Measure AA 2020 Grant Funding: Grant Round and Community Grants Program

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What is the SF Bay Restoration Authority?

- SFBRA: regional agency created to fund shoreline projects that will protect, restore, and enhance San Francisco Bay

- Measure AA (June 2016) generates funds to accomplish SFBRA mission

- Jurisdiction: shoreline of the nine counties in San Francisco Bay Area, excluding Delta primary zone
The Restoration Authority can fund:

• **Habitat projects** that will restore, protect, or enhance tidal wetlands, managed ponds, or natural habitats along the shoreline.

• **Flood management features** that are part of a habitat project.

• **Public access or recreational amenities** that are part of a habitat project.

Photo: National Geographic
Where is “along the Shoreline”?

• **Subtidal Habitats.** Area lying below mean low tide, within a reasonable distance of the shoreline.

• **Baylands.** Areas that lie between the maximum and minimum elevations of the tides over multiyear cycles, including those areas that would be covered by the tides in the absence of levees or other unnatural structures, including the portion of creeks or rivers located below the head of tide.

• **Transitions Zones.** Uplands adjacent to potential or actual tidal wetlands that can provide transitional habitat and/or marsh migration space, as well as areas that are needed to enhance the project’s resilience to projected sea level rise.
Eligible Grantees and Locations

• **Eligible Grantees:**
  - federal, state, and local agencies
  - tribal governments
  - nonprofit organizations
  - owners or operators of shoreline parcels

• **Eligible Locations:**
  - Sonoma, Marin, Napa, Solano, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and San Francisco counties
  - Delta Primary Zone not eligible
Eligible Project Phases

• Project Phases:
  • Acquisition
  • Planning
  • Design
  • Permitting
  • Construction/Implementation
  • Operation
  • Monitoring and Evaluation
  • Maintenance

Start thinking about how to engage communities early on, at any project phase. Partnerships are key!
Measure AA Eligibility Criteria: Safe, Clean Water and Pollution Prevention

- Improve water quality by reducing pollution and engaging in restoration activities
- Reduce pollution levels through shoreline cleanup and trash removal
- Restore wetlands that provide natural filters and remove pollution
- Restore creeks where they flow into the Bay
Measure AA Eligibility Criteria: Vital Fish, Bird and Wildlife Habitat

• **Enhance** the SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge, shoreline parks and open space preserves and other **public lands** for expanded and improved habitat for fish, birds, and mammals

• **Protect and restore** wetlands and other Bay and shoreline habitats to benefit wildlife including shorebirds, waterfowl, fish

• **Provide for stewardship, maintenance and monitoring** of habitat restoration projects to ensure ongoing benefits to wildlife and people
Measure AA Eligibility Criteria: Natural Flood Protection

• Provide nature-based flood protection through **wetland and habitat restoration**

• **Build and improve levees** that are a necessary part of wetland restoration activities
Measure AA Eligibility Criteria: Shoreline Public Access

To provide safer and improved public access, as part of and compatible with wildlife habitat restoration projects in and around the Bay:

• Construct new, repair existing, and/or replace deteriorating public trails, signs and related facilities along the shoreline and manage these facilities

• Provide interpretive materials and special outreach events about pollution prevention, wildlife habitat, public access, and flood protection, to protect the Bay’s health and encourage community engagement
Overview of Grants Process

- **Grant Round**: Submit full application
  - Staff and AC review applications
  - Top-ranked projects recommended for funding

- **Community Grants**: Develop project with staff
  - Eligible projects recommended for funding
2020 Competitive Grant Round

• **Application Period:** July 22 – Oct 23, 2020
  • Pre-application period: July 22 – Oct 2
  • Email grants@sfbayrestore.org
• **Webinar:** August 19, 2020
• **Award Dates:** Starting in Spring 2021
• **Funding Available:** Up to $12 million
• **More Information:** [www.sfbayrestore.org](http://www.sfbayrestore.org) (“Grants” page)
Measure AA Prioritization Criteria

• Greatest positive impact
• Greatest long-term impact
• Geographic distribution
• Leverage state and federal dollars, public/private partnerships
• Benefit economically disadvantaged communities (EDCs)
• Benefit region’s economy
• Engage youth and young adults
• Incorporate monitoring, maintenance and stewardship
• Meet selection criteria of Conservancy, SF Bay Conservation and Development Commission and SF Bay Joint Venture
Measure AA “Likelihood of Success” Criteria

Project’s Likelihood of Success, based on:

- Applicant’s capacity and resources to complete and maintain the project
  - Applicant history
  - Budget; Schedule
  - Leveraging resources and partnerships
  - Monitoring, maintenance, stewardship

- Project’s level of community involvement and benefits and/or innovative partnerships
  - Project partners; Support letters
  - Community support, involvement, and benefits
  - Benefits economically disadvantaged communities (EDCs)

(Refer to Request for Proposals for more details: http://sfbayrestore.org/restoration-authority-grants)
Grant Application Tips

• Review **Measure AA ELIGIBILITY Criteria** and **PRIORITY Criteria**
  • Refer to Request for Proposals and Application ([http://sfbayrestore.org](http://sfbayrestore.org))

• Applications will also be evaluated based on **Project’s Likelihood of Success**
  • Applicant’s capacity to complete and maintain the project
  • Project’s level of community involvement and/or innovative partnerships

• **Pre-applications encouraged** (submit to grants@sfbayrestore.org)

• **Application packet** (submit to grants@sfbayrestore.org)
  1. PDF cover pages
  2. Word application questions
  3. Excel budget template
More Grant Application Tips

• Is there a maximum or minimum grant award? No
• Will the Restoration Authority fund pilot projects? Yes
• Is there a matching funds requirement? No, but leveraging ability is a Measure AA priority
• Will a project proposal receive more points the more programs/activities it meets? Not necessarily, projects will also be assessed based on how well the project meets these programs/activities
• Visit [http://sfbayrestore.org/restoration-authority-grants](http://sfbayrestore.org/restoration-authority-grants) for more Grant Round FAQs and other information
Overview of Grants Process

1. Submit pre-application
2. Schedule consultation
3. **Grant Round:**
   - Submit full application
   - Staff and AC review applications
   - Top-ranked projects recommended for funding
4. **Community Grants:**
   - Develop project with staff
   - Eligible projects recommended for funding
Community Grants Program: Pilot Phase

• **Pre-Application:** July 22, 2020 release
  • Accepted on rolling basis
  • Email grants@sfbayrestore.org

• **Webinar:** August 19, 2020

• **Award Dates:** rolling basis

• **Total Funding Available for Pilot Phase:** $200K (max individual award $100k)

• **More Information:** [www.sfbayrestore.org](http://www.sfbayrestore.org) ("Grants" page)
Community Grants Program

• Separate application pathway to support projects led by community-based organizations in economically disadvantaged communities

• Pre-applications accepted on rolling basis (http://sfbayrestore.org/community-grants)

• Staff will work with applicant to develop full proposal that can be recommended to the Board for funding
Eligible Projects for Community Grants

- **Community visioning** led by community-based organizations in economically disadvantaged communities (EDCs)
- **Training** for EDC leaders to develop, apply for, and implement small shoreline habitat projects
- Supporting community-based organizations in EDCs in gaining knowledge of shoreline issues and building relationships with government agencies and nonprofits
- **Implementing** shoreline habitat projects with strong community benefits
Examples of Funded Projects

**Heron’s Head Park Shoreline Resilience Project**
$297,000 to the Port of San Francisco for implementation

Will hire and train local young adults in bay ecology and hands-on conservation, such as native plant propagation, revegetation, and invasive plant control

https://www.lejyouth.org/index.php/eco-apprentices/

**Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project**
$7,929,855 to Contra Costa County for implementation

Will restore creekside wetland habitat by breaching levees to reintroduce the tides to diked former baylands

Photo Credit: Adrien Baudrimont
Thank you!

Contact: grants@sfbayrestore.org

www.sfbayrestore.org