

FEBRUARY 19, 2021 – BAY AREA CLEAN WATER AGENCIES

Bay Area Biosolids Coalition: Efforts to Respond to Regulatory Developments Impacting Biosolids Management

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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.



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

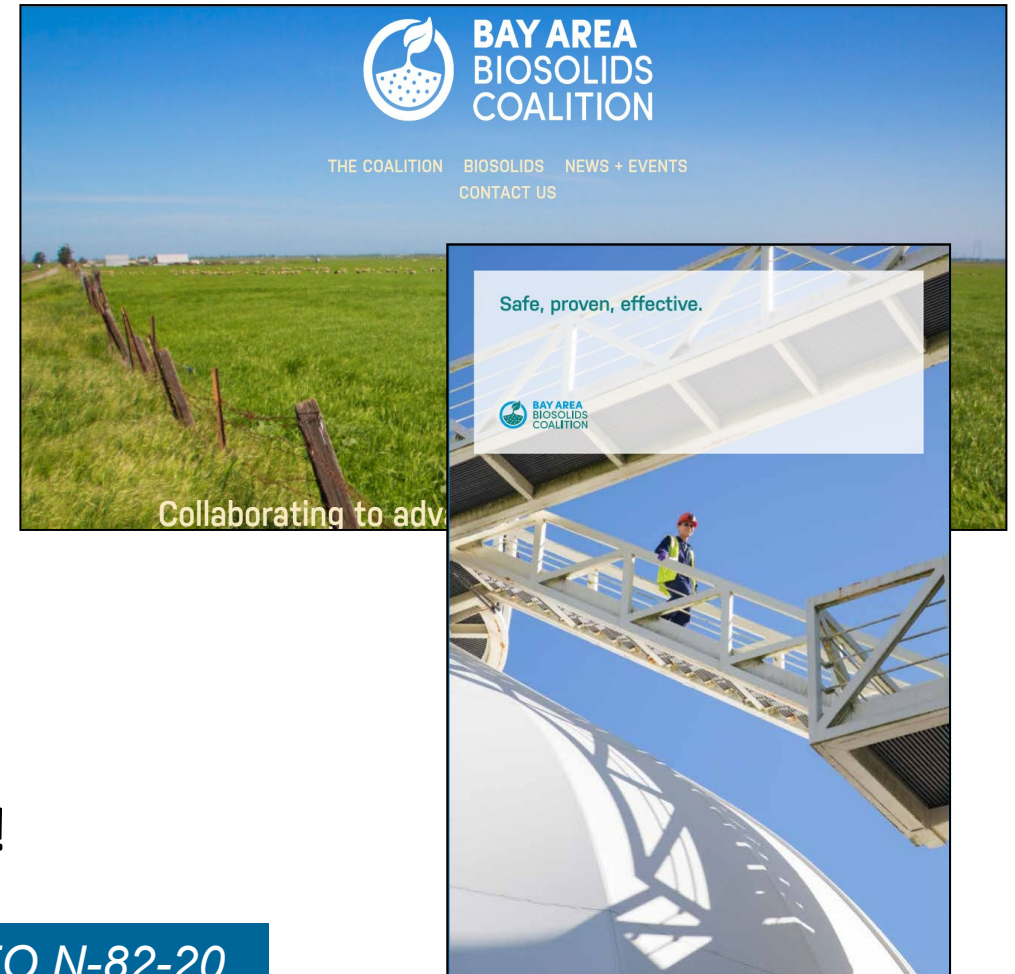
- **Goal 1:** Communicate the value of biosolids
- **Goal 2:** Advance scientific research on safety and efficacy of biosolids
- **Goal 3:** Support and expand biosolids land application in the Bay Area
- **Goal 4:** Support development of diverse, cost-effective biosolids projects in the Bay Area



Goal 1: Communicate the Value of Biosolids

- Offsets inorganic fertilizer use/production
- Increases soil carbon content and stability
- Increases water holding capacity
- Increases nutrient use efficiency
- Increases crop yield
- Sequesters carbon in the soil
- Reclaims fire-ravaged land, prevents wildfire!

Expect legislation supporting Governor's October 2020 EO N-82-20 calling for Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy to conserve 30% of the state's land and coastal water by 2030.



Goal 2: Advance Scientific Research

- Three-year Research Plan priorities
 - Valuate benefits of biosolids as a soil amendment
 - Demonstrate biosolids safety
 - Expand biosolids markets
- Maintain and expand relationships with local scientific community
 - *Benefits of Biosolids Land Application (2018-2020):* UC Merced, Dr. Rebecca Ryals
 - *Plant Uptake of PFAS from Biosolids Amended Soils (2020-2022):* UC Davis, Dr. Thomas Young and Dr. Gabbi Black
 - *EPA's request for applications for researching potential risk from pollutants in biosolids (2021-):* UC Davis, Dr. Gabbi Black
- Support NW Biosolids/SYLVIS Environmental Biosolids GHG Calculator





Goal 3: Support expansion of biosolids land application

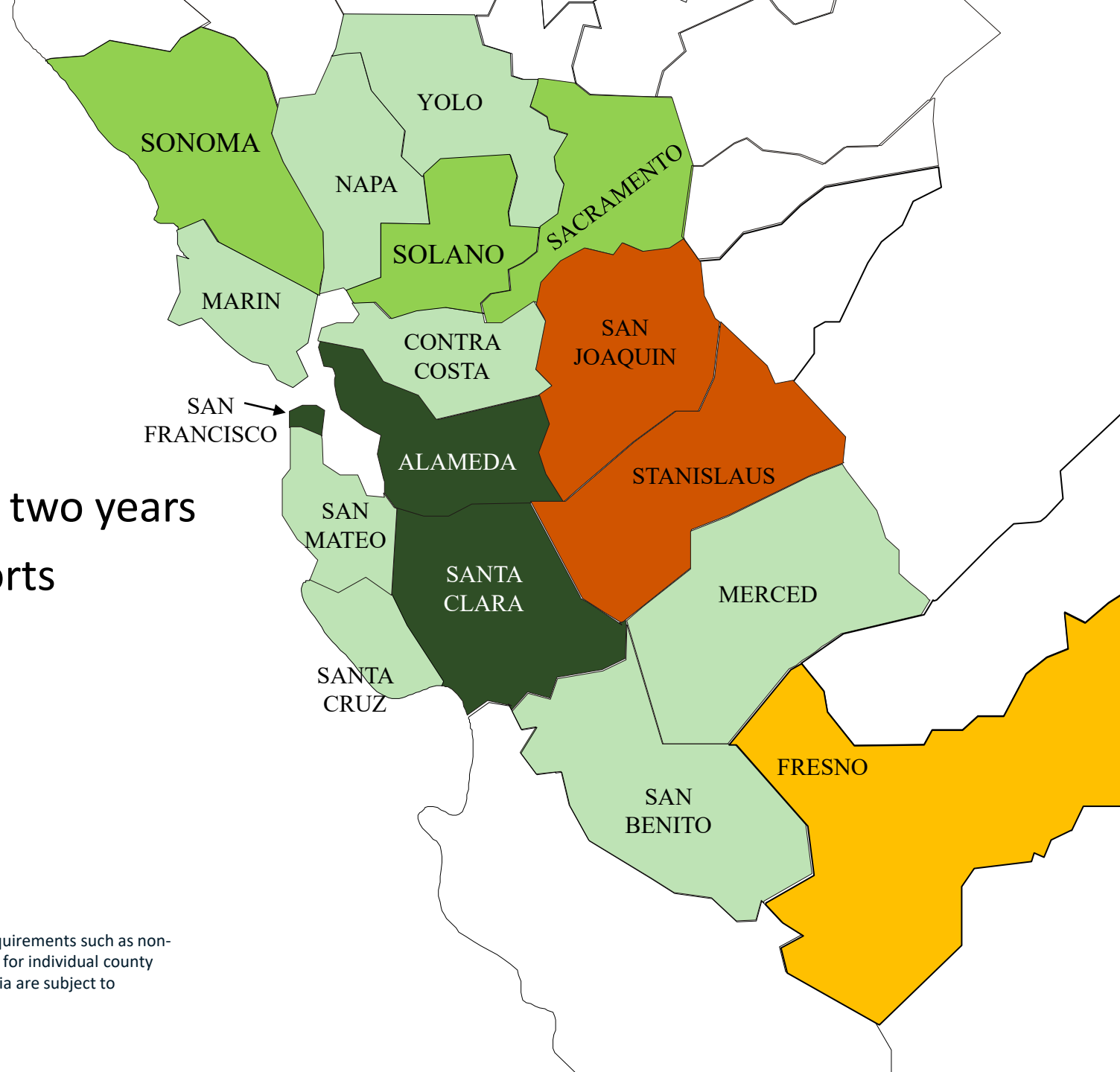
Following adoption of SB 1383 regs

- Collaborate w/ CASA
- Initiate land application pilot w/in two years
- Coordinate w/ other planning efforts

County Ordinance Requirements & Biosolids Bans

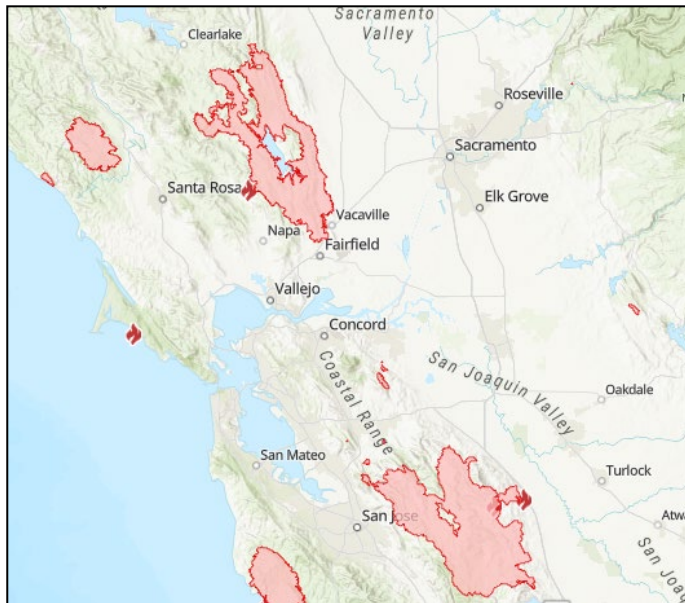
	Conditional Use Permit Required
	Class B Land Application Allowed
	No Regulations/Ordinances Enacted
	Ban on Class B Land Application
	Ban on All Land Application

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.



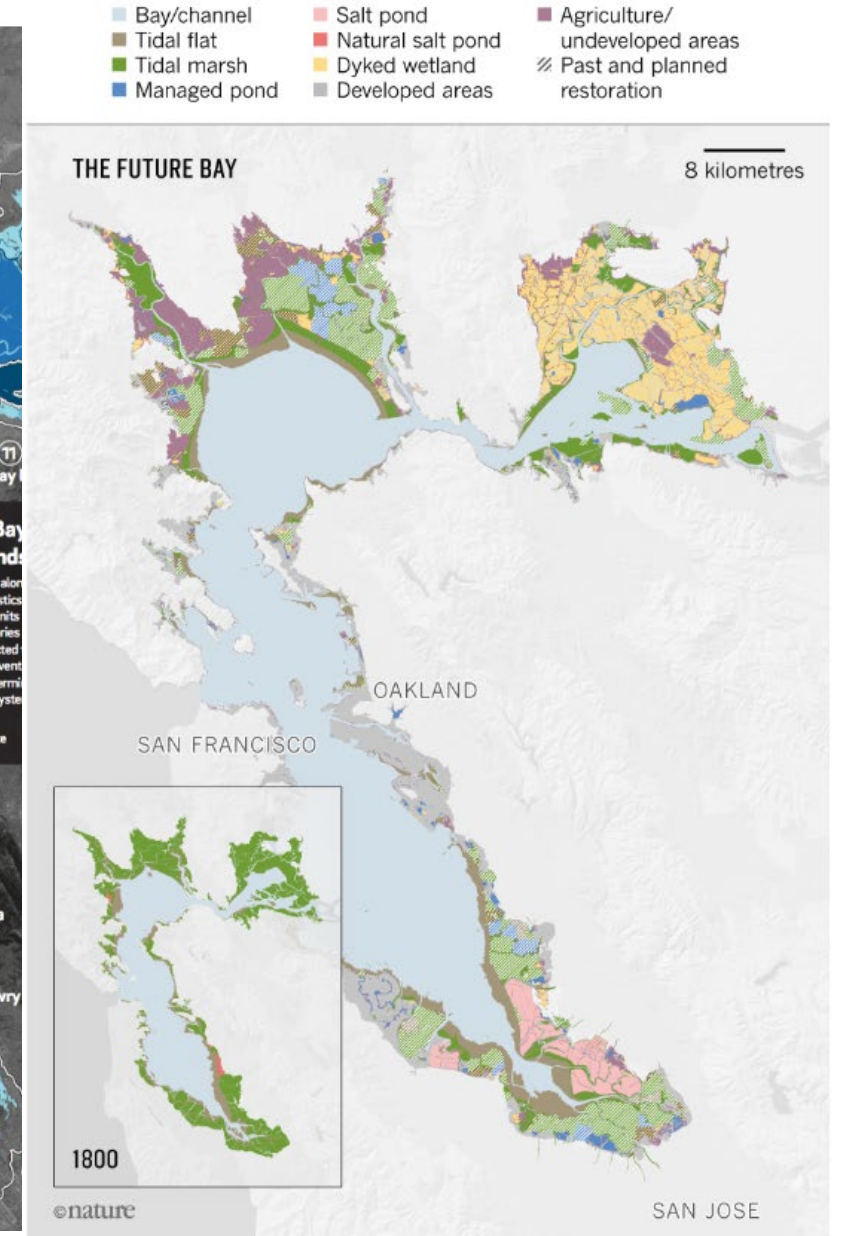
Goal 3. Support expansion of biosolids land application

- Coordinating plans for land application
 - SFEI/BCDC land restoration plans to mitigate SLR
 - Fire reclamation efforts



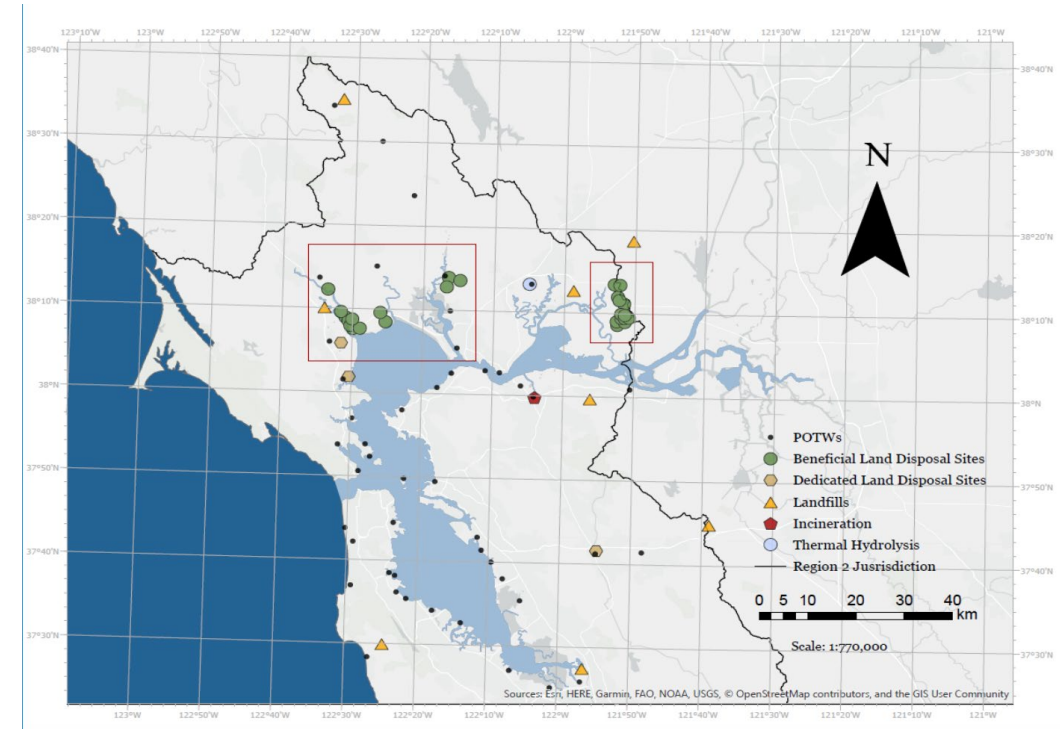
MORE MARSHES

By the mid-twentieth century, human activity had eliminated more than 90% of the tidal marshland that once rimmed California's San Francisco Bay. Restoration efforts aim to bring the tidal marsh area back to nearly 40% of its historic reach.



We also track developing federal, state, local regulations that may impact treatment approaches and beneficial uses

- EPA/SWRCB – Notification, Monitoring, Reductions of PFAS (Per-/Poly-fluoroalkyl substances)
- CalRecycle/SWRCB – Statewide Methane Reduction 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 to further limit NO_x from Biogas Flare



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

- Reassessing potential host sites
- Considering land for purchase
- Assessing needs for project implementation (economic analyses, permitting, funding opportunities, etc.)
- Future:
 - Streamline permit process
 - Develop carbon footprint for options



Coalition has opened membership for broader participation and collaboration – join us!

- Solution providers
- Academia
- Regulators
- Consultants
- Non-profit environmental groups
- Agricultural industry
- Law firms...
- Tiered dues structure based on organization size





THANK YOU!

Questions?

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Bay Area Biosolids Coalition Meeting

March 1st, 10 am – Noon

