



Annual Report

2019

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

New Possibilities



On the first day of winter, 2019, a group of River Parkway Trust members hiked from the River Center to Owl Hollow to see the soon to be completed improvements project. We walked around a reclaimed gravel pit on the Vulcan property, making our way along the river's edge towards Owl Hollow. As we approached the property

gate, it was exciting to see the new picnic shelter and restroom and imagine kids gathering for lunch and program activities in the future. Soon the group gathered in the new amphitheater looking out towards the river and Rank Island to hear about the outdoor education programs planned for 2020. It was a celebratory morning filled with excitement about another step in the progress of the River Parkway Trust.

As we think about and reflect on the River Parkway Trust's work in 2019, a theme continues to emerge. More people than ever are discovering the natural and recreational resources available along the San Joaquin River Parkway. In 2019, visitorship to the River Center increased by nearly 20% through facility rentals and new public education programs focused on families with young children. From our volunteers that serve as weekend hosts and docents at the River Center, we regularly hear that brand new visitors to the River Center are excited to enjoy some time outside. Visitors are thrilled to know that the River Center is available for trail users, families, wildlife watchers, and couples planning their big day.

In 2019, more than 12,000 children and youth experienced and explored the San Joaquin River through field trips, summer day-camp programs, and in-class presentations. With programs at capacity with waitlists throughout the year, it was exciting to watch the Owl Hollow Project finally come to fruition towards the end of the year, enabling us to begin to implement plans to increase our ability to serve more kids. Owl Hollow is now available for field trips, River Camp, and other outdoor education programs.

The Trust continued operating Sycamore Island for public recreation access from February through November in 2019. Thanks to the generosity of our Sycamore Island sponsors, the Trust's park operations staff were able to



Sixth-grade students learn about water quality by investigating the macroinvertebrates found in the San Joaquin River.

complete a signage inventory and add new signs throughout the site to improve the visitor experience. In January 2020, the San Joaquin River Conservancy, our state agency partner, awarded the Trust a new concessionaire agreement through December 2024, a testament to the quality of service your support helps us provide on-site. The number of visitors continues to grow as more people discover Sycamore Island and its many recreational opportunities and spread the word to their family members and friends.

Thinking back to that winter morning walk out to Owl Hollow, the plans discussed were for a very different reality than what we now face. The COVID-19 crisis has impacted many of the Trust's programs, including field trips, facility rentals, and River Camp. But we are adapting and looking for new possibilities to advance the Trust's mission in this changing landscape. As of this writing, we're running modified River Camp programs at Owl Hollow and the River Center. And after reopening Sycamore Island in mid-May, we are experiencing some of the busiest weekends in our history of operating the property as people like you are seeking options to renew themselves and their families outdoors. Throughout the shelter-in-place period, we were encouraged to see people getting outside to take care of their physical and mental health.

The River Parkway Trust is working to create and protect the San Joaquin River Parkway for everyone. Though we don't know all that the future holds, rest assured that the Trust will continue working to preserve open space, educate the next generation of river stewards, and provide opportunities for everyone to get outside in as many ways as possible.

We hope to see you soon out on the Parkway.

Take care,

Julia O'Kane
Board President

Coke Hallowell
Chairman of the Board



San Joaquin River
Parkway and
Conservation Trust, Inc.





\$150,000+ LIFETIME DONORS

We'd like to thank these individual donors who have generously supported the River Parkway Trust through the years.

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We're proud to recognize these individual donors who donated to the River Parkway Trust between January and December 2019.

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\$10,000+

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**2019 AGENCIES, BUSINESSES,
FOUNDATIONS, AND
ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING
THE RIVER PARKWAY TRUST**

We're grateful to these agencies, businesses, foundations, and organizations that supported the River Parkway Trust in 2019.

\$150,000+

State of California,
Department of Fish and Wildlife
State of California,
Wildlife Conservation Board
US Bureau of Reclamation

\$10,000+

Educational Employees Credit Union
J P Lamborn Co.
John and Pam Lamborn
LandValue Management, LLC
Jim and Jennifer Huelskamp
Leon S. Peters Foundation
Valley Children's Healthcare
Vulcan Materials Company

\$5,000+

Bussetto Foods
CalViva Health
Donaghy Sales, Ed and Janis Donaghy
McCrea Foundation
Olam SVI
Pacific Ginning Company, LLC
Ultra Gro Plant Food

\$2,500+

Caglia Environmental
California Eye Institute
Colibri Ecological Consulting, LLC
Doerksen Taylor LLP
E & J Gallo Winery
Electric Motor Shop
Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau
Friant Ranch LLP
Granville Homes, Inc.
Johanson Transportation Svc.
Recreational Equipment Inc.
The Bertha and John Garabedian
Charitable Foundation
United Security Bank
W.C. Davis Farms
Westlands Water District
Zumwalt Construction, Inc.

\$1,000+

Anonymous
California Oncology of the
Central Valley Medical Group, Inc.
Carlucci Transport
Central California Women's Conference
Central Valley Community Bank
Coleman Farming Co., LLC
East Fresno Rotary Charity Foundation
Falcon Financial & Insurance
Solutions, Inc.
Firebaugh Rotary Club
Fresno Acura
Gage Farms

Hedrick's Chevrolet
Helena Agri-Enterprises, LLC
Hyatt Real Estate
Lennar Fresno, Inc.
LJL Farming
Lyles Diversified Charitable Fund
Michael Giffen Ranch, Inc.
Mid Valley Disposal
Neil Jones Food Company
Noble Credit Union
Norman S Wright Duckworth
Mechanical Equipment Company
San Joaquin Running
Shasta Wildlife Conservation
Foundation
Sierra Pacific Orthopedic &
Spine Center Medical Group, Inc.,
Dr. Connor Telles
Stanislaus Community Foundation
The Heart Group Medical Clinic, Inc.,
Dr. John Telles
West Hills Community College
Foundation
Westside Produce

\$500+

AgriLand Farming Company, Inc.
All Valley Administrators, LLC
Arney-Harvey Family Foundation
Deli Delicious
Ford Financial Group
Fort Washington Elementary School
Fresno Oral Surgery Group and
Dental Implant Center,
Dr. Allen Chien
Gary McDonald Homes
Gill Auto
Hammonds Ranch, Inc.
K Arakelian Foundation
Live Oak Associates, Inc.
Madera Rotary Club
Madera Sunrise Rotary Club
Manco Abbott, Inc.
Mendota Unified School District
Moore Grider & Company
OK Produce
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River View Financial,
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Val Print

We value everyone who contributes to the creation of the San Joaquin River Parkway. If you discover an omission from this list, please let us know by calling the River Parkway Trust's offices or emailing sparkes@riverparkway.org.

Conservation

Your generosity in 2019 helped steward protected open space, restore critical riparian habitat, and create opportunities for people of all ages to learn about issues affecting the San Joaquin River.

2,600

Native trees and shrubs planted at
Jensen River Ranch

600

Native trees and shrubs were grown
in-house through a partnership with the
Scout Island Outdoor Education Center

1,500

Pounds of trash removed from the Parkway

115

Tons of invasive plant biomass removed
from the San Joaquin River and adjacent lands

61

Acres of invasive plant species treated

33

Miles of river mapped and monitored for
invasive plant species
(Friant Dam to
Skaggs Bridge)

River Center

20

Local Conservation
Corps (Fresno EOC)
members trained

62

California Conservation
Corps members trained

13

American Conservation
Experience Volunteers trained

4,640 Acres
Stewarded
by the River Parkway Trust

Education

You helped connect local children to the natural world of the San Joaquin River through engaging experiential education field trips, lively classroom presentations, and summer River Camp programs.

8,371 Students

Learned about the natural and cultural history of the San Joaquin River during field trips at Lost Lake Park, Sycamore Island, and the River Center.

687.5 Education Docent
Volunteer hours

644 River Buddies
Preschoolers learning about wildlife at the River Center

1,322 River Campers
River Camp Scout Island and Young Explorers Program

299 River Campers
River Camp Firebaugh

339 Scholarships
Provided for children to attend
River Camp in Fresno and Firebaugh



Recreation



Your support in 2019 helped create opportunities to get outside on the Parkway. Through managed public access at Sycamore Island, guided downriver canoe and kayak tours, and guided nature walks, thousands of Valley residents experienced the physical and mental health benefits of spending time in the outdoors.

Sycamore Island **10,166** Visitors

Anglers, wildlife watchers, hikers, cyclists and equestrians in 2019.

River Tours **413** People

Paddled the San Joaquin River.



Nature Walks **424** People

Explored protected open space lands on nature walks throughout the Parkway.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a critical role in creating and protecting the San Joaquin River Parkway

In 2019, individuals like you contributed

21,300 Hours

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

Thank you to each and every volunteer who gave of their time to support the River Parkway Trust.



Social Media Engagement

10,199

Followers



@SJR PCT
@SycamoreIslandPark

3,761

Followers



@riverparkwaytrust

516

Followers



@sjrparkwaytrust

7,344

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.

22,780

River Center Visitors



5,207

Students on
River Center Field Trips

7,999

River Center
Rental Guests

905

Respite by the River
Attendees

356

Days Open
to the Public

The River Center is open daily for public recreation access. For the most up to date information about hours of operation visit:

riverparkway.org/river-center

Parties for the Parkway

Thanks to the generosity of Party hosts, guests, artists, and sponsors, all Parties for the Parkway revenue supports the River Parkway Trust's mission.

1,419 Tickets Sold

684

Individual
Guests

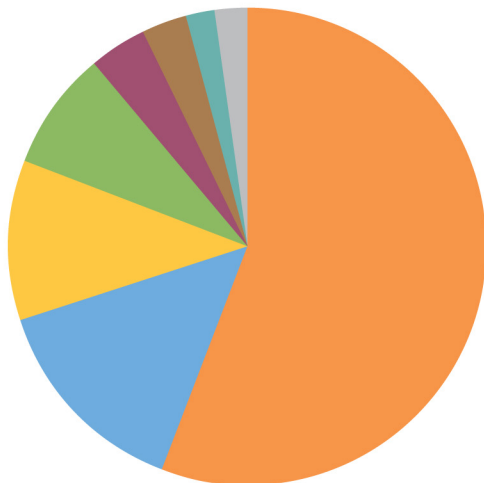
53

Donating
Artists

177

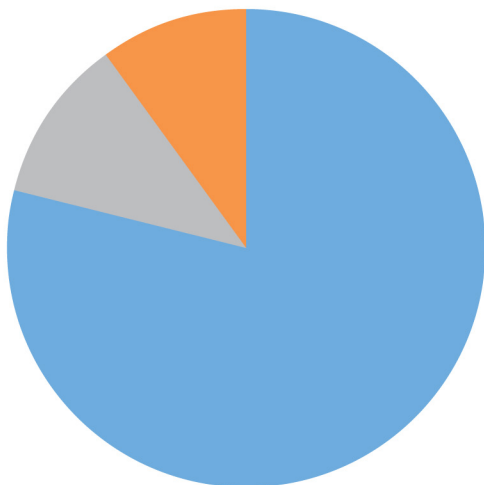
Party
Hosts

2019 Financials



Revenue

<div></div>	Grant Income	56%	\$1,577,585
<div></div>	Contributions and Donations	14%	\$385,189
<div></div>	Program Services	11%	\$329,309
<div></div>	Memberships	8%	\$231,287
<div></div>	Other Revenue	4%	\$113,478
<div></div>	Park Operations	3%	\$85,402
<div></div>	Educational Scholarships	2%	\$56,175
<div></div>	Special Events	2%	\$51,372
	Total		\$2,829,797



Expenses

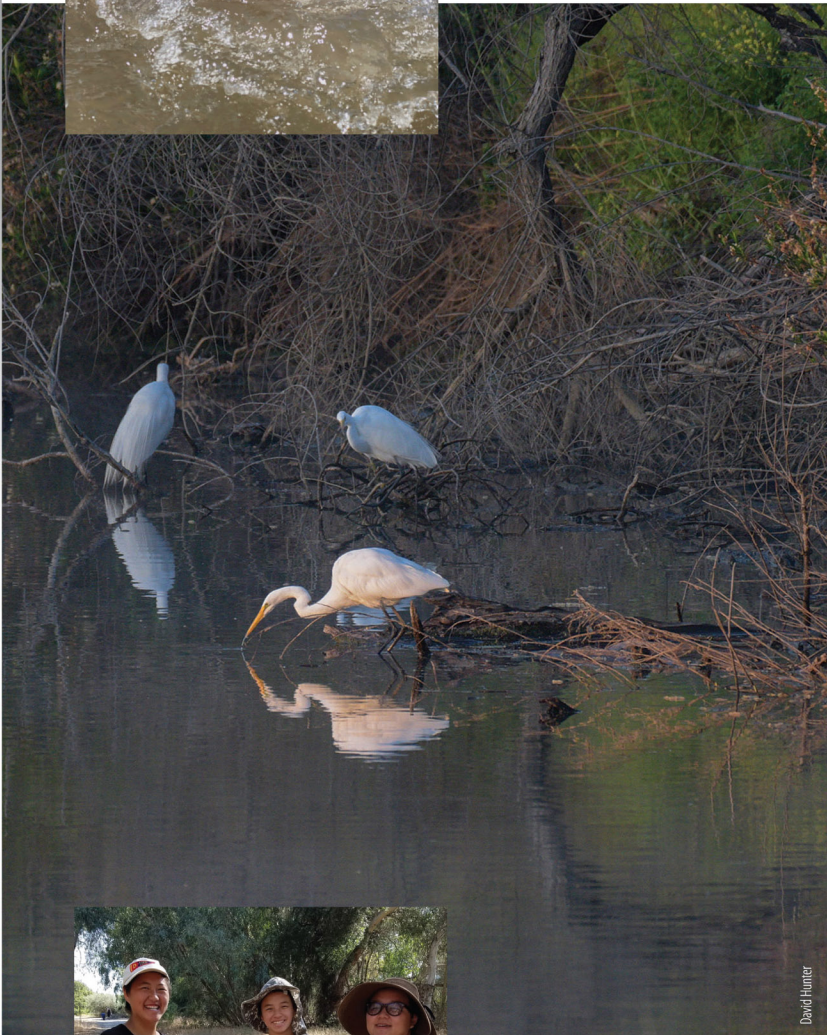
<div></div>	Program Expenses	79%	\$1,683,905
<div></div>	Fundraising	11%	\$241,063
<div></div>	General and Administrative	10%	\$199,824
	Total		\$2,124,792

The financial information included in this report is from our Audited Financial Statement. Investment income is not included in the revenue chart.

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



A young camper enjoys cooling off during swim time at River Camp in Firebaugh.



David Hunter

Egrets spotted at the River Vista property.



Volunteers help remove trash from Sycamore Island during the 2019 Great Sierra River Cleanup.

Creating and protecting the San Joaquin River Parkway

The River Parkway Trust's Mission is to preserve and restore San Joaquin River lands having ecological, scenic, or historic significance; to educate the public on the need for stewardship; to research issues affecting the river; and to promote educational, recreational, and agricultural uses consistent with the protection of the river's resources.

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The River Parkway Trust relies on the generosity of people like you to help advance the Parkway effort. You can make a donation today by returning the envelope enclosed in this report, visiting www.riverparkway.org, or by calling 559-248-8480.

We want to hear from you! If you have any feedback or questions about this report please give us a call at 559-248-8480 or email sparkes@riverparkway.org.



San Joaquin River
Parkway and
Conservation Trust, Inc.

www.riverparkway.org