

Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2003

Updated: 9/11/2002

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

II. Responsible Entities.

	Agency	Staff Name	Role
Lead	USBR	Valerie Curley	Program Manager
Co-Lead	USFWS	John Thomson	

III. Program Objectives for FY 2003.

A. Program Management and Technical Support: Continue efforts to centralize and provide availability of data, reports, maps, etc. developed under this program; continue to provide technical review, guidance, support and contractual administration as appropriate for the settlement discussions in *NRDC v. Rodgers*; and provide technical support, funding, and/or liaison coordination for other San Joaquin River related activities and programs that support restoration,

B. Environmental Compliance: Facilitate any environmental compliance actions required to support the restoration planning activities, and

Resource Management: Plan and implement studies, programs, and activities that will provide data beneficial to long-term river restoration. Partner with other entities to facilitate restoration and educational outreach efforts for the San Joaquin River.

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 (Team) to provide technical review, guidance, and/or funding for proposed or on-going efforts in support of San Joaquin River restoration and the Team facilitates the implementation of experimental programs and activities that support the data gathering necessary for the *NRDC v. Rodgers* settlement discussions.

V. FY 2002 Accomplishments.

Efforts were initiated to develop a programmatic environmental analysis for studies, pilot projects, demonstration projects, and other efforts that would lead to the establishment of a healthy riparian corridor on the San Joaquin River.

- (1) Efforts were initiated to have the Point Reyes Bird Observatory begin to obtain baseline data for a long-term bird monitoring program.
- (2) Received Contractor's report documenting the data collected from the multi-year vegetation and physical process monitoring program initiated during the 1999 San Joaquin River Flow Release Pilot Project, dated January 2002.
- (3) Received Contractor prepared "Baseline Vegetation and Physical Variable Data Collection Summary – San Joaquin River Pilot Project 2000" report dated January 2002.
- (4) Contractor completed the data collection prepared a report entitled "Riparian Vegetation of the San Joaquin River" from Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River, report dated February 2002.
- (5) Contractor completed the draft report of the 2001 San Joaquin River Riparian Habitat Program Pilot Project findings.
- (6) Provided funding and technical support, through the Bay Institute, for the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, Inc. to improve Camp Pashayan, which borders the San Joaquin River. Through a partnership with the Central Unified School District's Vocational Education class and California State University-Fresno, vocational students collected oak seedlings, prepared the site, and planted oak seedlings. They also helped prepare cottonwood cuttings and planted them; helped build beaver cages; and assisted in installing an irrigation system for the site. The Parkway staff and CSU-Fresno students will continue to work with the vocational education students to maintain the project.
- (7) Quarterly terrestrial species surveys were continued by the Endangered Species Recovery Program in Reach 2 of the San Joaquin River to supplement the pilot study baseline information. These surveys included searches for the riparian brush rabbit and valley elderberry beetle.
- (8) Continued our annual sponsorship of the "Working at the Watershed Level" workshop. The workshop is a part of the educational outreach efforts developed by the Interagency Watershed Training Cooperative.
- (9) 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.

- (10) Continued to serve on a multi-agency team responsible for developing a restoration plan for 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.
- (11) Identified nine hypotheses about selected analytical tools and overall behavior of the river that could be tested in Reach 1 and the upstream portion of Reach 2 when a peak flow release of approximately 5,000 cfs for a 12 to 24 hour-period occurred.

VI. Tasks, Costs, Schedules and Deliverables.

A. Narrative Explanation of Tasks.

1. Program Management and Technical Support - \$244,982
 - Continue development of, or review and comment on, technical information developed in support of the *NRDC v Rodgers* settlement discussions.
 - Provide technical support and/or project administration for San Joaquin River restoration-related programs and activities.
 - Continue preparing a repository of San Joaquin River data developed through the SJRRHRP's efforts.
2. Environmental Compliance - \$655,018
 - Prepare appropriate environmental analyses that will evaluate experimental projects beneficial to San Joaquin River restoration.
 - Develop any planning and environmental compliance actions required for San Joaquin River related restoration projects and programs.
3. Resource Management - \$600,000
 - Continue support for the development and implementation of an invasive plant control and revegetation prioritization plan.
 - Provide funding to plan and implement restoration projects and/or experimental projects that will lead to obtaining information necessary for implementing long-term restoration features along the San Joaquin River.
 - Partner with other agencies and organizations that implement programs and activities that compliment the SJRRHRP restoration goals and objectives (e.g. Jensen River Ranch Project, Milburn-Hansen Farm Unit of the San Joaquin River Ecological Preserve, "Working at the Watershed Level" conference, "Teach the River" symposium, etc.)
 - Initiate the development of a long term monitoring program for migratory birds and pollinators.
 - Continue efforts to establish a real time monitoring program on the San Joaquin River. Data gathered will benefit long-term actions related to river restoration monitoring, planning, and flow management.

B. Schedule and Deliverables

#	Task	Start Date	Finish Date	Deliverable
1	Program Management and Technical Support	10/01/02	09/30/03	Settlement discussion data gathering support and contract administration; restoration program management
2	Environmental Compliance	10/01/02	09/30/03	Environmental analysis for experimental projects and restoration projects (e.g. NEPA, FWCA, ESA, data gathering, surveys, etc.) as appropriate
3	Resource Management	10/01/02	09/30/03	Studies, programs, and partnerships with others (e.g. real time monitoring; invasive plant species and revegetation management efforts; bird monitoring data collection, educational outreach, etc.) in the identified San Joaquin River study area to assist restoration efforts

C. Summary of Program Costs and Funding Sources.

#	Task	Total Cost	RF
1	Program Management and Technical Support	\$244,982	\$244,982
2	Environmental Compliance	\$655,018	\$655,018
3	Resource Management	\$600,000	\$600,000
Total Program Budget	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$0

D. CVPI A Program Budget.

#	Task	FTE	Direct Salary and Benefits Costs	Contracts Costs	Miscellaneous Costs	Administrative Costs	Total Costs
1	Program Management and Technical Support	1	\$98,446	\$0	\$57,935	\$29,593.68	\$185,974.68
2	Environmental Compliance	0.0	\$0	\$655,018	\$29,503.66	\$0	\$684,521.66
3	Resource Management	0.0	\$0	\$600,000	\$29,503.66	\$0	\$629,503.66
	Total by Category	1	\$98,446	\$1,255,018	\$116,942.32	\$29,593.68	\$1,500,000

7. Future Years Commitments/Actions.

Future year commitments and actions under this program will be based upon the resulting integrated restoration plan needs and the environmental compliance actions required of Interior in meeting all applicable Federal laws, statues, Executive Orders, and policies in support of the settlement discussions of *NRDC v Rodgers*.