

6TH State of the

Sacramento River Watershed Conference

Thursday and Friday,
October 27-28, 2005

Red Bluff Community Center
1500 South Jackson
Red Bluff, California





Dear Friends

Dear Friend,

Since its founding in 1984, the Sacramento River Preservation Trust (Trust) has been dedicated to protecting and preserving the natural values of the Sacramento River ecosystem. In support of that mission, the Trust has convened a series of state of the river conferences over the years, starting in 1988. The intervening years have been full of activity, including the birth of several non-profits with missions that compliment the work of the Trust. As a consequence, the 6th State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference is the product of a joint effort this time around.

A snapshot of our partners in this endeavor follows:

Sacramento River Watershed Program

The Sacramento River Watershed Program (SRWP) is an effort to bring stakeholders together to share information and resources and address all water-related issues within the Sacramento River watershed. The SRWP was initiated in February 1996 at a meeting attended by nearly 150 people, with several subcommittees formed to promote environmental protection and collaboration. After numerous meetings involving a wide range of stakeholder interests, the subcommittees identified important parameters and developed a water quality monitoring program. The SRWP began monitoring the Sacramento River in May 1998.

The SRWP was certified in 2002 as a California not-for-profit corporation, and received 501(c)(3) status in 2003. The SRWP is overseen by a 21-member Board of Trustees and functions through several committees and workgroups—all are open to any who wish to participate.

The mission of the SRWP is to ensure that current and potential uses of the watershed's resources are sustained, restored, and where possible, enhanced, while promoting the long-term social and economic vitality of the region.

The SRWP provides a network for building a basin-wide context to improve watershed health. It operates through consensus-based collaborative partnerships, coordination of research and monitoring, and enhancing mutual education among the stakeholders of the Sacramento River watershed. The program works to support and preserve the integrity of local efforts. It strives to resolve watershed issues with local participation and a watershed-wide perspective. The SRWP also helps disseminate information about the watershed and conducts monitoring activities to continually assess water quality and other indicators of watershed health.

Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum

The Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum (SRCAF) evolved from state legislation in 1986 that called for a management plan to protect, restore, and enhance both the fisheries and riparian habitat of the Sacramento River. The SRCAF held its first Board meeting in May 2000. The diverse group of stakeholders making up the Board of Directors works cooperatively to ensure that riparian habitat management addresses not only the dynamics of riparian ecosystems but also the realities of local agricultural and recreational issues.

Since its inception the SRCAF has coordinated or helped facilitate several multi-purpose activities including: a US Army Corps of Engineers (COE) Feasibility Study for Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration at Hamilton City; short and long term solutions to the gravel bar intrusion at the M & T/ Llano Seco Ranches pumping plant that also provides water for state and federal refuges and fish flows in Butte Creek; a conservation easement acquisition of rights along several miles of Battle Creek and the Sacramento River that will retain valuable agricultural land and protect and restore habitat; the development of a Public Use and Recreation Plan for the area between Red Bluff and Colusa; the restoration of hundreds of acres of flood and erosion prone areas near the river, and; sub-reach planning efforts at Chico Landing, Beehive Bend, and Colusa. Future efforts include a balanced ecosystem and erosion prevention project by the COE at Woodson Bridge and the development of a comprehensive incentive program that provides incidental take for landowners through a Safe Harbor Agreement that would encourage landowners to provide habitat benefits on their land.

The SRCAF is continually working with the California Department of Water Resources and the Geographical Information Center at CSU, Chico on an interactive website with a project tracker to provide information about public access, recreational facilities and acquisition/restoration projects along the river. One of the most important functions of the SRCAF is to ensure local involvement in such activities.

It has now been four years since our last conference. A great deal has changed, yet much remains the same. We invite you to join us once again as we address both the current state of the river and the possibilities that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

John Merz
President
Sacramento River Preservation Trust



Program



Thursday, October 27, 2005

7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Registration

8:45 a.m. Welcome

John Merz, President, Sacramento River Preservation Trust

9:00 a.m. Plenary Session ~ CALFED: To Be or Not to Be?

John Merz (Moderator)

CALFED - An Overview

Diana Jacobs, CA Department of Fish and Game (DFG)

Watershed Program

John Lowrie, California Bay-Delta Authority (CBDA)

Ecosystem Restoration Program

Rebecca Fris, CBDA

Science Program

Lauren Hastings, CBDA

Working Landscapes

Denny Bungarz, Glenn County Supervisor

10:15 - 10:30 a.m. BREAK

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Introduction to Topics Covered in Afternoon Breakout Discussion Sessions

Habitat Restoration

John Carlon, River Partners

Water Quality

Kathy Russick, Sacramento River Watershed Program (SRWP)

River Recreation/Access

Gregg Werner, The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Fisheries and Wildlife

Tom Griggs, River Partners

Invasive Plants

Steve Schoenig, CA Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)

Local Watershed Programs

Dennis Bowker, CBDA

12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch and Special Guest Speaker

Stein Buer, Executive Director, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency

Floods in Our Future: Nature is Ready...Are We?

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Part 1 Breakout Sessions

The Nature of Restoration Design - A Case Study

John Carlon, River Partners (Moderator)

Joe Countryman, MBK Engineering

Dan Efseaff, River Partners

Eric Larsen, UC Davis

What's Being Done to Keep Our Rivers Clean

Kathy Russick, SRWP (Moderator)

Aaron Ferguson, Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition

Lisa Holm, CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program

Stephen McCord, Larry Walker Associates

Rick Sugarek, US Environmental Protection Agency

This Land is Your Land: Enjoy It

Gregg Werner, TNC (Moderator)

Ellen Clark, CA State Department of Parks and Recreation

Denise Dachner, US Fish and Wildlife Service

John Peterson, Turtle Bay Exploration Park

Kelly Williams, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

3:00 - 3:15 p.m. BREAK

3:15 - 4:45 p.m. Part II Breakout Sessions

Having a Talk on the Wild Side

Tom Griggs, River Partners (Moderator)

Geoff Guepel, PRBO Conservation Science

Chrissy Howell, The Nature Conservancy

Joe Silveira, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Jim Smith, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Invasive Plants: Explosion in Slow Motion

Steve Schoenig, CDFA (Moderator)

Jan Lowrey, Cache Creek Conservancy

Susan Mason, Friends of Bidwell Park

Mark Newhouser, Sonoma Ecology Center

Mary Pfeiffer, Shasta County Department of Agriculture

Local Watershed Stewardship: Building Effective Watershed Programs

Dennis Bowker, CBDA (Moderator)

Vicky Dawley, Tehama County Resource Conservation District

Rich Marovich, Solano County Water Agency

Jason Rainey, South Yuba River Citizens League

Pia Sevelius, Butte County Resource Conservation District

4:45 - 5:00 p.m. Wrap up

Program



6:00 - 8:30 p.m SRWP Annual Stakeholder Meeting and Dinner

Welcome and Overview of 2005 SRWP Activities
Kathy Russick - Executive Director

Vision for SRWP
Butch Hodgkins - SRWP Board of Trustees Chair

Views on Northern California Watersheds
Doug LaMalfa - California Assembly Member

Watershed Excellence Awards
Mary Lee Knecht - SRWP Education Coordinator

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Evening Reception & Networking
Light appetizers and no-host bar with beer and wine.

Resource Websites in the Sacramento River Watershed

Many exciting websites have been developed within the Sacramento River watershed to provide on-line resources to users. Four of these website projects will be featured at the conference. The capabilities of these website projects will be on display during the morning break, at lunch, throughout the afternoon and at the reception following the conference.

Sacramento River: A Guide to Recreation and Public Access
(<http://www.sacramentoriver.org>)

The Sacramento River provides a wide range of recreational opportunities. This website provides information on ways to access the river along its entire length. The on-line Sacramento River Recreation and Public Access Guide was conceived as a way to help people find their way through the many jurisdictions that manage land along the river. At the core of the website is a map linked to an extensive database of recreation sites on public and private lands.

UC Davis Information Center for the Environment (ICE)
(<http://ice.ucdavis.edu>)

ICE is an environmental information brokerage and research laboratory in the Department of Environmental Science & Policy at the University of California, Davis. ICE specializes in the development and dissemination of geospatial data and technologies; the development of robust data architectures dedicated to the cataloging of global environmental information; and the creation of decision support systems geared toward improving the capabilities of resource managers in a variety of sectors.

Western Shasta Watershed Information Model (WIM)
(<http://wim.shastacollege.edu>)

The Western Shasta Resource Conservation District's WIM provides on-line access to data, reports, and other resources through a Geographic Information System (GIS) interface. This project is located in Northern California and is a collaborative partnership that addresses management challenges and research opportunities in 18 different watersheds covering a 4 million acre study area. The mission of WIM is to allow anyone with an interest in watershed management to access the best scientific information on local natural resources, quickly and efficiently.

Sacramento River Watershed Portal & Library
(<http://www.watershedportal.org>)

The on-line Sacramento River Portal & Library allows users to easily enter reports, studies, data sets, events, and other resources. As more material and metadata are entered, time and resources will be saved and science and decision making will improve through better access to information. The Portal is built on open source watershed portal software and is supported by sponsors and volunteers under the direction of Wolf and Associates.

Field Trips



Field Trips and River Float

Red Bluff Area Field Trips and River Float – Meet at Sacramento River Discovery Center (SRDC) parking lot (1000 Sale Lane, Red Bluff) and carpool from there to various sites. Participants are responsible for their own lunch. Snacks and water will be provided.

Clear Creek Restoration Project

Friday, October 28, 2005
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This field trip will cover the history and rehabilitation of the Lower Clear Creek watershed. Included in the field trip will be a tour of the CBDA-funded Lower Clear Creek Floodway Rehabilitation Project, a multi-phase restoration project that to date has created over 100 acres of floodplain and re-vegetated 50 acres with native plant species. Additionally, this is the perfect time to view fall run Chinook salmon and learn about their recovery both in the project area and at the former Saeltzer Dam site. Please bring a sturdy pair of shoes for walking.

Location: Begins and ends at the SRDC
Cost: \$10 to cover refreshments

Sponsors: Western Shasta Resource Conservation District and Sacramento River Watershed Program.

Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge Restoration Tour

Friday, October 28, 2005
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

In 1989, Congress authorized the creation of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge. This authorization included the potential purchase of up to 18,000 acres of riverine lands between Red Bluff and Colusa. At this time, approximately 12,000 acres have been acquired, encompassing 27 different units within the River Refuge.

This field trip will begin with an orientation and poster presentation at the SRDC by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We will then proceed to the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge where you will see floodplain and riparian habitat restoration from the earliest stages of planning and orchard removal to well established re-vegetated sites reconnected to the river channel. A variety of wildlife may be encountered during the trip including wintering landbirds such as the Red-shafted Flicker, Black Phoebe, Western Bluebird, Audubon's Warbler, Ruby-crowned Sparrow, and Oregon Junco.

First stop will be the Ohm Unit, where Ryan Luster will describe how and why The Nature Conservancy restored the riparian

forests here. Next we will break for lunch at the Flynn Unit gravel bar. Joe Silveira, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will describe the fish, wildlife, endangered species, and habitat management at this refuge unit. Our final leg of the tour will be at the La Barranta Unit where Tom Griggs will discuss the proposed floodplain topography and riparian forest restoration by River Partners.

Location: Begins and ends at the SRDC

Cost: \$10 to cover refreshments

Sponsors: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, River Partners, The Nature Conservancy and Sacramento River Preservation Trust.

Hike of the Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern

Friday, October 28, 2005
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

This field trip will begin with an orientation and presentation at the Sacramento River Discovery Center by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). We will then form a carpool and drive to the beginning of the Yana Trail. You will be spending the day hiking along a portion of the Trail, exploring the Sacramento River and Paynes Creek. The hike will cover riparian zones, blue oak savannah, steeply incised volcanic canyons and will include some dramatic vistas of the Sacramento River and surrounding landforms. Points of interest, history and BLM management will be discussed. The region being visited is part of a special management unit known as the Sacramento River Bend Outstanding Natural Area (ONA) or Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). The hike will be easy to moderate and approximately 5 miles round-trip. At least half of the hike will be cross-country so sturdy boots will be a necessity.

Location: Begins and ends at the SRDC

Cost: \$10 to cover refreshments

Sponsors: The Bureau of Land Management and Sacramento River Preservation Trust.

Sponsors



The Trust, SRWP and SRCAF wish to gratefully acknowledge the following organizations and individuals for their generous financial contributions. The 6th State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference would not have been possible without their help.

Major Sponsors

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
California Department of Fish and Game
Kelly Meagher
River Partners
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
Sierra Nevada Brewing Company
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
US Fish and Wildlife Service,
Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office

Sponsors

US Bureau of Land Management
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency
Larry Walker Associates

Supporters

California Department of Parks and Recreation
California Department of Water Resources
California Urban Water Agencies

College of Engineering, Computer Science and
Construction Management and the
College of Natural Sciences, CSU, Chico*
Friends of the River
Somach, Simmons and Dunn
The Fly Shop
US Fish and Wildlife Service,
Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Contributors

Altacal Audubon Society
EDAW
MBK Engineers
MMC Communications
NORCAL Fishing Guides and Sportsmen's Association
Tehama County Resource Conservation District
Water Education Foundation
Western Shasta Resource Conservation District
Wildlands Inc.

Friends

Raptor Rod Works
Shasta Fly Fishers

Special Thanks

The Trust, SRWP and SRCAF would also like to give special recognition to:
Lassen Peak Winery, Rich Nelson Design, Tuscan Brewery

*Student scholarships sponsored by CSU, Chico

River Float

Friday, October 28, 2005
9:00 a.m. – mid-afternoon

We will be starting at the boat ramp just downstream of the Red Bluff Diversion Dam, near the SRDC. To begin we will coordinate a shuttle to the take-out at Mill Creek Park in Los Molinos. This will be followed by a brief introduction to the Red Bluff Recreation Area, which is managed by Mendocino National Forest. Once on the water, you will have a great time viewing wildlife such as osprey, river otter and bald eagles along this Class One float down the Sacramento River. We will have a bring-your-own on-river lunch, so please remember to pack food, water and snacks as needed. Rafts, paddles, and life-vests will be provided. Children are welcome to come. It is asked that they be a minimum of 90 lbs or around 8 years old.

Location: Begins and ends near the SRDC.
Cost: \$40

Sponsors: North Country Rentals and Sacramento River Preservation Trust.

Conference Notes

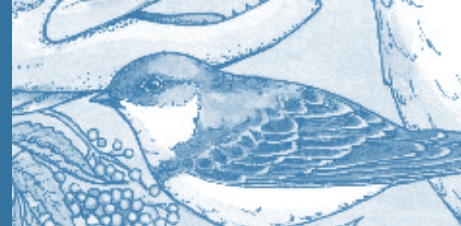
Field trip activities are subject to change and/or cancellation. Please note that early registration is highly recommended, as space is limited for all activities.

Information on the City of Red Bluff and the surrounding region (including a listing of hotel and restaurants) is available by visiting www.redbluffchamberofcommerce.com.

Should you need any additional information about the conference, please contact the Sacramento River Preservation Trust at (530) 345-1865. To inquire about the SRWP Annual Stakeholder Meeting and Dinner, please call Mary Lee Knecht at (916) 446-6440.

Exhibit booths and technical poster presentations will be displayed at the conference on Thursday, October 27, until 6 p.m. Space is limited. If you wish to participate in this way, please contact us immediately.

Registration



Registration Form

Please indicate the number of participants

Conference Fees

___ October 27 Conference Only* (General/Student**) \$30/\$5

___ October 27 SRWP Annual Dinner Meeting Only \$25

___ October 27 Conference* and SRWP Annual Dinner Meeting (General/Student**) \$55/\$30

*includes continental breakfast, lunch & refreshments

** fill out additional form by contacting the Trust at (530) 345-1865

Field Trips & River Tour

All activities are being held on Friday, October 28

___ Clear Creek Restoration Project \$10

___ Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge Restoration Tour \$10

___ Hike of the Bend Area of Critical Environmental Concern \$10

___ River Rafting Float from Red Bluff to Los Molinos \$40

Pre-Registration Deadline is Tuesday, October 25. Registration at the door will involve a \$10 surcharge. If you are not a member of the Sacramento River Preservation Trust and would like your registration fee applied to membership, please initial here ___

If interested in exhibit space, please initial here ___

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ Fax _____

Email: _____

Total enclosed \$ _____ or please charge my VISA/MC/DISC/AMEX (circle one)

Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____

(print)

Card Holder's Name _____

Signature: _____

To Register Online

Please visit www.sacrivertrust.org and sign-up online. Have your credit card ready when visiting site.

Complete the registration form and mail it with your payment by credit card or check made payable to: SRPT, P.O. Box 5366, Chico, CA, 95927. Or Fax this form, with complete credit card information, to (530) 899-5105. A confirmation letter and map will be sent upon receipt of the registration form. Refunds for cancellations will be given if requested in writing by October 28, 2005.

No refunds will be given after that date.

Location:

Red Bluff Community Center
1500 South Jackson Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080
530-527-8177
www.ci.red-bluff.ca.us

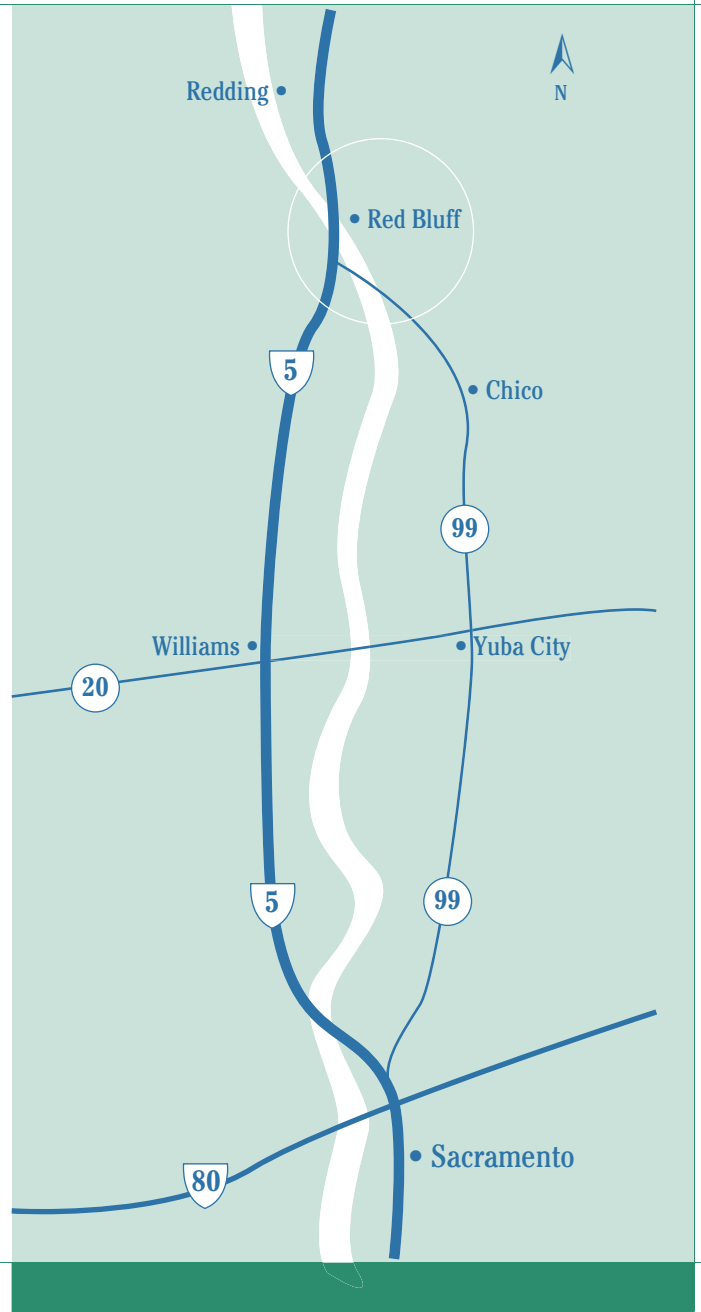
Lodging information:

Hampton Inn & Suites Red Bluff

520 Adobe Road
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: 530-529-9916
Fax: 530-529-9917
www.hamptoninn.com
Rates: Government \$74.00 / Regular \$82.00. Room rate plus tax is per night for single/double occupancy. Reservation rates good until October 12, Wednesday. Please mention that you are attending the State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference to receive the above rates. If you have questions, please ask for Tiffany in sales.

Travelodge

38 Antelope Blvd.
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone: 530-527-6020
Fax: 530-527-4653
www.travelodge.com
Rates: \$58.50 (single), \$67.50 (double) per night, plus tax. Reservation rates good until October 19, Wednesday. Please mention that you are attending the State of the Sacramento River Watershed Conference to receive the above rates. If you have questions, please ask for Audra.



P.O. Box 5366, Chico, CA 95927

Non Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 885
Sacramento River
Preservation Trust



SACRAMENTO RIVER
WATERSHED CONFERENCE

Recycled Paper