

The San Joaquin River was the focus of one of the nation's most contentious legal battles related to providing instream flows for fish. A 2006 settlement between the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Friant Water Users Authority led to creation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

This two-day, one-night tour explains the background, goals, timeline and activities of the settlement and restoration. Explore the length of the river while diverse stakeholders, water managers and key governmental representatives discuss their challenges and controversies. The tour is cosponsored by the Bureau of Reclamation-Mid-Pacific Region, MWH, now part of Stantec, CH2M, California Department of Water Resources, ESA and Turlock Irrigation District.

## Topics to be discussed include:

- ➤ Central Valley Project operations
- ➤ 2017 updates to reservoir flows, releases and river conditions
- ► Flood management planning and seepage issues
- Construction of fish screens and fish ladders
- ➤ Agricultural diversions and bypass control structures
- ➤ Interim flows and impacts to agricultural lands
- ➤ Various agency roles in restoration

## Planned stops include:

➤ Friant Dam ➤ San Joaquin Trout

Hatchery ➤ Chowchilla Bifurcation and

Canal ➤ Mendota Pool ➤ Sack Dam ➤

Sand Slough Control Structure ➤ Merced

National Wildlife Refuge ➤ Hills Ferry

Barrier on the Merced River

This **fast-paced tour will begin and end in Fresno** starting at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1. After traveling from Fresno downstream to areas of the river that are part of the settlement activities, tour participants will stay overnight in Los Banos. The second day the tour will continue down the San Joaquin River to the confluence of the Merced River before returning to Fresno at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 2.

Registration—\$555 or early bird price of \$525 for purchases by October 1. Registration fee includes all tour meals, hotel accommodations in Los Banos on November 1, tour transportation, bus refreshments and materials. Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from Fresno.

All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Deadline to cancel and receive a full refund is 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 18 due to hotel, meal and transportation bookings. Substitutions are allowed through Oct. 27.