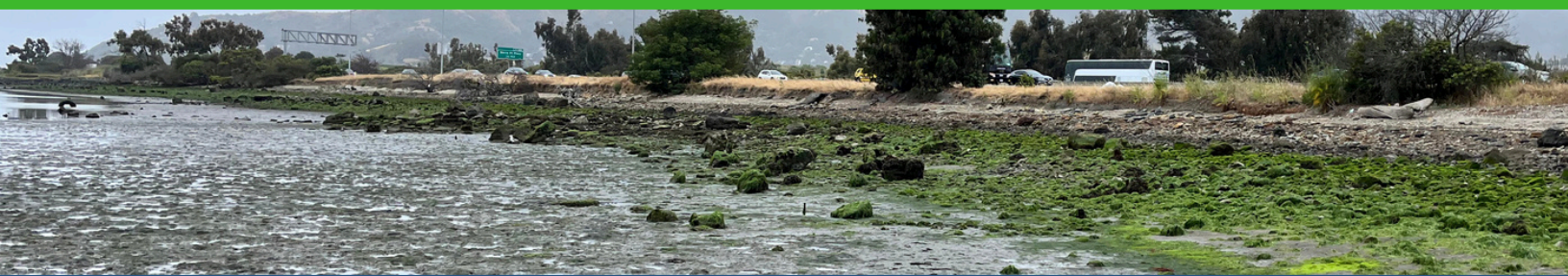


BRISBANE LIVING SHORELINE PROJECT - PHASE 1



OVERVIEW

The Brisbane Living Shoreline Project is a phased, multi-benefit effort to restore at least 100 acres of eelgrass and 50 acres of native oyster habitat along the Brisbane shoreline.

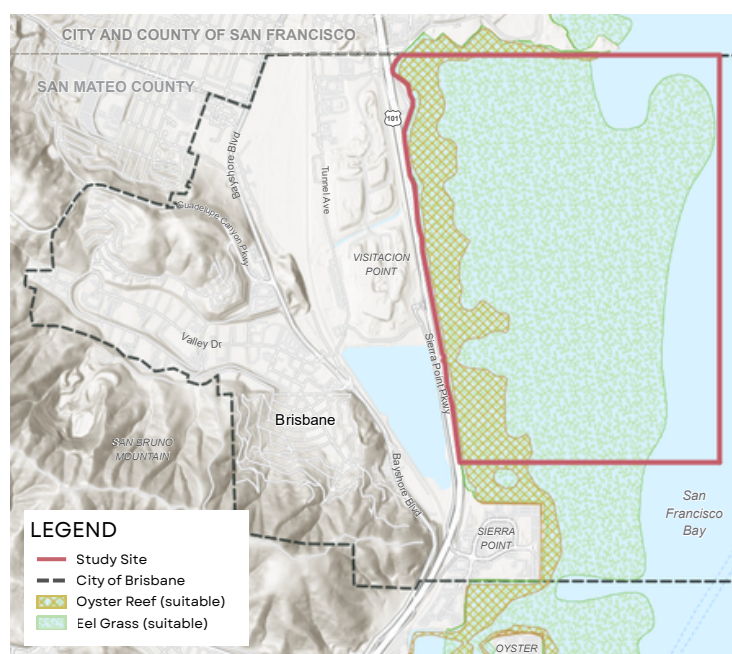
The Brisbane shoreline has lost substantial natural habitat due to development over the last century. Only small, fragmented tidal marsh and mudflat areas and limited native Olympia oyster populations remain. These conditions present a meaningful opportunity for nature-based adaptation, including oyster and eelgrass habitat restoration that could provide both ecological and flood protection benefits.

The project will establish eelgrass in targeted pilot areas – small plantings that would expand naturally into larger meadows over time. Together with restored oyster habitat, these systems are anticipated to form a living shoreline capable of reducing wave energy and storm surge, thus helping to limit coastal flooding.

PHASE 1: SETTING THE STAGE

Phase 1 of the Living Shoreline Project will lay the foundation to plan and position the project for successful implementation, including:

- Baseline data collection
- Community and regulatory engagement
- Alternatives development and analysis
- Project selection and concept design
- CEQA documentation and draft permit applications



PROJECT PARTNERS

Lead: OneShoreline

Municipal: City of Brisbane

Scientific: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, SF Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Estuary & Ocean Science Center at SF State University

Community: Literacy for Environmental Justice, Bay Area community colleges

OneShoreline has requested \$962,500 of Measure AA funds from the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority for this project. The project has been adopted by the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture as a regional priority.



Living shorelines start here: Phase 1 is targeted to move the project from concept to implementation-ready through design, permitting, environmental review, and community-supported planning

A MULTITUDE OF BENEFITS



Habitat and biodiversity: Expand eelgrass and oyster habitat, supporting fish, shorebirds, and overall ecosystem health



Model for flood-prone areas: Demonstrate the flood risk reduction benefits of living shorelines to inform adaptation planning throughout the Bay



Improved water quality: Native oysters filter Bay water, while eelgrass improves water clarity, oxygen levels, and nutrient cycling



Cost-effective resilience: Nature-based features can result in lower long-term maintenance costs compared to hard infrastructure



Education and workforce development: Engage students through partnerships with Literacy for Environmental Justice and local colleges, building skills for the green workforce

LOCAL ACTION, REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

The Brisbane Living Shoreline Project is being advanced alongside the Brisbane Shoreline Resilience Plan, a roadmap for sea level rise adaptation aligned with State requirements and regional priorities.

Coordinating the two efforts ensures that living shoreline remains a central adaptation strategy in the Plan.

THE PEARL OF THE BAY: RESTORING OYSTERS FOR RESILIENCE

Native Olympia oysters once thrived throughout San Francisco Bay, but habitat degradation, overharvesting, and invasive oyster drills led to their near collapse. Today, the Brisbane shoreline is the only site in San Mateo County identified as suitable for large-scale oyster habitat restoration, making it a rare “pearl” of opportunity regionally: a place where restoring oysters can reduce wave energy and help build much-needed shoreline resilience where little protection exists today.

Learn More



OneShoreline
Building Solutions for a Changing Climate

OneShoreline, the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District, was established in 2020 to advance coordinated, regional solutions to flooding and sea level rise across jurisdictional boundaries.