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For immediate release

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### **Boy Scouts Help Restore Oak Groves at Sacramento River NWR**

Glenn County, CA – December 6, 2008 – In partnership with the USFWS, River Partners hosted 25 Cub Scouts (Colusa Pack #12) and 7 Boy Scouts (Colusa Troop #5) at the Packer Unit of the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, December 6th. River Partners' Field Manager, Ruben Reynoso, organized the field day, which included planting oak trees and native grass around the visitors' kiosk. USFWS staff, Denise Dachner and Jennifer Stockton, welcomed the scouts and talked about the Refuge and the history of the Packer Unit. The Colusa Regional Medical Center Foundation, represented by board members Tina Beckley, David Zwald, and Kathy Whitesell, sponsored and served lunch to the scouts.

The Scouts planted oak trees that were grown by Colusa High Schools' Ecology Class through River Partners' School Oak Tree program. The tree planting benefits the restoration of native valley oak woodland on of the Refuge. By working to the enhance the Refuge, the scouts experienced first hand the wonders of the Sacramento River and learned why it is important to save its surrounding habitat. Also they had the opportunity to do community service and work towards their forester and environmental science badges.

River Partners is a nonprofit organization that specializes in river habitat restoration. Since 1998 it has planted one million native trees, shrubs and plants and initiated restoration on over 6,000 acres along the Sacramento, Feather, Tuolumne, Stanislaus, Mokelumne, Bear, and San Joaquin Rivers. Its mission is to create wildlife habitat for the benefit of people and the environment.

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