



BAY AREA | OPEN SPACE COUNCIL



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***A Regional Alliance for Open Space  
Protection and Stewardship in the San Francisco Bay Region  
Chile – California Conservation Conference  
Santa Cruz, CA - October 24, 2018***







# Conservation Network



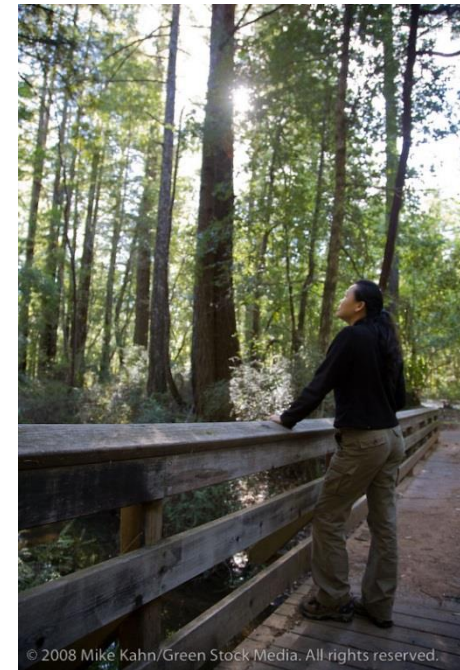
Biodiversity / Habitat



Agriculture



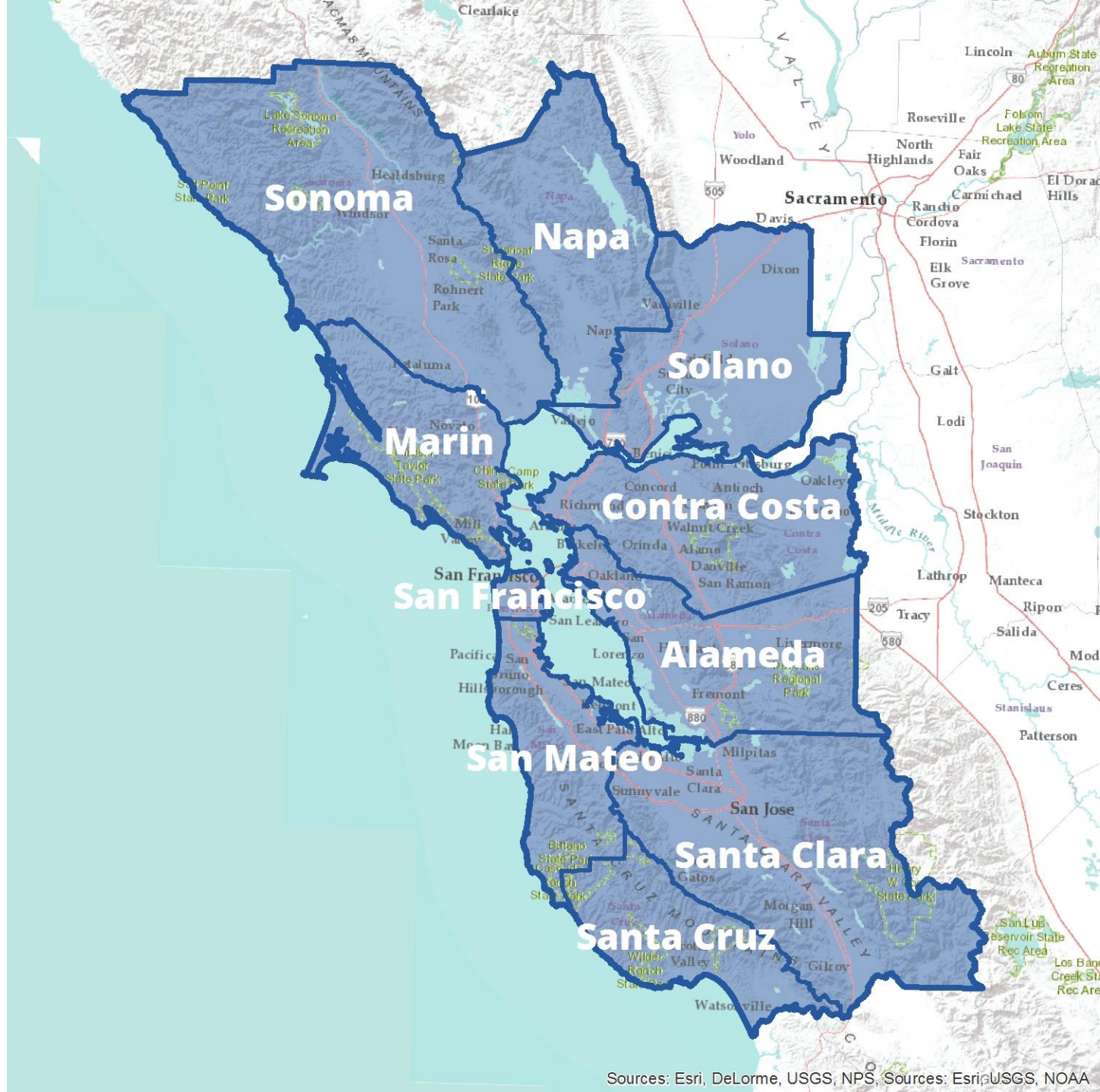
Open Space and Greenbelts



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Outdoor Recreation







## **Formation of the BAOSC**

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**Formed for the Purposes of:**

- **Regional Collaboration amongst land conservation partners**
- **Securing greater public (and private) funding for open space**



# BAOSC Membership

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**Agencies and organizations that hold, acquire or manage conservation lands**

## **Public Agencies**

- Open Space Districts
- State (CA State Parks, State Coastal Conservancy, Resource Conservation Districts)
- Federal (National Park Service)
- Counties and municipalities
- Water Agencies

## **Nonprofits**

- National (The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land)
- Land Trusts
- local conservation organizations



## Successes of the BAOSC

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### **Sponsored legislation to create the CA Coastal Conservancy's *Bay Area Program* in 1997**

- Created a new Bay Area—focused program to receive state bonds and appropriations
- \$193 million in funds/grants over 15 years
- 425 projects: open space protection, habitat restoration, recreation & trails, farmland preservation

### **Co-Chaired Bay Area Coalition to Pass *Proposition 68***

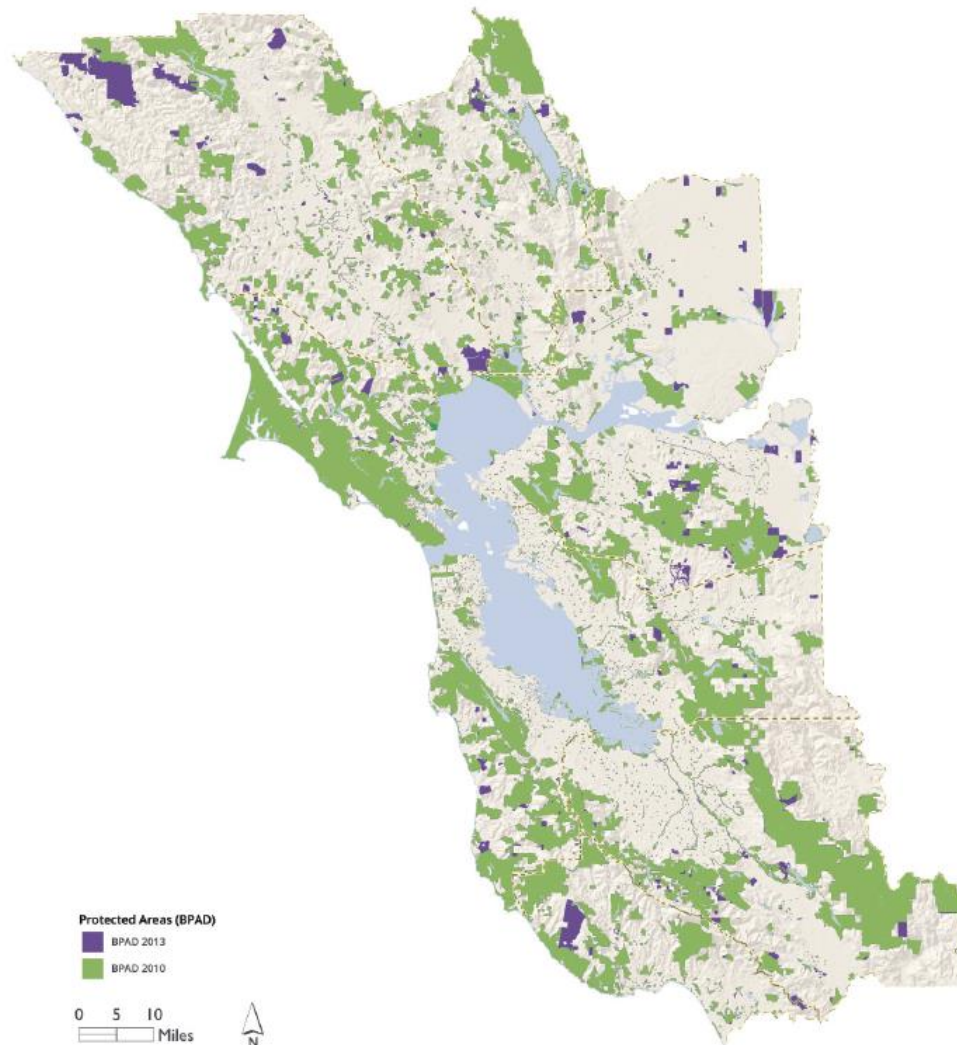
- 2018 Statewide funding measure for preservation of parks, open space, waters, habitat
- \$4.1 Billion
  - \$255 million for SF Bay Area Conservancy and regional programs



# Growing the Bay Area's Network of Protected Lands

## Additional protected lands, 2010-2013.

Between 2010 and 2013, over 100,000 more acres of land and water were protected across the 10-County Bay Area. Lands protected since 2010 are highlighted in purple. (Note: The nuance of spatial data results in incomplete records. Please contribute to BPAD to ensure the CLN reporting is as accurate and current as possible.) Data: BPAD 2010, BPAD 2013.







# Governance

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## First 24 years a fiscally-sponsored organization

- Executive Committee with 15-19 member organizations / geographic representation

## 501c3 status in 2014

## Board of Directors

- Land conservation leaders
- Financial supporters (foundation, business and individuals - connections and capacity)
- Other expertise (finance, legal, communications)

## Advisory Council

- 15-19 representatives of member organizations / geographic representation



# Programs

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## Convene Program

- Quarterly “Gatherings” on strategic issues
- Annual Open Space Conference (500 attendees)

## Government Relations and Funding Program

- Securing funding sources

## Conservation and Science Program

- Strategic conservation science and data dissemination

## Engage Program

- Cultivating diverse and engaged people
- Social media / communications



# Open Space Council Annual Conference

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## Funding Sources

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Approximately \$1,000,000 annually

- Membership Dues 15%
- Government Contracts & Grants (Restricted) 25%
- Foundation Grants (Restricted) 40%
- Events /Sponsorships 15%
- Donations from Individuals 5%



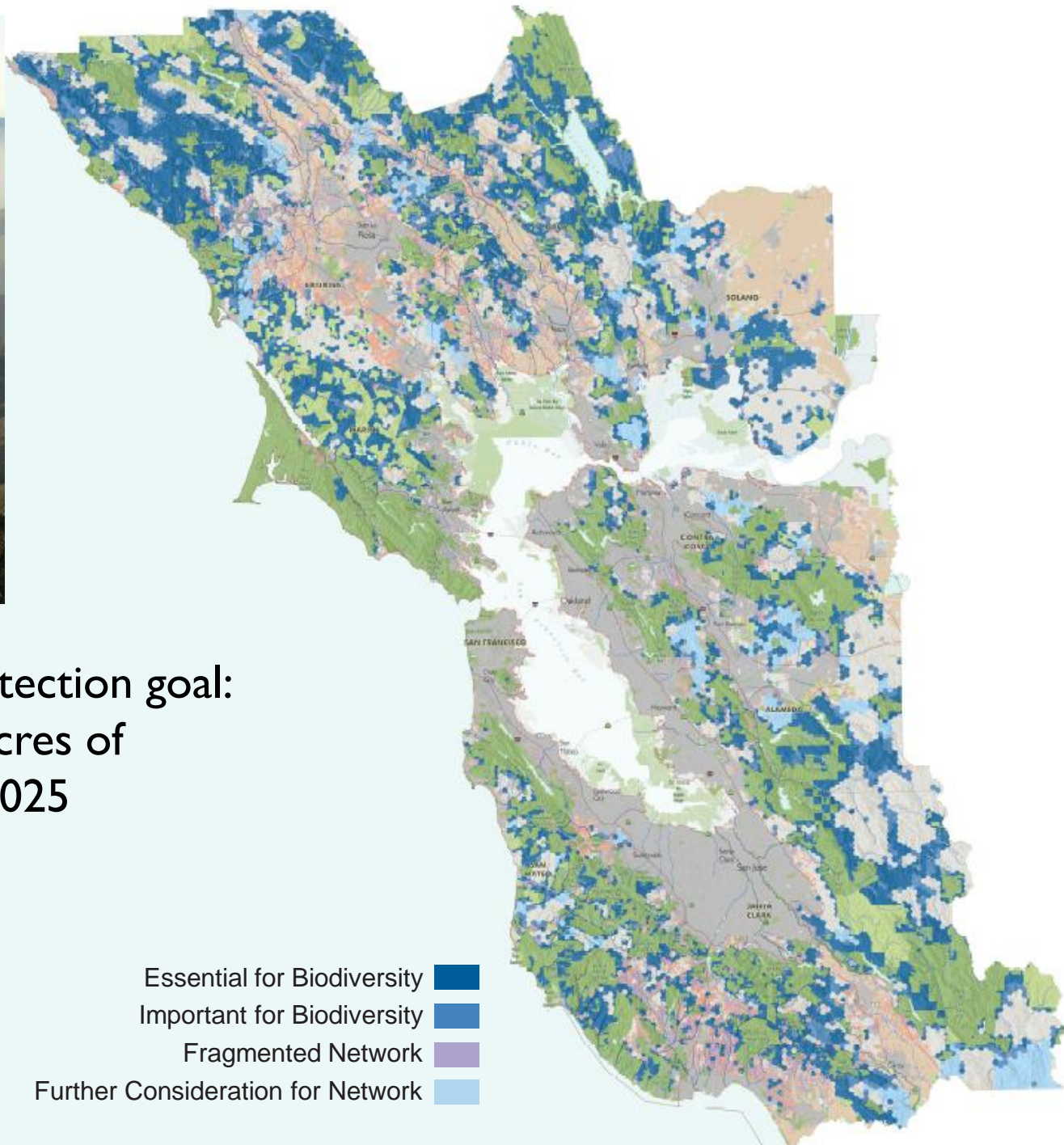
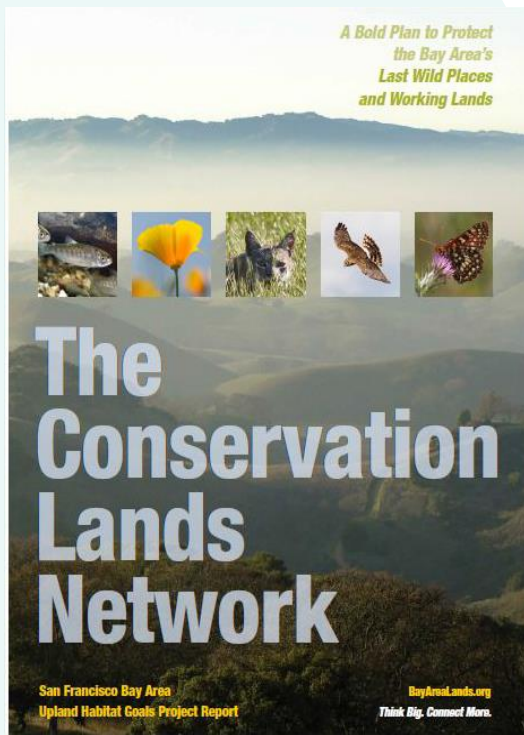
# Conservation Lands Network

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## Biodiversity is the focus of the CLN

We can't protect it all, so what lands are *essential* for maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem health?





Regional acreage protection goal:  
2 million priority acres of  
upland habitat by 2025

- Essential for Biodiversity
- Important for Biodiversity
- Fragmented Network
- Further Consideration for Network





# Challenges for BAOSC and Members

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- Population Growth
- Sustainability, Resilience and Adaptation
- Managing for Climate Change and Environmental Stressors
  - Wildfires
  - Floods
  - Drought
  - Loss of Biodiversity
- ★ **Sustainable Funding and Funders**
- ★ **Continued Relevancy and Changing Demographics**
- ★ **Leadership**



# Opportunities for BAOSC and Members

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Attracting Funding

Addressing Shared Challenges

Shared learning, Best Practices & Replicating  
Successful Models

Collaborative Conservation, Restoration and  
Stewardship

Demonstrating the “Power of We”



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[openspacecouncil.org](https://openspacecouncil.org)

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