



2025 POLICY PRIORITIES

TOGETHER Bay Area is a regional coalition of 80 member organizations in the 10-county region. Member organizations are working toward the vision of a Bay Area (including Santa Cruz County) that is home to healthy lands, people, and communities where we address the impacts of the climate and biodiversity crises through collaboration. And, we live in a just and equitable society where we live in right relations with the lands that sustain us now and will sustain future generations.

The [2024-2028 Strategic Direction](#) informs our Policy Priorities, and, in particular, the three strategic priorities below. As a coalition, we will:

- Conserve and steward 50% of the Bay Area lands by 2050.
- Build regional capacity for Native American Tribal alliances.
- Secure significant and stable funding that is equitably accessible and distributed.

Learn more about our coalition and meet our members: togetherbayarea.org/members/

PRIORITY 1: SECURE FUNDING FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Significant and stable public funding for the State Coastal Conservancy, and other similar entities, is critical for our members' programs and projects. In 2025, we will:

1. Actively support and protect bond and budget appropriations for the State Coastal Conservancy and other similar entities. Specifically, we will advocate that Proposition 4 funding is not used to backfill proposed cuts to state agencies.
2. Actively support and protect appropriations for California Natural Resources Agency's Tribal Nature Based Solutions Program and Tribal Affairs Program.
3. Actively support policies and appropriations that provide for stewardship of the region's approximate 5 million acres through the state's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

PRIORITY 2: INCREASE THE PACE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Accelerating the implementation of our members' projects and programs is critical to meet community needs and to address the climate and biodiversity crises. In 2025, we will:

1. Actively support policies and appropriations that advance California's 30x30 goal, the Outdoors for All Initiative, the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, and the Tribal Stewardship Strategy and Toolkit.
2. Support policies, initiatives, and programs that remove barriers to project implementation including Cutting the Green Tape and advance payments to organizations on state contracts and grants.



With uncertainty looming at the federal level, and continuing crises presented by climate change, there is no more important time to gather and work collaboratively than now. We bring people together to work on the most pressing issues of our time: the interconnected crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental injustices, and social inequities.

The [2024-2028 Strategic Direction](#) informs how we approach these pressing issues, and how we move towards systemic change and transformation. Our work is anchored in the values outlined below and guided by our fourth strategic priority: Together we will build and nurture a social network of practitioners and professionals.

Our Values

- Trust** We constantly work to build and maintain trust in all of our relationships by leading with heart and doing what we say we're going to do.
- Joy** We create opportunities for joy, play, creativity, and fun in order to create space for connection between people and ideas.
- Belonging** We aim to create a sense of belonging for everyone on our team and everyone who participates in our programs.
- Equity** We center equity in everything we do by asking who benefits from our work, who is not involved and should be, and how we can change culture and systems to be more just and equitable.
- Learning** We build a culture of learning in which we honor whole and complex human beings in our pursuit of the organization's mission and priorities.
- Hope** We seek out and elevate hope and positivity as the driving forces for the work we do.

Please consider TOGETHER Bay Area and our member organizations a resource as we navigate a dynamic landscape together.

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