

Field Activity Advisory Kangaroo Rat Trapping

March 22, 2015; Updated May 3, 2015

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) conducted kangaroo rat burrow surveys on April 4, 2016. The SJRRP will conduct kangaroo rat trapping in Reach 4A on state and federally owned lands in the San Joaquin River channel beginning May 8 and continuing through mid June. Access will be conducted from public roads or private property with landowner permission. The goal of the study is to evaluate whether the San Joaquin River channel is home to, or contains suitable habitat for, the Fresno kangaroo rat, an endangered species last observed in Fresno, Madera or Merced counties in 1992. It is extremely unlikely this



Figure 1: Kangaroo Rat Trap (7.6 x 9.5 x 30.5 cm)

endangered species will be found and staff anticipate other common/non-listed kangaroo rats will be observed. The trapping effort is a conservation measure identified in the SJRRP's Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Report and a required action if Restoration Flow releases past Sack Dam are resumed in fall 2016 as anticipated.

Who: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

What: Reclamation, DFW, and DWR will conduct live trapping for kangaroo rats in six areas of the Reach 4A river channel. The study includes placement of approximately 600 kangaroo rat live



Figure 2: Kangaroo Rat Trapping Example

traps (Figure 1) at locations within Reach 4A. Traps will be set approximately one hour before sunset, at 10pm, and will be checked no later than one hour after sunrise the following morning. Traps will be placed near small mammal burrows that may contain kangaroo rats (Figure 2).

When: The first round of traps are slated for installation May 8. They will be monitored regularly for 5 days. Two subsequent weeks of trapping will occur through mid June.

Where: The trapping effort will occur in up to six areas of the Reach 4A San Joaquin River channel.

Questions about this activity should be directed to Becky Victorine. Questions about activities on private land should be directed to the SJRRP Landowner Coordinator, Craig Moyle.

Becky Victorine

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