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Media Advisory

For immediate release

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River Partners, USFWS, DFG and PCGID-PID to Host Public Meeting *Community input sought on protecting pumping plant and Riparian Sanctuary section of Llano Seco.*

WHAT: In partnership with the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), the California Department of Fish & Game (DFG), and the Princeton, Cordora, Glenn, and Provident Irrigation Districts (PCGID-PID), River Partners invites interested community members and agencies to participate in a scoping meeting. Currently, River Partners, the USFWS, DFG, and PCGID-PID are developing management options that will protect the PCGID-PD pumping plant and the 940-acre Riparian Sanctuary section of the Llano Seco unit of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge.

The next phase in this collaborative project is preparing an environmental impact statement/ impact report (EIS/EIR), for which public input is vital. The goal of the public meeting is to gather information related to the various management options proposed, such as: preferred project alternative, appropriate mitigation measures and the nature of potential environmental impacts. As a starting point for public comments, River Partners will give an overview of the project and a progress report on the technical investigations.

Management options, information and technical documents on the project may be found at:
<http://www.riverpartners.org/where-we-work/sanctuary/sanctuary.html>.
<http://www.riverpartners.org/where-we-work/sanctuary/documents.html>

This meeting is an official National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping process. Citizens may participate by attending the public hearing and/or sending written suggestions on the issues that should be addressed in the draft EIS/EIR.

WHEN: **Tuesday, May 10, 2011;** 4:00 – 6:30 pm

WHERE: Ord Community Hall, 3241 Highway 45, Ord Bend, CA. Located 0.6 mi north of the intersection of Ord Ferry Rd (Co. Rd. 32) with Hwy 45 in Glenn County.

WHO: River Partners specializes in river habitat restoration. Since 1998 it has planted one million native trees, shrubs and plants and initiated restoration on over 6,000 acres along California's major rivers. Its mission is to create wildlife habitat for the benefit of people and the environment.

The Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex is part of a network of nearly 540 NWRs managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to protect over 95 million acres of habitat. Created in 1937, Sacramento NWR is the headquarters for the Complex of five refuges: Sacramento NWR, Delevan NWR, Colusa NWR, Sutter NWR, and Sacramento River NWR.

The Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District (PCGID) and Provident Irrigation District (PID) include 27,000 acres of agricultural land in the Sacramento Valley. The districts provide water for irrigation, wetlands management and straw decomposition. In 1999, they consolidated 3 existing unscreened pumping plants into a single pumping plant at Sacramento River Mile 178R with an \$11 million state-of-the art fish screen.

The Department of Fish and Game, with responsibility to encourage the preservation, conservation and maintenance of wildlife resources including the conservation, protection and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species, will serve as the lead agency for CEQA review.