

ART IMITATING LIFE: CLIMATE CHANGE.



Pekka Niittyvirta & Timo Aho art installation in the Hebrides to show where the ocean will be. (From World Ocean Forum)

Pekka Niittyvirta and Timo Aho are two Finnish artists who in 2019 installed an electrifying art project in a small coastal town in the Hebrides, Scotland. They installed sensors that activate light-lines on buildings throughout the town during high tide, **the light-lines revealing how high the ocean will soon be due to Sea Level Rise (SLR).** Their work, published by the World Ocean Forum, is a testament to how the ocean is claiming the world's shorelines. Artists are tackling the subject to give visuals because **some people still argue that there's no such thing as Climate Change.**

Santa Barbara has had its day with artists depicting Sea Level Rise (*see Inset "SLR Catch 22" page 7*). The best illustrative art depicting Sea Level Rise in Santa Barbara are the dead-serious SLR projection maps of the East Beach/harbor waterfront prepared by U.S. Geological Survey/Ecological



Society of America (USGS)/(ESA) for 2030, 2060 and 2100. Included in the City of Santa Barbara Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, **the map for 2030 shows storm waves up to the edge of Cabrillo Blvd. and inundating East Beach** and, on the other side of the Harbor, Leadbetter Beach. This storm inundation will be a regular occurrence only 10 years from now. Storm waves already inundate Leadbetter during annual King Tide events.

Miramar Beach on the 2020 King (high) Tide

Photo by Harry Rabin/On the Wave Productions