FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 8, 2016

Media Contacts: Marina Psaros, (857) 523-0703 & Sara Aminzadeh, (415) 794-8422

Press Release: 'King Tides' Illustrate Vulnerability of California Shoreline

(San Francisco, CA) - Some of the year's highest tides, known as 'king tides,' will hit the California shoreline next week, providing a glimpse of what the state can expect as sea levels rise in the coming years.

This winter, the largest tides will take place on December 13 and 14, 2016, and again January 10-12, 2017. The California King Tides Project is working with local volunteers to photograph these ultra-high tides to illustrate how homes, harbors, beaches, and wetlands, as well as public access to the coast may be affected by future sea level rise.

The National Academy of Sciences has projected approximately up to two feet of sea-level rise by 2050 and up to five feet by 2100 along the California coast. The Army Corps of Engineers has advised communities to plan and develop infrastructure with these predictions in mind.

State and local officials and climate change researchers use the images taken during the king tides season to validate these sea level rise models and better assess local flood vulnerabilities for planning purposes. With more than five years of photographs taken along the coastline, the California King Tides Project is a growing citizen science initiative to help California communities prepare for an uncertain future.

View and photograph King Tides in your area:

North Coast: Woodley Island, Indian Island, Del Norte St. Pier, Halvorsen Park/The Adorni Center, Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary, King Salmon Beach, and New Navy Base Road in Manila/Samoa.

San Francisco Bay Area: Ocean Beach; Pacifica: Beach Blvd and Sea Wall near the municipal pier; Laguna Salada; City of Capitola; City of Santa Cruz; Proposed Treasure Island development site; South Bay: Redwood Creek, proposed Redwood City development site, and Dumbarton Bridge; Marin: Corte Madera, Richardson Bay, Gallinas Creek (north of China Camp), Bolinas, and Stinson Beach.

Central Coast: Monterey: Marina State Beach, Monterey State Beach, and Cannery Row; Carmel: Carmel Beach; Big Sur: Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, Andrew Molera State Park Beach, and Pfeiffer Beach.

Santa Barbara Area: Coal Oil Point Beach, Sands Beach, Leadbetter Beach, Hendry's Beach, Butterfly Beach, Miramar Beach, Carpinteria Salt Marsh, Hobson State Beach, and Emma Wood State Beach.

Santa Monica Area: Broad Beach, Malibu shoreline homes, Marina del Rey, Port of Long Beach, and Port of Los Angeles.

Orange County Area: Seal Beach/Sunset Beach, Huntington Harbor, and Newport Beach islands and peninsula.

San Diego Area: San Diego Bay, Oceanside Beach, San Elijo Lagoon, Del Mar Dog Beach/San Dieguito Lagoon Entrance, Torrey Pines, La Jolla Shores, Mission Beach, Imperial Beach, and the Tijuana Estuary.

Baja California: Playas de Tijuana: Border Fence and the malecon; Playas de Rosarito: Pemex complex at Rosarito Beach, pier at the Rosarito Beach Hotel, and the mouth of the creeks.

Engage on social media: faceboook.com/cakingtides ● twitter.com/CA_king_tides ● #kingtides

Participants can submit and view images at http://www.flickr.com/groups/cakingtides.

Visit http://california.kingtides.net for a calendar of local King Tides throughout the season.