



Search Conducted By



Call for Board Member Applications

Save The Bay seeks passionate, committed board members to champion and sustain a resilient, thriving San Francisco Bay through advocacy, restoration, and education.



MEET SAVE THE BAY

With a 60-year history of unparalleled impact in environmental protection, Save The Bay is the only regional organization that combines political advocacy, wetland restoration, and education to drive positive change for San Francisco Bay and its communities.

We are a passionate community of environmental advocates driven by a deep love for the Bay and a commitment to creating a healthier, more equitable future for all.

Our people are the heart of our mission and we are committed to creating a welcoming and supportive environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and empowered to contribute their perspectives and talents.

Learn more about Save The Bay at savesfbay.org.

Mission

To protect and restore San Francisco Bay for people and wildlife.

Vision

We envision a future where everyone benefits from a healthy San Francisco Bay, resilient to the multifaceted threats of climate change, and ringed by expansive tidal marshes.

Values

Passion for Nature: Nature connects us all. We protect and restore the Bay for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Lasting Impact: We strengthen Bay Area ecosystems and communities with innovative solutions to regional and climate challenges.

Inclusion and Belonging: We invest where the needs are greatest—in our communities, partnerships, and employees.

Integrity: Our work is grounded in science and informed by our community. We are transparent and accountable.

Catalyst for Change: We are collaborative and decisive leaders.

To achieve our goals, we:

Advocate for policies and funding to create a resilient, sustainable, and equitable Bay Area.

Restore wetlands, growing thousands of native plants to undertake major climate adaptation projects throughout the region.

Educate and engage our community through immersive hands-on experiences that foster meaningful connections with San Francisco Bay.



IMPACT

Save The Bay's Notable History of Success

- 1961**
Grassroots action **ORGANIZATION FOUNDED** by three courageous women
- 1965**
Won state moratorium halting Bay filling and study commission to **CREATE BAY PLAN**
- 1969**
Won state law creating permanent **BAY CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** to protect the Bay and create public access
- 1982**
Stopped state from building Peripheral Canal to **DIVERT FRESH WATER FROM BAY DELTA**
- 1992**
PASSED CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT IMPROVEMENT ACT to keep more water in Bay rivers
- 1998**
Launched on-the-bay student **EDUCATION PROGRAM**
- 2002**
STOPPED SFO PLAN to fill Two square miles of Bay for runways
- 2004**
Created **COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROGRAM** to restore marsh habitat; built first native plant nursery
- 2008**
Established new **SF BAY RESTORATION AUTHORITY** to raise public funding for marsh restoration
- 2009**
Won first-ever **POLLUTION REGULATIONS** requiring zero trash in storm water entering the Bay by 2022
- 2010**
SECURED SAN JOSÉ ORDINANCE banning single use plastic bags—then won bans covering **85% OF BAY AREA**
- 2012**
STOPPED CARGILL PROJECT to build 12,000 homes on Redwood City salt ponds
- 2016**
Established **BAY DAY** as a regional holiday to celebrate and support San Francisco Bay
- 2016**
Passed Measure AA, a nine-county parcel tax **RAISING \$500M FOR BAY RESTORATION**
- 2018**
LAUNCHED "BAY SMART COMMUNITIES for a Sustainable Future," advocating clean water, transit, and housing equity priorities for Bay Area growth
- 2019**
WON ENFORCEMENT ORDER on Caltrans to clean up trash flowing from state roads to the Bay
- 2022**
Passed the **SAN FRANCISCO BAY RESTORATION. ACT** After 12 years of diligent advocacy, providing \$54.5M annually for the Bay's health



WHY SERVE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

Now is a pivotal time to shape the future of the San Francisco Bay and protect our environment and communities throughout the region. Save The Bay is strengthening the Bay's climate resilience through a comprehensive regional sea level rise and flood resilience strategy, innovative shoreline protection, pollution prevention, and community-focused educational programs.

As a board member, you will play a key role in guiding and supporting the organization's strategic priorities, advocating for policy changes to combat sea level rise, expanding wetland restoration, and enhancing community engagement. This role connects you with influential leaders shaping environmental policy and outreach, amplifying your impact in protecting the Bay for future generations.

Save The Bay Makes News

How horizontal levees protect shoreline projects in San Francisco (ABC 7 News Bay Area)

[Watch here.](#)

Horizontal levees, like the one Jessie Olson and her team at Save The Bay are creating in Menlo Park, offer

significant ecological benefits. This multi-year project involving volunteers and colleagues from Save The Bay features hundreds of plants that clean bay waters and provide crucial habitats.

Project works to restore tidal marshlands along San Francisco Bay (CBS News Bay Area)

[Watch here.](#)

Save The Bay helped to complete a 300-acre tidal marsh restoration that will help cities in the South Bay adapt to sea level rise. Salt marshes hold water during high tide and flood events and release it slowly, reducing flood risk to adjacent communities.

Lawmakers propose measures they believe would save Bay from future flooding (NBC Bay Area)

[Watch here.](#)

Save The Bay's advocacy with Bay Area legislators won placement of a \$10B climate resiliency bond on the statewide ballot this November. Californians will vote on the measure to fund projects that protect against rising tides, drought, and wildfires.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Save The Bay seeks a cohort of visionary leaders to join its volunteer board. These leaders will champion Save The Bay's mission, exemplify the highest standards of governance and engagement, and set a standard for continued excellence across all facets of the organization. The ideal board will comprise individuals with diverse experiences, perspectives, and expertise with a commitment to the organization's sustainable growth and impact.



Qualities We Seek

Passion: A deep passion for the San Francisco Bay and the mission of Save The Bay.

Ambassadorship: Motivation to be an effective advocate and ambassador for Save The Bay, building relationships and growing a strong network of supporters.

Relevant Connections: Personal and professional connections and industry networks that can be leveraged to benefit the organization. Community ties to Save The Bay program and issue locations are particularly valuable, such as those vulnerable to sea level rise and other climate change impacts.

Strategic Leadership: Demonstrated ability to help an organization stay true to its mission and values while adapting to changing environmental and social landscapes.

Fundraising Enthusiasm: A genuine interest in fundraising efforts and willingness to make Save The Bay a top personal philanthropic priority.

Advocacy: Policy and government experience and connections, and knowledge of government advocacy processes to help drive mission impact.

Commitment to Inclusion and Belonging: Dedication to advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging.

Board Engagement: Active board participation and a commitment to contributing to the board's growth, development, and positive culture. This includes commitment of time and thoughtful engagement to advance the mission, a positive, collegial approach, as well as collaboration with board members, staff, and key constituents.



Professional Skills

Programmatic Expertise: Knowledge in environmental science, policy, education, and community organizing is highly desirable.

Fundraising: Ability to set fundraising targets, identify potential funding sources, and develop innovative approaches to meet the organization's financial objectives.

Communications: Skills in marketing, communications, design, and building digital platforms.

Operational Proficiency: Financial and strategic investment expertise, human resources, and legal background.

Inclusion and Belonging: Proven ability to develop and implement strategies that align with the mission, vision, and values of Save The Bay.

Save The Bay welcomes candidates from adjacent sectors and varied professional backgrounds who bring diverse lived experiences, fresh perspectives, and unique skills to the organization. If you believe your voice adds new depth and resonance to Save The Bay's mission and governance, even if you didn't find yourself represented in the criteria above, we encourage you to apply.



WHAT WE ASK OF YOU

As a board member of Save The Bay, your dedication and active participation are essential to the organization's success. Board members must support Save The Bay's mission, embrace its values, engage in fundraising efforts, promote Save The Bay within your networks, and contribute to strategic planning. By upholding the highest standards, you help ensure that Save The Bay remains a leader in environmental advocacy, restoration, and education.

Save The Bay expects all board members to regularly participate in board socials, public events, fundraising events, and volunteer opportunities to build community and support Save The Bay's mission. See page 9 for more ways to get involved.

Selected board members will begin their term in January 2025.

Leadership, Oversight, and Governance Responsibilities

- Hire, supervise, evaluate, and advise the Executive Director in managing the organization and implementing Save The Bay's strategic plan.
- Approve annual budgets, audit finances, and approve other business, fiduciary, and legal decisions.
- Prepare for, attend, and participate in board meetings, including reviewing agendas and supporting materials before each meeting.
- Represent Save The Bay as an active and enthusiastic ambassador, promoting the importance of the organization's work to the Bay and Bay Area communities.
- Assist in recruiting prospective board members and new constituents.
- Take on additional assignments as needed to support the organization.

Commitments

- Serve a three-year term with eligibility for re-appointment.
- Attend at least three of four quarterly board meetings in person each year.
- Participate in at least one standing committee and attend at least three of four virtual committee meetings each year.
- Attend at least 50% of Save The Bay's fundraising and cultivation events.
- Attend at least one volunteer restoration event each year.

Contributions

All board members will work collaboratively to set and meet annual fundraising goals, contributing to Save The Bay in various ways at a level to which they are comfortable. Save The Bay should be a top personal philanthropic priority for all board members during their term of service. Other ways to contribute include identifying new donors within your networks, supporting the establishment of new partnerships and community access, and supporting events. Save The Bay is open to suggestions for other equitable giving models.





GET TO KNOW US

Current Board and Staff Members

Visit the [Meet Our Team](#) page to learn more about the current board members and staff guiding Save The Bay.

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

Click [here](#) to view all volunteer restoration opportunities.

Upcoming Campaigns

Watch the *Turn the Tide* video and review campaign priorities at sfbaycampaign.org.

Upcoming Donor Cultivation Event

San Francisco Bay Catamaran Sail on September 14, 2024. Inquiries welcome.

To inquire further about these events and opportunities, please contact: Gwendolyn Tornatore, Chief Advancement Officer, gtornatore@savesfbay.org.



TO APPLY

Join us and be part of the solution.

By becoming a member of Save The Bay's board, you join a passionate team dedicated to protecting and restoring the San Francisco Bay for future generations. Your leadership, expertise, and commitment will be crucial in advancing our mission and ensuring a vibrant and resilient Bay Area.

We welcome your perspective, no matter your prior connection to Save The Bay. As a San Francisco Bay Area-based organization, we welcome candidates who reside and/or work in the Bay Area as well as candidates from around the region who have deep ties to our work. We look forward to welcoming you as an integral member of Save The Bay's governance team.

Application Deadline

Interested candidates should apply by **September 15, 2024**, for priority consideration.

Application Instructions

Please visit potrerogroup.com/savethebay to apply, where you will submit your resume or CV along with written responses to several targeted questions. In your responses, please highlight your experiences that align with the position's criteria and how you anticipate making unique contributions to Save The Bay.



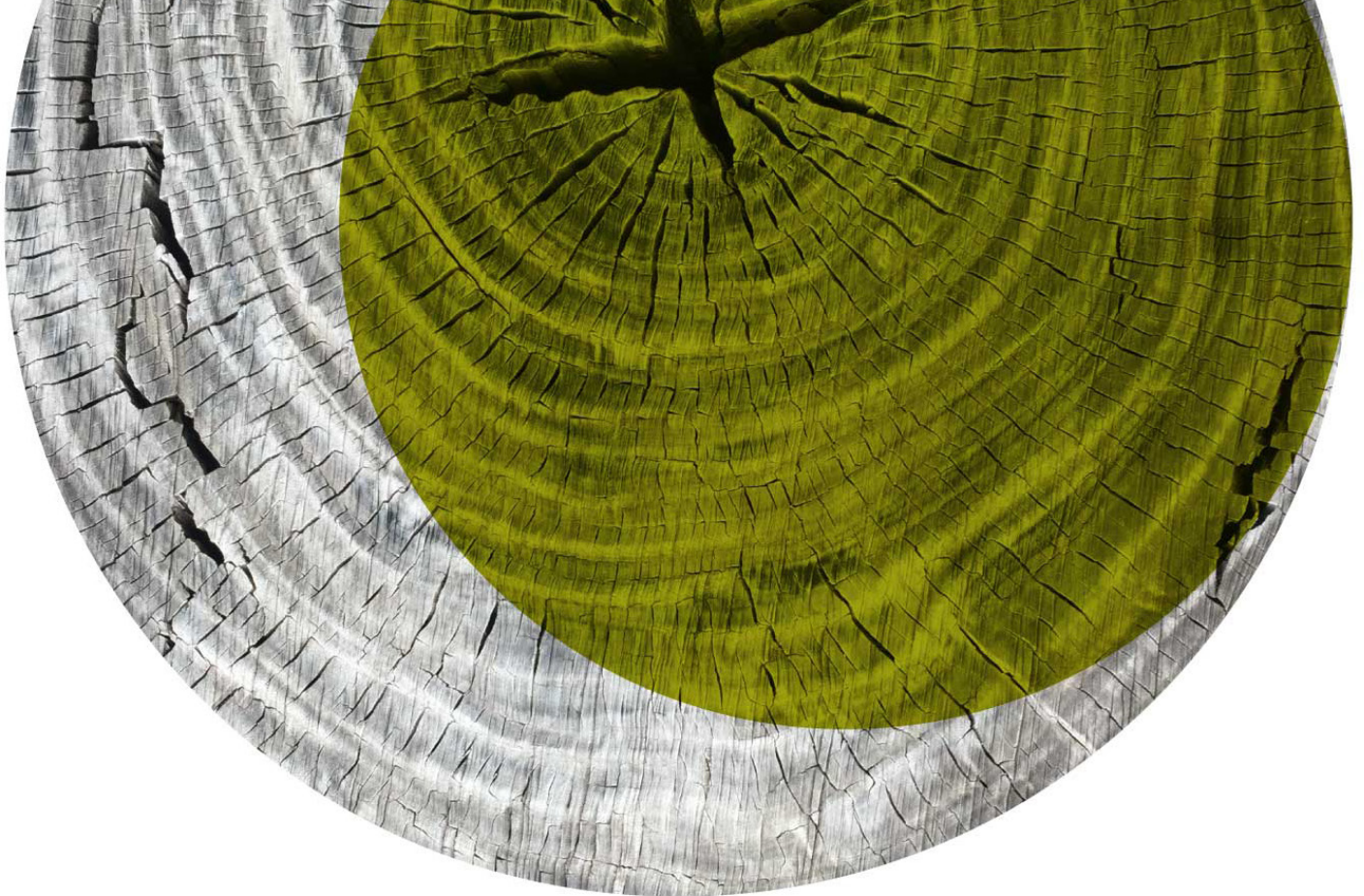
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information on Save The Bay can be found at [savesfbay.org](https://www.savesfbay.org).

For additional information regarding this opportunity, please contact:

Andy Leider
Managing Director, Potrero Group
aleider@potrerogroup.com





Potrero Group is honored to coordinate this search on behalf of Save The Bay. Supporting a regional environmental nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the San Francisco Bay is in perfect alignment with Potrero Group's commitment to providing rigorous strategy and business planning, organizational effectiveness, and nuanced search services to mission-driven organizations. Potrero Group supports innovative leaders and organizations making a difference in the world. We are committed to equitable and inclusive practices in all our work.

To join our mailing list and be notified of future opportunities, please visit

PotreroGroup.com