

Memo: Updated IIJA/BIL Workplan FY25

To: MBNEP Executive Committee, Bay Foundation Board Members From: Melodie Grubbs, Executive Director Date: 5/6/2025

Subject: Updated IIJA/BIL Workplan for FY25

Dear EC Committee Members and Bay Foundation Board Members,

I am providing an update on the finalized IIJA/BIL workplan for FY25, which has been approved by the EPA. While there were modifications to the workplan, there were no major changes to the core projects or activities that would impact our on-the-ground efforts. These updates primarily involve task consolidation, language revisions, and adjustments to align with current federal priorities. Key changes include:

- Consolidation of tasks and alignment with EPA priorities: The tasks under CAP-1 and CAP-2 have been consolidated due to the absence of specific funding for the equity strategy. This streamlining ensures a more focused approach, while also removing climate and DEI-related content, as requested by EPA, to align with the current administration's priorities.
- Shifted timeline: The project end date has been extended to December 2027, providing us ample time to complete projects and fully utilize the allocated funding. This adjustment followed the initial delay in finalizing the grant agreement.
- Removal of USGS Sea Level Rise Modeling: This project has been removed from the workplan as it is now being funded through a separate Restore America's Estuaries grant.
- Successful revision of the IIJA grant agreement: After several revisions, we successfully secured the updated IIJA grant agreement and now have access to the necessary funds to proceed with the projects outlined.

The introductions for each task section have also been updated to better align with the goals of the Section 320 Clean Water Act and the Protect America's Estuaries Act (PRAE), reinforcing our commitment to water quality protection, habitat restoration, and long-term environmental health. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these updates.

Best,

Melodie Grubbs, Executive Director Morro Bay National Estuary Program