

WHEN IT COMES TO
RESTORING
THE BAY...



THE
FACTS ARE
CLEAR



San Francisco Bay
Restoration Authority

www.sfbayrestore.org

FUNDING BAY RESTORATION...

...IS FUNDING OUR FUTURE



SAN FRANCISCO BAY is one of our nation's greatest natural treasures and the defining feature of where we call home. But it won't remain so without the necessary funding to protect and restore it for generations to come.

Restoring San Francisco Bay isn't just essential from an environmental or quality of life perspective. It's equally important to expand bicycle and walking trails on public land, and to continue to strengthen our local economy with thousands of new, good-paying jobs.

That's why environmental and business groups agree that funding Bay restoration is of vital importance to our region's future.

"Local funding is crucial to protect the Bay's natural shorelines, safeguard homes and businesses from flooding, and create thousands of jobs in our communities."

JIM WUNDERMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO
BAY AREA COUNCIL

When it comes to the benefits of San Francisco Bay restoration efforts, the facts are clear.

Restoring the Bay will:

- **Create** thousands of jobs for Bay Area residents
- **Restore** tens of thousands of acres for wildlife
- **Safeguard** existing roads and infrastructure from the risks of flooding
- **Improve** water quality by removing pollutants
- **Strengthen** the Bay as an economic engine for the region
- **Expand** public access to Bay shorelines and open spaces
- **Protect** a habitat for the 500 species of wildlife that call the Bay home



NEW STRATEGIES FOR FUNDING BAY RESTORATION



Funding the restoration and protection of the Bay means funding a strong future for the environmental and economic vitality of the entire Bay Area. With all levels of government hit hard by budget cuts, innovative and robust strategies are needed to finance this critical work. The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority was created in 2008 to find solutions to the need for new, local funding.

Securing a new source of local funding means those who live around the Bay Area — and who will see first-hand the jobs and other economic benefits of restoration — have a voice in keeping the Bay healthy and vibrant. And with significant opportunities for public-private partnerships and leveraging of state and federal dollars, the most important projects throughout the Bay will have the resources they need to succeed.



Critical flood control and restoration projects will receive the funding they need.



Local funding for Bay restoration means local jobs and economic activity across the entire Bay Area.

A NEW APPROACH TO A REGIONAL ISSUE



The Authority is considering placing a measure on the November 2014 ballot throughout the nine Bay Area counties to fund this work. Results from each county would be added together, and if two-thirds of Bay Area voters agree, restoration projects could see funding as soon as the following summer.

Funding from this measure would allow for the restoration of thousands of acres of natural habitat for wildlife, support our local economy, improve access to public lands, address flooding issues, and create thousands of new jobs. A regional approach means that critical projects from Sonoma to San Jose will see new progress, allowing us all to benefit from a healthier and more vibrant Bay.

KNOW THE FACTS

about San Francisco Bay

AT OVER 1,600 SQUARE MILES, the Bay is the largest estuary west of the Mississippi River.

SCIENTISTS AGREE that the Bay needs at least 100,000 acres of healthy wetland habitat to function effectively. But as of 2012, only 45,000 acres exist.

THROUGHOUT THE BAY, some 32,000 acres of former marsh are already in public ownership, waiting to be restored.

THE BAY SUPPORTS more than 500 species of wildlife, including over 100 threatened and endangered species.

OVER 310 MILES of Bay Trail connect our shoreline communities to hundreds of parks, open spaces and agricultural lands across the Bay Area.

187,000 ACRES of baylands have been diked off from the tides or filled since the mid 1800's. To date, only a small fraction have been restored.



AN ECONOMIC ENGINE

Protecting and restoring the Bay has clear and dramatic benefits to our local economy.



■ Each year, over \$60 billion in imports and exports pass through the Bay. The Port

of Oakland alone supports more than \$2.1 billion in direct business revenues, and almost 30,000 local jobs.

■ Three quarters of the nation's \$150 billion fishing industry are dependent upon estuaries like San Francisco Bay.

■ From the garlic fields of Gilroy to rolling Wine Country hillsides, Bay Area tourism is big business, with over \$24 billion in tourism spending in 2010, supporting over 178,000 jobs across the region.

■ Bay restoration means local jobs that can't be exported. Recently completed projects have generated as many as 30 jobs for every \$1 million invested.

■ With benefits to Bay communities from flood protection, expanded public access and recreation, increased habitat for wildlife, and thousands of local jobs, the advantages of restoring the Bay couldn't be clearer.



LEARNING FROM THE PAST



In the decades following the Gold Rush, one-third of the Bay was diked off or filled for development. Plans had been drafted to fill 60 percent of the remaining shallow Bay, leaving only a narrow channel. By the early 1960s, residents had access to less than six miles of shoreline. The Bay was choked with raw sewage and industrial pollution.

Today, thanks to 50 years of hard work by generations of residents dedicated to saving the Bay, we have been able to turn back the clock. Thousands of acres of habitat have been reopened to the tides, and more than 310 miles of trails link our communities. Many



important large-scale restoration projects are already underway.

But without the necessary funding to continue cleaning up pollution

and protecting our region's greatest natural resource, the progress of the last half century risks being lost. If Bay Area residents want future generations to enjoy the Bay as we do, we must act now to restore and protect it for generations to come.



TAKING ACTION FOR THE FUTURE



With a population expected to grow by two million people over the next 25 years — an equivalent of two new cities the size of San Jose — there are dramatic challenges facing San Francisco Bay and its shoreline.

Taking action now will ensure that we have the resources to prevent urban runoff from polluting the Bay, preserve critical habitat for fish and wildlife, enhance public access to open spaces, and protect homes and infrastructure from flooding.

JOIN US TODAY!
www.sfbayrestore.org

Additional facts and links to source documents are available online.

ABOUT THE BAY RESTORATION AUTHORITY



The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority was formed by the California Legislature in 2008. The Authority's mission is to raise and allocate resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline, as well as related public recreation and flood protection projects.

The Authority is led by a Governing Board of six members from local governments and chaired by Sam Schuchat of the California Coastal Conservancy. An Advisory Board comprised of private citizens, local stakeholders and experts on Bay issues supports the work of the Authority.

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