General Description
A River Steward is a trained volunteer who is instrumental in maintaining the San Joaquin River Parkway. River Stewards are the driving force of the River Parkway Trust’s Land Stewardship programs, which include habitat restoration, removal of invasive exotic plants, trail maintenance, and river cleanups.

Projects
Exotic Species Removal – This project deals with removing invasive species such as Scarlet wisteria and Arundo. The workload is medium to heavy duty. It involves stooping, kneeling, digging, pulling, and carrying loads and may involve fording river or working in river. May involve hiking in uneven or steep terrain to work site or travel by canoe to work site. Work involves travel through undergrowth.

Jensen River Ranch – Jensen River Ranch is a 167-acre parcel owned by the San Joaquin River Parkway. The site is a floodplain terrace bordered by the San Joaquin River, private properties, Woodward Park, and the Friant Expressway. Access to the site is provided primarily through Woodward Park. A habitat restoration plan is currently underway to restore the natural riparian habitat.

Trail Maintenance, Erosion & Vandalism Repair – These work days involve our River Stewards clearing weeds and brush from the trails along the river (including Woodward Park’s Eaton Trail) while picking up litter, repairing vandalized property and correcting eroded pathways from the banks.

Various Projects – Often River Stewards will be called to take on projects at the River Center campus as well as any part of the watershed spreading the 22 miles of river that the River Parkway Trust protects/restores. These projects will have more description when the opportunity arises.

Duties, Responsibilities and Expectations
- Monitoring properties during service, removing trash and debris from the property, checking road gates and signs for damage, and reporting problems to the Land Steward Assistant.
- Maintenance of trail sections, recreation facilities, and wildlife habitat restoration projects, as applicable.
- Reporting obstructions and debris in the river (if applicable).
- Encouraging and assisting in the educational uses of the property.
- Work as a team and display leadership characteristics when needed.
- Bring appropriate gear: sunscreen, brimmed-hat, close-toed shoes, long garments, tools (if applicable) and plenty of water.

Qualifications
- Enthusiasm and passion for working with and protecting the environment
- Interest in outdoor work
- Team work experience
- Leadership experience
- Can supply some amount of manual labor

Personal Gains from Participation
Becoming a River Steward is a great way to spend more time at the river, and provides many opportunities to learn more about this wonderful resource. A tremendous amount of satisfaction can be gained by helping to protect and restore the San Joaquin River. Teamwork skills are also gained from this service, also.

Contact Info
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