

## **RIPARIAN HABITAT ALONG THE SACRAMENTO RIVER: LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL AGENCIES AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS**

Many different public and private agencies and organizations are currently involved with riparian habitat management along the Sacramento River.

At the local level, the Conservation Area includes portions of seven counties. The cities of Redding, Anderson, Red Bluff, Tehama, and Colusa, as well as several unincorporated communities lie partially within the proposed Conservation Area (Table 8-1). In addition, many irrigation, reclamation, flood control, levee maintenance, and resource conservation districts each play different roles along various portions of the river. At the state and federal level, a variety of agencies are involved in riparian habitat management issues.

While each of these jurisdictions has a defined role, their sheer number, variety, and overlapping boundaries can be quite confusing. The proposed nonprofit organization can play an important role by serving as a liaison between landowner, conservationist, and these local, state, and federal jurisdictions. The organization can also serve as a clearinghouse for information related to these various entities along the river, and as a guide through procedures for grant applications or environmental permits. The many jurisdictions and agencies along the river can also help the nonprofit organization and participating public and private landowners achieve the goals of preserving and reestablishing continuous riparian vegetation and a riparian ecosystem along the Sacramento River.

This chapter describes only those entities most closely linked with riparian habitat management along the river. In the course of its work, the nonprofit organization may need to coordinate with many other entities not listed in this chapter. Such entities may include local mosquito abatement and drainage districts, municipal water companies, or community services districts.

### **LOCAL AGENCIES**

Local entities along the Sacramento River include counties, cities, resource conservation, flood control, irrigation, reclamation, and levee maintenance districts (Table 8-1).

This section describes the policies, ordinances and codes of these entities as they relate to riparian habitat along the river.

*Table 8-1. Local jurisdictions within the Sacramento River Conservation Area*

**Incorporated Cities**

Redding	Tehama
Anderson	Colusa
Red Bluff	Butte

**Counties**

Shasta	Colusa
Tehama	Sutter
Yolo	
Glenn	

**Communities**

Bend	Butte City
Gerber	Princeton
Los Molinos	Meridian
Hamilton City	Grimes
Ord	Kirkville
Glenn	Knights Landing
	Verona

**Resource Conservation Districts**

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District
Tehama County Resource Conservation District
Vina Resource Conservation District
Glenn County Resource Conservation District
Colusa County Resource Conservation District
Sutter County Resource Conservation District
Yolo County Resource Conservation District

**Levee and Reclamation Districts**

Reclamation District 2047
Reclamation District 1004
Reclamation District 70
Reclamation District 108
Reclamation District 787
Reclamation District 730
Sacramento River Westside Levee District
Levee District 1
Levee District 2
Levee District 3

**Irrigation and Water Districts**

Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District
El Camino Irrigation District
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Provident Irrigation District
Princeton-Codora Glenn Irrigation District
Tisdale Irrigation District
Feather Water District

**Flood Control and Drainage Districts**

Los Molinos Mutual Water Company
Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
Colusa Basin Drainage District

**Private Water and Irrigation Companies**

Tisdale Irrigation Company
Stanford Vina Ranch Irrigation Company
Tehama Ranch Company
Meridian Farms Water Company
Roberts Ditch Irrigation Company
Pelger Mutual Water District
Sutter Mutual Water Company
Natomas Central Mutual Water Company

**Counties and Cities**

Each of the seven counties and the incorporated cities within the Sacramento River Conservation Area is required (Government Code 65000 et seq.) to have a general plan that addresses open space, conservation, safety, land use, and circulation issues. The purpose of these plans is to help communities develop a vision and goals for the future. Plans are usually revised about every 5 to 10 years. General plans contain “elements” discussing specific areas of concern within the county or city. References to the Sacramento River are most often found in the Conservation and Open Space elements. It should be noted that the policies recommended within a general plan do not become law unless the county passes an ordinance or zoning regulation related to the issue. All

zoning ordinances, public works decisions, and subdivision map approvals, however, are to be consistent with the general plan.

Several other state and federal laws implemented at the county level affect riparian habitat resources:

**The Subdivision Map Act** establishes procedures for local government to follow when land is subdivided. To ensure that subdivision does not harm public resources, the law requires environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act. The Subdivision Map Act also allows local governments to require a variety of set-asides for the benefit of community residents. These may include land, public facilities, or payment of “in lieu” fees for various facilities, as well as easements to provide public access to rivers and streams. Additionally, the Act specifically gives local governments the option of requiring developers to dedicate local park acreage, pay equivalent fees for local governments to acquire parkland, or some combination of both. These options can help maintain riparian habitat along urbanized and urbanizing reaches of the Sacramento River.

**The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975** (and amended many times since) requires that a surface mining operation obtain a permit from and submit a reclamation plan to the county or city in which it is located. The local government is not only responsible for the permitting, but for follow-up on approved reclamation plans. Because instream and near-stream mining can have such significant impacts on the character of both upstream and downstream reaches of a system, the local role may be pivotal for the continued well-being of the system as a whole.

**The National Flood Insurance Act of 1968** establishes local, state, and federal responsibility for ensuring that federal flood insurance is available, while also attempting to reduce exposure to flood hazard risks through local and state regulation. When participating communities adopt and enforce floodplain management regulations, residents and businesses are then able to purchase federal flood insurance. Local jurisdictions along the Sacramento River have generally adopted ordinances that put them in compliance with the federal law. Because these ordinances may restrict the type of development in floodplain areas, they may have an indirect impact on the riparian habitat of the river corridor.

## **Shasta County**

### ***General Plan***

The Shasta County General Plan, recognizing the Sacramento River as one of the most important county and state natural resources, seeks to protect its fish, wildlife, and vegetation resources. It seeks a balance between habitat protection and management of agricultural and timber lands. The plan recommends minimizing sedimentation and erosion through grading and hillside development regulations.

Shasta County has designated significant creek and riverside corridors on general plan maps in order to protect riparian habitat from adverse impacts related to development or conflicting land use. Public access and easements for recreation are encouraged as long as riparian habitat will not be significantly affected. The following policies are designed

to protect such areas: 1) vegetation removal is regulated; 2) grading and road construction is regulated; 3) development set-backs are required for new projects; 4) structure siting is regulated often involving clustering in order to minimize impacts; 5) recreation plans are regulated.

The Shasta County General Plan encourages and supports DFG's Upper Sacramento River Stream Corridor Protection Program. The county consults DFG on all development applications that propose changes to streamside areas.

Salmon and steelhead trout spawning gravels are protected. Aggregate mining projects are permitted only if stream disturbance is minimal. Restoration activities are recommended. Mining in the vicinity of waterways is discouraged (Shasta County, 1993).

### ***Codes and Ordinances***

Although no changes to the county code have been made yet, Shasta County's planning department plans to integrate the goals of the Upper Sacramento River Stream Corridor Protection Program with existing county codes. DFG is consulted regularly when development applications are submitted that impact the Sacramento River. Shasta County has also adopted a floodplain ordinance consistent with the federal legislation.

#### **For Further Information:**

Shasta County Community Planning  
1855 Placer Street  
Redding, CA 96001-1759  
Phone: (530) 225-5532

## **Tehama County**

### ***General Plan***

The Tehama County General Plan recognizes that water resources are essential to the environmental and economic well-being of the county and that water resources and supply systems should be protected and conserved. Tehama County has designated significant river and creekside corridor land use sub-categories, which delineate areas considered essential for groundwater recharge, as well as areas considered in need of bank protection.

The general plan recommends preservation of environmentally sensitive lands and water, recognizing the recreational, educational, and ecological value of the county's abundant wildlife. The plan states that the county will work with other agencies for proper riparian restoration and management. The county cooperates with DFG on the Upper Sacramento River Stream Corridor Protection Program. DFG's development set-back recommendations are used as guidelines for approving development applications that encroach on native riparian areas. Significant river, creekside corridor, and natural resource areas are designated on zoning maps. The county also recommends purchasing private lands that front the Sacramento River for conservation purposes. The county encourages easement donations from private landowners (Tehama County, 1993).

### ***Codes and Ordinances***

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 9.16 requires that all watercourses remain unobstructed by dams, fences, structures, debris, or any other material in order to prevent unnecessary flooding that could injure neighboring property or people. Individual property owners are responsible for maintaining unimpeded waterways; if the property owner does not abide by this code a special assessment against the property is made.

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE 17.08 states that commercial excavation of natural materials is not permitted in the floodways of the Sacramento River or the main and south forks of Cottonwood Creek. Excavation activities already in operation when this law was passed are permitted to continue.

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 17.42 allows farming, gardening, grazing, etc. within the Primary Floodplain District without permit. The placing of buildings (or other structures) or public use and diversion structures within this floodplain requires a permit.

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 17.44 deals with natural resource lands and reclamation districts. Measures to promote soil, water, and vegetation conservation or to reduce erosion and fire hazard are permitted within natural resource areas. These measures may include stables, parks, picnic sites, farming, grazing, boat launching, and utilities establishment.

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 15.52 regulates development within floodways and areas of special flood hazard status, consistent with federal legislation.

TEHAMA COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 13.28 defines standards for surface mining operations in compliance with the 1975 California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. The County requires mining permit applicants to disclose hours of operation, and the amounts of noise and dust that will be created as a result of the activity, as well as fencing and aesthetic considerations. The Tehama County Planning Department is responsible for reviewing all applications and approving all permits.

### **Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

This special district was formed under a state act in 1957. Its purpose is to provide for control, conservation, and deposition of storm and flood waters of the district. It also makes water available for any present or future uses of lands or inhabitants within the district, including acquisition, storage, and distribution for irrigation, domestic, fire protection, municipal, commercial, industrial, recreational, and all other beneficial uses.

Key district programs include:

- Coordinated AB 3030 Groundwater Management Plan for Tehama County
- Integration with the Incident Command System for Tehama County, which provides emergency management duties during declared flood disaster events
- Drainage improvement studies/capital improvement programs

- Development of county grading ordinance
- Administration of watercourse obstruction ordinance
- Maintenance of flood control facilities throughout the county (TCFC&WCD, nd.)

**For Further Information:**

Tehama County Planning Department  
444 Oak Street, Room 1  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 527-2200

Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District  
9380 San Benito Avenue  
Gerber, CA 96035  
Phone: (530) 385-1462

## **Butte County**

### ***General Plan***

The Butte County General Plan (updated, 1977) is being amended at this time. The general plan does not outline any specific recommendations regarding the Sacramento River, but deals with the river indirectly in various portions of the plan.

The land use element, drafted in 1991, states that it is the county policy to maintain quality and quantity of water resources and ensure their adequacy for all county uses. Development should be controlled in watershed areas in order to minimize erosion and water pollution. Water conservation efforts are encouraged in all plans for new development. The county recognizes that a variety of wildlife species require riparian habitat areas and that, therefore, these regions require protection. In addition, the county encourages compatible land use patterns in scenic corridors and areas adjacent to scenic waterways, rivers and creeks. The county, however, has not placed any restrictions, codes, and ordinances on extraction of mineral resources in streamside areas (Butte County, 1977; 1991).

**For Further Information:**

Butte County Development Services  
7 County Center Drive  
Oroville, CA 95965-3334  
Phone: (530) 538-7601

## **Glenn County**

### ***General Plan***

Glenn County identifies goals and policies within its general plan that address conservation issues along the Sacramento River. While the county has created a map overlay that outlines groundwater and streamside areas recommended for protection,

county ordinances have not yet been amended to include development standards that protect watershed areas. Map overlays for restorable wetlands and areas of biological importance have also been created. Watershed protection standards recommend that all new developments proposed adjacent to streams include grading, excavation, and erosion control plans to minimize degradation to soil and water quality. Development along the Sacramento River should avoid environmentally sensitive areas and eliminate or minimize any adverse impacts from all proposed projects.

The Glenn County General Plan recognizes the Sacramento River corridor as an area of significant biological importance. County policy encourages preservation of the natural riparian habitat along the Sacramento River as well as other watersheds, including Butte and Stony Creeks. Existing riparian vegetation should be protected and revegetation programs undertaken. Mitigation measures should result in no net loss of habitat productivity. The county works with DFG and USFWS, as well as conservation and preservation groups, to identify areas for restoration and enhancement.

The general plan suggests amending county zoning code to include a Streamside Protection Zone, but the county has not addressed this recommendation. The county has recently applied for a federal grant to fund preliminary watershed protection studies.

Mining and mineral resources are also addressed in the Glenn County General Plan. Mineral extraction is permitted, but is required to be compatible with surrounding land use and should not affect the environment. The use-permit process decides when and where these activities can occur. The Extractive-Industrial zoning designation has been removed from areas containing natural riparian habitat and changed to agricultural or light-industrial status; this is meant to provide greater protection to habitat areas previously subject to mining activities (Glenn County, 1993).

### ***Codes and Ordinances***

GLENN COUNTY CODE 16.16 outlines regulations for land leveling and changes to conditions.

GLENN COUNTY CODE 16.24 details the minimum standards for dealing with public drainage courses. Maps, plans, and profiles are required to describe the present site conditions, proposed work plan, adjacent land uses and proposed finished site, and private losses due to flooding. The purpose of this law is to minimize loss and damage to life and property, ensure that potential buyers are aware of flood hazards, and ensure that individuals occupying areas of flood hazard are responsible for their actions. It establishes general standards related to subdivisions, utilities, and storage of material and equipment as well as specific standards regarding residential and non-residential construction and mobile homes.

GLENN COUNTY CODE 21.04 sets county regulations in accordance with the 1975 Surface Mining and Reclamation Act. Applicants for mining permits are required to: identify landowners and mineral rights holders, specify dates of activity, quantity and type of materials to be removed, contain site maps and descriptions of existing conditions, and operating and reclamation plans. A public hearing is required before the permits are granted and annual inspections are conducted. This code also considers idle and abandoned mines. (Glenn County Code, 1995).

**For Further Information:**

Glenn County Resource Planning and Development Department  
125 South Murdock Avenue  
Willows, CA 95988  
Phone: (530) 934-6540

**Colusa County**

***General Plan***

The Colusa County General Plan recognizes there are sensitive lands along the Sacramento River that contain rare species. The plan also recognizes that much of the Sacramento River's riparian vegetation has been destroyed as a result of agriculture, flood control, and channelization. County policy recommends habitat resource conservation and protection of water quality and quantity.

The Resource Conservation Element of the Colusa County General Plan encourages conservation of fish and wildlife habitat throughout the county. Preservation of the natural qualities of rivers and streams is also encouraged. Zoning, planning, and taxation policies should preserve watershed areas, as well as agricultural lands and hillside areas. Development in the Sacramento River floodway and ecologically sensitive areas is discouraged. The Open Space and Recreation Element additionally encourages the conservation of the natural beauty of rivers and streams (Colusa County, 1989).

**For Further Information:**

Colusa County Planning and Building  
220 12th Street  
Colusa, CA 95932  
Phone: (530) 458-0480

**Sutter County**

***General Plan***

The Open Space Element of the Sutter County General Plan keeps its discussion of goals and policies related to the Sacramento River somewhat general. The plan identifies the importance of natural resources and encourages development projects that minimize impacts to open space and wildlife habitat areas.

The Natural Resources section encourages the preservation and protection of water resources. In cooperation with DFG's Stream Corridor Protection Program, the county's policies encourage development set-backs from all water courses and the protection of water recharge areas. Wetland and riparian areas are defined as significant areas that are important to protect. The county has established a policy of no net loss of wetlands. In addition, surface runoff from agricultural or other uses is discouraged from diversion into wetland areas. The county recommends the preservation of areas of high habitat value by supporting preservation and reestablishment of fisheries. Riparian areas are to



be protected and the planting of native and drought tolerant plants are encouraged (Sutter County, 1994).

***Codes and Ordinances***

SUTTER COUNTY SURFACE MINING AND RECLAMATION CODE requires that all extractive activities, such as mining, submit reclamation plans to the county and receive permit approval before operations in stream-side areas can begin.

SUTTER COUNTY ZONING CODE SECTION 7910 establishes a Flood Plain Combining Zoning District within which development standards or use restrictions apply.

SUTTER COUNTY RESOLUTION 92-124 states that any development in special flood zone hazard area, as defined by FEMA, must submit an elevation certificate by a licensed surveyor.

**For Further Information:**

Sutter County Planning Department  
PO Box 1555  
Yuba City, CA 95992  
Phone: (530) 822-7400

**Yolo County**

***General Plan***

The Yolo County General Plan recommends maintaining waterways and riverbank corridors as part of its open space preservation program. Other recommendations include protection and creation of wildlife habitat areas and the adoption of lists and maps of the distribution of natural features and other significant characteristics of the county's physical environment. The county's goal is to plan, encourage, and regulate natural resources in order to ensure long-term ecological benefits, and to prevent unnecessary disruptions to terrain, vegetation, and other resources.

All watershed areas are designated on county overlay maps for conservation purposes. Watershed areas are limited to the following activities: grazing; wild hay production; soil, water and wildlife conservation; and non-intensive recreation. The county requires conditional use permits to ensure conservation of natural vegetation.

The general plan does not permit sand and gravel mining operations in areas along the Sacramento River or its tributaries (Yolo County, 1983).

***Codes and Ordinances***

YOLO COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 3, TITLE 8, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION requires that any obstructions built in the 100-year floodplain be above the 100-year flood level. A thorough review process is required before permits are issued.

***Yolo County Habitat Management Plan***

The county is currently working on a habitat management plan that encourages conservation easements and habitat protection zones within active agricultural fields and county sloughs. At present the focus has been on agricultural areas and has not focused on habitat issues inside the Sacramento River levee system. The plan may incorporate these issues. Currently, the draft habitat management plan is undergoing city and county review (Yolo County, 1995; Hamblin, 1997 pers. comm.).

***Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District***

This special district was created by the state legislature in 1951 for the control and disposition of the storm and floodwaters of the district, and to make water available for any beneficial use of land or inhabitants (DWR, 1978).

**For Further Information:**

Yolo County Planning Department  
292 West Beamer Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Phone: (530) 666-8775

**City of Tehama**

***General Plan***

The general plan for the City of Tehama encourages the recreational use of the Sacramento River. Streets that end at the bank of the river and portions of First Street that lie along the river are reserved for river access. In addition, city approval is required for the removal of trees (City of Tehama, 1972).

***Code and Ordinances***

ZONING ORDINANCE #89 – All river frontage not privately owned is reserved for the city to use for mini parks, river access, river bank control, wildlife preservation, and scenic beauty and recreation (City of Tehama).

FLOOD ORDINANCE #130 – This ordinance sets standards for development within special flood hazard areas and prohibits development within floodways that would result in an increase in flood levels (City of Tehama).

**For Further Information:**

City of Tehama  
250 Cavalier Drive  
Tehama, CA 96090  
Phone: (530) 384-1501

## **City of Colusa**

### ***General Plan***

The City of Colusa's General Plan does not mention specific policies or goals related to the Sacramento River. Because the city is protected from the bordering Sacramento River by levees of the Sacramento Valley Flood Control Project, development in the area between the river and levees has not and will not occur.

The general plan recognizes that because of its proximity to the river, Colusa has abundant waterfowl and raptors. The plan also recognizes that the Sacramento River is of scenic importance to the community.

The Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area consists of 63 acres just outside the city limits along the Sacramento River. The general plan asserts that it will support the continuation of this facility. The City of Colusa recognizes FEMA's boundary of the 100-year floodplain and, as a result, development on or within the levee system that borders the Sacramento River is not permitted (City of Colusa, 1994).

### ***Downtown Development/Preservation Program***

The City of Colusa developed a Downtown Development/Preservation Program in 1988 that outlines a comprehensive plan for the downtown commercial area. It recommends reducing the density of commercial activity in the area along the Sacramento River by changing zoning to lighter density commercial in approximately half of the area.

The program also recommends that Colusa "take advantage of its proximity to the Sacramento River." By recreating a downtown more accommodating to pedestrian travel, the town is hoping to promote enjoyment of the river (City of Colusa, 1988).

#### **For Further Information:**

City of Colusa Planning Department  
P.O. Box 1063  
Colusa, CA 95932  
Phone: (530) 458-4740

## **City of Redding**

### ***General Plan***

The Redding General Plan recognizes the Sacramento River as the area's greatest physical asset. The city's stated goals and policies are to enhance and protect the River as well as provide increased public access. The city is working toward maintaining the scenic quality of waterways by encouraging planned public access areas and trail systems. The plan recognizes that preservation and maintenance of existing riparian vegetation is critical for scenic reasons. The plan recommends implementing of development standards that will prevent stream flooding and loss of habitat.

Redding also recommends minimizing grading impacts within the 100-year floodplain. The city recommends maintaining gravels within the 100-year floodplain for salmon

spawning and has a policy of promoting vegetation growth near spawning pools and replanting riparian vegetation on stream and river banks where channel modification is deemed necessary.

The general plan recommends locating structures and developments (other than public parks) outside the riparian buffer area. Riparian corridors are recommended for the 100-year flood plain and facilitated by the creation of easements and fee deductions. The city's general policy is to prohibit all development within the 100-year floodplain.

The City Council has endorsed the DFG Stream Corridor Protection Program. Program maps will be used to work with developers so that site plans are developed with minimal impact to riparian corridors. Redding is working on implementing development set-back regulations in accordance with the program and plans to formalize such recommendations by amending the general plan.

The city requires all tentative subdivision applicants to provide maps of all streams, watercourses, and seasonal drainages in an anticipated project area. Riparian habitat must be delineated and a buffer defined that will protect such habitat. Slope and soils characteristics must also be defined and information on grading (existing and proposed conditions) is required (City of Redding, 1985).

### ***Codes and Ordinances***

REDDING MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 18.47, COMBINING FLOODPLAIN DISTRICTS. This code restricts development within the 100-year floodplain to elevated structures.

#### **For Further Information:**

City of Redding Planning Director  
760 Parkview Drive  
Redding, CA 96001-3318  
Phone: (530) 225-4020

## **City of Anderson**

### ***General Plan***

The City of Anderson General Plan states that the areas of most significant habitat are along the Sacramento River and Anderson Creek. The city's policies focus on retaining riparian vegetation along waterways in conjunction with preserving wildlife habitat areas. One of the city's goals is to prevent degradation of area water resources due to development and growth; maintenance of quality and quantity of water is an important goal. The City of Anderson zoning code precludes mining operations along the Sacramento River within the city limits (Anderson, 1989).

### ***Codes and Ordinances***

CITY OF ANDERSON FLOOD DAMAGE AND PROTECTION ORDINANCE sets the flood-proofing and elevation criteria for any development within the 100-year floodplain (City of Anderson, April 1997 pers. comm.).

**For Further Information:**

City of Anderson  
Anderson Planning Department  
1877 Howard Street  
Anderson, CA 96007  
Phone: (530) 378-6636

**City of Red Bluff**

***General Plan***

The City of Red Bluff General Plan suggests measures to protect and conserve the area along the Sacramento River. These measures include discouraging development within the riparian area and floodplains and cooperating with the county in promoting the protection of riparian habitat.

Red Bluff's general plan recommends conducting a wetland resources inventory for use in all land use decisions. A tree preservation ordinance has been suggested that would result in no net loss of native trees within the city limits. A list of native plants compatible with valley oaks is also being considered as a conservation tool.

The water resources section of the general plan promotes the conservation and improvement of ground and surface water resources. Watersheds and recharge areas are to be protected. The soils and vegetation in water recharge and percolation areas are to be preserved and maintained in their natural state. Reduction of sediments entering waterways is recommended; projects reducing soil erosion are encouraged. A stated goal is to restrict urban intrusion into the floodplain area (City of Red Bluff, 1993).

***Codes and Ordinances***

**ZONING CODE** The small areas of riparian habitat within the city (such as Dog Island Park) are zoned as public agency lands, protecting them from development.

**RED BLUFF'S FLOOD HAZARD PREVENTION ORDINANCE** protects the Sacramento River and tributary streams from development within the 100-year floodplain by eliminating density credits from all new development within this area. Lots zoned for development prior to the passage of this ordinance, however, can develop. Structures must be built so that they are above the flood line.

**For Further Information:**

City of Red Bluff  
555 Washington Street  
Red Bluff, CA 96080-3433  
Phone: (530) 527-2605

## **Resource Conservation Districts**

Resource conservation districts (RCDs) are formed in accordance with Division IX of the Public Resources Code for the State of California. RCDs are special districts with local responsibility for addressing such resource issues as non-point source pollution, soil erosion, loss of prime and unique farmland, improvement of grazing and the promotion of integrated pest management practices. RCDs work closely with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and other technical assistance agencies through memoranda of understanding to address resource concerns through technical and financial assistance programs and conservation education. RCDs often make recommendations to county planning departments and boards of supervisors on soil, habitat, and drainage-related issues associated with land conversions and building site development. Board members are elected locally or appointed by the board of supervisors and a board may include an unlimited number of non-voting directors. RCD directors hold regular monthly business meetings and prioritize local resource conservation concerns via annual and long-range work plans. Although there is no mechanism in place for funding RCDs, several districts throughout California exercised their right to assess taxes before Proposition 13 passed. Several other RCDs around the state have entered into grant program agreements as a way to help fund conservation demonstration projects, land treatment programs, and information and education activities.

### **Western Shasta RCD**

The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District (WSRCD) was established in 1957, and extends north to Siskiyou County, west to Trinity County, south to Tehama County, and east essentially along the watershed divide between eastern and western Shasta County. It covers approximately 1,700,000 acres.

A board of seven directors governs the WSRCD. The County Board of Supervisors appoints RCD directors who serve voluntarily. They are local, private landowners who share a common interest in providing direction in their community's natural resource programs.

WSRCD can act as the "on-the-ground" implementing agency for restoration and conservation work by contracting with agencies. WSRCD also organizes Coordinated Resource Management Plans involving local landowners and government agencies. District activities include technical field assistance, urban development projects, environmental education and information programs, along with a variety of other services.

The district's mission is to work cooperatively with willing landowners and other organizations leading to conservation or restoration of desirable natural resources.

#### **For Further Information:**

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District  
3179 Bechelli Lane, Suite 110  
Redding, CA 96002-2041  
Phone: (530) 246-5252

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### ***Tehama County RCD***

Tehama County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) was created in 1987 when Cottonwood RCD, Lassen View RCD, and Corning RCD consolidated. Vina RCD, in southeastern Tehama County, decided to remain a separate district. Five directors govern TCRCD, assisted by eight associate directors. The directors have held offices and been involved at the state and national level.

TCRCD promotes conservation and supports the existing watershed conservancies. The district is encouraging planning and implementation of programs in other watersheds. In addition, TCRCD has promoted resource education for youth by sponsoring resource days, science fairs, and other natural resource activities. TCRCD has also sponsored workshops and seminars on topics including holistic resource management and wildlife management.

#### **For Further Information:**

Tehama County RCD  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
2 Sutter Street, Suite D  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 527-4231

### **Sutter County RCD**

Sutter County Resource Conservation District advises individuals and public agencies in planning and applying conservation practices for protection, restoration, or development of land, water, and related natural resources. It is not a regulatory agency. Technical help is provided without charge and covers a range of resource management activities, including: irrigation systems, irrigation water management, wildlife habitat management, range management, conservation education, erosion control, soils interpretations, wetland habitat, vegetation plantings, and rice residue management.

Five directors administer the Sutter County RCD, serving without pay for a four-year term. Meetings are at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at 1511-B Butte House Road in Yuba City. All meetings are open to the public.

#### **For Further Information:**

Sutter County Resource Conservation District  
1511-B Butte House Road  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
Phone: (530) 674-1461

### **Yolo County RCD**

Active for over 40 years, Yolo County RCD administers grants for habitat restoration, workshops, public outreach, water and energy conservation, groundwater recharge, flood control, pesticide management, and blending wildlife habitat with recreational opportunities. They welcome new members and alliances, both with individuals and agencies.

**For Further Information:**

Yolo County Resource Conservation District  
221 West Court Street, Suite 8  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Phone: (530) 662-2037

***Other Resource Conservation Districts***

Other RCDs within the Sacramento River Conservation Area are:

- Vina RCD
- Glenn County
- Colusa County

**Irrigation Districts**

Nine irrigation districts lie partially within the proposed Conservation Area. Each has a unique history and organizational structure. The Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, for example, has its roots in the formation of the Central Irrigation district under the Wright Act of 1887. Other districts depend on groundwater, or tailwater, from adjacent districts. In addition to the irrigation districts within the proposed conservation area, several are located outside of the conservation area, but obtain water at Sacramento River diversions.

**Levee and Reclamation Districts**

The formation of reclamation districts was originally authorized in 1868 to facilitate reclamation of swamplands by building levees and drainage systems. The formation and regulation of reclamation districts is incorporated into the Water Code, Section 50000 and following. Today, the landowners within these districts support their operation, maintenance, and improvement. Reclamation Districts 70, 1660, and 1500 are responsible for the maintenance of a major portion of the Sacramento River Flood Control Project levees on the east side of the main river channel below Colusa. The Sacramento River West Side Levee District is responsible for maintenance of the west side of the levee along the Sacramento River from Colusa to Knights Landing. In areas where there are no reclamation or levee districts, DWR maintains the project levees. (See Figure 2-13).

Irrigation, levee, and reclamation district activities along the Sacramento River can relate to riparian habitat management in several ways. Unlined irrigation and drainage ditches and canals may provide sufficient water for the growth of riparian habitat in areas that might not otherwise support it. Ditch and levee maintenance practices may also affect riparian habitat. In some areas levee maintenance is carried out in a way that allows strips of riparian habitat to remain on levee berms; in other areas this is not the case. The siting of larger diversion structures along the Sacramento River may also have important implications for riparian habitat; structures requiring bank protection may inhibit the physical river processes which maintain riparian forest succession.



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## STATE AGENCIES

### Office of the Secretary for Resources

The Secretary for Resources directs the State Resources Agency, which functions as an “umbrella” agency, setting major resource policy for the state and overseeing programs of agency departments including the Department of Water Resources (DWR), Department of Fish and Game (DFG), and California Coastal Commission (CCC). The agency evaluates California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents for consideration of existing state policy, programs, and plans. It coordinates all state agency comments on applications for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permits. State conservancies, such as the California Coastal Conservancy and the Tahoe Conservancy, are also within the Agency.

The Agency provided funding for the development of the Upper Sacramento River Fisheries and Riparian Habitat Restoration Plan of 1989. It is also providing staff and funding support for development of the Sacramento River Riparian Habitat Conservation Area.

#### **For Further Information:**

Office of the Secretary for Resources  
The Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 653-5656

### California Department of Fish and Game

DFG is the principal California agency responsible for the protection, management, and enhancement of fish and wildlife and the habitats upon which they depend. DFG’s mission is “to manage California’s diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public”. DFG is part of the Executive Branch of the California State Government, a department within the Resources Agency. DFG is governed by the Constitution and laws of the state, and policies of the Fish and Game Commission.

DFG has jurisdiction over, and responsibility for, all populations and habitats of birds, mammals, inland and anadromous fishes, amphibians, reptiles, and aquatic invertebrates within the Sacramento River Conservation Area, including the river channel and associated riparian areas. DFG conducts wide-ranging programs including research, environmental review and agreements, species and habitat restoration and management, public information and outreach, management of hunting and fishing, management of wildlife areas and ecological preserves, artificial propagation, and law enforcement. In addition, DFG promotes habitat restoration activities through various grants.

#### **Programs and Policies**

STREAMBED ALTERATION AGREEMENTS (SECTIONS 1600-1607 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). Under the Fish and Game Code, DFG is responsible for review

of any project which affects the natural flow, bed, channel, or bank of any river, stream, or lake in which there is, at any time, an existing fish or wildlife resource deriving benefit. Proponents of such projects generally must obtain a Stream or Lake Alteration Agreement under Sections 1601 (public project) and 1603 (private project) of the California Fish and Game Code. These agreements are usually initiated through the local DFG warden and will specify timing and construction conditions, including any mitigation necessary to protect fish and wildlife from impacts of the work.

The Sacramento River Conservation Area lies within two different DFG Regions. Region 1 includes both Shasta and Tehama Counties. Region 2 includes Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, and Yolo Counties. Proponents should contact either the local DFG warden or the Environmental Services Section in their region to develop a streambed alteration agreement.

CALIFORNIA ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (SECTIONS 2050-2116 OF FISH AND GAME CODE) AND NATIVE PLANT PROTECTION ACT (SECTIONS 1900-1933 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). DFG is responsible for administering the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Native Plant Protection Act (NPPA) which were enacted to prevent species extinction. California law specifies that the decision for listing under CESA and NPPA be made by the California Fish and Game Commission. DFG is responsible for the initial listing of a species, monitoring, providing status reports, and developing and implementing recovery plans.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT. DFG also acts as the “lead agency” for DFG initiated projects, or trustee or “responsible agency” for non-DFG initiated projects, under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This means that DFG will either prepare a negative declaration or environmental impact report (EIR) for DFG initiated projects or will review and comment on such documents that other lead agencies prepare. DFG normally considers any impacts to riparian or wetlands habitat significant under CEQA, in addition to any other impacts that would have a potential for adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources or their habitat.

ESTABLISHMENT OF ECOLOGICAL RESERVES (SECTIONS 1580-1585 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). These sections of the Fish and Game Code establish state policy to protect threatened or endangered native plants, wildlife, or aquatic organisms or specialized habitat types, both terrestrial and aquatic, for the future human use, through the establishment of ecological reserves. DFG may, with approval of the Fish and Game Commission, acquire through purchase, lease, easement, gift, rental, memorandum of understanding or otherwise, land and water, or land and water rights for the purpose of establishing ecological reserves.

NATIVE SPECIES CONSERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT ACT (SECTIONS 1750-1772 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). This act establishes as state policy, the intent to maintain sufficient populations of all species of wildlife and native plants and the habitat necessary to insure their continued existence at optimum levels. The Act further declares the intent to provide for the beneficial use and enjoyment of wildlife and native plants by all citizens of the state, perpetuation of native plants and all species of wildlife for their intrinsic and ecological values and for their aesthetic, educational, and non-appropriative uses. The Act authorizes expenditures for DFG management

activities, natural history, educational and recreational programs and acquisition of additional lands at designated areas.

SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY WETLANDS MITIGATION BANK ACT OF 1993 (SECTIONS 1775-1796 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This Act recognizes that wetlands within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley provide significant value for migratory waterfowl, endangered species, other resident wildlife and fish populations, as well as such additional public benefits as water quality improvement, flood protection, stream bank stabilization, recreation, and scientific research. The intent of this Act is to establish a mechanism for establishing and operating mitigation banks to provide specific predefined sites within which credits may be purchased to mitigate for wetlands impacts.

SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM (SECTIONS 1930-1933 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This program is based upon state policy to encourage cooperative efforts to maintain the state's most significant natural areas. It implements the California Natural Diversity Data Base, designed to identify and document the state's most significant natural areas and encourage cooperative measures to maintain and perpetuate them.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AREAS CONSERVATION PROGRAM (PROPOSITION 70) (SECTIONS 2700-2729 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This Act was passed to provide the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) and DFG the financial means to correct the most severe deficiencies in wildlife habitat and in the statewide system of areas designated for the preservation of California's natural diversity through a program of acquisition, enhancement, restoration, and protection of areas that are most in need of proper conservation.

KEENE-NIELSEN FISHERIES RESTORATION ACT OF 1985 (SECTIONS 2760-2765 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This Act is directed at reasonable efforts to prevent further declines in fish and wildlife, to restore fish and wildlife to historic levels where possible, and to enhance fish and wildlife resources where possible. The Act is particularly directed at implementing measures to protect, restore and enhance naturally spawning populations of salmon and steelhead.

CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACT OF 1990 (PROPOSITION 117) (SECTIONS 2780-2799.6 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). The Act directs the preservation, maintenance and enhancement of wildlife habitat, with particular emphasis on deer and mountain lion.

NATURAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANNING ACT (SECTION 2800-2840 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). The Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCP) provides for the implementation of a plan on a regional or area-wide basis that protects and perpetuates natural wildlife diversity while allowing compatible and appropriate development and growth.

SALMON, STEELHEAD TROUT, AND ANADROMOUS FISHERIES RESTORATION PROGRAM (SECTIONS 6900-6924 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This act establishes the goal of doubling the natural production of salmon and

steelhead trout by the end of the century, while encouraging public participation in mitigation, restoration and enhancement programs.

COMMERCIAL SALMON TROLLERS ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION PROGRAM (SECTIONS 7860-7863 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). This program implements projects to restore and enhance salmon habitat.

TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS - STATE OWNED PROPERTY (SECTION 1504 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). This section of the Fish and Game Code discusses reimbursement, assessments, and payments on state owned property. When income is derived from state owned property “the department shall pay annually to the county in which the property is located, an amount equal to the county taxes levied upon the property at the time title to the property was transferred to the state. The department shall also pay the assessments levied upon the property by any irrigation, drainage, or reclamation district.”

**For Further Information:**

<b>Shasta County</b>	California Department of Fish and Game
<b>Tehama County</b>	Region 1 (Northern California-North Coast) 601 Locust Redding, CA 98001 Phone: (530) 225-2300
<b>Butte County</b>	California Department of Fish and Game
<b>Glenn County</b>	Region 2 (Sacramento Valley-Central Sierra)
<b>Colusa County</b>	1701 Nimbus Road
<b>Sutter County</b>	Rancho Cordova, CA 95870
<b>Yolo County</b>	Phone: (530) 358-2900

**Fish and Game Commission**

The Fish and Game Commission, consisting of five members appointed by the Governor, sets the policy under which DFG operates, and regulates the possession and taking of fish and wildlife. Fish and Game Commission policies, which directly relate to the implementation of a Sacramento River Riparian Conservation Area, include:

**Policies**

***Land Use Planning***

This policy states that the preservation, protection and restoration of fish and wildlife resources within the state is of significant public interest. It is inseparable from the need to acquire, preserve, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat to the highest possible level, and to maintain, in a state of high productivity, those areas that can be most

successfully used to sustain fish and wildlife and which will provide appropriate consumptive and non-consumptive public use.

### ***Wetlands Resources***

It is the policy of the Fish and Game Commission to seek to provide for the protection, preservation, restoration, enhancement, and expansion of wetland habitat in California.

### ***Joint Policy on Hardwoods***

The Fish and Game Commission and the State Board of Forestry find that the resources on hardwood rangelands and timberlands of California are a vitally important natural and economic resource. The hardwood resources of California should be managed for the long-term perpetuation of their local and broader geographic representation and to continue to provide for their inherent natural and biological values and processes.

## **Wildlife Conservation Board**

The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) is composed of the President of the Fish and Game Commission, the Director of DFG, the Director of the Department of Finance, and six legislative advisory members. It administers several programs and provides funding to support various policies within the Fish and Game Code. The Wildlife Conservation Board continues to be active in implementing projects to protect and restore the riparian corridor along the Sacramento River.

The WCB has the authority to acquire, restore, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and to provide compatible public access facilities. It has acquired 3,615 acres of land along the Sacramento River designated as the Sacramento River Wildlife Area. The WCB has also acquired several other parcels upstream and downstream of the Wildlife Area by fee title, and conservation easements. DFG manages most of the land that WCB has acquired.

Using funding provided by the Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Act of 1984, a habitat conservation bond act, WCB sponsored the development of the Sacramento River Riparian Atlas (1988), a project which mapped and prioritized existing and potential riparian habitat sites along the river. This data supported acquisition efforts by WCB, The Nature Conservancy, and the USFWS.

The Wildlife Conservation Board created the Wildlife Conservation Law of 1947 (Sections 1300-1375 of the Fish and Game Code) to investigate, study, and determine areas within the state that are most essential and suitable for wildlife production and preservation and which may be appropriate for compatible recreational development. The WCB approves and funds projects that set aside, restore, and enhance lands within the state for such purposes.

### ***Programs***

CALIFORNIA RIPARIAN HABITAT CONSERVATION PROGRAM (SECTION 1385-1391 OF FISH AND GAME CODE). The California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program (CRHCP) is directed to protect, preserve, and restore riparian

habitats throughout the state and to coordinate its activities with DFG and with all state agencies and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations whose activities affect riparian habitats. The WCB uses available funding to acquire full or partial interest in land and to restore degraded riparian areas. Under the authority provided with the CRHCP, the WCB is authorized to grant funds to federal, state, and local governmental agencies and to nonprofit conservation organizations to accomplish these goals. On a statewide basis since the CRHCP was authorized in 1992, WCB has funded 24 restoration projects involving private and public landowners, and acquired and protected more than 39,000 acres of riparian land. The CRHCP also coordinates on a regular basis with many agencies and statewide organizations to encourage ongoing efforts to protect and restore the state's rivers and riparian areas, including the California Rivers Assessment Project and the California Partners in Flight Riparian Habitat Joint Venture.

INLAND WETLANDS CONSERVATION PROGRAM (SECTIONS 1410 AND 1431 OF THE FISH AND GAME CODE). The Inland Wetlands Conservation Program is specifically directed at implementing the programs of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture (CVHJV), and is funded through the Inland Wetlands Conservation Fund with funds provided by the Habitat Conservation Fund. The Sacramento River Conservation Area, primarily from Red Bluff to the south, lies within the focus area of the CVHJV and the Inland Wetlands Conservation Program. The goal of the CVHJV is to protect, maintain, and restore habitat to increase waterfowl populations in the Central Valley. Specifically, CVHJV seeks to protect existing wetlands and acquire additional wetlands through fee-title or perpetual conservation easements. In support of the CVHJV goals, the WCB may acquire or accept through gift or dedication, fee-title, easements, leases, development rights or other interests in appropriated lands. The WCB may also fund wetland habitat restoration projects on private or public land. The Inland Wetlands Conservation Program also administers a grant program to accomplish these goals, working with eligible government or non-governmental conservation organizations.

**For Further Information:**

Wildlife Conservation Board  
801 K Street, Suite 806  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 445-8448

**Department of Water Resources**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is responsible for formulating coordinated statewide plans for the control, conservation, protection, enhancement, and use of state water resources. DWR's mission is to evaluate current and projected needs for water and development programs; to direct the use of the resource; to protect the public through water quality improvement, flood control, and dam safety programs; and to assist local water agencies with funds, expertise, and technical support to improve their water delivery systems. DWR issues permits for activities involving dams or reservoirs.

DWR's Division of Flood Management is responsible for statewide flood protection, the assessment of the DWR's flood control needs with consideration to floodplain management, and the more traditional structural works. Along the Sacramento River, the division is responsible for maintaining specified portions of the Sacramento River

Flood Control Project, including the main and overflow channels of the Sacramento River and its tributaries. This division is responsible for inspecting the Sacramento River Flood Control Project levees, to assess compliance with environmental easements adjacent to these levees. The Division also works as the state coordinating agency for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

DWR's Division of Planning and Local Assistance (Northern District) provides staff support to the Upper Sacramento River Fisheries and Riparian Habitat Management Program. This work includes the development of a Sacramento River Geographical Information System. In addition, the division conducts studies related to the riparian ecosystem along the Sacramento River, including land use, riparian vegetation, erosion, and seepage studies.

**For Further Information on DWR's Flood Management Activities along The Sacramento River:**

California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Flood Management  
Floodplain Management Branch  
1020 9th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 574-2783

**For More Information on the Sacramento River Geographical Information System:**

California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Planning and Local Assistance  
Northern District, Water Management Branch  
2440 Main Street  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 529-7300

**Reclamation Board**

Staffed by DWR, the Reclamation Board (the Board) is the state agency that cooperates with the USACE in controlling flooding along the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and tributaries. The California Legislature created the Board in 1911 to carry out a comprehensive flood control plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. Under California law, no reclamation project may be started or carried out on or near the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers until the Board has approved plans for such work. The Board's efforts focus on controlling floodwater; reducing flood damage; protecting land from floodwater erosion that would affect project levees; and controlling encroachment into floodplains and onto flood control works, including levees, channels, and pumping plants.

The Board also establishes designated floodways in order to maintain channel capacity. The Board usually administers this regulation, but counties can administer it under an agreement with the Board. The Board owns and manages riparian habitat along the Sacramento River that serves a flood control purpose (often known as "MBK sites" after the firm, Murray, Burns and Kienlen which identified them) (Chapter 2). It has

also purchased environmental easements along the river as mitigation for bank protection construction and general, as well as levee, maintenance activities.

**For Further Information:**

The Reclamation Board  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 653-5434

**Department of Parks and Recreation**

California Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) mission is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

DPR activities are directed toward accomplishing eight principal objectives: 1) secure and preserve elements of the state's outstanding landscape, cultural, and historical features; 2) provide the facilities and resources required to fulfill the recreational demands of the people of California; 3) provide a meaningful environment in which the people of California are given the opportunity to understand and appreciate the state's cultural, historical, and natural heritage; 4) maintain and improve the quality of California's environment; 5) prepare and maintain a statewide recreational plan that includes an analysis of the continuing need for recreational areas and facilities and a determination of the levels of public and private responsibility required to meet those needs; 6) encourage all levels of government and private enterprise throughout the state to participate in the planning, development, and operation of recreational facilities; 7) meet the recreational demands of a highly accelerated, urban-centered population growth, through the acquisition, development, and operation of urban parks; and 8) encourage volunteer services in the State Park System through the establishment of a recognition program of such services. DPR's resource management includes native plant reintroduction, exotic plant removal, prescribed fire management, and restoration of stream channels, banks, and associated riparian vegetation.

DPR is responsible for the disbursement of state bond funds and Federal Land and Water Conservation Funds (when such funds exist) and other grants to local government park and recreation agencies that contribute to the resource management of rivers and streams.

DPR owns and manages several sites along the Sacramento River (Chapter 7). These sites are managed according to the eight management principles discussed above.

**For Further Information:**

California Department of Parks and Recreation  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001  
Phone: (916) 653-7423



California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Northern Buttes District  
400 Glen Drive  
Oroville, CA 95966-9222  
Phone: (530) 538-2200

### **Department of Boating and Waterways**

The Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) is responsible at the state level for providing programs to develop recreational boating access and promote safety on California's waterways. To these ends, DBW provides programs to construct and improve small craft harbors and marinas, boat launching facilities, and boating facilities on state-owned lands. DBW's Beach Erosion Control Unit studies coastal sand supply and transport, which is related to the management of inland stream systems. Under the Recreational Trails Act of 1974 (Sections 5070 - 5076 of the Public Resources Code), DBW has planning responsibilities for the Boating Trails Element of the Recreational Trails Plan, including identifying non-motorized boating trail routes, and complementary facilities to be included within the system. The department publishes *A Boating Trail Guide to the Sacramento River, Woodson Bridge to Colusa* and *Safe Boating Hints for the Sacramento River*. A third publication, *A Boating Trail Guide to the Sacramento River, Redding to Red Bluff*, is currently in production.

#### **For Further Information:**

California Department of Boating and Waterways  
1629 S Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 445-2615

### **California Water Commission**

The California Water Commission serves as a policy advisory body to the Director of Water Resources on all California water resource matters. The nine-member citizen commission serves to coordinate state and local views with regard to federal appropriations for flood control, water, and fishery projects in California. It provides a water resources forum for the people of the state, acts as liaison between the legislative and executive branches of state government, and coordinates federal, state, and local water resources efforts. A member of the California Water Commission has participated in the SB1086 Advisory Council since its creation.

#### **For Further Information:**

California Water Commission  
1416 9th Street, Room 1148  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 653-5958

### **Office of Emergency Services**

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) assists local governments in preparing for and responding to flooding and other disasters. It is often active along the Sacramento River during emergency flood events. OES also administers Hazard Mitigation funds, which can be applied to riparian corridor securement programs that provide demonstrated positive cost benefit ratios relative to flood management.

#### **For Further Information:**

Office of Emergency Services  
2800 Meadowview Road  
Sacramento, CA 95832  
Phone: (916) 262-1800

### **Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**

The mission of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) is to: 1) prevent and suppress fires occurring on state and privately owned forest, brush, and grass covered lands; 2) provide land management programs; 3) administer and enforce forest practice rules; 4) assist in range improvement programs; and 5) conduct or cooperate in forest and fire research programs.

When funds are available, CDF also administers various cost-share programs including the Forest Improvement Program, the Stewardship Incentive Program, the California Forest Improvement Program, and the Agricultural Conservation Program (Chapter 2). Some of these are applicable to riparian habitat conservation on the Sacramento River.

CDF plays an important role in fire protection along the Sacramento River. In addition, its activities in the forests of the surrounding watersheds may impact runoff amount and pattern into the Sacramento River. A CDF representative sits on the SB1086 Advisory Council.

#### **For Further Information:**

***Shasta County*** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Shasta Ranger Unit  
1000 Cypress Avenue  
Redding, CA 96001  
Phone: (530) 225-2418

***Tehama County*** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Glenn County: Tehama-Glenn Ranger Unit  
604 Antelope Boulevard  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 529-8548

***Butte County*** California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Butte Ranger Unit  
176 Nelson Avenue  
Oroville, CA 95965  
Phone: (530) 538-7111

**Colusa County**      California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
 Yolo County: Sonoma-Lake-Napa Ranger Unit  
 1572 Railroad Avenue  
 St. Helena, CA 94574  
 Phone: (707) 963-3601

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) acts locally for the State Water Quality Control Board. Its role is to protect surface and groundwater quality and the beneficial uses of the waters throughout the region by: 1) issuing waste discharge requirements (permits) regulating the discharge of waste to surface water and groundwater; 2) enforcement of waste discharge requirements by issuing cease and desist orders, cleanup and abatement orders, administrative civil liability orders, and court action; 3) water quality control planning within the region; and 4) surveillance and monitoring to detect new sources of pollution and to ensure that ongoing discharges are in compliance with waste discharge requirements.

The primary historical relationship between the Regional Board and landowners along the Sacramento River has been through Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Under this law, applicants for a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (pages 35-36) for discharge of dredge or fill material must also obtain a “Water Quality Certification” that the project will uphold state water quality standards. Applicants for this certification are required to submit an application with the appropriate fee to the Executive Officer of the Regional Board. Upon receipt of a complete application, the Regional Board staff will determine if waiver, certification, or denial of certification will be recommended. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance is required prior to board action.

In addition to these regulatory responsibilities, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is administering the Sacramento River Watershed Program (funded by the Environmental Protection Agency). The goal of this program is to ensure that the current and potential uses of the Sacramento River watershed’s resources are sustained, restored, and where possible, enhanced, while promoting the long-term social and economic vitality of the region.

#### **For Information on Obtaining Water Quality Certification in Connection with a U.S. Army Corps 404 Permit:**

**Shasta, Tehama and Glenn Counties**      Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
 Redding Office  
 415 Knollcrest Drive  
 Redding, CA 96002  
 Phone: (530) 224-4845

**Butte, Colusa, Sutter and Yolo Counties**      Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
 3443 Routier Road  
 Sacramento, CA 95827-3098  
 Phone: (916) 225-3000

**For Information on the Sacramento River Watershed Program:**

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
3443 Routier Road, Suite A  
Sacramento, CA 95827-3098  
Phone: (916) 255-3000

**State Lands Commission**

The Commission administers state-owned “sovereign lands”. Sovereign lands, those underlying tidal and navigable waterways, encompass nearly 4 million acres of lakes, rivers, sloughs, and bays, as well as state ocean waters. Examples of sovereign lands include the California portion of Lake Tahoe, San Francisco Bay, most Delta waterways, the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers, and the 3-mile strip of tide and submerged lands along the entire California coastline.

Under the Public Trust Doctrine, sovereign lands are held for the benefit of all the people of the State for public trust purposes of waterborne commerce, navigation, fisheries, open space, recreations, and habitat preservation, among others.

The Lieutenant Governor, the State Controller, and the State Director of Finance serve as ex-officio members of the Commission. A staff of more than 220 specialists in land management, mineral resources, boundary determination, petroleum engineering, and the natural sciences assist the Commission.

The Upper Sacramento River—defined by this *Handbook* as between Keswick Dam and the mouth of the Feather River, as well as some portions of the larger tributaries in this area—are state-owned sovereign lands. These particular waterways are regarded as non-tidal and therefore California holds a fee ownership in the bed of the river or stream between the ordinary low water marks. The entire river or stream between the ordinary high water marks is subject to a Public Trust Easement. (In tidal waterways, the State generally owns in fee to the ordinary high water mark, as in, for example, the tidal portions of the Sacramento River in its downstream reaches.)

Because the landward boundaries of the State’s sovereign interests are generally based upon the ordinary high water marks as they last naturally existed, boundaries may not be readily apparent from observing present day conditions.

Both easement and fee-owned lands are under Commission jurisdiction as land owner and manager. Proposed development projects on state-owned lands or other projects seeking to occupy sovereign lands for a variety of uses normally require Commission authorization. On fee-owned state lands, public and private entities may apply to the Commission for leases or permits for a variety of purposes including marinas, boat launches, private docks, pipeline crossings, dredging, or fish and wildlife refuges.

In its day-to-day role as trust land manager, the Commission seeks to balance resource management, revenue generation, environmental protection, and public enjoyment on sovereign state lands. The Commission must carry out its responsibilities under the Public Trust Doctrine as well as a number of other laws and regulations which govern its operation, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The Commission recently published *California's Rivers: A Public Trust Report*, a 334 page report on the status and trends of the states rivers, including their values, ecology, and history. A representative of the Commission sits on the SB1086 Advisory Council.

**For Further Information:**

California State Lands Commission  
100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Phone: (916) 574-1900

## **FEDERAL AGENCIES**

### **United States Fish and Wildlife Service**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is the principal agency through which the federal government carries out its responsibilities to conserve, protect, and enhance the nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. The agency's major responsibilities are for migratory birds and candidate, threatened, and endangered species. The USFWS is both a regulatory agency with jurisdiction over both public and private lands and a land management agency for federal wildlife refuges.

USFWS's programs include fish and wildlife conservation; technical and financial assistance on fish and wildlife management to the private sector, federal, state, and local agencies. Migratory birds; the acquisition of areas for management and protection of migratory birds, endangered species, and other wildlife, and for wildlife-oriented public recreation; wetlands conservation; funding for wetlands acquisition; wetland delineation; assessing the affects of contaminants on wildlife and their habitats; conservation of estuarine areas under the Estuarine Areas Act (PL 90-454); the National Wetland Inventory and insuring compliance with NEPA.

In accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the USFWS reviews projects that are funded by the federal government or require a federal permit. The Clean Water Act gives the USFWS the authority to review dredge and fill permits administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in waters of the U.S. (Section 404 and Section 10). The USFWS reviews hydroelectric power projects under the authority of the Federal Power Act, and also provides consultation on endangered species for the environmental review processes under the Endangered Species Act, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

### **Endangered Species Act**

The USFWS implements various provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA): species listing, consultations and permits for possible "incidental takes" of listed species, and oversight and approval of Habitat Conservation Plans. The act provides for the establishment of lists of threatened and endangered species. Any inclusions to or deletions from the lists must come after proper notice and, if requested, public hearing. The lists are reviewed every five years to determine if any species should be removed or have their status changed.

The Secretary of the Interior may also identify critical habitat and impose regulations governing those areas. The Secretary of the Interior is also directed to establish programs for the conservation and recovery of listed species, including the acquisition of land and other interests affecting habitat.

### **Migratory Bird Conservation Act**

Under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, the USFWS is authorized to acquire lands for conservation of migratory waterfowl. The agency can also purchase land for refuges under the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986. In northern California, the FWS manages the Klamath Basin, Modoc, Sacramento, San Francisco Bay, Stone Lakes, and Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuges.

### **Other Programs**

The USFWS has also been actively involved in the conservation and restoration of riparian habitat along the Sacramento River through the Private Lands Program established in 1989 and its ongoing acquisition and management of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge. The agency also has an interest in the conservation and restoration of riparian habitat because of its role in identifying and protecting habitat of federal trust resource species. For example, the Service has identified shaded riverine aquatic habitat as critical habitat for migratory juvenile winter run salmon. A USFWS representative is on the SB1086 Advisory Council.

### **Central Valley Project Improvement Act**

In collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation, the Service administers the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992. The Act provides for the implementation of activities to protect, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife and associated habitats in the Central Valley and Trinity River Basins.

#### **For Further Information on the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex:**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge  
752 County Road 99W  
Willows, CA 95988  
Phone: (530) 934-2801

#### **For Further Information Regarding Wildlife And Fisheries Issues Along The Sacramento River:**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Sacramento Field Office  
2800 Cottage Way, W-2605  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
Phone: (916) 414-6600

## **United States Bureau of Reclamation**

The Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) is an agency of the Department of the Interior. Its mission is to manage, develop, and protect water and water-related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public. As part of its responsibilities, the USBR provides states or state entities with technical assistance on projects already underway, consistent with the state's needs and the USBR's capability.

The USBR constructs and maintains federal water development and reclamation projects, including those along the Colorado River and the Central Valley Project (CVP). It provides water for irrigation, municipal and industrial use, hydroelectric power generation, water quality improvement, wind power, fish and wildlife enhancement, outdoor recreation, river regulation, and flood control. The USBR plays a major role on the more significant river systems and a lesser role on their tributaries.

The Central Valley Project Improvement Act requires the USBR to put environmental uses of CVP water on an even footing with urban and agricultural consumptive uses, and also guarantees minimum quantities for fishery protection under specified circumstances.

The USBR supplies water to 3.8 million acres in California. Activities include the Central Valley Project, (including Shasta, Clair Engle, Whiskeytown, New Melones, Folsom, San Luis, and Millerton lakes) and major canals and hydroelectric facilities (the All-American Canal system in the Imperial Valley and the Parker, Davis, Cachuma, Klamath, Orland, San Diego, Solano, Truckee Storage, Ventura River, Santa Maria, and Washoe projects).

The USBR is signatory to the Coordinated Operating Agreement between the CVP and the State Water Project (SWP) (1986), which provides that both the CVP and SWP are subject to water quality standards and export decisions taken from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Water Rights Decision 1485. This provides for CVP/SWP proportional splits of 75/25 responsibility for meeting in basin use from stored water releases and 55/45 for capture and export of excess flow. It also requires a commitment of about 2.3 million acre-feet from both projects during a critical water supply period.

USBR operates both Shasta and Keswick Dams and therefore plays a key role in the regeneration and Health of the riparian forest downstream. It also operates the Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek and East Park and Stony Gorge Reservoirs on Stony Creek. USBR also operates Red Bluff Diversion Dam, the diversion point into the Tehama-Colusa and Corning Canals, which irrigate the west side of the Sacramento Valley.

### **For Further Information:**

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Region  
Northern California Area Office  
16349 Shasta Dam Boulevard  
Shasta Lake, CA 96019  
Phone: (530) 275-1554

## **United States Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is a federal agency within the United States Department of the Interior responsible for the management of public lands and resources. BLM manages California's "public domain." Public domain includes all of the unsold federal lands within the state which are not withdrawn or reserved for some other federal purpose (e.g., Department of Defense, National Forests, National Parks and Monuments, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Water Project, etc.) While the majority of BLM lands are in the southern California deserts, public lands exist throughout the state.

BLM management is based upon the principles of multiple-use and sustained yield, which strives to balance the nation's short-term needs with the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and non-renewable resources. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 gives the BLM authority to establish policy and guidelines for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of public lands that it manages. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 requires BLM to manage public lands for multiple uses, including recreation, wilderness, animal and plant species, grazing, mining, and alternative energy. The Act authorizes the use of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, and scenic values; fish or wildlife resources; other natural systems or processes; or to protect human life and safety from natural hazards.

Much of BLM's jurisdictional area encompasses rivers and streams with substantial recreational and ecological value. BLM manages the riparian areas along those streams which flow through its jurisdictional area as part of its mandate to provide for multiple use of its resources. BLM recently completed a Riparian/Wetland Statewide strategy that calls for interdisciplinary planning, on-the-ground improvements of wetland/riparian areas, monitoring, outreach efforts, and expanding work with partners and volunteers to restore and enhance wetland/riparian areas.

BLM is consolidating public land parcels through land exchanges and Land and Water Conservation Fund purchases in order to improve management of riparian areas along rivers. BLM is also involved in Challenge Cost Share programs with environmental groups, private organizations, and other government agencies.

BLM is developing cooperative agreements with farmers and cattle ranchers to help protect riparian areas. It has revised its grazing management plans to reduce overgrazing near sensitive stream and river banks and to increase monitoring. With the help of volunteers, BLM has been fencing riparian areas in order to provide appropriate livestock grazing prescriptions, rehabilitating closed roads, and restoring native plant species along river banks.

BLM takes part in the Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) process, a collaborative public-private project planning and implementation process which seeks to involve all interested parties in management and restoration decisions and in project implementation. CRMP projects include innovative bank restoration projects and restoration of riparian habitat. BLM is also participating in bioregional planning and management efforts.



BLM owns and manages the Sacramento River Area in Tehama County, as described in Chapter 7. This land was acquired to protect riparian and wetland resources in the northern Sacramento Valley, to enhance anadromous fisheries, and to provide recreational opportunities. BLM also owns other scattered parcels along the river, including Todd and Foster Islands in Tehama County.

**For Further Information:**

Bureau of Land Management  
355 Hemsted Drive  
Redding, CA 96002-0910  
Phone: (530) 224-2100

**United States Geologic Survey**

The USGS provides geologic, topographic, and hydrologic information that contributes to the management of resources. USGS collects data on a routine basis to determine quantity, quality, and use of surface and groundwater; conducts water resources appraisals describing the consequences of alternative plans for developing land and water resources; researches hydraulics and hydrology; and coordinates all federal water data acquisition.

The U.S. Geologic Survey has studied many issues along the river related to geomorphology and geology and has completed the most comprehensive description of the geology of the area. The agency also operates a network of streamflow gaging stations on the Sacramento River and its tributaries.

**For Further Information:**

For USGS quadrangle sheets of the Sacramento River and for information regarding digital map information, contact:

U.S. Geologic Survey  
Earth Science Information Center  
345 Middlefield Road, MS 532  
Menlo Park, CA 94025-3591  
Phone: (415) 329-4309

**United States Army Corps of Engineers**

The mission of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is twofold: 1) to provide engineering expertise and oversight for military and certain non-military construction and public works projects; and 2) to ensure the navigability and environmental protection of the waters of the United States. The USACE is the principal federal agency involved in the regulation of wetlands; however, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has oversight responsibilities.

**Civil Works**

The USACE carries on an extensive civil works (water resources development) program, including the planning, design, construction and operation of flood control

and navigation projects, levee systems, and shoreline erosion control works. Much of its work, with respect to inland waterways during the past half century, has been engineered flood control facilities and the creation and maintenance of navigable shipping channels. The Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP) falls under USACE authority (Chapter 2).

### **Environmental Protection**

Since 1890, the Corps has regulated activities in the nation's waterways, primarily to remove obstructions and ensure navigability for commerce and recreation. Starting in the late 1960s, this regulatory role broadened to include consideration and protection of the environmental values of waters of the United States.

Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1974, the USACE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands.

Waters of the United States include essentially all surface waters such as all navigable waters and their tributaries, all interstate waters and their tributaries, all wetlands adjacent to these waters, and all impoundments of these waters. "Wetlands" are areas characterized by growth of wetland vegetation (bulrush, cattails, rushes, sedges, willows, pickleweed, iodine bush, etc.) where the soil is saturated during a portion of the growing season or the surface is flooded during some part of most years. Wetlands include marshes, vernal pools, seasonally saturated depressions and similar areas.

Prior to issuance of a Section 404 permit, the permittee must receive Section 401 water quality certification or a waiver of certification from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Board issues 401 certification for activities that comply with all pertinent water quality standards. The USACE also administers Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which requires approval prior to the accomplishment of any work in or over navigable waters of the United States, or which affects the course, location, condition, or capacity of such waters. Typical activities requiring Section 10 permits are: construction of piers, wharves, bulkheads, dolphins, marinas, ramps, floats, intake structures, and cable or pipeline crossing, dredging, and excavation. Under Section 10, the landward regulatory limit for non-tidal waters (in the absence of adjacent wetlands) is the ordinary high water mark. The ordinary high water mark is the line on the shores established by the fluctuations of water and indicated by physical characteristics such as a clear natural line impressed on the bank; shelving; changes in the character of the soil; destruction of terrestrial vegetation; the presence of litter and debris; or other appropriate means that consider the characteristics of the surrounding areas.

Any person, firm, or agency (including governmental agencies) planning to work in navigable waters of the United States, or to place dredged or fill material in waters of the United States, must first obtain a USACE permit.

**For Information on the Sacramento River Flood Control Project, or  
Regarding Riparian Habitat Issues along the Sacramento River:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District 1325 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922  
Phone: (916) 557-6708

**For Information Regarding Section 404 Permits:**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Sacramento District  
Regulatory Branch  
1325 J Street, Room 1480  
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922  
Phone: (916) 557-5268

**United States Natural Resource Conservation Service**

The mission of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) is to provide national leadership in the conservation, development, and productive use of the nation's soil, water and related resources through a balanced, cooperative program that protects, restores and improves those resources. Formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service, the NRCS provides technical assistance in the conservation and sustained use of the nation's soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources through partnerships with local Resource Conservation Districts, state and federal Conservation Agencies, farm organizations, private interest groups, and other special districts. In addition, NRCS develops conservation plans for private landowners, makes recommendations on the installation of conservation practices, provides engineering survey and design information, conducts and publishes soils surveys and is responsible for maintaining National Resource Inventory information.

NRCS administers the conservation provisions of the 1985, 1990 and 1996 Farm Bills and makes highly erodible land and wetland determinations as they relate to growers participation in USDA subsidy programs. NRCS also administers the Wetland Reserve Program (WRP), Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP), PL-566 Small Watersheds Program and provides technical assistance for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP).

**For Further Information:**

***Shasta County:***

Natural Resources Cons. Service  
3179 Bechelli Lane, Suite 107  
96002-2041  
Phone: (530) 246-5252

***Glenn County:***

Natural Resources Cons. Service  
132-B North Enright  
Redding, CA  
Willows, CA 95988  
Phone: (530) 934-4601

***Tehama County:***

Natural Resources Cons. Service  
#2 Sutter Street, Suite D  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 527-4231

***Colusa County:***

Natural Resources Cons. Service  
100 Sunrise Boulevard, Suite B  
Colusa, CA 95932  
Phone: (530) 458-2931

***Butte County:***

Natural Resources Cons. Service  
Soil Survey Office, CSUC  
Chico, CA 95926-0310  
Phone: (530) 898-4903

***Sutter County:***

Natural Resource Cons. Service  
1511 Butte House Road, Suite B  
Yuba City, CA 95993  
Phone: (530) 674-1461

***Yolo County:***

Natural Resource Conservation  
Service 221 West Court Street,  
Suite 1  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Phone: (530) 662-2037

**United States Forest Service**

The United States Forest Service (USFS) manages approximately 20 million acres of National Forest lands, about 20 percent of the land in California. By law, National Forest resources are managed for many uses including water supply and watershed protection, timber, range, fishery and wildlife habitat, and recreation. About 50 percent of the water supply in California originates in watersheds within national forests and the headwaters of most rivers and streams are found in national forests.

Approximately 1,000 miles of federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers originate or pass through one or more national forest. Some 3.9 million acres have been set aside as Wilderness under the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Management of riparian and aquatic resources in National Forests is guided by standards and guidelines found in individual Forest Land and Resource Management Plans, as well as national environmental legislation such as the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Endangered Species Act. All National Forests use a special management designation for riparian areas (Streamside Management Zone) and land management activities that affect the riparian area may be modified or curtailed when impacts to riparian resources are anticipated. Wildlife management on the forests is conducted in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

The U.S. Forest Service owns the Lake Red Bluff Recreation Area in Red Bluff. This 488-acre site includes two boat launching facilities, camping and picnicking areas, and paved trails. Several riparian habitat restoration projects are on the site, which also houses the Sacramento River Discovery Center.

**For Further Information:**

U.S. Forest Service  
Red Bluff Recreation Area  
1000 Sale Lane  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 527-2813

**National Marine Fisheries Service**

The mission of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is to conserve, manage, and develop living marine resources and to promote the continued use of these resources for the nation's benefit. Although NMFS jurisdiction and management activities are primarily confined to the coastal zone and its network of estuaries, the agency also is an advocate of measures to protect the health of salmon and other anadromous species. Together with eight Regional Fishery Management Councils and the coastal states, NMFS manages U.S. fisheries under the authority of the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and many other federal statutes. Together with the states and the U.S. Coast Guard, NMFS also operates a stringent program to enforce fisheries and protected species laws.

Each NMFS Regional Office is served by a Science and Research Center that conducts the studies necessary to support management decisions. Research that contributes to this important work is conducted at the 24 NMFS laboratories which collect fisheries statistics, perform resource and environmental surveys, study the biology and population structures of marine species, analyze the ecosystems that control the abundance and distribution of living marine resources, and investigate contaminants of the nation's seafood supply.

NMFS serves as a caretaker for many marine species protected under the Endangered Species Act, including stocks of Pacific salmon. NMFS works to recover these depleted resources, protecting species from activities that threaten their safety and critical habitat.

The National Marine Fisheries Service works along the Sacramento River because of its interest in anadromous fish, such as steelhead and winter, spring and fall run salmon.

**For Further Information:**

National Marine Fisheries Service  
777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 325  
Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
Phone: (707) 575-6052

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established in 1970 to protect, maintain, restore, and enhance environmental quality and human health through the regulation of activities that have potentially harmful effects on air, water, and land resources. The EPA is charged with protecting the environment through pollution prevention, reduction, remediation, and education. In so doing, it is the EPA's

expressed intent to use the best available scientific information to: 1) foster the integration of economic development and environmental protection so that economic growth can be sustained over the long-term; and 2) to ensure that decisions affecting energy, transportation, agriculture, industry, international trade, and natural resources fully include considerations of environmental quality.

The EPA exercises authority through the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), National Pretreatment Program, Ocean Dumping/Dredging and Fill, and has delegated to states the authority to certify that permitted actions are consistent with the state's water quality objectives under the Clean Water Act. While the EPA is responsible for the administration of the Clean Water Act, management of water pollution control generally is the responsibility of the states.

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act requires EPA to establish regulations setting forth a program of NPDES permits for effluent discharges from point sources of pollution to surface waters. Point sources include municipal storm water management systems, manufacturing plant effluent, sewage treatment plants and storm water runoff from certain industrial and construction sites. NPDES permit programs are delegated to the states once the EPA has approved the State permitting process. The EPA retains oversight and authority, however, to object to individual permits when deemed necessary for water quality protection.

The EPA also has responsibilities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This section regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material to waters of the United States. The EPA reviews and comments on public notices and pre-discharge notification for individual and nationwide permits, respectively. EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers have independent enforcement authority under Section 404.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is involved in enforcing 404 permits along the Sacramento River, as well as administering grants through its 319 and other grant programs. In addition to its regulatory responsibilities, the EPA provides technical assistance, conducts educational activities, and provides grant funding to state and local governments for a variety of pollution prevention and reduction activities in the watershed.

**For Further Information:**

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901  
Phone: (916) 744-1300

**Federal Emergency Management Agency**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides flood insurance to jurisdictions that meet the criteria for participation in its program. The program was initiated to encourage better floodplain management and reduce damages in flood-prone areas. To identify flood-prone areas, FEMA requires delineation of a 100-year floodplain, which is then subject to regulation. In developed or developing areas, FEMA also identifies a part of the floodplain called the "floodway" that is subject to

extreme limitations on development. In general, structural developments are prohibited in the floodway. The floodway is technically defined as the portion of the floodplain which is required to convey the 100-year peak flow with no more than a one-foot increase in the computed water surface elevation. Development is generally allowed outside of the floodway, although purchase of flood insurance is generally required.

FEMA also administers emergency public assistance under the Stafford Act. The FEMA public assistance program will fund emergency repairs to damaged, publicly maintained bank protection along the Sacramento River.

Much of the Sacramento River Conservation Area falls within the 100-year floodplain as defined by FEMA. The Conservation Area also includes many areas that FEMA designates as floodways.

**For Further Information:**

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Region IX  
Presidio, Building 105  
San Francisco, CA 94129  
Phone: (415) 923-7177

**Flood Insurance:**

NFIP (Region IX)  
Computer Sciences Corporation  
5777 Madison Avenue, Suite 810  
Sacramento, CA 95841  
Phone: (916) 334-1720

**Ordering Maps (Flood Map Distribution Center):**

1-800-358-9616

## **PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS**

### **California Central Valley Flood Control Association**

The nonprofit California Central Valley Flood Control Association was formed in 1926 to promote the common interest in maintaining effective flood control systems for protection of life, property, and environmental values. The purposes of the organization include promoting awareness and distributing of information on flood-related issues and promoting effective flood control systems at the state and federal levels. Members include reclamation, flood control, levee, drainage, protective and similar districts, political subdivisions, public corporations, owners of record, nonprofit organizations and other persons, corporations, or organizations.

**For Further Information:**

California Central Valley Flood Control Association  
910 K Street, Suite 310  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 446-0197

### **Sacramento River Discovery Center**

Opened in 1996, the Sacramento River Discovery Center provides information to the public about the river, its dynamic nature, the history of its development by humans, and methods for improving the health of its ecosystem. Its mission is to promote an understanding of the many uses of the Sacramento River. The center provides school children and adults with the opportunity to view fish, native plants and communities of flora and fauna endemic to the Sacramento riverine system. The center is located on U.S. Forest Service property on the Sacramento River near Red Bluff. The many acres of living classroom provide visitors to the center with a sense of the various uses of the river. Currently housed in a temporary facility, the ultimate goal of the Sacramento River Discovery Center is to open a 20,000 square foot building that will house an interpretive center as well as an education and research facility. The Discovery Center is a non-profit tax exempt organization, managed by a board of directors, interns, and volunteers.

#### **For Further Information:**

Sacramento River Discovery Center  
P.O. Box 1298  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Phone: (530) 527-1196

### **Sacramento River Preservation Trust**

Founded in the 1984 in response to the Chico Landing to Red Bluff bank stabilization project, The Sacramento River Preservation Trust is a nonprofit organization devoted to the preservation and rehabilitation of the riparian system which exists along the Sacramento River Corridor.

The Trust is currently concerned primarily with educating the public and retaining constant awareness of the policies and regulations that may impact the Sacramento River and her environment. The Trust is a membership based non-profit, tax-exempt organization.

#### **For Further Information:**

Sacramento River Preservation Trust  
P.O. Box 5366  
Chico, CA 95927  
Phone: (530) 345-1865

### **Sacramento Valley Landowners Association**

The Sacramento Valley Landowners Association consists of farmers and allied groups concerned with maintaining flood control facilities promoting bank protection, supporting agricultural endeavors, and representing the membership's concerns at meetings and forums. SVLA members own or control more than 100 miles of river frontage and farm almost 100,000 acres. SVLA supports river management and flood protection that is economically sound and ecologically reasonable.



**For Further Information:**

Sacramento Valley Landowners Association  
P.O. Box 879  
Los Molinos, CA 96055  
Phone: (916) 384-0161

