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MARIN COUNTY
PARKS
PRESERVATION • RECREATION



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US EPA Region 9 (WTR-2-2)
Attn: Luisa Valiela
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attn: FY 2026 San Francisco Bay Geographic Program Office Proposal Review Committee

Subject: Support from Marin County Open Space District for BACWA's Clean Water Together proposal

Dear San Francisco Bay Geographic Program Office Proposal Reviewer,

On behalf of Marin County Open Space District, I am writing to express our strong support of the proposal titled "Clean Water Together – A Coalition Proposal for Regional Nutrient Solutions" submitted by BACWA, with partners at the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Central Contra Costa Sanitation District, East Bay Dischargers Authority, Dublin San Ramon Services District, the City of South San Francisco, Mt. View Sanitary District, Sanitation Agency of Southern Marin, City of Burlingame, in response to the EPA's Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-R9-SFBay-26-0. As a region, we are at a critical juncture in protecting the San Francisco Bay, and this collaborative effort represents a viable and timely path toward sustainable nutrient management.

Of the notable projects included in the grant, the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin (SASM)'s feasibility study at North Bothin Marsh is of particular interest to Marin County Open Space District. This potential project provides a multi-benefit solution for sea level rise adaptation, ecosystem restoration and adaptation, public access, and nutrient reduction.

This work builds upon prior outreach and technical studies as part of our larger Evolving Shorelines at Bothin Marsh initiative, as well as the Transportation Authority of Marin's Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan. It complements the City of Mill Valley's Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plan, currently under development. We view this potential project as a critical investment in the long-term health of the Bay and North Bothin Marsh, the safety of surrounding communities, and the preservation of public access to coastal resources.

Marin County Open Space District recognizes BACWA's long-standing history of successful regional coordination and fiscal responsibility. Their collaboration with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) ensures robust administrative oversight and effective technology transfer across the region. We are confident that this coalition will deliver high-impact results that serve as a national model for watershed-scale nutrient management.

Marin County Open Space District supports this collaborative effort to protect North Bothin Marsh while practicing economic efficiency with the co-benefits of drought and flooding resilience. We urge the EPA to fund this proposal and support the regional collaboration necessary for a sustainable San Francisco Bay. If you have any questions, please contact me at:
Chris.Chamberlain@marincounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Chris Chamberlain

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General Manager
Marin County Open Space District
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