



Field Activity Advisory May 11, 2009

This notice is to inform you that the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) will be conducting biological field surveys in certain areas of the Eastside Bypass beginning May 18.

Who: California State University, Stanislaus, on behalf of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Water Resources

What: Biological surveys in Eastside Bypass will focus on the presence of blunt-nosed leopard lizards and their habitat, with secondary observations of seasonal wetlands, blue elderberry shrubs, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, giant garter snake, silvery legless lizard, San Joaquin kit fox, San Joaquin wood rat, ringtail, and Delta button-celery.

The surveys seek to identify the types and amounts of biological resources present in the bypasses downstream of the Sand Slough Control Structure. Survey activities will involve a team of up to 10 individuals visiting each site 12 times from May 18 to July 15, and five times from August 1 to September 15, 2009. The surveyors will walk in linear groups through the entire survey area. To the extent that potential blunt-nosed leopard lizard habitat is present adjacent to the levee, the survey boundary will be extended up to 330 feet from the top of the bypass levee onto adjoining lands. As the surveyors walk through the area, they will make visual observations and observations using binoculars. The surveyors will prepare mapping and documentation showing all areas surveyed. No physical activities (such as excavation, soil probing, etc) are required to complete the survey. No construction equipment will be used.

When: Biological surveys are scheduled to begin May 18 and conclude September 15, 2009. No field activities will occur from July 16 to July 31, 2009. A second survey period is scheduled to begin on August 1, 2009 and conclude on September 15, 2009. All surveys will be conducted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Special arrangements for surveys earlier in the day may be necessary if high temperatures are experienced.

Where: Selected areas of the Eastside Bypass. These areas include State and Federal lands, and on private lands with advance permission of the landowner.

If you have questions, please contact the SJRRP Landowner Coordinator, Craig Moyle. Craig's contact information is provided below.

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For more information, please visit the SJRRP Web site at www.restoresjr.net.