The Coastal Conservancy was created in 1976 to complement the coastal zone regulatory agencies working to permanently protect coastal resources and improve public access. The San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program was established in 1997 to address resource and recreational goals within the entire nine county San Francisco Bay Area.

Since its inception, The Coastal Conservancy has helped implement more than 2400 active and completed projects in California’s coastal draining watersheds and state waters, as well as the nine San Francisco Bay area counties in their entirety.

The Coastal Conservancy’s jurisdiction covers 49,770 square miles, or approximately 30% of California’s area, and is home to 27,847,289 Californians, or approximately 75% of the population.