

# Riparian Ecology along the Middle Sacramento River: Understanding Riparian Ecology from the Perspective of Flowing Water

**May 11, 2017, Thursday**

**Physical River Processes drive riparian ecology.** Flooding and flowing water determine how sediment will be moved through the watershed and how it is distributed across the floodplain, with riparian vegetation responding to the different growing conditions provided by the sediment patterns. Flow velocity shapes the plants as they grow and creates the characteristic vegetation structures that we associate with riparian areas.

**This field-based workshop** will examine riparian ecology along the middle Sacramento River from the perspective of flowing river water: How has flowing water determined the location of plant species across the floodplain; How has the flowing water shaped the physical structure of the vegetation. This year's river flooding should give us a lot to explore and to discover about the riparian ecology of the middle Sacramento River.

This workshop will take place at two different field locations along the middle Sacramento River. We will hike across floodplains and along river banks and onto in-channel sandbars. We will examine how the hydraulics of river flows have formed the sediment and vegetation patterns across the floodplain. Participants will have the opportunity to excavate shallow holes or pits to determine stratification of sediment profiles under and near selected plants and geomorphic surfaces (small shovels and soil auger will be provided).



Workshop participants should expect being outside during this early summer field trip. Wearing long sleeves and long pants, a sun-hat, and sturdy hiking shoes should be appropriate (level terrain with hummocky microtopography and spiny invasive weeds). Mosquitoes and ticks will be present. Bring plenty of water and lunch.

The instructors for this workshop are: **Dr. Tom Griggs**, Senior Restoration Ecologist (retired) River Partners; **Michael Rogner**, Associate Restoration Ecologist, River Partners; and **Stefan Lorenzato**, Chief Riverine Ecosystem Section, DWR-IRWM, California Department of Water Resources.

**This workshop will meet** from 9:00am to 4:00pm on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at a field location along the middle Sacramento River yet to be determined. **Registration** is \$100.00 personal, \$125.00 business, \$90.00 for members of Friends of the Herbarium, and \$40.00 for students (only 2 seats available at the student price). Please register in advance; class size is limited to 16 participants (class cancelled without a minimum of 6 participants). **For more information** about workshop content please contact Tom Griggs at [tgriggs@riverpartners.org](mailto:tgriggs@riverpartners.org). For more information about workshop registration contact the Biology office at 530-898-5356 or [sscholten@csuchico.edu](mailto:sscholten@csuchico.edu).

SEE PAGE 2 FOR REGISTRATION FORM

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## REGISTRATION FORM

Please make your check payable to *Research Foundation* - please include "Riparian workshop" on the memo line and mail to:

Friends of the Herbarium  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929-0515

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Cancellation policy: No refund for cancellation within 7 days of the workshop date.

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