

# San Joaquin River Restoration Program



## Reach 4B, Eastside Bypass and Mariposa Bypass Low Flow Channel and Structural Improvements Project

### Public Scoping Meetings

September 23, 2009: Los Banos

September 24, 2009: Merced

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## Who We Are

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- Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Dept. of Interior
  - **Ali Gasdick**, SJRRP Project Manager
  - **David Mooney**, SJRRP Program Engineer
- California Department of Water Resources
  - **Kevin Faulkenberry**, CDWR SJRRP Program Manager
- SJRRP Implementing Agencies

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## Scoping Meeting Agenda

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- 6:15 – 6:45 p.m. Overview Presentation
- 6:45 – 7:30 p.m. Open House Stations
- 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. Public Comment Session

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## Overview Presentation Agenda

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- Overview of the San Joaquin River Settlement
- Reach 4B, Eastside Bypass and Mariposa Bypass Low Flow Channel and Structural Improvements Project
  - Project Overview
  - Key Project Components
  - NEPA/CEQA Process and Upcoming Activities

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## San Joaquin River Settlement History

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1988	Lawsuit filed challenging Reclamation's renewal of the long-term contracts with Friant Division contractors
2004	Federal Judge rules Reclamation violated Section 5937 of the Fish and Game Code
2005	Settlement negotiations reinitiated to avoid remedy phase
2006	Settlement reached, implementation begins
2009	Federal legislation enacted

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## Settlement Goals

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- **Restoration Goal**
  - 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.
- **Water Management Goal**
  - 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.

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## Settlement Milestones

Immediately	Work on planning, design work, and environmental reviews
Oct 2009	Begin Interim Flows
2012	Begin re-introduction of salmon
2013	Complete first phase of channel and habitat improvements
2014	Initiate full Restoration Flows
2016	Complete second phase of channel and habitat improvements

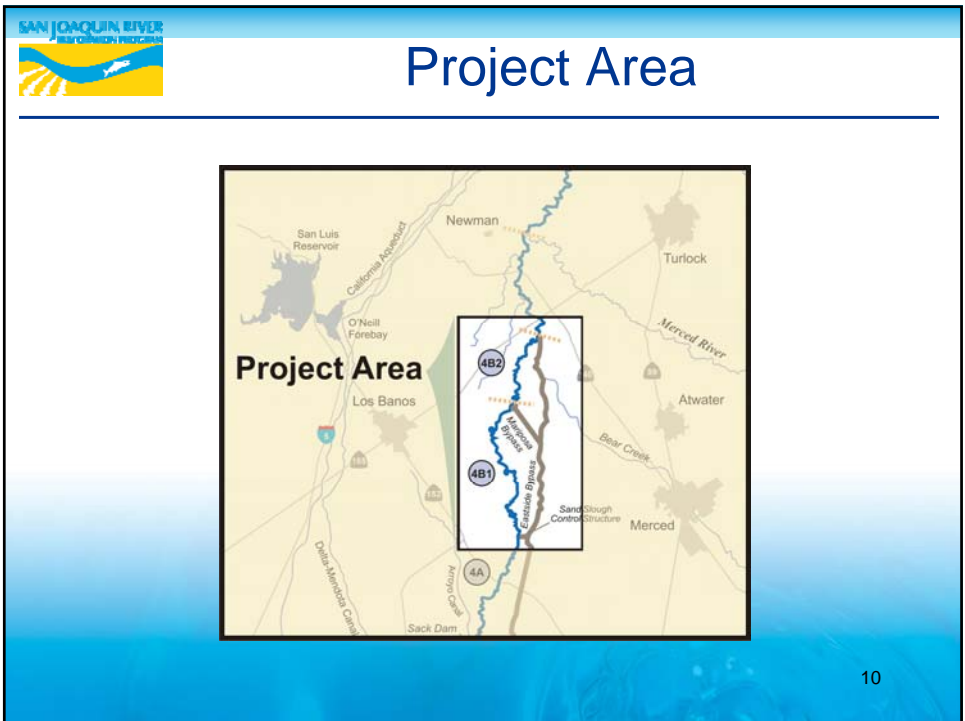
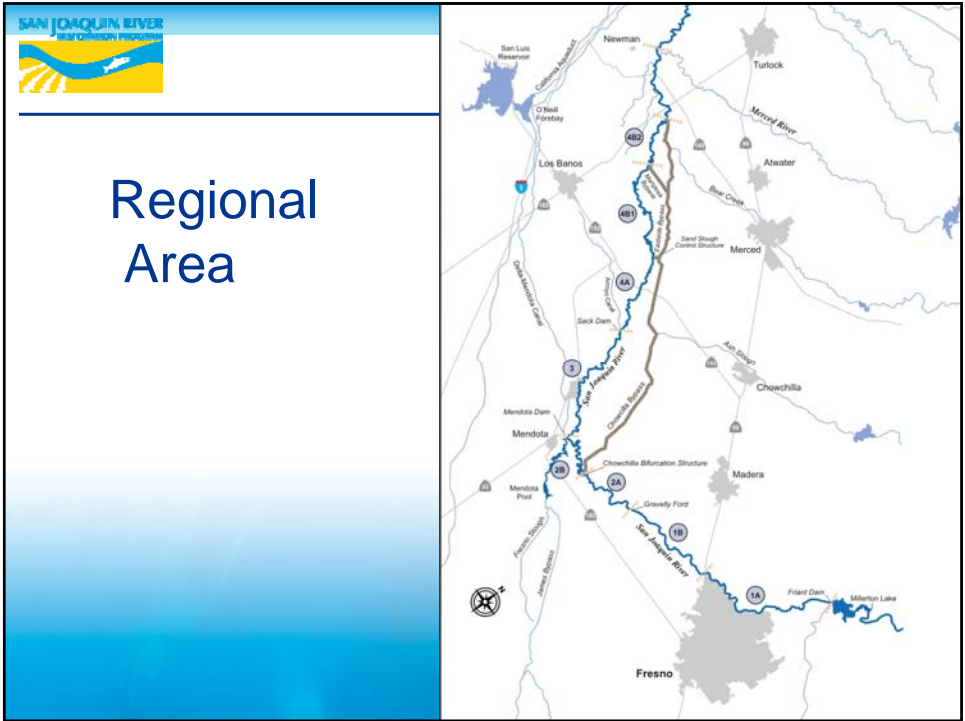
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## Project Settlement Requirements

- **Reach 4B**
  - Channel modifications to ensure conveyance of at least 475 cubic feet per second
  - Modifications to Reach 4B headgate to ensure fish passage and enable flow routing
- **Eastside and Mariposa Bypasses**
  - Modifications to channels to establish a low flow channel to support fish migration
  - Modifications to structures in the bypasses to the extent needed to provide fish passage
  - Modifications to the Sand Slough Control Structure to ensure fish passage

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## Reach 4B – Key Components

- Channel modifications to convey at least 475 cubic feet per second could include:
  - Removing in-channel vegetation in some areas
  - Removing excess silt and sediment in some areas
  - Improving road crossings
- Modifications to the 4B headgate could include:
  - Modify the existing structure
  - Construct a new structure to replace the existing one



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## Eastside and Mariposa Bypasses – Key Components

- Modification to the channels to establish a low-flow channel could include:
  - Reconfiguring and, in some places, establishing a low-flow channel
- Modification of structures to provide fish passage could include:
  - Modify the existing structures
  - Construct of fish ladders in existing structures
  - Construct new structures to replace the existing ones



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## NEPA / CEQA Process and Upcoming Activities

- Planning and environmental compliance activities
  - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
  - California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
  - Initiating preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement / Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR)



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## Environmental Review Purpose

- Evaluate reasonable alternatives that could reduce or avoid environmental impacts
- Provide information for public review and comment
- Identify any significant environmental impacts
- Disclose to decision makers the impacts, mitigation, and public comments

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## What the “Scoping” Process Does

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- Provides an avenue for interested persons to be involved in the process
- Helps agencies gather input from the public on options, alternatives, and potential environmental issues
- Identifies what issues will be covered and in what detail for the environmental document
- Provides a way to identify and refine potential:
  - Options and alternatives
  - Environmental impacts
  - Ways to reduce or avoid environmental impacts

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## Open House Stations

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- Station 1: Project Process and Timeline
- Station 2: Project Information
- Station 3: Comments and Public Involvement

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## How to Submit Comments

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- **Tonight:** Fill out a comment form
- **By Friday, October 9, 2009:**
  - Mail: Ms. Margaret Gidding, 2800 Cottage Way MP-170, Sacramento, CA 95825
  - Email: **Reach4B@restoresjr.net**
  - Fax: 916-978-5469

***OR***

- Mail: Mr. Kevin Faulkenberry, California Department of Water Resources, South Central Region Office, 3374 E. Shields Avenue, Fresno, CA 93726
- Email: **faulkenb@water.ca.gov**