

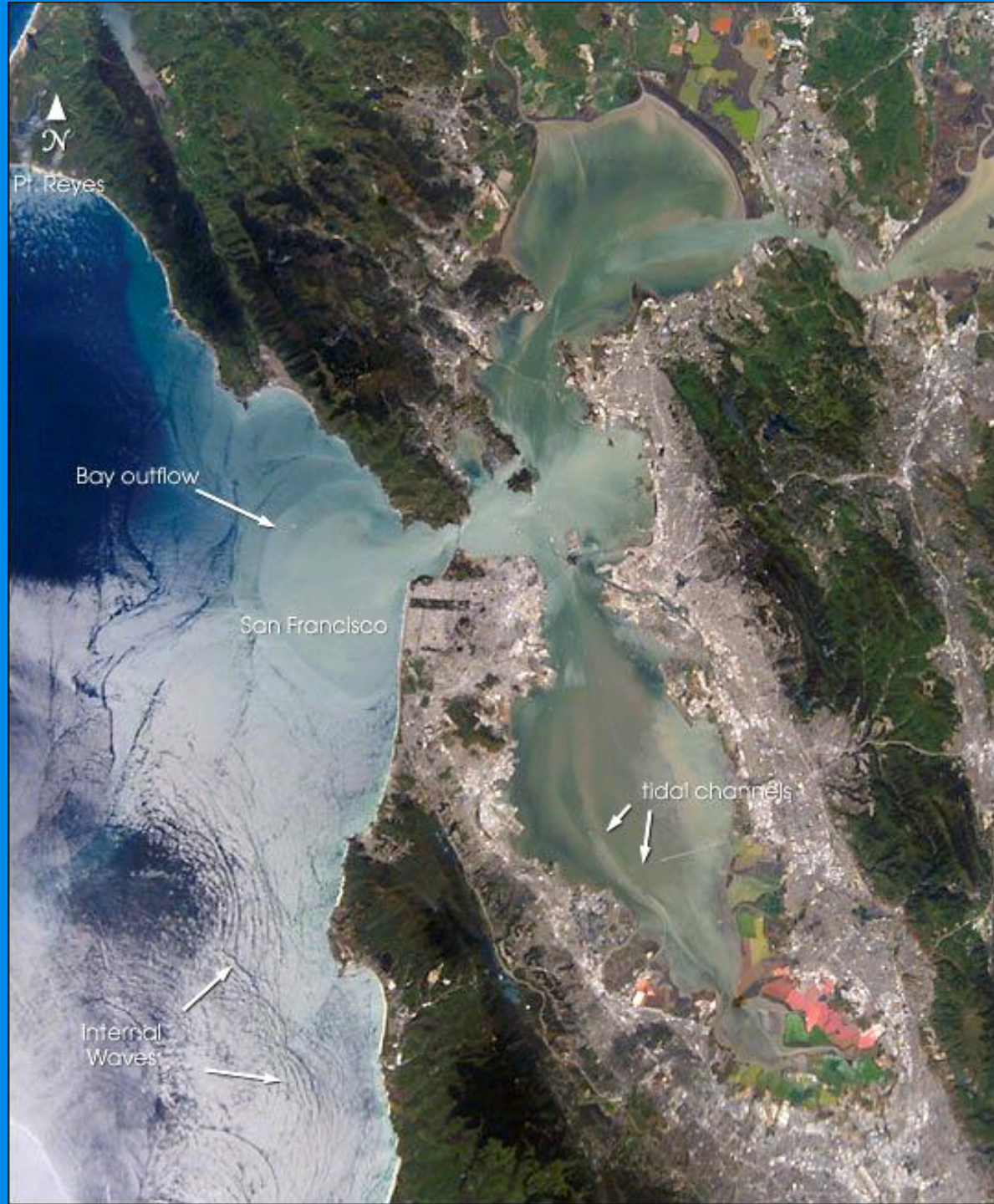


SAN FRANCISCO BAY

RESTORATION AUTHORITY

The Restoration Authority and Measure AA: History and Accomplishments

Governing Board Meeting
February 28, 2025



Pt. Reyes

Bay outflow

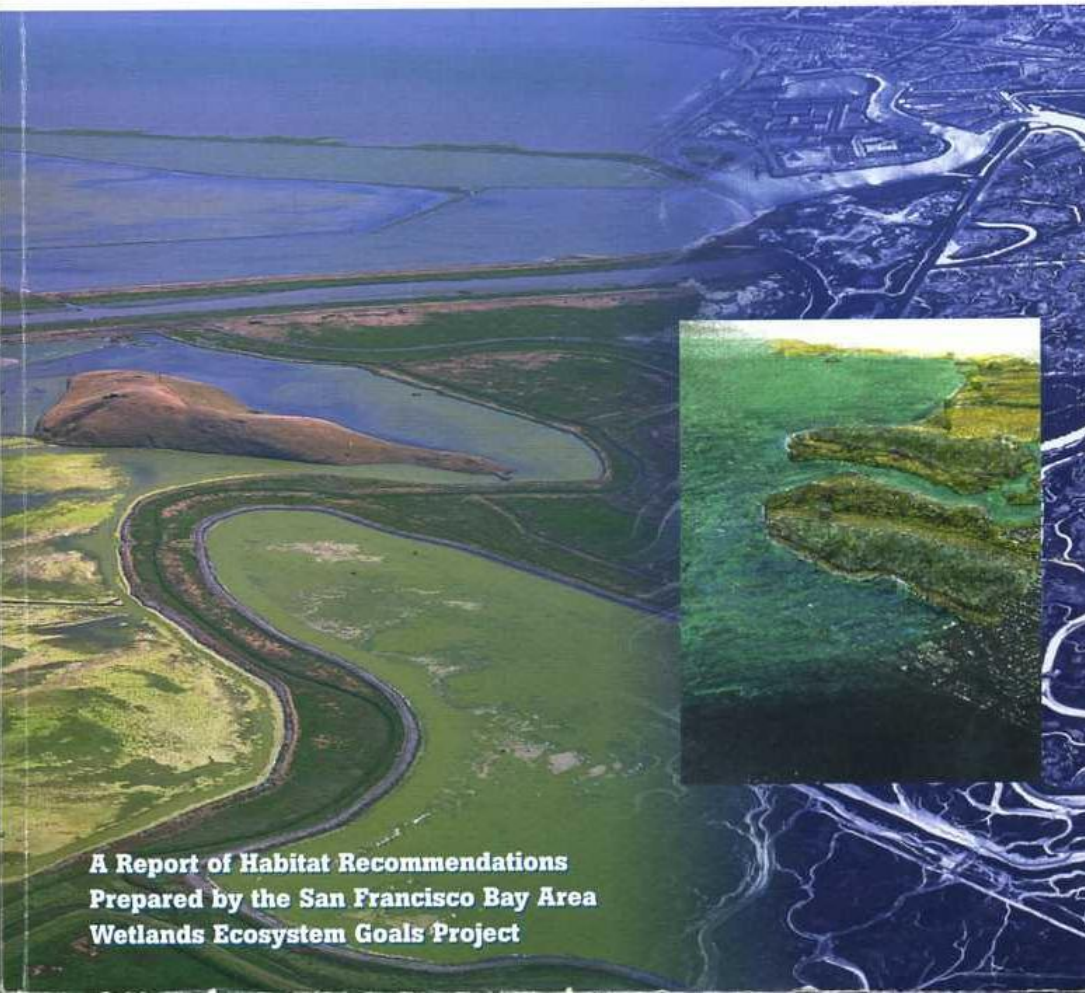
San Francisco

tidal channels

Internal
Waves

Baylands Ecosystem

Habitat Goals



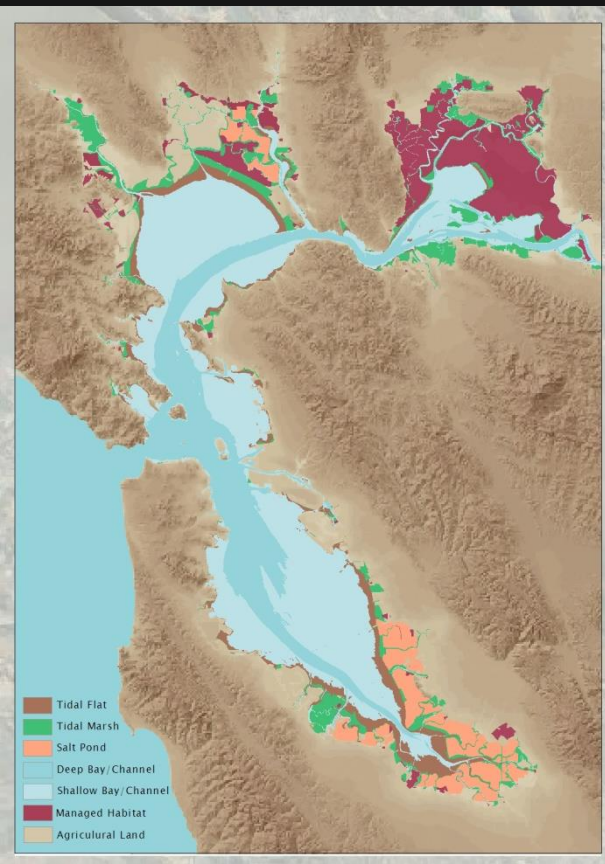
**A Report of Habitat Recommendations
Prepared by the San Francisco Bay Area
Wetlands Ecosystem Goals Project**



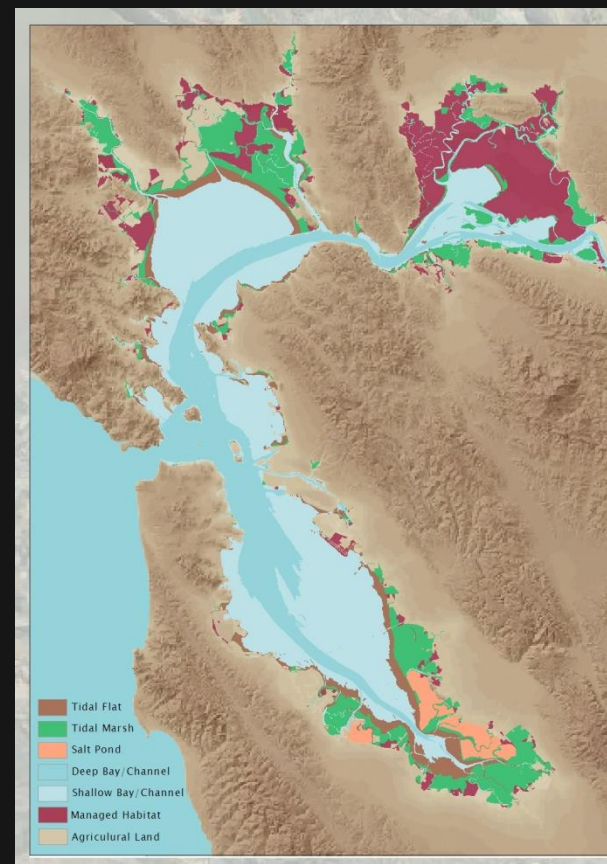
Wetland Loss and Restoration



Past (~1850)



Present (~2000)



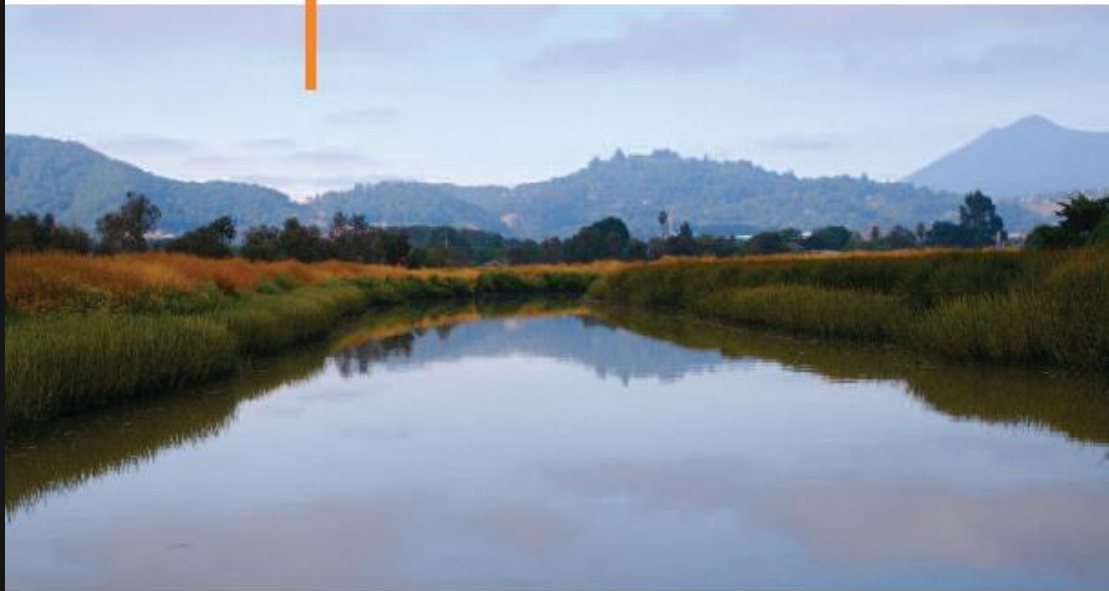
Future (~2030)

2003: South Bay Salt Ponds Acquisition Adds 16,000 Acres of Wetlands Restoration Opportunities



GREENING THE BAY

FINANCING WETLAND RESTORATION
IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY



SAVE THE BAY

2007

APPENDIX A

Completing these planned restoration projects will nearly double the Bay's tidal marsh

Tidal Wetland Restoration Project	Investment to Date: \$370 Million				Funds Needed to Complete: \$1.43 Billion				
	Tidal Acres	Landowning Agency (Year Acquired)	Acquisition	Planning & Implementation	Planning	Implementation	Monitoring (10 years)	Operations & Maintenance (50 years)	Total Needed:
Montezuma Wetlands	1,876	Montezuma Wetlands, LLC (late 1980s)	\$4,450,000	\$44,500,000	\$0	\$100,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$110,000,000
Napa-Sonoma Marsh	10,000	CA Dept of Fish & Game (1994)	\$10,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$40,000,000	\$3,140,000	\$3,000,000	\$46,140,000
Cullinan Ranch	1,564	US Fish & Wildlife Service (1996)	\$6,000,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$12,000,000	\$500,000	\$9,500,000	\$22,000,000
Eden Landing	722	CA Dept of Fish & Game (1996)	\$12,500,000	\$1,600,000	\$0	\$3,300,000	\$625,000	\$1,500,000	\$5,425,000
Bair Island	1,400	US Fish & Wildlife Service (1999)	\$15,000,000	\$1,824,000	\$0	\$8,175,942	\$720,000	\$1,710,000	\$10,605,942
Pond A4	310	Santa Clara Valley Water District (2000)	\$5,890,000	n/a	n/a	\$1,550,000	\$465,000	n/a	\$2,015,000
Napa Plant Site	1,460	CA Dept of Fish & Game (2003)	part of SBSP	\$850,000	\$0	\$4,500,000	\$625,000	\$2,250,000	\$7,375,000
Hamilton Field/ Bel Marin Keys	2,434	CA Coastal Conservancy (2003)	\$16,000,000	\$25,500,000	\$0	\$165,800,000	\$6,500,000	\$4,430,000	\$176,730,000
Bahia	418	Marin Audubon Society (2003)	\$15,800,000	\$350,000	\$0	\$2,200,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$4,200,000
South Bay Salt Ponds	13,000	US Fish & Wildlife Service /CA Dept of Fish & Game (2003)	\$100,000,000	\$33,000,000	\$0	\$750,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$980,000,000
Dutch Slough	1,166	CA Dept of Water Resources (2003)	\$38,000,000	n/a	\$4,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$750,000	n/a	\$34,750,000
Sears Point	970	Sonoma Land Trust (2005)	\$17,000,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,380,000	\$15,700,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000	\$20,780,000
Pond A18	856	City of San Jose (2005)	\$13,500,000	n/a	n/a	\$4,280,000	\$1,284,000	n/a	\$5,564,000
TOTALS:	36,176	--	\$254,140,000	\$116,324,000	\$6,380,000	\$1,137,505,942	\$51,809,000	\$229,890,000	\$1,425,584,942

AB 2954 (Lieber) – 2008

San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

Mission

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.

Mandate

Propose to voters new public funding for Bay restoration

Provide grants for tidal marsh restoration projects and related public access and flood protection



Challenges for New Regional Funding

Where to tax?

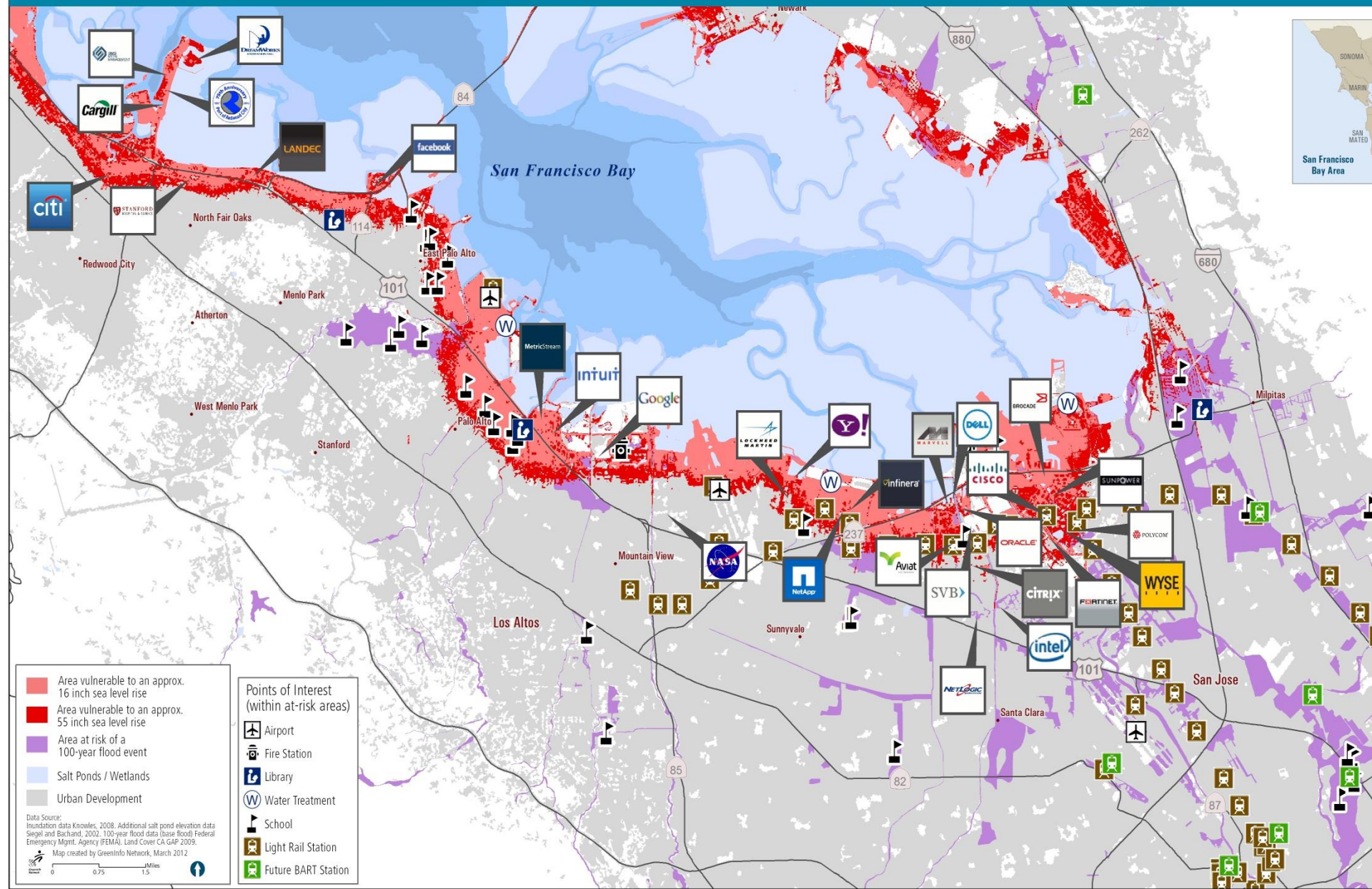
What kind of tax?

How much and how long?

Which projects are eligible?

When to propose to voters?

Economic Impact, San Francisco Bay Area



SURVIVING THE STORM

APRIL 20, 2015

SEAN RANDOLPH

Senior Director
Bay Area Council Economic Institute

#SurvivetheStorm

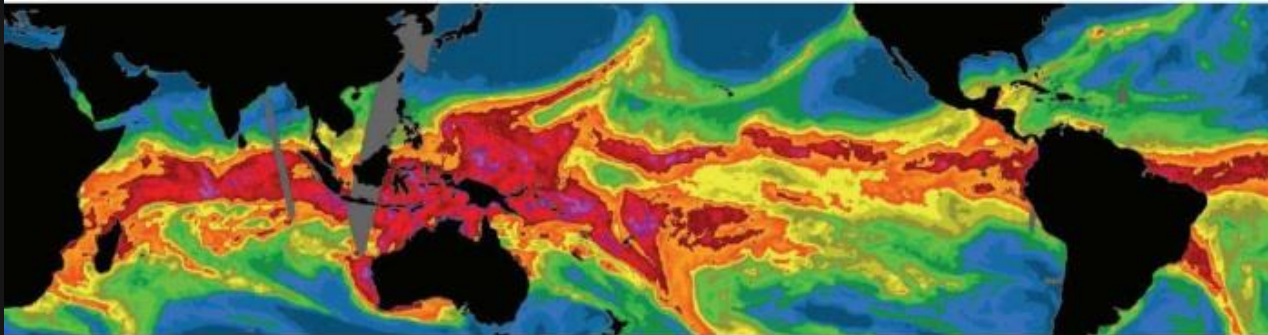


ATMOSPHERIC RIVERS: CALIFORNIA'S EXTREME STORM

Prolonged Precipitation

Strong Winds

Elevated Tides

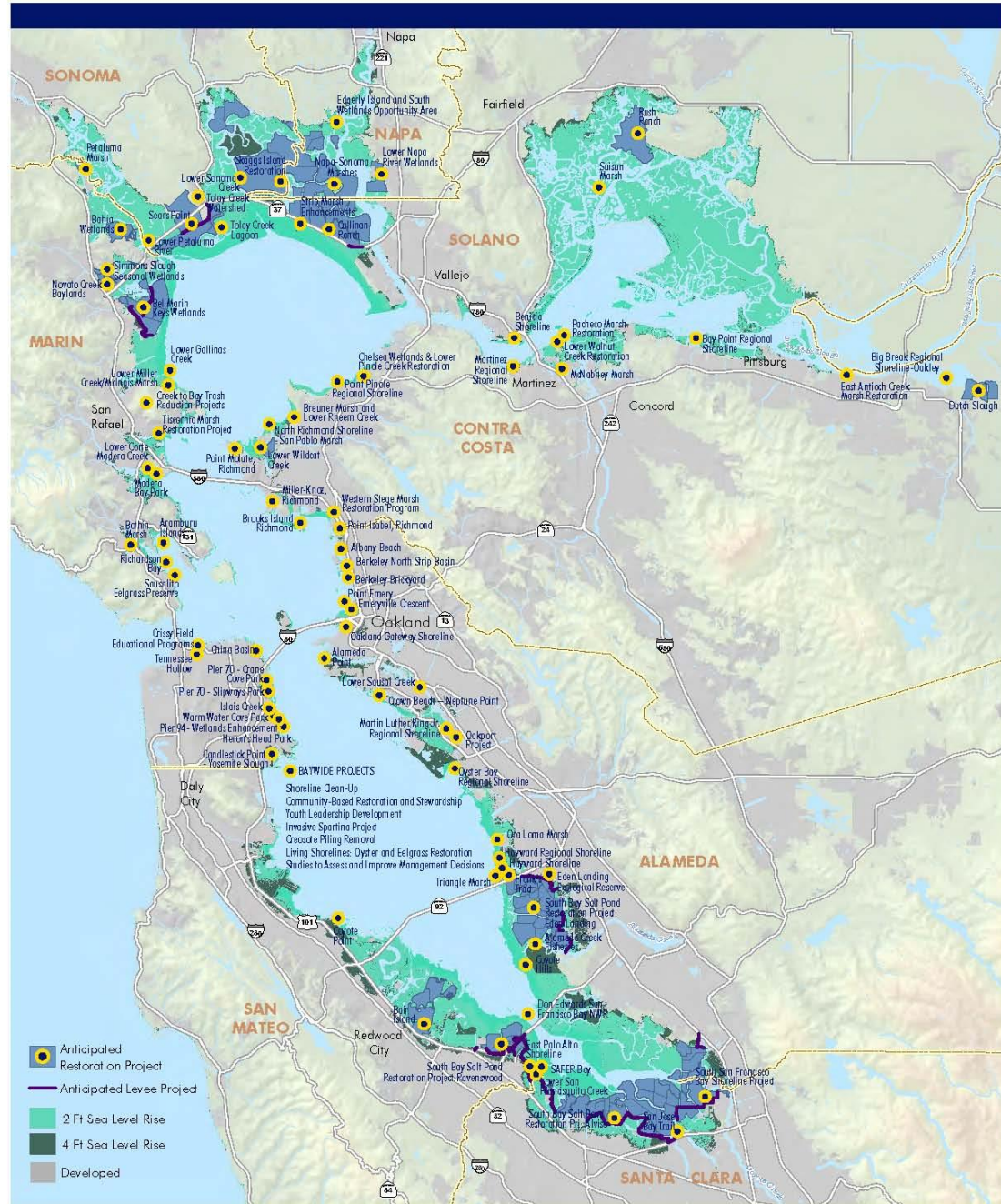


YES on AA



CLEAN AND HEALTHY BAY

- ✓ June 7, 2016 ballot in all nine Bay Area counties
- ✓ \$12 tax per parcel
- ✓ Raises \$500 mil. over 20 years for S.F. Bay restoration projects throughout the region

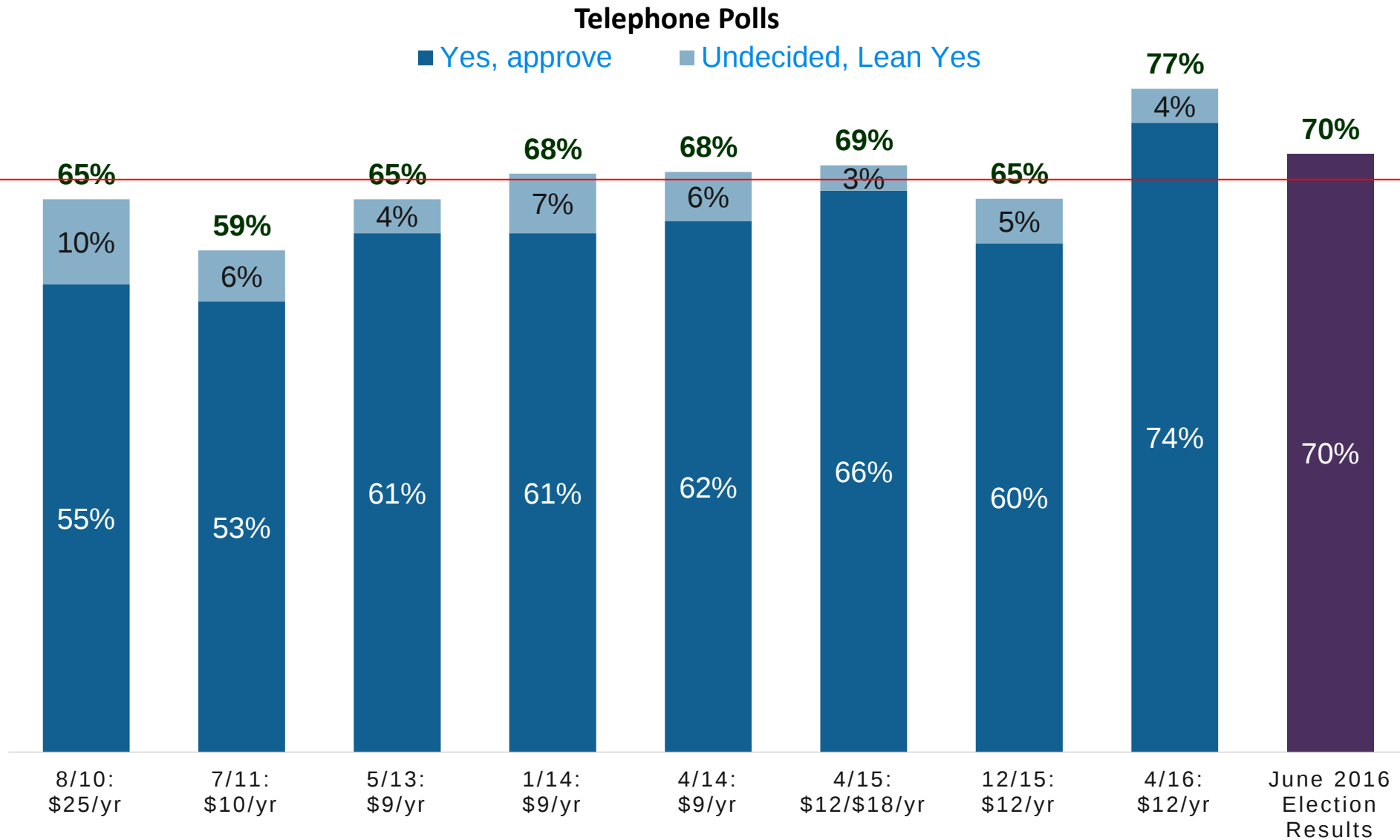


NOVEMBER 2015

Examples of Projects Anticipated to be Eligible for Restoration Authority Grants



Support for SFBRA Measure Over Time





YES on Measure AA



AA advertisement

Final Results and Turnout

	Votes	Percent
Yes	1,282,182	70.3%
No	541,190	29.7%
Total	1,823,372	100.0%

	Voters	Percent
Registration	3,703,804	100%
Voted	1,987,505	53.7%

- Measure AA required 2/3 support for passage; it was approved with over 70% of the vote, region-wide
- The margin of victory represents 199,802 votes
- 164,133 people cast a ballot in this election but did not vote on Measure AA

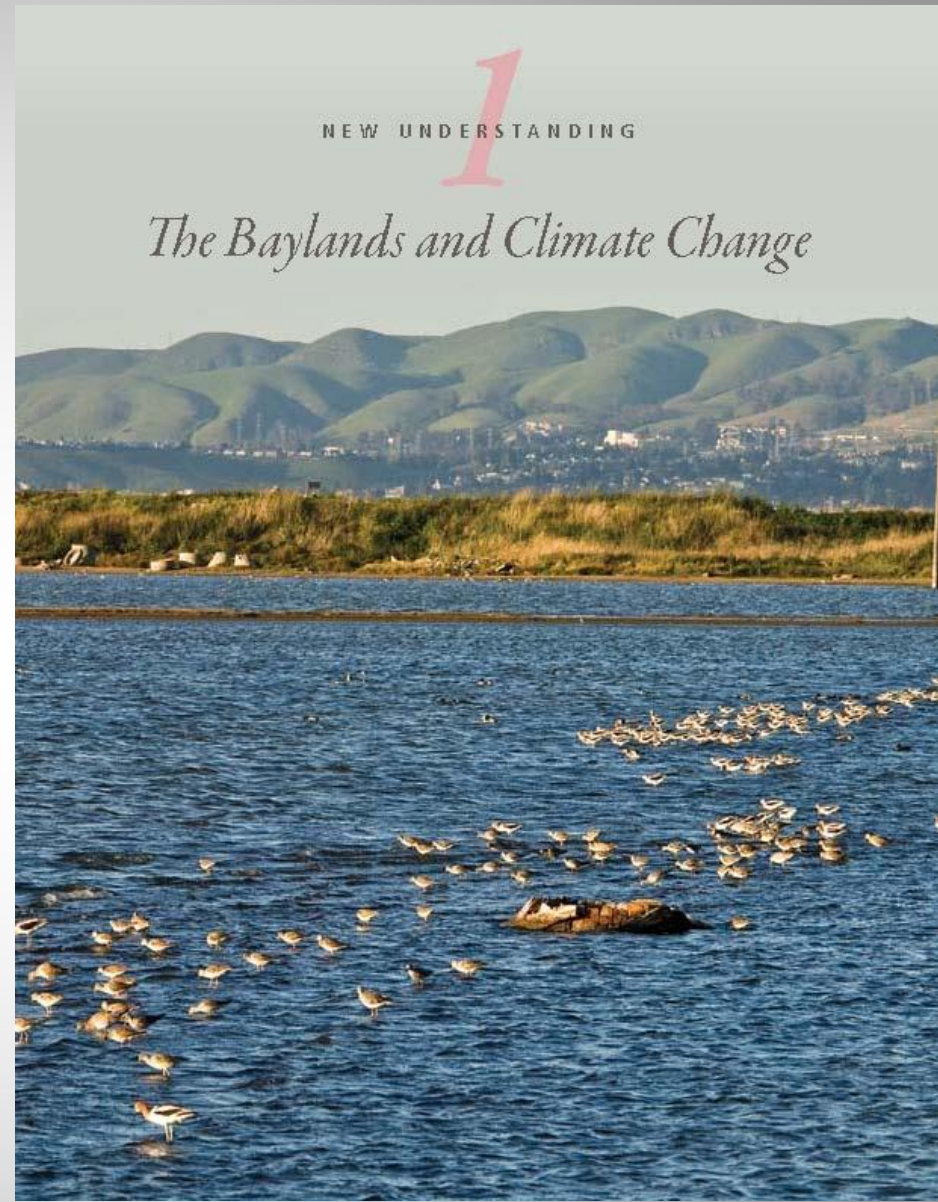
Top Lessons

- ✓ Voters love the Bay
- ✓ Ambitious, not greedy
- ✓ Good timing is essential
- ✓ Broad coalition support
- ✓ Minimize opposition
- ✓ Lean campaign operation and in-kind Support



100,000 Acres of Tidal Marsh for a Healthy S.F. Bay

- Start sooner to stay ahead of sea level rise
- Secure sufficient sediment for marsh accretion



What is the SF Bay Restoration Authority?

- Regional agency created by State legislature in 2008 to **fund shoreline projects that protect, restore, and enhance San Francisco Bay**
- Comprised of:
 - **Governing Board** of local elected officials
 - **Advisory Committee** representing community and public agencies
 - Independent **Oversight Committee** that provides annual review of Authority's work
 - **Staff** from state and regional agencies
- Measure AA (June 2016) generates ~\$25 million/year



SF Bay Restoration Authority Act

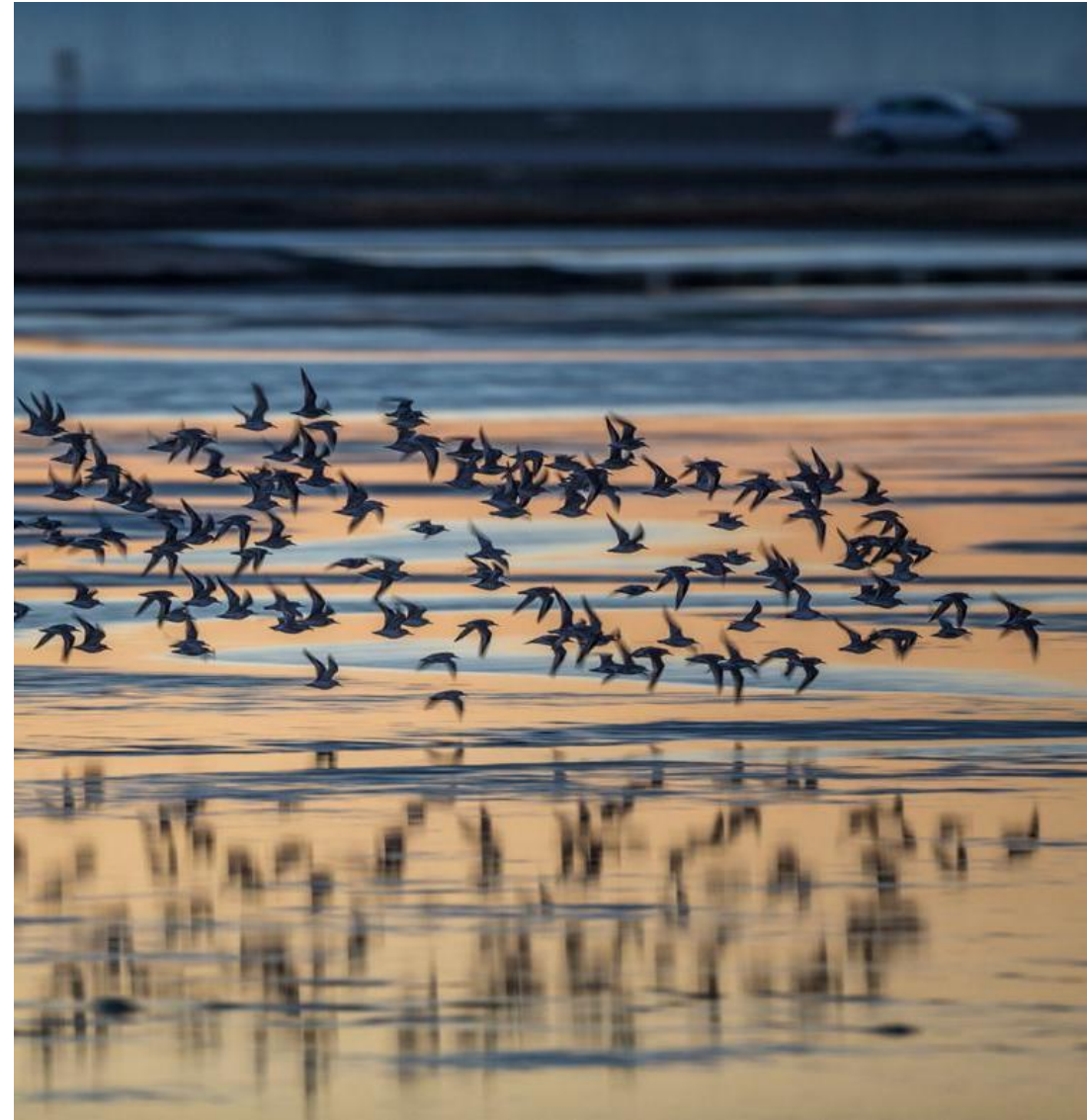
The Restoration Authority can fund:

- **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.



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

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.

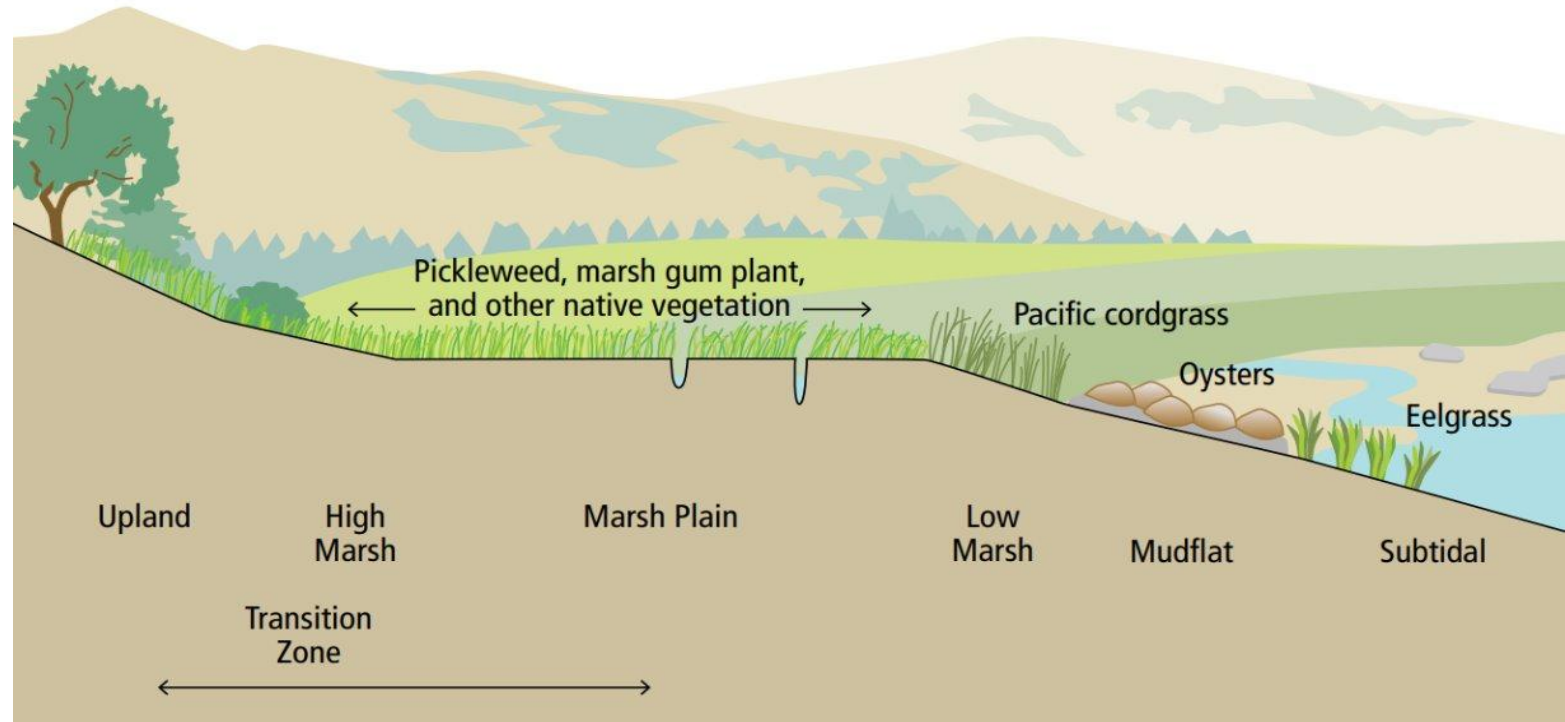


Image: Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Science Update 2015, p. 28

Measure AA Eligibility Criteria



- Safe, Clean Water and Pollution Prevention
- Fish, Bird and Wildlife Habitat
- Natural Flood Protection
- Shoreline Public Access



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: Fish, Bird and Wildlife Habitat

- **Enhance** the SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge, shoreline parks and open space preserves and other **public lands** for **expanded habitat**
- **Protect and restore wetlands and other Bay and shoreline habitats** to benefit wildlife including shorebirds, waterfowl, fish



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: 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**



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY



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
- Benefit region's economy
- Engage youth and young adults
- Incorporate monitoring, maintenance and stewardship
- Meet selection criteria of Coastal Conservancy, BCDC, and SF Bay Joint Venture



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
 - Delta Primary Zone not eligible



Photo: Literacy for Environmental Justice

Eligible Project Phases

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



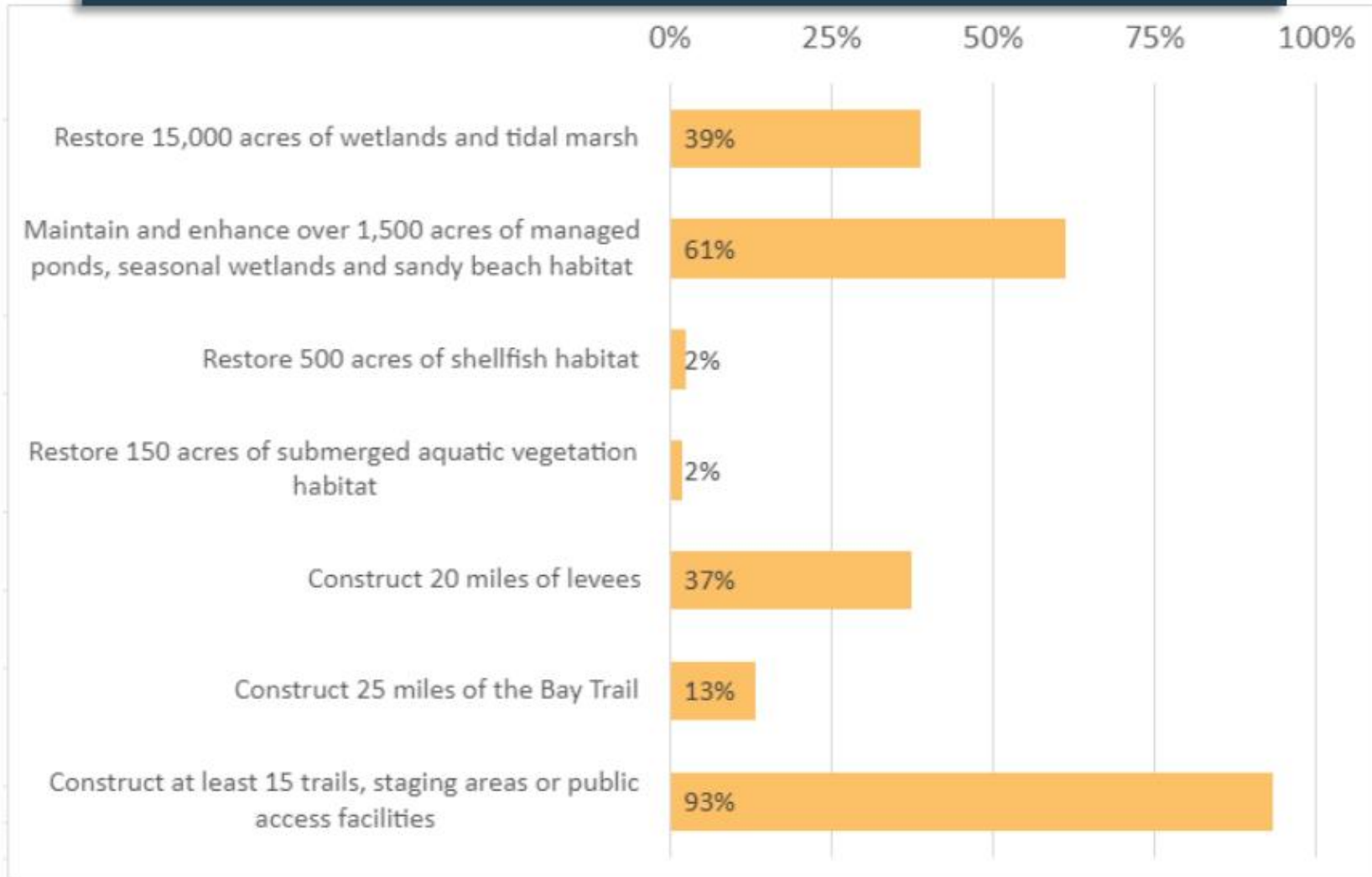
Levee breach at South Bay Salt Ponds.
Photo: South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project

Projects Funded

- 41 projects funded to date
 - 33 Active Projects (4 Community Grants)
 - 8 Completed Projects (2 Community Grants)
- Approximately **\$164,000,000** authorized for projects
- Leveraged by over \$244m from local, state, federal and other funding
- Projects funded in each of the Bay Area's nine counties



PROGRESS TOWARDS MEASURE AA CAMPAIGN GOALS



Required Distribution of Funds

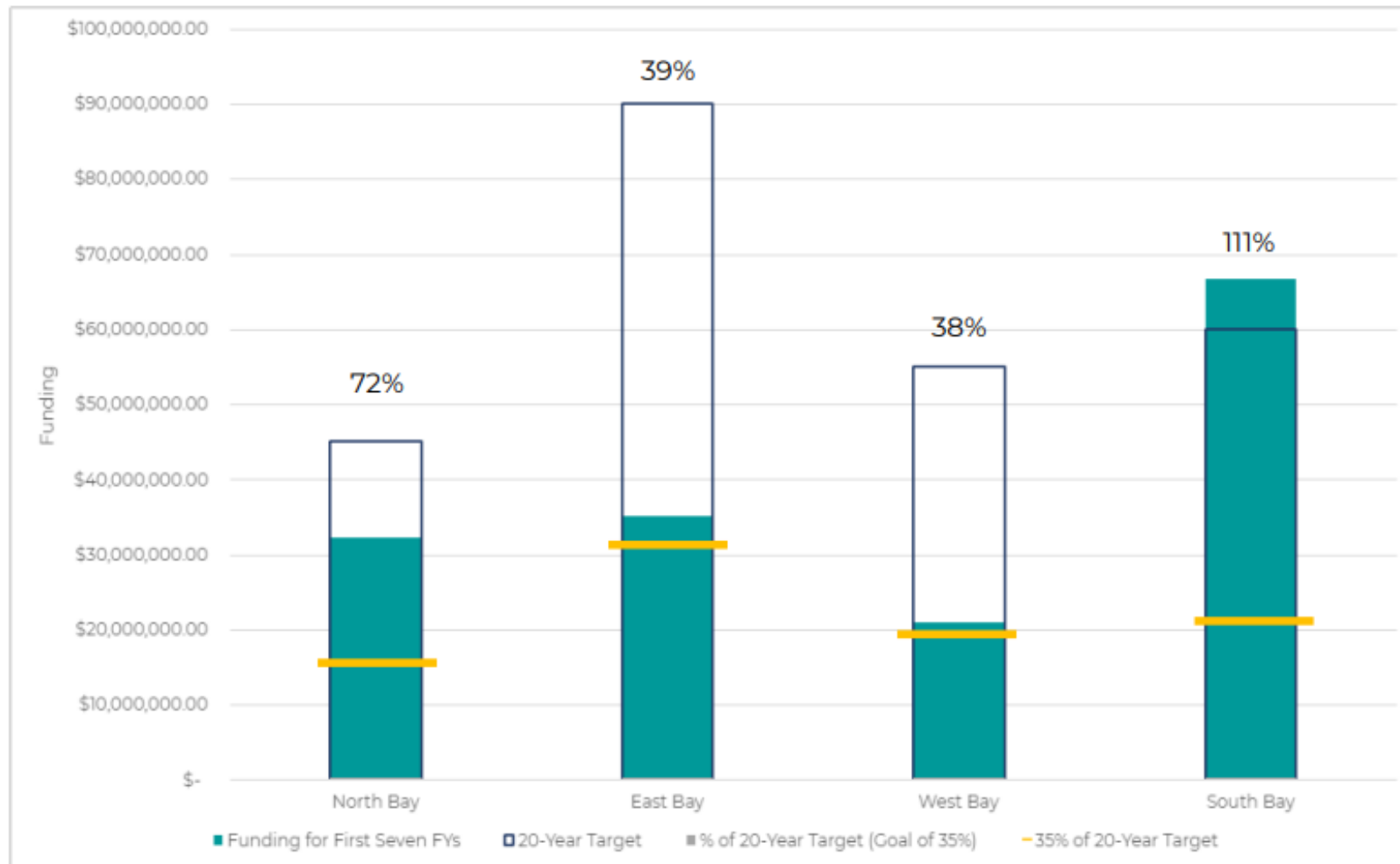
Region	Counties	Percentage
North Bay	Sonoma, Marin, Napa & Solano	9%
East Bay	Contra Costa & Alameda	18%
West Bay	San Francisco & San Mateo	11%
South Bay	Santa Clara	12%
Baywide	All 9 Counties	50%



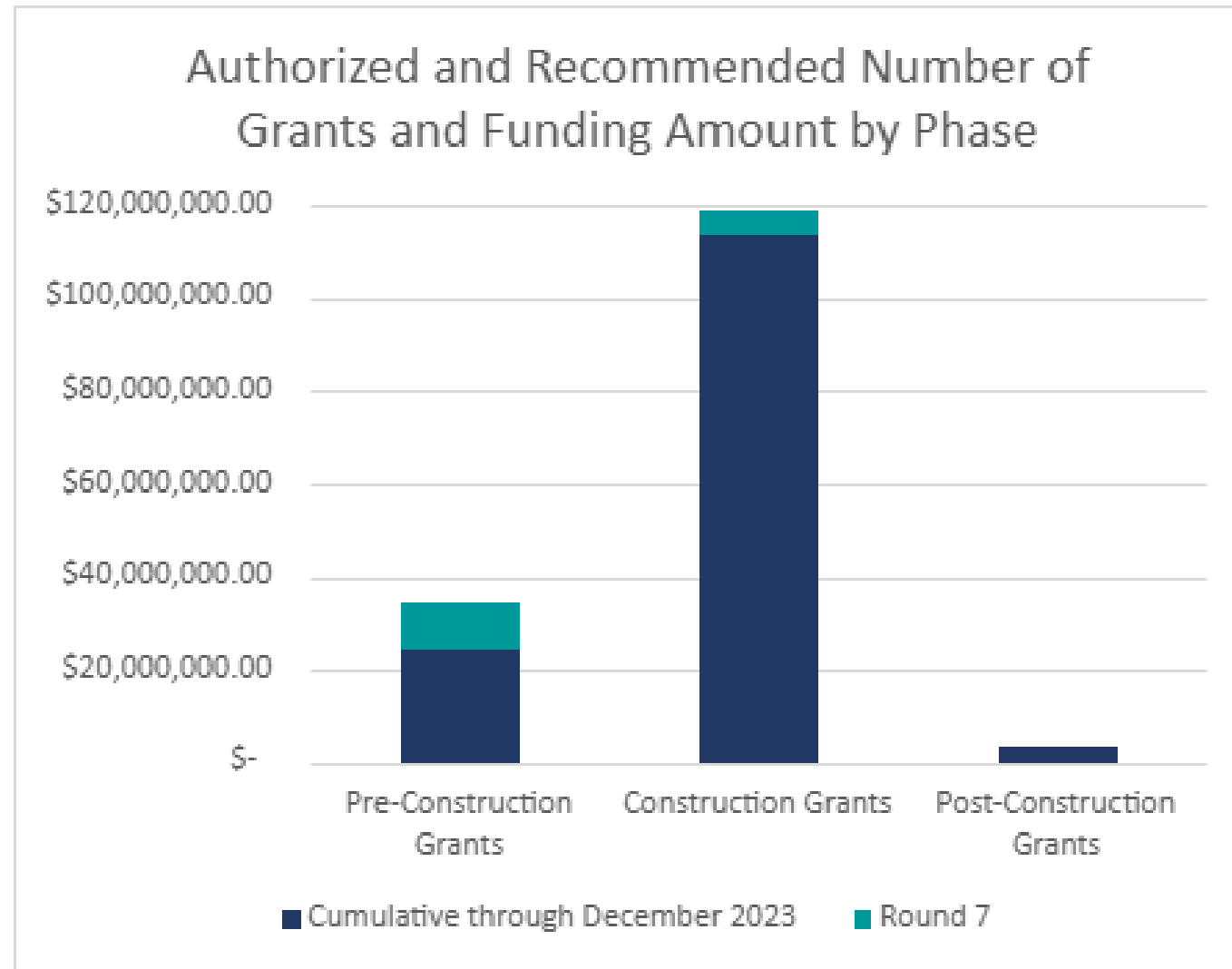
Based on 2010 Census

AUTHORIZED FUNDING THROUGH FY 2023-2024 COMPARED TO MEASURE AA 20-YEAR TARGET

Progress is shown compared to % expected at 7-year-mark (35%)



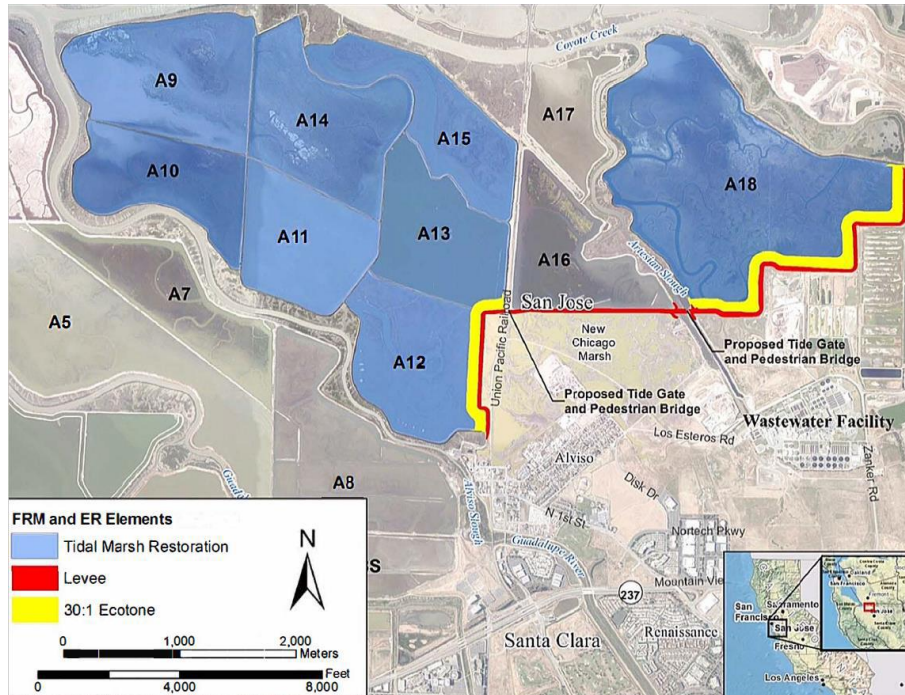
Projects by Phase



Examples of Authority Grants

South Bay Shoreline Project

Two grants to Valley Water
\$61m for construction



Tiscornia Marsh Restoration and Sea Level Rise Adaptation Project

Two grants to Marin Audubon Society
\$4.5m for planning and construction

Both include:

- Habitat restoration
- Flood protection
- Public access
- Benefits to economically disadvantaged communities



Examples of Authority Grants

Heron's Head Park Shoreline Resilience Project

Two grants to the Port of San Francisco
\$1.1m for implementation and monitoring



<https://www.leiyouth.org/index.php/eco-apprentices/>

Hiring and training local young adults in bay ecology and hands-on conservation and conducting post-construction monitoring

Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project

\$10.9m to Contra Costa County for implementation



<https://www.sfbayrestore.org/projects/lower-walnut-creek-restoration-project>

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



Prioritizing Equity and Community Engagement

- Adopted Resolution 70: “The Equity Recommendations”
- Updated Grant Program Materials and Processes
- Created a Community Grants Program
- Supporting New Partnerships
- Changing Funding Policies and Approaches to Lower Barriers to Community Participation



Community Grants Program

- Fund **projects led by community-based organizations** in economically disadvantaged communities (EDCs)
 - Community visioning
 - Training and education
 - Relationship building
 - Implementation of shoreline habitat projects



Oakland Shoreline Leadership Academy hosted by WOEIP

Example of Community Grant

Candlestick Point Stewardship Project - Literacy for Environmental Justice

- \$100,000 for Phase 1
- \$200,000 for Phase 2
- Accomplishments for Phase 1:
 - Planted 6,500 native plants
 - Cleaned up trash
 - Provided paid job training to 12 Eco-Apprentices
 - Engaged more than 300 community members in stewardship



View <https://www.sfbayrestore.org/projects> for list of all funded projects

Project Benefits To EDCs

More project highlights in Annual Report

- Community led or strong community partnership
- Community driven priorities and project development
- Paid community workforce development and leadership academies
- Stewardship programs

Phase 1 of [Restoring Wetland-Upland Transition Habitat in the North Bay with STRAW](#) restored 13 miles of critical habitat and engaged over 5,000 students, teachers, and their families. Approximately 40% of the schools Point Blue partners with are in low-income communities. The projects also trained college interns in climate-smart conservation principles. Phase 2 will offer early career training and workforce development that focuses on historically underserved communities.



The [North Richmond Shoreline Living Levee Project](#) aims to provide critical flood protection and sea level rise adaptation through a 0.65-mile section of living levee and 7 acres of tidal marsh. Driven by the community, this project demonstrates an example of a highly collaborative, multi-benefit restoration project.



Completed by the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP), the [Oakland Shoreline Leadership Academy](#) recruited residents of EDCs living on or near the shoreline in Oakland. This 6-month program allowed participants to explore the intersection of environmental and social community needs to actively participate in a community-led shoreline habitat restoration planning process.



The Port of San Francisco partnered with Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ), a non-profit environmental education and youth empowerment organization, to hire "Eco-Apprentices" from low-income backgrounds with a passion for conservation to restore and enhance wetlands along the Bayview-Hunters Point community's shoreline for Phase 1 of the [Heron's Head Shoreline Resilience Project](#).



The [Sacred Spaces Planning Project](#), facilitated by Ninth Root, will plan for habitat and public access enhancements at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline in Oakland. Ninth Root aims to create naturally restored, climate adaptive, spiritual and mental health-oriented wellness zones.

Led by Planting Justice, the [Bay Restoration Youth Engagement and Service Learning Project](#) in East Oakland developed workshops for youth interns on environmental justice issues and habitat restoration techniques in addition to leading shoreline cleanups and other restoration-related activities at the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline. With support from the [Sogorea Te' Land Trust](#), an urban indigenous women-led organization, workshop topics included land [reconstitution](#), Bay Area Native American history, and local environmental justice issues.

Through a Community Task Force, partnerships with local Community Based Organizations and the development of an Equitable Development Plan, residents of the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood have been actively involved in the planning and design process of the [500 Innes Remediation Project](#).



The [SAFER Bay Planning Project](#) will lead to coastal flood protection for communities in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park. Building on ongoing outreach to local communities conducted by two Community Based Organizations (Nuestra Casa and Climate Resilient Communities), this project will benefit local residents by reducing flood risk and associated flood insurance requirements while increasing access to natural areas providing physical and mental health benefits for community members.

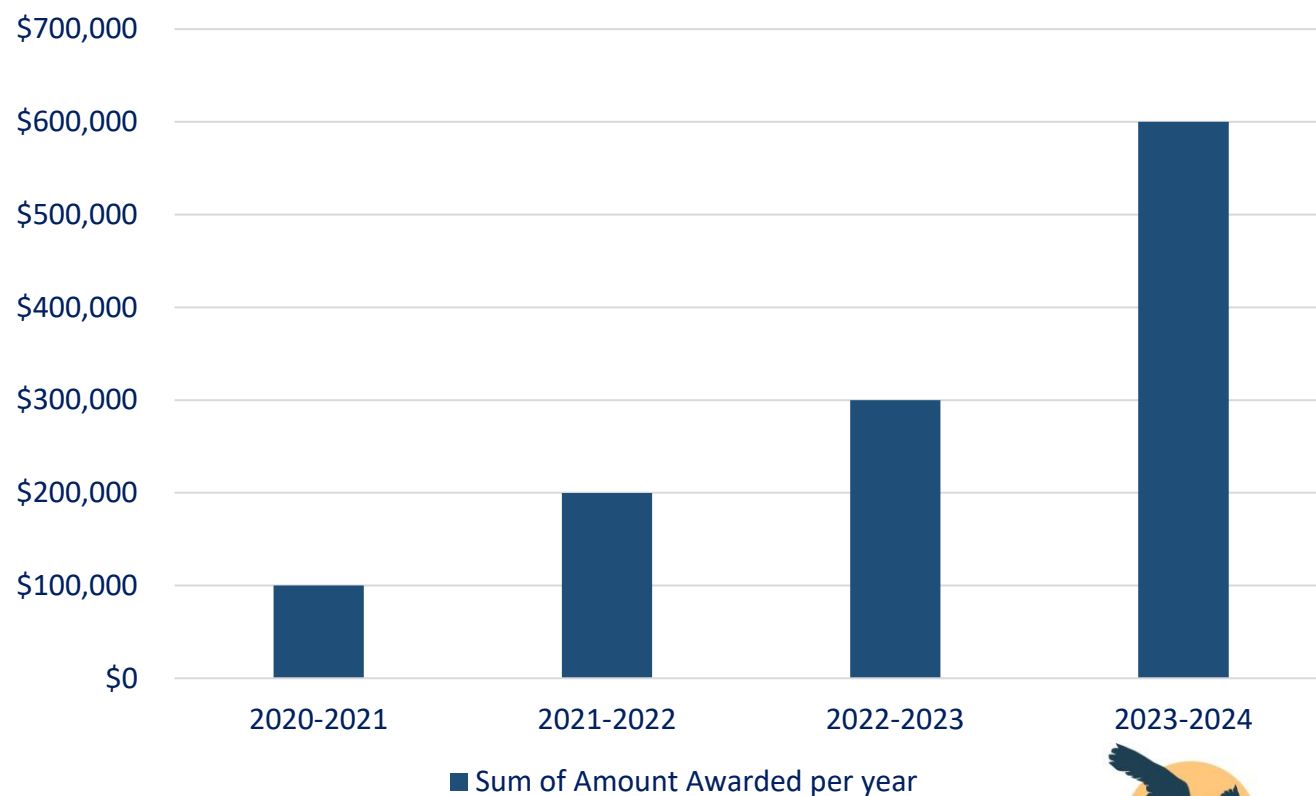


The [Baylands Habitat Restoration and Community Engagement Project](#) hires local youth as paid restoration interns and utilizes partnerships between Grassroots Ecology and Climate Resilient Communities to engage and empower local communities in East Palo Alto where the population consists largely of working-class people of color.



Community Grants Program Funding

Growth of Community Grants Program



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
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Grantee	Fiscal Year	Amount
Marin City Climate Resilience + Health Justice	2020-2021	\$100,000
Literacy for Environmental Justice	2021-2022	\$100,000
Planting Justice	2021-2022	\$99,713
Brower Dellums	2022-2023	\$100,000
Literacy for Environmental Justice	2022-2023	\$200,000
Ninth Root	2023-2024	\$300,000
Mycelium Youth Network	2023-2024	\$300,000

Total funded to date: \$1,099,713

Equity Guidelines

1. Representation
2. Outreach and Partnerships
3. Applications and Grants
4. Meaningful Engagement
5. Project Benefits
6. Accountability and Transparency



East Oakland CBO outreach session, August 2023

Equity Guidelines adopted at
May 3, 2024 Board Meeting



Tribal Engagement Recommendations

1. Representation
2. Outreach and Partnerships
3. Applications and Grants
4. Meaningful Engagement
5. Project Benefits
6. Accountability and Transparency



Tribal Engagement Recommendations
adopted at May 3, 2024 Board
Meeting





SAN FRANCISCO BAY

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www.sfbayrestore.org