

San Joaquin River Conservancy

NOTICE:

INTENT TO ADOPT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Jensen River Ranch Habitat Enhancement and Public Access Plan

Project Description:

The Jensen River Ranch project site is a 167-acre parcel owned by the San Joaquin River Conservancy, bordered on the south by the City of Fresno's Woodward Park, on the west by Woodward Bluffs Mobile Home Estates, on the north by the San Joaquin River, and on the east by Friant Road.

The proposed project will create a loop hiking trail surrounding restored native habitat areas on the site. Access to the river for fishing and picnic tables are included. Public access has been planned to be compatible with habitat enhancements on the property. The proposed project includes excavation and grading to establish wetland areas, and planting of the wetlands, riparian corridor, and visual buffer for the adjacent residences. The project also includes construction of trails, bridges across on-site wetland and water features, maintenance roads, signs and fencing. The public will access the site from Woodward Park and from the Lewis S. Eaton trail of the San Joaquin River Parkway.

Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration: Notice is hereby given that the Conservancy intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project. The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration is based on the determination of an Initial Study that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, it will not in this case because of the mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the project. The reasons to support this determination, including the mitigation measures, are documented in the Initial Study. The Negative Declaration may be reviewed at the **San Joaquin River Conservancy office at 5469 E. Olive, Fresno, CA 93727**. Agency contact: Kimberly Secrist, Executive Assistant, (559) 253-7324. The Initial Study is available for free download from the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust web site at www.riverparkway.org.

Public Review and Participation: The public review period during which the Conservancy will receive written comments on the proposed project will commence February 4, 2002, and end March 6, 2002. Written comments should be submitted to Melinda Marks, Executive Officer, San Joaquin River Conservancy, at the address above. During the public review period an informational meeting will be held **February 19, 2002**, from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m., at Valley Oak School multipurpose room, 465 E. Champlain Ave., Fresno, CA.

Governing Board Meeting: The San Joaquin River Conservancy Board will consider adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration and approving the project at its regular meeting on March 21, 2002, at 10:30 a.m. (or as soon thereafter as possible). The meeting will be held in the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District boardroom at 5469 E. Olive, Fresno, CA.