

**Notes:**

- 1) This flowchart applies to projects at the stages of feasibility study, proposed remedial alternatives, remedy selection, and protectiveness determination.
- 2) DTSC has a preference for removal of contamination for sites in locations likely to be impacted by SLR. Mitigating factors include immobile contaminants, low risk contaminants, lack of completed exposure pathway should SLR inundate or groundwater rise to interface with contamination, etc.

**Acronyms:**

BAS	Best Available Science
DD	Decision Document
FS	Feasibility Study
GWR	Groundwater Rise
SLR	Sea Level Rise
SLRVA	Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment

# Draft Sea Level Guidance - Released by DTSC for Public Comment

In late February, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) released its Draft Sea Level Rise Guidance to DTSC Project Managers for Cleanup Activities <https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2023/02/DTSC-SLR-GUIDANCE-February-2023.pdf?emrc=63eb3165dd380>. The document requires that sea level rise (SLR) be considered at all remediation sites and starts with an SLR vulnerability assessment.

For sites with existing remedies in place, the SLR evaluation would happen as part of the five-year review. For sites going through the remedy selection process, the assessment would be part of the long-term effectiveness and protectiveness evaluation. DTSC's guidance keys off the 2022 State Agency Sea-Level Rise Action Plan for California, which requires consideration of a minimum of 3.5 feet of SLR in 2050 and 6 feet in 2100. The DTSC SLR Guidance is out for public comment until October 31, 2023.

**EKI is currently addressing SLR at some of our client's remediation sites; this document will formalize the requirement from the DTSC.**

Image source: Sea Level Rise Guidance to DTSC Project Managers for Cleanup Activities (written by DTSC), Attachment 1