SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM

Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way, MP-170
Sacramento, Calif. 95825-1898

Field Activity Advisory
Resistivity Surveys
January 13, 2014

This notice is to inform you that the California Department of Water Resources, as a component to the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP), will conduct resistivity surveys at portions of State-Federal Project Levees to aid in the identification of historic channels under the levees. The surveys will include portions of Reaches 2A, 4A, and the Eastside Bypass, and will initiate in late January 2014.

Who: California Department of Water Resources (DWR), Kleinfelder, Inc., URS, and NORCAL Geophysical Consultants, Inc.

What: DWR and its contractor staff will perform the resistivity surveys to develop subsurface soil profiles that help aid in identification of historic channels under levees and to assess potential impacts from Restoration Flows on adjoining lands. Resistivity surveys include deployment of a multi-electrode system that sends and receives electrical signals into the ground to measure soil composition to depths of up to 60 feet. The figure below shows the typical arrangement of resistivity equipment. This survey will seek to evaluate the soil composition at the landside and waterside toe of the Project Levees. Areas to be surveyed will vary from 700 feet to 14,000 feet.

Figure: A typical arrangement of resistivity equipment

The geotechnical surveys will involve a crew of three people surveying the levee area. Current planning estimates that there will be up to three crews working at any given time. The field engineers and geologists will access the survey area by vehicle and foot. Crews will set up the electrical resistivity array by hammering stainless steel stakes approximately 3 to 6 inches into the ground using a small sledgehammer. No other significant physical activities (such as mechanical excavation) are required to complete the survey and no heavy construction equipment will be used.

When: Geotechnical explorations efforts are planned for up to 160 days starting January 20, 2014. All surveys are planned to be conducted between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Where: Reach 2A (Chowchilla Bifurcation Structure to a point approximately 7 river miles upstream); Reach 4A (Washington Road to a point approximately 2 ¼ river miles upstream); and the Eastside Bypass from Washington Road to the Eastside Bypass Control Structure.

If you have questions, please contact the SJRRP Landowner Coordinator, Craig Moyle. Craig's contact information is provided below.

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For more information, please visit the SJRRP Web site at www.restoresjr.net.