



Measure AA - Funding Shoreline Restoration for the San Francisco Bay

The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority is responsible for allocating funds raised by Measure AA, the 2016 San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention and Habitat Restoration Measure.

Each year, the Authority has about \$25 million in grant funding available for projects that protect and restore San Francisco Bay by: reducing trash, pollution and harmful toxins; improving water quality; restoring habitat for fish, birds, and wildlife; protecting communities from floods; and increasing shoreline public access and recreational areas.

The Authority prioritizes projects that provide benefits, such as shoreline parks and trails and flood protection, to economically disadvantaged communities, and that give communities a seat at the table in the development and implementation of these kinds of projects.

Competitive Grants

Applying for Funding

Most Measure AA funds are awarded through annual competitive grant rounds. This process requires submission of a full application and favors organizations with a strong track record in developing and implementing shoreline habitat projects.

There is no minimum or maximum funding amount. Match funding is not required.

Who can apply?

Eligible grantees are federal, state, and local agencies; tribal governments; nonprofit organizations; and owners or operators of shoreline parcels in the San Francisco Bay Area, excluding the Delta primary zone.

What projects are eligible?

To be eligible for funding, projects must qualify as one or more of the following project types:

1. A habitat project that aims to restore, protect, or enhance tidal wetlands, managed ponds, or natural habitats on the shoreline in the San Francisco Bay Area.
2. A flood management project that is part of a habitat project.
3. A public access project that will provide or improve access or recreational amenities that are part of a habitat project.

Projects must be located within the nine Bay Area counties along the shorelines of San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, Carquinez Strait, Suisun Bay, and most of the Northern Contra Costa County Shoreline to the edge of, but not including, the Delta Primary Zone.

How are projects selected?

Eligible projects will be evaluated by a minimum of three professionals with relevant expertise on the depth and breadth with which they achieve the following priorities:

- Have the greatest positive impact on the Bay as a whole, in terms of clean water, wildlife habitat and beneficial use to Bay Area residents.
- Have the greatest long-term impact on the Bay, to benefit future generations.
- Provide for geographic distribution across the region and ensure that there are projects funded in each of the nine counties in the San Francisco Bay Area over the life of Measure AA.
- Increase impact value by leveraging state and federal resources and public/private partnerships.
- Benefit economically disadvantaged communities.
- Benefit the region's economy, including local workforce development, employment opportunities for Bay Area residents, and nature-based flood protection for critical infrastructure and existing shoreline communities.
- Work with local organizations and businesses to engage youth and young adults and assist them in gaining skills related to natural resource protection.
- Incorporate monitoring, maintenance and stewardship to develop the most efficient and effective strategies for restoration and achievement of intended benefits.
- Meet the selection criteria of the Coastal Conservancy's San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program and are consistent with the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's coastal management program and with the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture's implementation strategy.

Community Grants

The Community Grants Program provides an alternative application pathway to getting a grant, with a shorter application form and increased staff support for projects led by community-based organizations in economically disadvantaged communities.

Projects funded through the Community Grants Program should fulfill Measure AA criteria and support community visioning, implement small shoreline habitat projects with strong community benefits, train community leaders, and/or empower communities to have a voice in the design and implementation of large shoreline restoration projects.

The maximum award for these grants is \$200,000.

Get in Touch

To learn more about the Authority and Measure AA grants, visit our website at sfbayrestore.org and get in touch with us at info@sfbayrestore.org