

**DRAFT**  
**April 4, 2007**  
**Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2007**

**I. San Joaquin River Comprehensive Plan 3406(c)(1)**

**II. Responsible Entities**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Staff Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
USBR	Jason Phillips	Interim Program Manager
USFWS	Dan Castleberry	Program Liaison

**III. Program Objectives for FY 2007**

- A. Develop a comprehensive plan to reestablish and sustain naturally reproducing salmon in the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam, consistent with the September 13, 2006 Stipulation of Settlement for *Natural Resources Defense Council v. Rodgers* and with section 3406(c)(1).**
1. Establish and formalize a process with the State of California to implement the provisions in the Settlement.
  2. Develop a Program Management Plan to describe the planning and implementation process and the activities required to implement the Settlement.
  3. Initiate work on a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Report (EIS/R) in support of the development of a restoration plan as well as a water recovery plan.
  4. Develop and finalize a MOU with 3<sup>rd</sup> party interests to ensure their participation in the development of the restoration and water recovery plans.

**IV. Status of the Program**

In 1988, a coalition of environmental groups, led by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), filed this lawsuit challenging the federal defendants' compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Endangered Species Act in connection with their renewal of the long-term water service contracts between the United States and the Central Valley Project, Friant Division contractors. Most of the Friant Division long-term contractors intervened as additional defendants. On September 13, 2006, the Settling Parties (United States, NRDC, and Friant Water Users Authority) lodged with the Court a Stipulation of Settlement that provides for a "Restoration Goal" and a "Water Management Goal" along with proposed Federal authorizing legislation. On October 23rd, the judge overseeing the case issued an order approving the Stipulation of Settlement. Implementation of the activities called for in the Settlement must begin immediately for Interior to stay on the aggressive schedule specified in the Settlement.

## V. FY 2006 Accomplishments

While the Settling Parties were negotiating, the following San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Restoration Program (SJRRHRP) and San Joaquin River Comprehensive Plan activities were concluding:

**The Milburn-Hansen Project** – This project consists of approximately 1.5 miles of the San Joaquin River (between River Miles 247 and 249). The project includes the Milburn Unit, a part of the California Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) San Joaquin River Ecological Reserve, and Hansen Farm, a portion of former farmland. To achieve the project goal of improved wildlife habitat and ecosystem function at the Milburn Unit, Milburn Lake, and adjacent Hansen Farm property, several objectives are key (DFG, 2003): *"Improve the stability of the berms, create a wider more functional floodplain through the reach, and maintain a separation between the lake and river"*. Through a USBR agreement, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and DFG are pursuing these objectives while taking into consideration future changes on the San Joaquin River. The project is currently in Phase I, Project Development. The goal of this phase is to develop a final, detailed restoration design for Milburn-Hansen. In 2006, DWR continued their work to ultimately produce a final report that reflects the work scoped and will present analyses of sediment transport through the reach. DWR will also compare and contrast transport under current conditions and design conditions so that planners will have more information to help select the best alternative to construct.

**The Endangered Species Recovery Program (ESRP)** – ESRP initiated a pilot study to develop methodology to survey the San Joaquin River for blue elderberries (*Sambucus mexicanus*), host plant of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB; *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*), a federally listed threatened species. Between June and September 2004, ESRP surveyed approximately 25 percent of the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to the confluence with the Merced River. They found a total of 139 elderberry clumps and in six were identified with VELB exit holes. In 2005, the remaining 75 percent of the river was surveyed and for 2006 activities a final report was initiated to document the results.

**San Joaquin River 2005 and 2006 Data Collection and Study Model Development and Calibration** - Heavy spring runoff from the Sierra Nevada in 2005 presented a unique opportunity to collect model calibration data during flood flows in the San Joaquin River. Due to an unusually large snow pack and encroachment into the flood space in Millerton reservoir (mandated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers), flood releases were made from Friant Dam. A multi-agency coordination effort collected data where, historically, limited information has been available. Data collection benefited the further development of temperature, (HEC-5Q and CE-QUAL-W2) hydraulic (HEC-RAS), and operational (CALSIM) models for Millerton Reservoir and the San Joaquin River downstream to the confluence with the Merced River being developed by USBR technical specialists and consultants.

**San Joaquin River Water Quality Monitoring** - Planning studies for restoration of riparian habitat along the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the Merced River

have compiled a great amount of existing data describing the geography, hydrology and hydraulics of the existing system. In 2005 and 2006, new data has been acquired on water temperature along certain reaches of this river segment from short-term synoptic studies. However, there was a need for more permanent stations and for real-time access to the data being collected in order to allow water management decisions to be made in a timely manner. Through an agreement with National Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories and partnerships with USGS and several water districts, six additional stations have been installed and data is currently being collected. Flow and electrical conductivity data collected at these same stations will permit a better understanding of water diversions and return flows which are essential to management of the fishery. The deployment of these stations was the first step in the development of a decision support system to manage water quality and improve riparian habitat in the main stem San Joaquin River. In 2006, final documentation of these actions was prepared along with O&M recommendations.

**San Joaquin River Aquatic Inventory** - Through an agreement with the CA Dept. of Fish and Game (DFG), an inventory and documentation of the present-day status, distribution and condition of the aquatic fauna and flora within the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the mouth of the Merced River was conducted. The results of this work will assist in providing a current “description of the existing environment” (i.e., present-day existing aquatic resources), for use in various environmental disclosure documents, as may be required for proposed restoration projects undertaken. The results will also be suitable for use in planning restoration projects, to the extent they are intended to benefit aquatic resources.

**Point Reyes Bird Observatory** - In 2003, through a grant from USBR, Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) Conservation Science began a three-year monitoring effort of birds and associated vegetation in riparian habitat between Friant Dam and the Merced River confluence year round. Over the 3 year period, PRBO collected data on breeding, migrating, and over wintering birds and is in the process of finalizing their report. In 2006, a final report was prepared documenting the results, management recommendations, and included a long-term monitoring plan to evaluate bird communities along the river.

**Integrated Information Management System (IIMS)** - Through an agreement with the Trinity River Restoration Program (TRRP) and their consultants, the IIMS was developed as a multi-disciplinary warehouse for centralizing the disparate data required to support the management of river systems. The IIMS vision is to build a modular information management system by combining the common needs of several river systems into a central tool that is scalable in two dimensions. This is a three year (2006-2009) development team with the TRRP and partially funded by the USBR’s Science and Technology funding. In 2006, a training workshop was held in Weaverville, CA to present the completion of the first module to the users. Feedback from the users was collected and will be used to improve the functionality and capability of the module. Since the IIMS is being designed to be directly applicable to the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP), efforts were initiated in 2006 to begin to define the manner in which this program could be customized to meet the SJRRP needs.

**VI. FY07 Tasks, Costs, Schedules and Deliverables (need to add brief descriptions of tasks)**

**A. Description of Tasks**

#	Task	Description
1	Complete data gathering and study tool development activities initiated in previous years.	Finishes efforts that were initiated prior to the Settlement of the NRDC v. Rodgers litigation and includes San Joaquin River hydrologic and temperature models, species surveys, and development of Integrated Information Management System.
2	Establish and formalize an implementation process.	This effort includes the initial efforts required to establish a Program team and a management structure, develop a Program Management Plan, and develop an outreach strategy to coordinate efforts with the Settling Parties, Third Parties, and other members of the public.
3	Initiate Programmatic EIS/R.	Award Contract for Programmatic EIS/R
4	Initiate site-specific data collection	Collection of data regarding cultural resources, topography, geology, and other data required to complete site-specific environmental reviews and engineering designs.

**B. Schedule and Deliverables**

#	Task	Dates		Deliverables
		Start	Complete	
1	Complete data gathering and study tool development activities initiated in previous years.	10/1/2006	3/30/2007	Data and tools for San Joaquin River hydrologic and temperature models, IIMS proposals
2	Establish and formalize an implementation process.	10/1/2006	4/30/2007	Program Management Plan, Agency MOU, 3rd Party MOU
3	Initiate Programmatic EIS/R.	10/1/2006	9/30/2007	Award Contract for Programmatic EIS/R
4	Initiate site-specific data collection	10/1/2006	9/30/2007	Data collection efforts will be documented in technical memoranda once completed.

**C. Summary of Program Costs and Funding Sources**

#	Task	Total Cost	Funding Sources
			RF
1	Complete data gathering and study tool development activities initiated in previous years.	\$290,000	\$290,000
2	Establish and formalize an implementation process.	\$520,000	\$520,000
3	Initiate Programmatic EIS/R.	\$1,032,000	\$1,032,000
4	Initiate site-specific data collection	\$158,000	\$158,000
<b>Total Program Budget</b>		<b>\$2,000,000</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>

#### D. CVPIA Program Budget

#	Task	FTE	Direct Salary and Benefits Costs	Contract costs*	Misc. Costs	Administrative Costs	Total Costs
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Complete data gathering and study tool development activities initiated in previous years (USBR, Total)</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>\$290,000</b>				<b>\$290,000</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Establish and formalize an implementation process (Total)</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>\$258,000</b>	<b>\$164,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$28,000</b>	<b>\$520,000</b>
2.1	Establish process (USBR)	0.85	\$130,000	\$164,000			\$364,000
2.2	Establish process (USFWS)	0.85	\$128,000			\$28,000	\$156,000
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Initiate Programmatic EIS/R (Total)</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>\$540,000</b>	<b>\$278,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$42,000</b>	<b>\$1,032,000</b>
3.1	Initiate Programmatic EIS/R (USBR)	1.75	\$348,000	\$278,000			\$798,000
3.2	Initiate Programmatic EIS/R (USFWS)	1.25	\$192,000			\$42,000	\$234,000
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Initiate site-specific data collection (USBR, Total)</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>\$58,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>			<b>\$158,000</b>
<b>Total by Category</b>		<b>6.65</b>	<b>\$1,146,000</b>	<b>\$542,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>

\* Includes estimated costs for NOAA Fisheries after completion of the Program Management Plan.

**Table E. DRAFT CVPIA 5-Year Budget Plan, FY 2008 – 2012**

(\$ Thousands)

Program Description and Section		FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	Total
	W&RR	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	RF	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$10,000
	State <sup>1</sup>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	SJRRF <sup>2</sup>	\$17,300	\$17,300	\$17,300	\$17,300	\$17,300	\$86,500
	Total:	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$19,300	\$96,500

<sup>1</sup> Although this table does not show a State budget for the program, this State expects to commit substantial funding to the effort. For example, the voters of California recently passed Proposition 84, which identified \$100 million specifically for implementing the Settlement's channel and structural improvements. This and other recent propositions have substantial dollars for river restoration and levee work, and the State believes that some of these funds can also be used to implement the Settlement. State anticipates having \$21 million available in 2008.

<sup>2</sup> Pending federal authorizing legislation, the Settlement proposes to redirect \$7.5 million per year of payments from the CVP Friant Division (known as the Friant surcharge) and \$9.8 million from the Reclamation Fund into a San Joaquin River Restoration Fund (SJRRF). Amounts in each column based on assumed collections for 2008.

#### Major Activities:

##### FY 2008

Continue planning and PEIS/R

##### FY 2009

Finalize the environmental compliance actions and PEIS/R

##### FY 2010

Initiate site-specific environmental analysis