



Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way, MP-170
Sacramento, Calif. 95825-1898

Field Activity Advisory February 2011

This notice is to inform you that the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) plans to conduct biological and cultural resource field surveys in and around the San Joaquin River as part of the Mendota Pool Bypass and Reach 2B Improvements Project beginning February 28, 2011.

Who: Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Water Resources, URS Corporation

What: The biological surveys include focused surveys of elderberry shrubs and observations of wildlife habitat, botanical resources, and wetland resources in the project area. The surveys may also note the presence of habitat for blunt-nosed leopard lizards, valley elderberry longhorn beetle, giant garter snake, Fresno kangaroo rat, and other special status plant and wildlife species and vegetation communities. Survey activities will involve crews of up to eleven individuals surveying Reach 2B. The surveyors will access the survey area by vehicle and foot. Surveyors will drive or walk in groups through the identified survey area. As the surveyors walk through the area, they will make observations, including the use of binoculars and hand-held tools to characterize the soils. Elderberry shrubs will be mapped, and elderberry stems will be counted and searched for sign (exit holes) of the valley elderberry longhorn beetle). No significant physical activities (such as mechanical excavation) are required to complete the survey and no construction equipment will be used.

When: The surveys are scheduled to begin February 28 and conclude March 31. All surveys are planned to be conducted between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m. This schedule allows surveys to occur when wildlife is most active.

Where: The San Joaquin River from the Chowchilla Bifurcation to a point approximately two river miles downstream of Mendota Dam and along Fresno and Little San Joaquin Sloughs where access is available by landowner permission.

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.