

Field Activity Advisory Kangaroo Rat Trapping March 22, 2015

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP) will conduct kangaroo rat trapping in Reach 4A on state and federally owned lands in the San Joaquin River channel beginning April 4 and continuing for five consecutive nights. Up to four locations between Sack Dam and Sand Slough are planned for trapping for the Fresno kangaroo rat. 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



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

Merced counties in 1992. It is extremely unlikely this 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 at 4 locations in Reach 4A. The study includes placement of approximately 50 kangaroo rat live traps (Figure 1)



Figure 2: Kangaroo Rat Trapping Example

at four locations within Reach 4A. Traps will be set approximately one hour before sunset 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: Traps are slated for installation April 4. They will be monitored regularly through April 9 and removed on April 9.

Where: The trapping effort will occur at 4 locations in Reach 4A of the 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.

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For more information, please visit the SJRRP Web site at <u>www.restoresjr.net</u>.