



Field Activity Advisory Invasive Aquatic Species Sampling July 7, 2015

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – in coordination with California State University, Stanislaus – will conduct invasive aquatic fish species sampling along the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River beginning in July. Conducted as part of the Service's Aquatic Invasive Species Program, the surveys will additionally include some connected bypasses, sloughs and canals that may harbor the Large Scale Loach (*Paramisgrinus dabryanus*). Commonly used as an aquarium fish, the loach survey follows an October 2014 find near the Chowchilla Bifurcation Structure.



Large scale loach captured near the Chowchilla Bifurcation Structure, San Joaquin River, California.
Photo: R.W. Smith – USFWS.

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CSU Stanislaus

What: Backpack electrofishing and beach seine nets will be used to conduct sampling. Field activities will focus on habitat types preferred by loaches. Individuals captured will be identified, weighed, measured, and if they represent a new (invasive) species in the San Joaquin River they will be retained for laboratory identification. All field activities will take place between dawn and dusk, with no overnight sampling.

Environmental disclosure documents including a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemption (NOE) and a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Categorical Exemption are available upon request.

When: July through November, 30, 2015

Where: Up to five sampling locations are planned for survey in each of the five river reaches from Friant Dam to Merced River confluence. Other channels proposed for survey include;

- Fresno Slough
- Chowchilla Bypass

- Eastside Bypass
- Mud Slough
- Salt Slough
- Arroyo Canal

All sites to be surveyed will be accessed in coordination with adjacent private and public property owners.

Questions about this activity should be directed to the study's agency point-of-contact using the information provided below.

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Questions about activities on public and private land should be directed to the SJRRP Landowner Coordinator, Craig Moyle. Craig's contact information is provided below.

Craig Moyle, Landowner Coordinator
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For more information, please visit the SJRRP Web site at www.restoresjr.net.