

Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2004

I. Program Title. San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) – CVPIA § 3406(b)(1) “Other”

II. Responsible Entities.

	Agency	Staff Name	Role
Lead	USBR	Valerie Curley	SJRRHRP Manager
Co-Lead	USFWS	John Thomson	Fish and Wildlife Biologist

III. Program Objectives for FY 2004.

- a. **Program Management and Technical Support:** Continue program administration and efforts to centralize and provide availability of data, reports, maps, etc. developed under this program. Provide technical support, funding, and/or liaison coordination for other San Joaquin River related activities and programs that support restoration.
- b. **Resource Management:** Plan and implement activities, studies, programs, and all associated environmental compliance activities that will be beneficial to long-term San Joaquin River restoration.

IV. Status of the Program.

The San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) is a consensus-based group of federal, local, and non-governmental organizations that have an interest in restoring riparian habitat on the San Joaquin River. It is funded as a Central Valley Project Improvement Act Section 3406 (b)(1) “Other” program. The SJRRHRP was formed in 1997 at the request of the non-federal litigants engaged in consensus-driven discussions about mutually acceptable restoration activities on the San Joaquin River in conjunction with *NRDC v. Rodgers*. Friant Water Users Authority (FWUA), the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) coalition, and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations (PCFFA) were the original parties.

Currently, representatives from the NRDC, PCFFA, FWUA, the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (SJRECWA), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), and Reclamation work collaboratively on a SJRRHRP Management Team (Management Team) to provide technical review, guidance, and/or funding for proposed or on-going efforts in support of San Joaquin River restoration

V. FY 2003 Accomplishments.

Efforts were initiated to have year-round (seasonal) surveys gathered by the Point Reyes Bird Observatory to add to the data SJRRHRP is developing for a long-term bird monitoring program.

Continued to provide funding for the Endangered Species Recovery Program to conduct quarterly small mammal surveys between Friant Dam and the Merced River confluence.

Provided funding to the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. to prepare a background report on the invasive species located in the SJRRHRP study area. Funding was also provided to the California Department of Water Resources to prepare more detailed mapping of the location of the prioritized invasive species targeted for removal.

Provided major funding for a 2-day multi-agency sponsored “Teach the River” symposium conducted for educators and paraprofessionals in the San Joaquin Valley area.

Continued coordination efforts with the National Park Service and the National Film Arts Foundation to complete an oral history film documentary on the City of Firebaugh’s historical park.

Efforts were initiated to pursue the development of a present-day fishery and aquatic inventory of species in the watered reaches of the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the Merced River confluence.

Provided funding and technical support, through the Bay Institute, for the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. to provide new vegetation and materials for restoring Camp Pashayan after a fire destroyed portions of the original restoration of 2002

Facilitated the clean up of 149-river miles of the San Joaquin River through the cooperative efforts of private landowners, business owners, water districts, and water authorities in the SJRRHRP study area.

Continued serving on a committee that is responsible for developing a restoration plan for the 167-acre parcel Jensen River Ranch property that borders the San Joaquin River. Facilitated the review of the Biological Assessment and initiated Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Initiated efforts to continue restoration planning and design preparation by the California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Water Resources, and the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. on the 286-acre Milburn Unit and the 33.6-acre Hansen Farm, both, located in the San Joaquin River Ecological Reserve that borders the San Joaquin River.

Initiated efforts to have five SJRRHRP water quality monitoring stations installed in the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the Merced River confluence to provide data on a variety of water quality parameters beneficial to river restoration planning.

Initiated efforts to define what would be required to reduce the amount of aquatic invasive species (e.g. Parrot's Feather) in the San Joaquin River downstream of Friant Dam.

Initiated efforts to determine what would be required to complete digitizing and mapping of existing soils information and conduct new soil mapping to help establish soils and habitat type relationships essential for restoration and riparian re-vegetation along the San Joaquin River.

VI. FY04 Tasks, Costs, Schedules and Deliverables.

A. Narrative Explanation of Tasks.

Project Management and Technical Support - \$200,000

1. **Project Management:** Administer SJRRHRP. Provide technical support and/or project administration for San Joaquin River restoration-related programs and activities.

Data Management/Consolidation: Initiate a contract to inventory all past and ongoing studies/surveys completed subsequent to the Program's inception. Develop an inventory matrix and data base that would assign a utility to each survey or study (i.e. restoration planning, meeting compliance needs, determining baseline conditions, etc...), and provide a background on what was accomplished by the study, when it was carried out and whether an updated survey/study is needed.

2. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - \$800,000

Invasive Species Removal Demonstration Project:

Initiate a contract to perform a limited scale invasive species removal project. Identify project location and removal strategy to gauge successful and unsuccessful methods for removing exotic species, such as scarlet wisteria or parrot's feather (the project may be species specific). Carry out species removal with an "adaptive management" strategy incorporated into the project design, taking into account off site influences and seasonal variances. Produce report outlining recommendations for larger-scale exotic species removal projects, based on project findings.

Riparian Restoration Demonstration Project:

Initiate a contract to perform a limited scale riparian restoration project, emphasizing establishing of native riparian plant species and relying on limiting channel modifications and changes in flow regimes. Identify project location and plant species establishment strategies to gauge successful and unsuccessful methods for establishing native plant species in a degraded riparian corridor (this project could be done in conjunction with the exotic species removal project above). Carry out site preparation and planting schemes with an "adaptive management" strategy incorporated into the project design, taking into account off site influences and seasonal variances. Produce report outlining recommendations for larger-scale riparian restoration projects, based on project findings.

B. Schedule and Deliverables

#	Task	Dates		Deliverable
		Start	Complete	
1	Program Management and Technical Support	10/01/03	09/30/04	Data gathering support and contract administration; restoration program management
2	Resource Management	10/01/03	09/30/04	Studies, programs, and required environmental compliance actions; partnerships with others in the identified San Joaquin River study area to assist restoration efforts

C. Summary of Program Costs and Funding Sources.

#	Task	Total Cost	Funding Sources					
			RF	W&RR	Prop 204			
1	Program Management and Technical Support	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2	Resource Management	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Program Budget		\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

D. CVPIA Program Budget.

#	Task	FTE	Direct Salary and Benefits Costs	Contracts Costs	Misc. Costs	Admin Costs	Total Costs
1	Program Management and Technical Support	1	\$101,502	\$0	\$7,146	\$91,352	\$200,000
2	Resource Management	0.0	0	\$800,000	0	0	\$800,000
Total by Category		1	\$101,502	\$800,000	\$7,146	\$91,352	\$1,000,000

VII. Future Years Commitments/Actions.

Future year commitments and actions under this program will be based upon the needs and environmental compliance actions required of Interior in meeting all applicable Federal laws, statues, Executive Orders, and policies.