

**California State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) 2015**

**Great Valley Region  
 Riparian Habitat**

**About Our Region and Riparian Habitat** Riparian habitat is found along rivers and streams across the state forming green belts along the running watercourses. Riparian habitat is home for many species providing water, food, escape, and nesting areas. Some species spend their entire life within the habitat (riparian endemic species), while some are frequent visitors from the adjacent lands and some are yet from distance migrating from across the borders.

**What are the sensitive species found in the riparian habitat?** The following 43 riparian dependent species from this region are found to be sensitive:

**Invertebrate [1]**

VALLEY ELDERBERRY LONGHORN BEETLE

**Amphibian [4]**

CALIFORNIA GIANT SALAMANDER  
 COMMON ENSATINA

FOOTHILL YELLOW-LEGGED FROG  
 RED-LEGGED FROG

**Reptile [5]**

GIANT GARTER SNAKE  
 GOPHER SNAKE  
 RINGNECK SNAKE

WESTERN POND TURTLE  
 WESTERN SKINK

**Bird [20]**

BALD EAGLE  
 BANK SWALLOW  
 BEWICK'S WREN  
 BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON  
 CALIFORNIA QUAIL  
 COMMON YELLOWTHROAT  
 GOLDEN EAGLE  
 GREAT BLUE HERON  
 GREAT EGRET  
 GREATER WHITE-FRONT

HUTTON'S VIREO  
 LONG-EARED OWL  
 OSPREY  
 SONG SPARROW  
 SPOTTED TOWHEE  
 SWAINSON'S HAWK  
 TRICOLORED BLACKBIRD  
 YELLOW BILLED CUCKOO  
 YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT  
 YELLOW WARBLER

**Mammal [13]**

BROAD-FOOTED MOLE  
 DEER MOUSE  
 FRINGED MYOTIS  
 LONG-EARED MYOTIS  
 MOUNTAIN LION

NORTHERN RIVER OTTER  
 PORCUPINE  
 RINGTAIL WESTERN MASTIFF BAT  
 RIPARIAN BRUSH RABBIT  
 RIPARIAN WOODRAT

WESTERN SMALL- FOOTED MYOTIS  
WESTERN SPOTTED SKUNK

YUMA MYOTIS

**What do we find important for recovering and sustaining healthy riparian habitat?** Ecological conditions that are found to be most critical to sustain healthy riparian habitat in this region are:

- Area and extent
- Connectivity
- Hydrological regime
- Surface Water Flow Regime
- Soil/ sediment erosion deposition regime

Degraded ecological conditions that are found to be impacting the riparian habitat in this region are:

- Changes in spatial extent of the riparian habitat
- Habitat fragmentation
- Changes in biotic interactions (altered community dynamics)
- Changes in successional processes and ecosystem development
- Changes in functional processes of ecosystem
- Change in annual average temperatures
- Changes in precipitation
- Change in snow pack
- Change in snow cover period
- Change in water temperature
- Changes in runoff and river flow
- Changes in water levels and hydro-period
- Changes in flood occurrence, frequency, intensity, and area flooded
- Changes in sediment erosion and deposition regime
- Changes in soil chemistry
- Increase in water and soil pollutant amount and concentration
- Changes in natural fire regime
- Changes in extreme events

Human related activities and issues that are found to be sources of potential impacts to the riparian habitat are:

- Roads & railroads
- Housing & urban areas
- Utility & Service Lines
- Livestock farming & ranching
- Invasive plant & animal species
- Dams & water Management and uses
- Annual & Perennial Non-Timber Crops
- Recreational activities

### **More questions?**

1. Come talk to us and ask questions at scoping meetings!
2. Check our Website: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/SWAP/>
3. Provide written comments

By email to: [SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:SWAP@wildlife.ca.gov)

By mail: Armand Gonzales

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1341-B

Sacramento, CA 95814