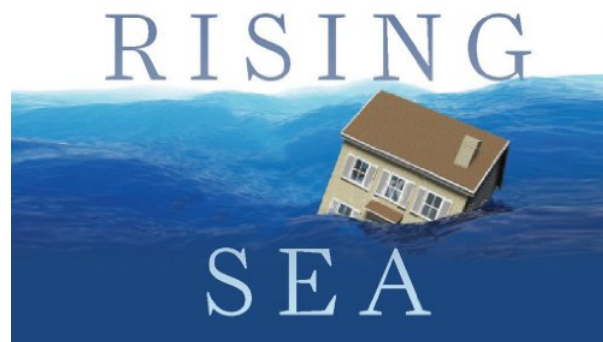


THE RISING SEA BY ORRIN H. PILKEY, ROB YOUNG

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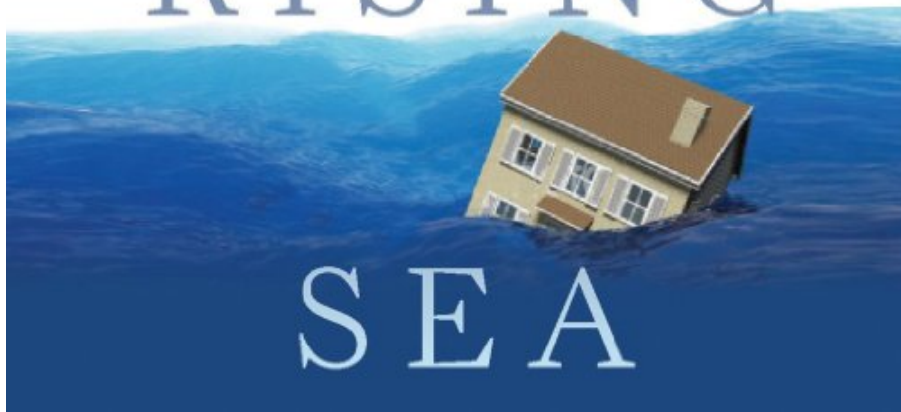
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On Shishmaref Island in Alaska, homes are being washed into the sea. In the South Pacific, small island nations face annihilation by encroaching waters. In coastal Louisiana, an area the size of a football field disappears every day. For these communities, sea level rise isn't a distant, abstract fear: it's happening now and it's threatening their way of life.

In *The Rising Sea*, Orrin H. Pilkey and Rob Young warn that many other coastal areas may be close behind. Prominent scientists predict that the oceans may rise by as much as seven feet in the next hundred years. That means coastal cities will be forced to construct dikes and seawalls, or to move buildings, roads, pipelines, and railroads to avert inundation and destruction.

The question is no longer whether climate change is causing the oceans to swell, but by how much and how quickly. Pilkey and Young deftly guide listeners through the science, explaining the facts and debunking the claims of industry-sponsored "skeptics." They also explore the consequences for fish, wildlife, and people.

While rising seas are now inevitable, we are far from helpless. By making hard choices - including uprooting citizens, changing where and how we build, and developing a coordinated national response - we can save property, and ultimately lives. With unassailable research and practical insights, *The Rising Sea* is a critical first step in understanding the threat and keeping our heads above water.

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- Original language: English
- Running time: 360 minutes

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Review of *The Rising Sea*

By Fitzgerald L. Booker

Dramatic increases in sea level are possible in the next 50-100 years. The extent of sea level increase will depend on what nature and we do between now and then to our Earth's atmosphere and oceans. This book clearly summarizes the current changes in sea levels around the world, and what can be expected with anticipated changes in global climate trends. Importantly, the book includes guidelines for coping with foreseeable consequences of sea level rise.

Sea levels are on the rise. There's no mistake about it. Imagine, for example, what the coast may look like in 50 years when the seashore is 1000 feet inland from where it is now. All the ocean-front dwellings will need to be moved back from the encroaching sea. And this is for regions that can adapt to changing sea levels. Some island nations will disappear with the rising sea. Miami, Florida, is on the front-line for potential

impact by rising sea levels and will need to adapt. All these issues are addressed in this book in a very readable way.

The potential impact on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast is dramatically portrayed. A number of illustrations of past impacts of storms on these and other regions is reviewed. However, the connection between the recounts of past storm damages and impacts of climate change is somewhat difficult to interpret, expect to imply that future storms may be worse than the awful damage we've seen before. The real soul of the authors lies in recommendations for current shoreline management policies that will preserve their beauty and enjoyment for the public for the foreseeable future. Shorelines change and we need to adapt to those changes, not try to prevent them.

There's lots to think about after reading this book. It's very readable and flows well. It would have benefited from additional editing as some parts are redundant and overall connections could be better made. It's a enjoyable book to read while at this beach this summer.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

Classic Pilkey

By Glenn Klotz

Dr. Orrin Pilkey (Coastal geologist) is America's leading critic of US Gov't policies along it's coast lines and one of the world's leading experts on all things Coastal. This book updates his positions on these issues plus warns all of us that the world's Oceans are rising (do to Global warming) and the pace is picking up! By 2100 he predicts in this book that they could rise by more then 20 ft., drowning most of the world's low lying regions and Islands and with it America's major coastal cities like NYC and Miami! Dr. Pilkey is a very serious scientist so these predictions and claims are not just speculation there founded on hard science. This book is easy to read and is a must for anyone seriously interested in our Coast lines and Oceans. Some scientific jargon but mostly written for a lay audience. All in all its a good read.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

What happens when the sea rises (even a little)

By R. J. McCabe

Whether or not you believe "global warming" is due to man's impact, the reality is sea levels are not static. They've risen and fallen forever, and currently are in a rising pattern because the earth is warmer than in the recent past. The rising sea impacts the shoreline in ways that aren't "just" from higher water levels.

This fascinating book describes how the shoreline reacts to a rising sea, and the futility of man's efforts to rebuild beaches, add sea walls, (re)build property, etc.

Anyone residing in a seaside community would benefit from reading this book.

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