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For Immediate Release

TOGETHER Bay Area Coalition of 67 Conservation Organizations Unveils More Than 115 Regional Projects Ready to Meet California’s “30x30” Mandate

\$700M in Funding Needed for Bay Area to Meet Goals of Conserving Biodiversity, Building Climate Resiliency and Creating Equitable Access to Outdoors

BERKELEY, Calif. (April 19, 2022) – Today, [TOGETHER Bay Area](#), a regional coalition of 67 nonprofits, public agencies and Indigenous Tribes, released a list of 117 projects throughout the Bay Area that are ready to meet [Governor Newsom’s “30x30” mandate](#) to conserve 30% of the state’s lands and coastal waters by 2030.

These projects span the 10-county Bay Area, would generate 14,000 new jobs in the next three to five years and encompass work at every scale – from the transfer, acquisition and restoration of thousands of acres of open space to Indigenous repatriation efforts in urban centers to hyperlocal BIPOC community engagement programs.



Cloverdale Ranch (San Mateo County). Photo: Teddy Miller/POST

In total, **the Bay Area projects represent a needed investment of \$700 million to meet 30x30’s three principal goals** of conserving biodiversity, building climate resilience and expanding equitable access to the outdoors. Specifically, the projects address wildfire resilience, drought impacts, flood risk mitigation, watershed protection, creek restoration, wildlife habitat and connections, working lands, local and regional park expansion and creation, tribal engagement and outdoor access opportunities for traditionally underserved communities throughout the Bay Area.

“The Governor’s mandate is an accelerator for preparing our state for the many impacts of climate change and addressing the longstanding disparities around access to the outdoors,” said **Annie Burke**, executive director of TOGETHER Bay Area. “Our list of projects is just a start. But they are all ready to go – as soon as they are funded. We look to the state to commit to a level of investment in our climate future that is as bold as the 30x30 vision.”

TOGETHER Bay Area has created a searchable [interactive map](#) for potential funders and policymakers that compiles the current list of Bay Area projects that meet the mandate’s goals and are ready for funding and implementation.

Some examples of the 117 Bay Area projects that meet the 30x30 mandate specifications include:

Build Climate Resilience

- **Lagunitas Creek Restoration:** Improve ecosystem function and build long-term resilience to the predicted drier, hotter conditions by restoring the Coho Salmon habitat. (Marin Municipal Water District)
- **Santa Cruz Mountains Forest Restoration and Resiliency:** Restore extensive redwood forest lands hit hard by the CZU Lightning Complex Fire of 2020 using multiple approaches that include the removal of both burned and unburned trees that present a risk to the remaining forest. This work protects and builds the long-term health of a forest type that sequesters more carbon than any other. (Peninsula Open Space Trust/POST)
- **Wildfire Mitigation and Safe, Resilient Forests in East Bay Hills:** Remove 1.3 million trees across 1,500 acres due to sudden onset of tree mortality and tree dieback. Mitigate the substantial wildfire risk they pose to the parks and adjacent communities. (East Bay Regional Park District)



Creek restoration in Santa Cruz Mountains following CZU Lightning Fire in 2020. Photo: Courtesy Amah Mutsun Land Trust



Soul Surfer program. Photo: Courtesy Brown Girl Surf

Expand Equitable Access

- **Soul Surfer Program for BIPOC Young Women** (Alameda): Engage BIPOC communities in outdoor recreation for leadership development and community building. Soul Surfer Program for BIPOC Young Women introduces participants to surfing through a multi-disciplinary program that reinforces the message, “You belong here.” (Brown Girl Surf)
- **Network of Culturally Appropriate Community Emergency Response Spaces or “Himmetkas”** (Oakland): In response to the intensifying effects of climate change that exacerbate the challenges facing urban Indigenous communities, build a network of outdoor community hubs throughout the traditional Lisjan territory that contain food and medicine gardens; water catchment, filtration and storage; solar panels; and ceremonial spaces. (Sogorea Te’ Land Trust)
- **Bay Area Ridge Trail:** Multiple connections in urban and rural locations around the Bay Area – including in San Francisco – multi-language signage and camping infrastructure for a 550-mile trail system that will circumnavigate the Bay. (Bay Area Ridge Trail Council)

Conserve Biodiversity

- **Marin Monarch Overwintering/Breeding Habitat:** Identify and restore habitats for monarch butterflies and other pollinators and increase community programming, with an emphasis on participatory stewardship and monitoring opportunities for youth and underserved communities. (Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy)
- **Coyote Valley Wildlife Crossings** (San Jose-Gilroy): Design and build wildlife crossings to enable the safe wildlife crossing of major roadways at critical “chokepoints” that connect habitat across three mountain ranges – Santa Cruz, Diablo and Gabilan. Securing wildlife movement supports biodiversity and prevents geographical and biological isolation. (Santa Clara Open Space Authority)
- **Conserving Golden Eagles and Ground Squirrels** (Contra Costa County): Identify habitat and strengthen ecosystem restoration for two unique and interconnected species. (East Bay Regional Parks District)



Golden Eagle. Photo: Courtesy East Bay Regional Park District

Multi-benefit Land Protections and Acquisitions That Meet All Three Goals

- **McCormick Ranch** (Sonoma): Conserve more than 600 acres in the Mayacamas Mountains to protect the critical watershed for drought-stressed river systems, preserve wildlife linkages and create a new Bay Area Ridge Trail connection within 20 minutes of Santa Rosa. (Sonoma Land Trust)
- **Point Molate** (Richmond): Permanently protect more than 400 acres of an intact ridge-to-shore ecosystem, with more than 800 plant and animal species and Indigenous sacred sites, as open space and a public park adjacent to the city of Richmond. (Trust for Public Land)
- **Cloverdale Ranch** (San Mateo Coastside): Permanently protect and steward 6,300 acres of land that encompasses an “ecological staircase” of diverse habitats, home to more than 400 plant species and wildlife that include songbirds, raptors, mammals, reptiles, amphibians and insects. The property’s adjacency to existing state parks creates a connected protected landscape of more than 31,000 acres and 15 miles of streams. (Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District)

About TOGETHER Bay Area

TOGETHER Bay Area is a large and diverse coalition of Indigenous Tribes/groups, nonprofits and public agencies working locally in the 10-county San Francisco Bay Area. Its mission is to be the champion and regional voice of the resilient lands that are integral to a thriving Bay Area and all people who live there. For more information, visit <https://togetherbayarea.org/>.

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