



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
RESTORATION AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 5, 2023

TO: Governing Board
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

FROM: Amy Hutzal, Executive Officer
San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority

SUBJECT: Report on Expenditures and Letters under Delegated Authority

Background

In Resolution No. 28, the Governing Board delegated to the Executive Officer the authority to take specific financial actions as necessary and appropriate to the operations of the Authority. These include, but are not limited to:

1. Executing contracts for technical and other services needed to implement Authority programs and costing no more than \$50,000; and
2. Augmenting funds for Authority-authorized expenditures, including grant agreements, by up to 15%, not to exceed \$100,000.

In Resolution 104, the Governing Board delegated to the Chair or Executive Officer the authority to take the following additional actions as necessary or appropriate for operations of the Authority, consistent with applicable law and the policies of the Authority, without further, specific Authority authorization:

1. Sign comment letters and position papers of the State Route 37-Baylands Group.
2. Sign letters of support for federal funding for San Francisco Bay restoration and enhancement.
3. Sign letters of support for additional funding from other sources for Authority-funded projects.

Expenditures

Pursuant to delegated authority, during the period January 1, 2023-March 31, 2023, the Executive Officer approved the following:

- A contract for \$30,000 with NBC for one episode of the Open Road television show, which will mark five years of grantmaking by the Authority and feature updates on Authority projects.
- A contract for \$7,000 with Identafire Design LLC for layout and design of the Authority's FY21/22 Annual Report.
- An application fee of \$35 to Santa Rosa Junior College for use of a meeting room as a publicly available and ADA accessible location for those attending Advisory Committee meetings remotely from the North Bay.
- Three filing fees under the California Environmental Quality Act totaling \$175.00.

Letters

Pursuant to delegated authority, during the period January 1, 2023-March 31, 2023, the Chair signed the following letters (see Attachment 1):

- Letter to Congressman Jared Huffman, U.S. House of Representatives, supporting an appropriation of **\$75 million in federal Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 24) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the San Francisco Bay Geographic Program** and an appropriation of **\$500,000 to the US Army Corps of Engineers in FY 24 for the Bel Marin Keys portion of the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project** in Marin County.
- Letter to Senators Dianne Feinstein and Alex Padilla supporting the appropriations listed above and an appropriation of **\$1.2 million for deferred maintenance and adaptive management actions at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.**



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Governing Board

Sup. Dave Pine
Chair
County of San Mateo

Sup. John Gioia
County of Contra Costa

Sup. Susan Gorin
County of Sonoma

Councilmember Sophie Hahn
City of Berkeley

Director, Karen Holman
Midpeninsula Regional Open
Space District Board

Sup. Aaron Peskin
City & County of SF

Amy Hutzel
Executive Officer

Address:

c/o State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Telephone: 510-286-7193

Email: info@sfbayrestore.org

Web: www.sfbayrestore.org

March 8, 2023

The Honorable Jared Huffman
2445 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Huffman:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, a regional agency charged with supporting restoration of San Francisco Bay habitats, I am writing in support of FY 2024 appropriations requests to restore and manage wetland habitats in San Francisco Bay. San Francisco Bay is the largest estuary on the West Coast of the United States, habitat for endangered species and migratory birds, an economic engine for the region, and home to well over 7 million people. Federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and businesses are engaged in the restoration of tens of thousands of acres of wetlands in San Francisco Bay, which provide wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and provide flood protection. Over 72% of Bay Area voters approved Measure AA in 2016, demonstrating the level of support for San Francisco Bay. This funding, administered by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, will provide \$500 million over twenty years in local funding to leverage federal and state funding.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority supports an appropriation of **\$75 million in FY 24 to the US Environmental Protection Agency for the San Francisco Bay Geographic Program**. San Francisco Bay has been underfunded when compared to other geographic programs across the country, including Puget Sound, Chesapeake Bay, and the Great Lakes. Funds appropriated for the US EPA's San Francisco Bay Program support wetlands restoration and water quality improvement projects and are leveraged by state and local dollars, including the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority's Measure AA funds.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority supports an appropriation of **\$500,000 to the US Army Corps of Engineers in FY 24 for the Bel Marin Keys portion of the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project in Marin County**. FY 24 funding will allow the Corps to participate in project design activities. The first phase of the Hamilton

Attachment 1

Wetlands Restoration Project resulted in conversion of the runway at this former military base into one square mile of restored wetland habitat. Phase two of the project is restoration at the adjacent Bel Marin Keys site. The State Coastal Conservancy has completed construction of a levee at Bel Marin Keys as part of their non-federal contribution, in order to prepare the site for dredged sediment delivery. The Corps' focus will be on delivery of dredged sediment from San Francisco Bay to the restoration site. When completed, the Project will restore nearly 2,600 acres of wetlands and beneficially use millions of cubic yards of dredged material.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Dave Pine

Supervisor Dave Pine
Chair, San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority



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Telephone: 510-286-7193

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Web: www.sfbayrestore.org

March 8, 2023

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Alex Padilla
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, a regional agency charged with supporting restoration of San Francisco Bay habitats, I am writing in support of FY 2024 appropriations requests to restore and manage wetland habitats in San Francisco Bay. San Francisco Bay is the largest estuary on the West Coast of the United States, habitat for endangered species and migratory birds, an economic engine for the region, and home to well over 7 million people. Federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and businesses are engaged in the restoration of tens of thousands of acres of wetlands in San Francisco Bay, which provide wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and provide flood protection. Over 72% of Bay Area voters approved Measure AA in 2016, demonstrating the level of support for San Francisco Bay. This funding, administered by the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, will provide \$500 million over twenty years in local funding to leverage federal and state funding.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority supports an appropriation of **\$75 million in FY 24 to the US Environmental Protection Agency for the San Francisco Bay Geographic Program**. San Francisco Bay has been underfunded when compared to other geographic programs across the country, including Puget Sound, Chesapeake Bay, and the Great Lakes. Funds appropriated for the US EPA's San Francisco Bay Program support wetlands restoration and water quality improvement projects and are leveraged by state and local dollars, including the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority's Measure AA funds.

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority supports an appropriation of **\$500,000 to the US Army Corps of Engineers in FY 24 for the Bel Marin Keys portion of the Hamilton Wetlands Restoration Project in Marin County**. FY 24 funding will allow the Corps to participate in project design activities. The first phase of the Hamilton

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Wetlands Restoration Project resulted in conversion of the runway at this former military base into one square mile of restored wetland habitat. Phase two of the project is restoration at the adjacent Bel Marin Keys site. The State Coastal Conservancy has completed construction of a levee at Bel Marin Keys as part of their non-federal contribution, in order to prepare the site for dredged sediment delivery. The Corps' focus will be on delivery of dredged sediment from San Francisco Bay to the restoration site. When completed, the Project will restore nearly 2,600 acres of wetlands and beneficially use millions of cubic yards of dredged material.

Finally, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority supports an appropriation of **\$1.2 million for deferred maintenance and adaptive management actions at Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge**. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is responsible for maintaining more than 70 miles of levees and 55 water control structures, which serves as flood protection for the shoreline of three highly urbanized counties: San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Alameda. With \$19.4 million provided in previous fiscal years, the Refuge is making critical repairs of levees and replacement of water control structures needed to protect Silicon Valley infrastructure from flooding and for habitat restoration.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

Dave Pine

Supervisor Dave Pine
Chair, San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority