

AUGUST 21, 2020 – BACWA EXECUTIVE BOARD

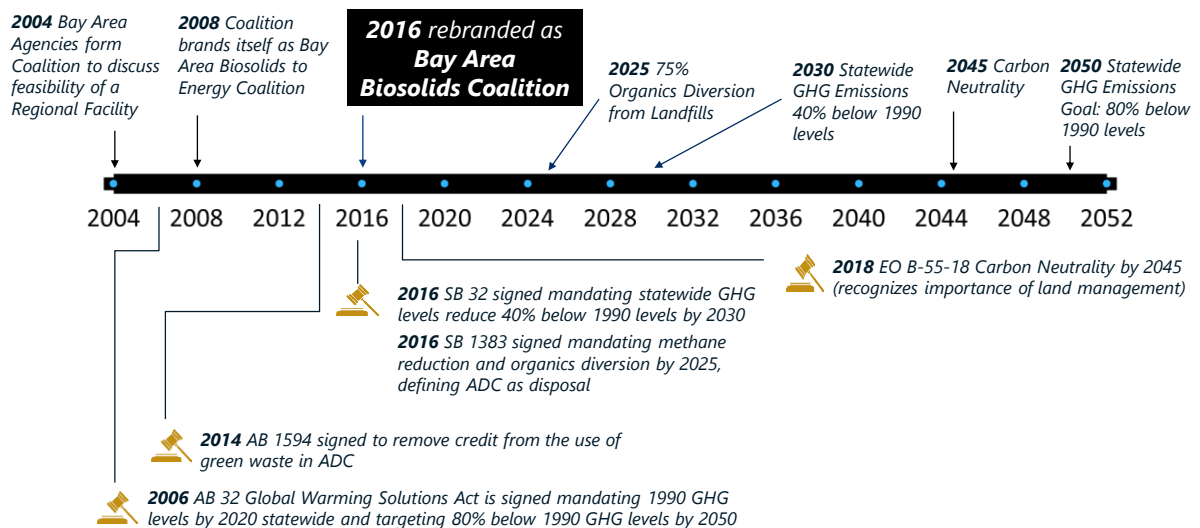
Bay Area Biosolids Coalition: Evolution & Update on Efforts

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Coalition formed to address threats to land application and state actions on climate change!



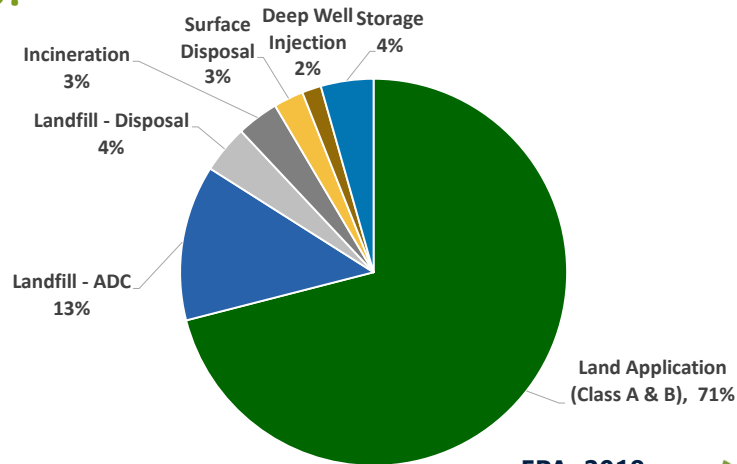
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Challenge: Biosolids sent to landfills will need a new option by 2025!

84% of all CA biosolids are beneficially used

50% of Bay Area biosolids go to landfills during dry weather, up to 90% during wet weather!

*SB 1383
Biosolids used as landfill ADC/
disposal to be diverted!*



EPA, 2018



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Bay Area Biosolids Coalition

- Mission (What are we doing?): Work collaboratively with Bay Area utilities to enhance environmental quality and support development of cost-effective and socially conscious solutions for biosolids management.
- Vision (Why are we doing it?): Create a Bay Area region where all biosolids are beneficially used and recognized as an environmental asset.



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The Coalition's approach supports developing a diverse set of local, sustainable solutions!

- Goal 1: Communicate the value of biosolids for purposes of increasing understanding, support, and market demand
- Goal 2: Advance independent scientific research on safety and efficacy of biosolids to inform science-based regulations, guidelines, and best management practices
- Goal 3: Support and expand biosolids land application in the Bay Area
- Goal 4: Support development of diverse and cost-effective biosolids projects for San Francisco Bay Area



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Goal 1: Communicating the Value of Biosolids

- Coalition identity: *Change Makers – Critical Thinkers – Trusted Professionals – Connectors*
- Coalition brand/collateral development nearly complete



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Goal 2: Advancing Scientific Research

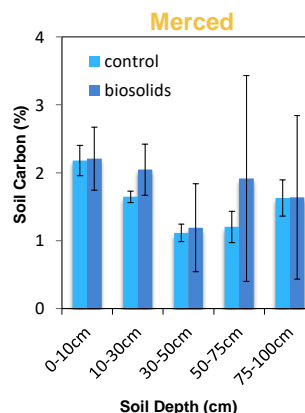
- Why support research?
 - Quantify value of biosolids use
 - Answer stakeholder questions and concerns
 - Demonstrate new uses of biosolids
- Value of California research
 - Fosters local academic experts
 - Stakeholders and regulators may require local research
 - Research can be tailored to our specific needs
- Three main areas of research
 - Investigations into benefits of biosolids used as fertilizer
 - Demonstrations of biosolids safety
 - Biosolids market expansion and product development



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Goal 2: Advancing Scientific Research

- 3-year Research Plan
- Scientific Advisory Panel
- Maintaining and expanding relationships/partnerships with scientific community:
 - *Benefits of Land Application of Biosolids (2018-2020):* UC-Merced, Dr. Rebecca Ryals
 - **Next step - Plant Uptake of PFAS from Biosolids Amended Soils (2020-2022):** UC-Davis, Dr. Thomas Young and Dr. Gabbi Black



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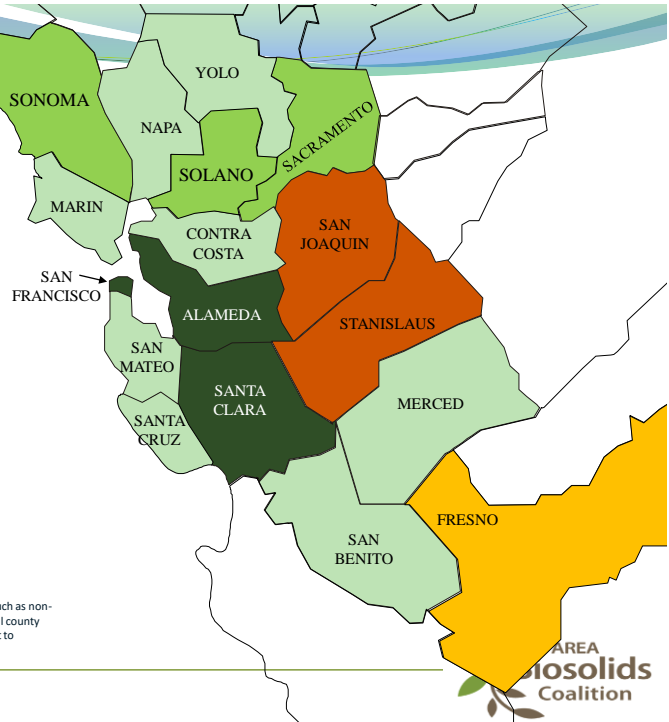
Goal 3: Support expansion of biosolids land application

- CASA collaboration
- **Next step** – initiate a land application pilot within two years

County Ordinance Requirements & Biosolids Bans

- Conditional Use Permit Required
- Class B Land Application Allowed
- No Regulations/Ordinances Enacted
- Ban on Class B Land Application
- Ban on All Land Application

This map is based on a search of online available Codes and may have missed County other requirements such as non-codified requirements or requirements of city or regional agencies. This map presents findings for individual county requirements and deals only with the unincorporated areas of the counties, all area in California are subject to California and Federal biosolids regulations.



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We are taking into account developing federal, state, local regulations that may impact treatment and beneficial uses!

- EPA/SWRCB
 - Notification, Monitoring, and Future Reductions of PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances)
- CalRecycle/SWRCB
 - Statewide Methane Reductions from Diversion of Organic Waste (SB 1383)
- CARB
 - Criteria and Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources (AB 617 & AB 2588)
- BAAQMD
 - Existing Sources of Toxic Air Contaminants (Rule 11-18)
 - Proposed Climate Pollutants Regulation 13
 - Clean Air Plan is looking to adopt a Biogas Flare rule to further limit NOx (unattainable?)



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Goal 4: Support development of biosolids management options in/for SF Bay Area

- **Next steps** for project development
 - Support development of streamlined permitting process for Bay Area project
 - Support development/allocation of funding from various sources for project implementation
 - Provide support to host agencies to assess project implementation (e.g., economic analyses, permitting requirements, funding opportunities, etc.)



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Coalition has opened membership for broader participation and representation!

- Build collaborative relationships and partnerships with:
 - Solution providers
 - Academia
 - Regulators
 - Consultants
 - Non-profit environmental groups
 - Agricultural industry
 - Law firms...



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THANK YOU!

Questions?

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