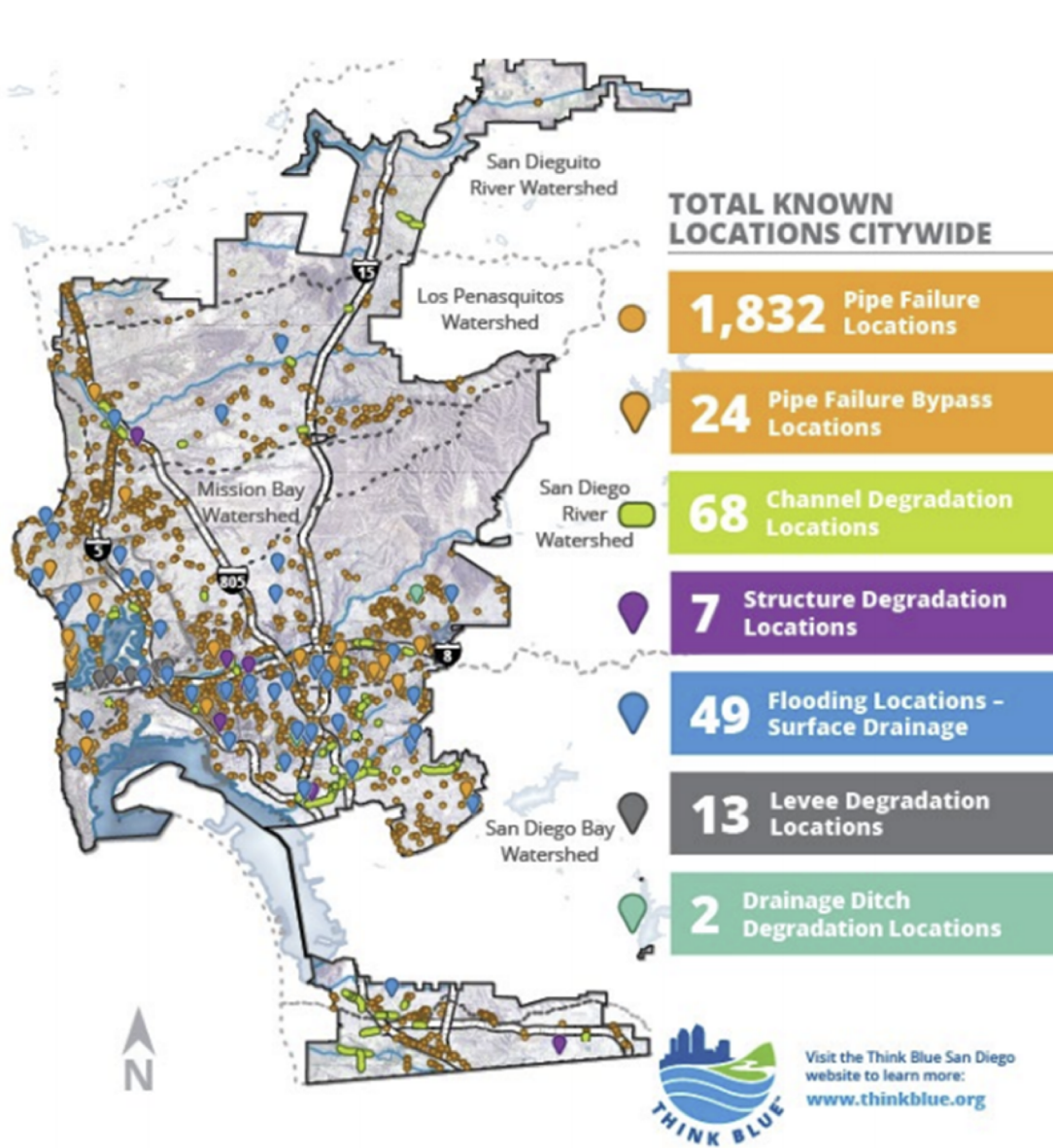


Figure 3-5. FY2021 known stormwater failure or degradation locations identified as part of the annual community flood risk assessment.

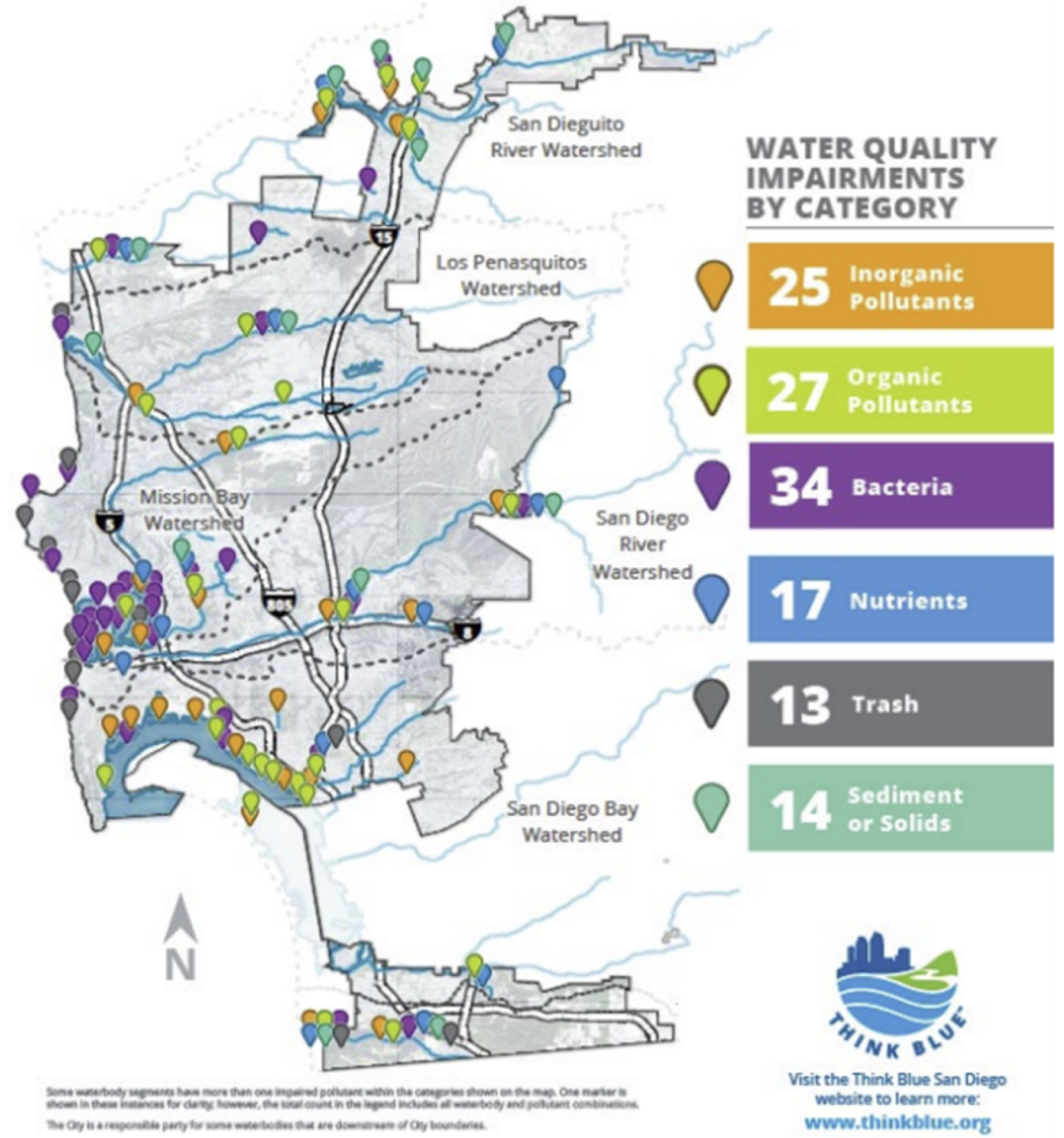


Figure 3-7. Water quality impairments by general pollutant category that the City must address as of FY2021.

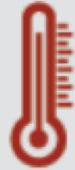
How is it looking?



Impacts of Climate Change on Californians

Climate Stressors

Higher temperatures



Changing hydrologic patterns



Rising sea levels



Hazards

Extreme heat events



Wildfires



Droughts



Inland flooding



Coastal flooding and erosion



Major Impacts

Public health risks



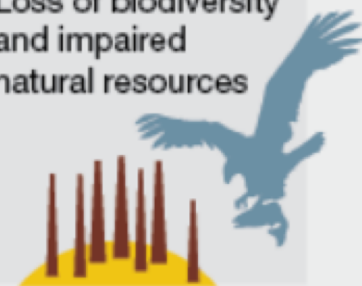
Damage to property and infrastructure



Life-threatening events



Loss of biodiversity and impaired natural resources





**How do we improve
climate resiliency ?**



Up Next: The Future of Water in San Diego

- Desalination?
- More pipelines?
- Are there better options?

Take Action



**FIND AN ORGANIZATION WORKING
ON AN ISSUE YOU CARE ABOUT AND
GET INVOLVED**



**ATTEND OUR NEXT
PRESENTATION!**

Contact Us



Website

sdcoastkeeper.org

Email

patrick@sdcoastkeeper.org

lucero@sdcoastkeeper.org

Contact Number

714-855-8340

Facebook

[@SanDiegoCoastkeeper](https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoCoastkeeper)

Instagram

[@SD_Coastkeeper](https://www.instagram.com/SD_Coastkeeper)

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