

San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP)

Introduction

The SJRRP is a direct result of a Settlement reached in September 2006 on an 18-year lawsuit to provide sufficient fish habitat in the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam near Fresno, California, by the U.S. Departments of the Interior and Commerce, the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), and the Friant Water Users Authority (FWUA). The Settlement received Federal court approval in October 2006.

The Settlement Goals

To restore and maintain fish populations in "good condition" in the main stem of the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River, including naturally reproducing and self-sustaining populations of salmon and other fish.

To reduce or avoid adverse water supply impacts to all of the Friant Division long-term contractors that may result from the Interim Flows and Restoration Flows provided for in the Settlement.

Department of Fish and Game's Role in the SJRRP

The State of California has significant interest in the restoration of the San Joaquin River, including the exercise of regulatory oversight, jurisdiction over public trust, land use, ecosystem, species and habitat restoration, water quality, and water management and flood control operations, as well as an interest in the maintaining the agricultural economy of California.

The Settling Parties believe that the Department of Fish and Game, along with other State Agencies (Department of Water Resources, the Resources Agency, and CalEPA), should play a major collaborative role in the planning, design, funding, and implementation of the Settlement. Therefore, the DFG has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Settling Parties.

The MOU outlines the State's role in the restoration efforts. The DFG will provide assistance on:

Planning and design of activities identified in the Settlement.

Actions related to the release of flows identified in the Settlement.

Design and construction of facilities for fish passage and prevent fish entrapment.

The manner in which fish will be reintroduced.

Monitoring and evaluating fish.

Establishment and maintenance of appropriate riparian habitat.

Want more information?

Visit the San Joaquin River Restoration Program's home site:

www.restoresjr.org/

The following information is available thru the SJRRP home site, but for your convenience the direct links are listed here:

- [Settlement Stipulation](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding](#) between the State of California and the Settling Parties.
- [Settlement Questions and Answers](#), provided by the Settling Parties:
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) Fact Sheet, provided by the SJRRP.