



Annual Report

2017

R I V E R P A R K W A Y T R U S T

Rivers

I love rivers. While most people are attracted to the water features that exist on our planet, I seem to have a special affinity for rivers. Rivers have always played an important part in the history of humans serving as the primary source of clean, fresh surface water to support survival. As we have transitioned from hunter-gatherers, settlements were established and grew into cities, primarily along rivers.

I grew up on the Mokelumne River near the Delta where the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers converge. Early experiences, which are locked into permanent memory, include river outings for picnics and fishing, drifting down the river in tubes with friends, and exploring the jungle-like wetlands in the river bottom on the Sanguinetti Ranch. Wildlife was abundant. The greatest disappointment of my early life was to find, despite the best intentions of the property owners, the wetlands were eventually cleared, dredged, and converted to houses around an artificial "lake" which periodically becomes artificial mudflats.

After leaving home, I had the wonderful opportunity to study, work, live, and explore in and around a wide array of great rivers over the past five and a half decades. They include close encounters in the United States with the Hudson, East, Potomac, Missouri, Rio Grande, Columbia, Willamette, Snake, Mississippi, and, of course, the San Joaquin. Overseas, the list continues with the Song Saigon, Song Dong Nai, Song Mekong, Rio Chagres, Rio Pequeni, Rio Boqueron, Rio Urubamba, Imjin Gang, Han Gang, Naktong Gang, Tiber, Seine, Orne, Rhine, and Danube. The history of each is unique in terms of human impact. Even though some of these rivers have serious issues with water quality, water quantity, encroachment by development, loss of flood plain, or habitat protection, they all provide lessons that can help us maintain or improve river conditions in the future.

All this leads back to our San Joaquin River. A river where some opportunities have been taken, some missed, and others are still available. We must create a long-term vision for the San Joaquin River that, when executed, will be viewed as beneficial for many generations to come. This is not easy, but it helps if you love rivers.

Bart Bohn

River Parkway Trust Board President



What kind of future will we build for Olivia?



I have a young friend named Olivia, who began attending River Camp several years ago. Olivia loves the San Joaquin River. On weekends she often visits the River Center and other locations along the San Joaquin River Parkway with her mom and dad. She looks forward to the day that more land and trails will be accessible for her to explore.

To date, approximately 4,000 acres have been protected along the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and Highway 99, but only about 200 acres are open to the public on a daily basis. In order for more land to be accessible every day, funding must be available for property operation and maintenance.

What kind of future do we want to build for Olivia? Here are three potential scenarios viewed through the lens of access at Fresno River West.

Scenario 1: San Joaquin River Parkway State Park

Olivia and her mom arrive at Fresno River West and are greeted at the gate by a uniformed attendant at the entrance kiosk. They pay a small entry fee and receive a map with information about the special resources found at the site. While walking on a pedestrian trail near the river, they enjoy interpretive signs that highlight the fish, birds, reptiles, and mammals that live in the area. Along the way, they run into a uniformed Park Ranger who asks about their hike and answers questions about some animal tracks they spotted in the sand.

After a picnic near the river, Olivia and her mom return to their car for the trip home. They stop at the restroom near the parking lot and find it clean and well-maintained. They talk excitedly about the Osprey that flew overhead while they ate lunch, and the deer tracks they found on their walk along the riverbank. They agree that it was one of their best days ever, and look forward to another opportunity to visit Fresno River West.

Scenario 2: Fresno for Parks

Olivia and her dad arrive at Fresno River West and are greeted at the gate by a uniformed attendant at the entrance kiosk. They pay a small entry fee and enter the site. While parking their car they notice an empty canoe trailer in the parking lot. As they approach one of the ponds at the site, they see a group of students loading up in canoes as part of the City's Life and Environmental Science Program.

Olivia's dad carries an ice chest and chairs as they walk down to the river, while Olivia carries the fishing poles. In a few minutes they are set up near the water's edge, ready for a relaxing day. While her dad is more serious about angling, Olivia spends most of her time wading near the water's edge searching for tadpoles and crayfish. Every now and then a duck glides by on the water. Olivia gets a special thrill when she spots a mallard family with 5 fuzzy ducklings.

After several hours in the sun and a few fish caught and released, Olivia and her dad pack up to head home. On the way back to the car they deposit a few items in a waste can and visit the restroom, finding it clean and well maintained. They trade stories about, "the one that got away," and look forward to visiting Fresno River West again soon.

Scenario 3: Nonprofit Management

Olivia and her mom arrive at River West and are greeted at the gate by a young man wearing a river camp t-shirt. "I love River Camp!" Olivia exclaims as her mom pays a small entrance fee as they enter the property. After parking in the parking lot, they head out on a pedestrian trail for a stroll near the river. They see a group of volunteers conducting a river cleanup, and decide to pitch in and help for half an hour. They continue on their walk, and marvel at the hawks perched in the trees nearby.

Along the way Olivia looks for animal tracks and tries to identify them based on the information she learned at River Camp. Her mother enjoys the fresh air and unique sights, sounds, and smells of the river environment. She finds that the daily stresses of life and work seem to melt away during time spent in a natural place.

Olivia and her mom take a seat on a rustic wooden bench to drink from their re-useable water bottles and eat a snack. As they make their way back to the car after their walk, they deposit their snack wrappers in a trash can emblazoned with the words Love our River. Olivia is grateful that there are other people in the community that love the San Joaquin as much as she does.

Conclusion

You may have noticed something about the scenarios above – they're all pretty similar! Each includes a parking area, walking trails, clean bathrooms, well-maintained trash receptacles, and staff at the site to greet guests and ensure visitors feel safe and understand how to behave on public land. It turns out that operating a park is pretty simple – it just takes people to do the work.

Over the past few years I've had the opportunity to meet with a dedicated group of individuals that want to improve parks in our community. This group drafted the Fresno Clean and Safe Parks Initiative that is currently in the signature-gathering phase. If passed, this initiative will generate approximately \$37.5 million per year to improve parks, arts and trails in the City of Fresno, and cost the average Fresno household just \$39 per year. \$750 thousand of this revenue will be dedicated to the portion of the San Joaquin River Parkway within the City of Fresno. You can learn more about the measure and sign up for updates at fresnoforparcs.com.

Earlier this year, Assemblymember Dr. Joaquin Arambula introduced AB3218, which will allow State Parks to operate San Joaquin River Parkway lands through a management agreement with the San Joaquin River Conservancy. The State Assembly passed AB3218 on a 64-0 vote on May 30.

Both of these measures can be transformative for the San Joaquin River Parkway – creating revenue that will allow for the construction of new trails and opening more properties for public use. And both of them will still require community support – that's where you come in.

The Fresno for Parks measure will only cover the portion of the Parkway within city limits – that's about 1/3 of the Parkway reach between Friant Dam and Highway 99. The State Parks measure will likely require continued partnerships with nonprofit partners like the Trust to help operate Parkway lands.

Your support will allow the San Joaquin River Parkway to make a giant leap forward this year. So please vote, volunteer, and continue your generous contributions to the work of the River Parkway Trust. Together, we'll build a bright future for Olivia.

Sharon Weaver
Executive Director



San Joaquin River
Parkway and
Conservation Trust, Inc.

Conservation

The River Parkway Trust focuses its conservation efforts on open space land protection, restoring streamside forests and important wildlife habitat, and participating in public planning efforts on issues affecting the river.

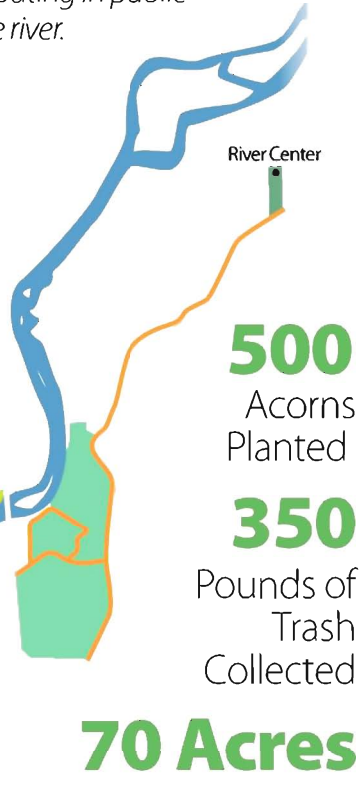


15,770

Native Trees and shrubs planted at Fresno River West

4,050

Acres stewarded by the River Parkway Trust



500
Acorns
Planted

350
Pounds of
Trash
Collected

70 Acres
of Invasive
Plant Species
Removed

Education

Through field trips to the river, lively classroom presentations, and week-long summer day-camps, the River Parkway Trust helps local children connect to the natural world found along the San Joaquin River.

8,746 Students

Connected to the natural world on a field trip to the San Joaquin River.

640 Education Docent
Volunteer hours

726 River Buddies
Preschoolers learning about wildlife at the River Center

1,211 River Campers
River Camp Scout Island and Young Explorers Program

179 River Campers
Firebaugh

201 Scholarships
for children to attend River Camp



Recreation

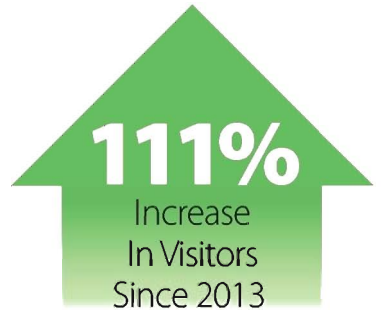


The River Parkway Trust provides managed public recreation access to open space lands in the Parkway. Through guided river tours, we connect people to the rich natural resources found along the San Joaquin River. We also offer guided nature walks to Parkway properties that aren't currently open to the public.

10,433

**Sycamore Island
Visitors**

Open for 130 Days



157 **Camp Pashayan Visitors**
Open for 33 Days

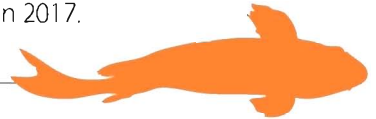
River 214 **Nature 205**
Tours People **Walks** People

**Volunteers make a difference
in the Parkway effort**

Over 650
Volunteers contributed
19,523 Hours

towards the River Parkway Trust's
conservation, education, and recreation programs.

We'd like to thank Fresno State University and all the student interns and
volunteers that served with the River Parkway Trust in 2017.



Social Media Engagement

7,745

Followers



@SJRPT
@SycamoreIslandPark

3,181

Followers



@riverparkwaytrust

419

Followers



@sjrparkwaytrust

6,103

Email Subscribers



River Center

At the Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies (River Center) you can connect to the cultural and natural history of the river through art and educational exhibits, community programs, gardens, and links to pedestrian, bike, and equestrian trails.

18,402

River Center Visitors



6,011

Students on
River Center Field Trips

1,350

River Center
Rental Guests

945

Respite by the River
Attendees

358

Days Open
to the Public

You can rent the River Center for your special event, business meeting, or wedding.

To learn more visit

riverparkway.org/river-center/river-center-rentals

Parties for the Parkway

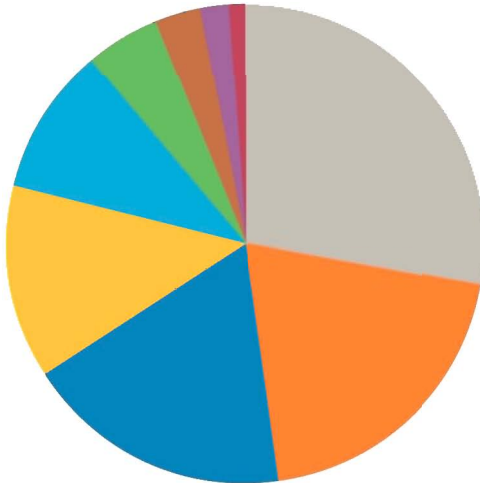
All revenue generated through Parties for the Parkway supports the effort to create and protect the San Joaquin River Parkway.

1,284 Tickets Sold

More than 500 Individual Guests

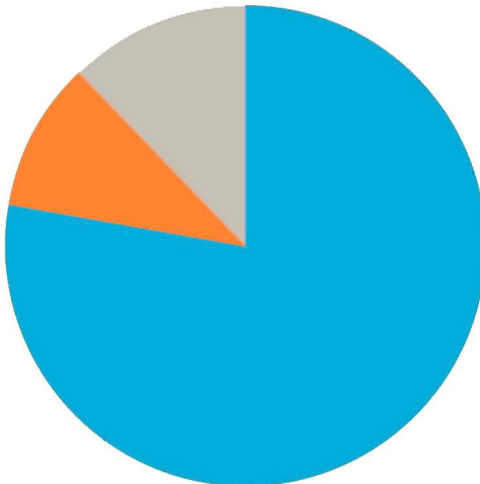
173 Party Hosts **60** Donating Artists

2017 Financials



Revenue

Grant Income	28%	\$654,204
Contributions and Donations	20%	\$471,733
Investment Income	18%	\$419,249
Program Services	13%	\$313,311
Memberships	10%	\$222,486
Special Events	5%	\$113,009
Park Operations	3%	\$66,904
Educational Scholarships	2%	\$45,104
Other Revenue	1%	\$29,401
Total		\$2,335,401



Expenses

Program Expenses	78%	\$1,389,134
Management Expenses	10%	\$177,725
Fundraising Expenses	12%	\$222,303
Total		\$1,789,162

The financial information included in this report is from our Audited Financial Statement.

You can view the River Parkway Trust's Audited Financial Statements at riverparkway.org/about-us/irs-form-990.

\$150,000+ DONORS

Who have supported the River Parkway Trust through the years

Frank and Florence Caglia Family
Central Valley Community Foundation
Dr. Virginia S. Eaton
Mary and Gerald Finch
George and Jackie Folsom
Roger and Terry Glaspey
Coke and James Hallowell
Hunsberger Foundation
Margaret and Rodger Jensen
Norman and Nancy Liddell
Edward K. Martin Trust
Jim and Carrie Moen
David and Lucile Packard Foundation
Alice Peters and Leon S. Peters Foundation
Pete P. Peters Foundation
The Everett Rank Sr. Family
Bud and Evelyn Rank
Resources Legacy Fund Foundation
Thomas and Louise Richardson
Joseph T. Ring
Vic and Bernie Roznovsky
The Slarer Family
State of California, San Joaquin River Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board
Rolein Smith
United States Bureau of Reclamation
Vulcan Materials Company

2017 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

We're proud to acknowledge these individuals who supported the effort to create and protect the San Joaquin River Parkway in 2017.

\$100,000+

Joseph T. Ring

\$50,000+

Coke and James Hallowell

\$20,000+

Paul Gibson and Joan Eaton

\$10,000+

Dr. Virginia S. Eaton
Elise Moir

\$5,000+

Anonymous
Joan Bezmalinovic-Voris
Herbert John Blossom
Bart and Suna Bohn
Carol and Lee Copeland
Sharon Hanley
Eldon and Diana Marks
Edward B. Morgan and Alicia K. Bennett
Michael and Ellen Patton
Robert Truxell
W. E. and Anna Wattenbarger

Sharon Weaver
Raymond and Oweta Wicks

\$2,500+

Sheri and Tom Bohigian
Jeff and Julie Carroll
Debbie and Charles Doerksen
Lee Ann Ellis-Strausburg
George and Jackie Folsom
William and Shirley Golden
Sarah Hedrick
Cliff Lloyd and Laura Sidsworth
Carol Ann Moses
Francis Weaver

\$1,000

Steve and Mayre Alyce Achey
John and Nancy Baker
Candy and Ardell Barnes
Barbara Berberian
Susan Birmingham
Donna and Leroy Bollinger
Steve and Jackie Bradley
James and Yuko Brumm
Beau and Mary Carter
Joshua Chandler
Susan and Jon Edwards
Greg and Susan Estep
Phoebe Farnam
Pat Furman
Donn Furman and Cynthia Fialho
Donna Gavello
Melinda Gorin and Doug Cox
David and Linda Grubbs
Joell Hallowell and Tricia Garlock
Beverly Hayden Pugh
Lynn and Ellen Hemink
David Hill and Dee Lacy
Stephanie and Don Horal
Mike and Denise Hurst
Mrs. Arthur Jing
Pamela and Gene Kallsen
Diane Kirk
Dave and Sharon Koehler
Cindy and Steve Lindstrom
Michael Linton
Tamara and William Lyles
William and Ann Lyles,
Lyles Diversified Charitable Fund
Wanda and Steven Mortimer
Gail Newel and Kelli Beingsesser
Carolyn Nolan
Dr. J. D. Northway
Julia O'Kane
Jody and Hank Palmer
Judith Pecora
Lyn Peters
Gretta and Richard Petersen
Pamela and Andrew Reistetter
Mari Ann Ricchiuti
Mary and Rudy Savala
Sandra Scott and Kenneth Archer
Susan and Newton Seiden
Walt Shubin
Caroline and Peter Simis
Sheila Smith

Frances Squire and Ed Wilson
Jean and William Thompson
Francis and Nancy Weaver
Laura Weyant
Jennifer and Hugh Williamson
Tom Zimoski
Marilyn Ziterkopf

\$500+

Anonymous
Reza Assemi
Sally Ayer
Penny and Greg Baxter
Stefan and Mary Biskup
Janice and Paul Bissonnette
Valerie Breedlove
Walter and Susan Buster
Laura Calderon
Karen and Martin Cawthorne
Joan Creighton
Shirley Cummings
Av Daniels
John Donaldson
Ronald DuBois
Michael and Dolores Elkins
Kimberly Ellis
David and Christine Erickson
Marcia and Ted Falk
Teresa Fuentes
Nip and Linda Gallagher
Betty Wang-Garcia and Joe Garcia
Helen Gigliotti
Rebecca Gomes
Rebecca and Raymond Gorman
Cathy and Stan Groom
Ethelynda Harding
Wilma Hashimoto
James and Leta Hering
Mary Hung
Mark and Constance Jones
Glenda Josey and Tim Reyes
Bernard Karian
Marni Katz Cotter
James Kemp
Mandy and Brad Kendzora
Sandra and Hadi Ty Kharazi
Rebecca and Gene Kiewer
Beverly and Earl Knobloch
Neil Koenig
Nancy Kops
William and Debbie Krieg
Eric and Teresa Kurtz
Mary Ann and Howard Latimer
Russell and Rebecca Lindquist
Lori and Fred LoGalbo
Elaine and Ralph Lynn
Rose Marie Lyon
Elizabeth and Ron Manfredi
Trudi Manfredo
Joanna McCloskey-Dalldorf
Charlene McLaughlan
Dr. Richard Mendoza and Dr. Valerie Tavares
Diane Merrill
Cynthia Merrill
Larry Metzler

James and Judith Meyers
Sayre Miller
Bill and Dorothy Mills
Steven Moore
Georgia and Mike Murach
Carolyn and Bill Murphy
Will Murray and Margie Williams
Margaret and Richard Nordstrom
Marcella Osterhaus
Sarah and Ryan Parkes
Larry Patten and Jean Behrend
Dr. and Mrs. William Podolsky
Lynette Polian
Robert and Kathryn Price
Jerry Radinoff and Paula Siegel
Lura and William Reddington
Ronald Rempel and Brenda Johnson
Heidi Riedle and Peter Gustafson
Bruce and Amy Roberts
Risa and Steve Rodemeyer
Linda and Michael Rogers
Susan Ryan
Dorothy Sagaser
Bill and Judy Seiler
Anita Shanahan
John and Liz Shields
Karen Simpson
Charlotte Singer and Larry King
Carson and Sonja Smith
Joe and Johnanna Soghomonian
Eve Sproule
Lynn Stone
Lynn Taylor
Dr. Connor and Kristin Telles
Dr. John and Jolene Telles
Linda and Neil Thompson
Rosemary and Gerry Waters
Dee Wilkins
Jane Willson and Malcolm MacDonald
Stuart and Lisa Woolf
Paul and Lisa Zylka

2017 DONATIONS RECEIVED IN MEMORY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS

Judy Anderson
Fred Biglione
Kenneth Gary Cochran
David Creighton
Dr. Duane Furman
Dr. Richard and Vickie Haas
Jim Harrold
Owen Huff
Cynthia Webb Kiehmeier
Van Knowlton
Ted and Jasmine Markarian
Marlene McCready
Alex Moir
Alexandra Marcia Nelson
Bill H. Smith
Rolein Smith
Victoria Smith
Barbara and Harold Tokmakian
Juan Touya
Dr. Richard Wolf

2017 AGENCIES, BUSINESSES, FOUNDATIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE RIVER PARKWAY TRUST

We're proud to acknowledge the agencies, businesses, foundations, and organizations that supported the River Parkway Trust's projects and programs in 2017.

\$250,000+

United States Bureau of Reclamation
State Of California, San Joaquin River Conservancy and Wildlife Conservation Board

\$20,000+

J. P. Lamborn Co.
Leon S. Peters Foundation

\$10,000+

Olam SVI
Vulcan Materials Company

\$5,000+

Annenberg Foundation
Educational Employees Credit Union
Johanson Transportation Services
Stephen D. Peterson
Conservation Fund
YourCause, LLC Trustee for Pacific Gas & Electric

\$2,500+

California Bank & Trust
California Oncology of the Central Valley Medical Group, Inc
Donaghy Sales
Friant Ranch LLP
The Heart Group Medical Clinic, Inc.
Ultra Gro Plant Food
United Security Bank
Westlands Water District

\$1,000+

AgriLand Farming Company, Inc.
Baker Manock & Jensen
Busseto Foods
Caglia Environmental
Carlucci Transport
Coleman Farming Co. LLC
Doerksen Taylor LLP
E & J Gallo Winery
East Fresno Rotary Charity Foundation
Firebaugh Rotary Club
Fleet Feet Sports Fresno
Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau
FresYes Realty
Gage Farms
The Bertha and John Garabedian Charitable Foundation
Guarantee Real Estate
Hammonds Ranch, Inc.
Hedrick's Chevrolet
Hyatt Real Estate
LIL Farming

Michael Giffen Ranch, Inc.
Mid Valley Disposal
Norman S. Wright Duckworth
Mechanical Equipment Company
Realty Concepts
San Joaquin Running
Shasta Wildlife Conservation Foundation
Wells Fargo Middle Market Bank
Westside Produce
Phyllis G. and Robert G. Wright Fund

\$500+

Armey-Harvey Family Foundation
B & L Mechanical, Inc.
Bertz-Rosa Strategy-Design
Boman & Associates
Central Valley Community Bank
Colibri Ecological Consulting, LLC
Dowling Aaron
Ford Financial Group
Fowler Packing Company
Fresno Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Dental Implant Center
Gary McDonald Homes
Hanna Brophy
J & J Farms
Jude's Fantasy Land
K Arakelian Foundation
Lance-Kashian and Company
Lindemann Properties, Inc.
Manco Abbott Inc.
Manock Law
N.F. Davis Drier & Elevator, Inc.
Noble Credit Union
OK Produce
Paul Halajian Architects, Inc.
Peri & Sons Farms
Price Paige & Company
Rasmussen Family Foundation
Republic Services
River View Financial
Roeser Accountancy
Sablan Medical Corp.,
San Joaquin River Resource Management Coalition
Solar Negotiators
W.C. Davis Farms

We value everyone that contributes to the creation of the San Joaquin River Parkway. If you discover an error or omission from this list, please let us know by calling the River Parkway Trust's office at 559-748-8480 or emailing spaike@riverparkway.org.