

10-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF TRANSFORMATIVE FLOODPLAIN  
REVITALIZATION IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

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# Celebrating

## DOS RIOS RANCH PRESERVE



RIVER  
PARTNERS



# Welcome

## Let’s celebrate!

Ten years ago, in May 2012, we gathered at Dos Rios Ranch to celebrate putting the finishing touches on funding agreements to permanently conserve a critical piece of California’s natural landscape—the confluence of the San Joaquin and Tuolumne rivers. It took visionary leadership and deep trust from the landowner, federal partners, state resource managers, local conservation leaders, and private supporters to make that 1,600-acre transaction happen among nine funding partners. To us, the real work was just about to start!

The transformation of Dos Rios Ranch has been a labor of love.

Together, we planted more than 350,000 native trees and shrubs, sowed over two tons of grass and flower seeds along eight miles of riverbank while creating hundreds of good green jobs. We revitalized flood-prone farmland into thriving natural riverside habitat that boosts the resiliency of Valley communities by mitigating future flood risk, recovering endangered wildlife, recharging groundwater for use in dry times, capturing carbon naturally, increasing recreational opportunities and public health, and more.

True to the theme of our celebration, “common ground, common water,” our collective efforts united stakeholders from diverse sectors who worked together for years to grow a thriving river forest on a reconnected floodplain where it had once been lost and disconnected. Our work together at Dos Rios Ranch is an important model that can be replicated across the Valley, benefitting generations to come. The ranch being chosen this year as California’s newest state park fulfills our vision of giving the publicly funded property back to Valley residents to enjoy and steward forever.

We are so grateful you joined us today to celebrate this milestone. Our teamwork, ability to listen and learn from each other, and focus on outcomes are the principles we can harness into the future to ensure a thriving future for all.

With gratitude,

  
Julie Rentner, President

# Schedule

10 AM  
10:30-11:45 AM  
11:45 AM  
12-1 PM

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

1-2 PM  
SPECIAL THANKS TO  
OUR PRESENTERS

ARRIVAL

RANCH TOURS

LUNCH

SPEAKERS

**Dore Bietz**, Planner & Emergency Manager  
Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

**Kimberly Stevenot**, Co-Founder  
California Indian Basketweavers’ Association

**Peter Drekmeier**, Policy Director  
Tuolumne River Trust

**Julie Rentner**, President  
River Partners

**Tim Ramirez**, Board Member  
Central Valley Flood Protection Board

**Adam Gray**, Assemblymember  
District 21

**Armando Quintero**, Director  
California State Parks

**Wade Crowfoot**, Secretary  
California Natural Resources

NETWORKING

**Brian Dewey**, Assistant Deputy Director  
California State Parks

**Kim Forrest**, Manager  
San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex

**Patrick Koepele**, Executive Director  
Tuolumne River Trust



**Bill Lyons, Jr.**, Owner, Mape’s Ranch  
Former State of California Secretary, Food & Agriculture

**Haley Mirts**, Restoration Ecologist  
River Partners

**Pat Reynolds**, General Manager  
Heritage Growers

**Allison Stevenot**, Archeologist  
Stanislaus National Forest

A special thank-you to the Sierra Nevada Brewing Company for donating today’s tasty beer and to Bill Lyons, Jr. for donating the delicious wine.

Share your event photos using: #RiverPartners. Tag us using @River\_Partners  and @riverpartners .



# The Transformation of Dos Rios Ranch—2002-2022

Critical acquisition and restoration funding was provided by: (federal) the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; (state) CA Dept. of Water Resources, CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, CA Natural Resources Agency, CA State Parks, CA Wildlife Conservation Board; (local) River Partners, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Stanislaus County Public Works Department, Tuolumne River Trust; (private) the Firedoll Foundation, Mape's Ranch, New Belgium Brewing Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Resources Legacy Fund, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, and Volgenau Foundation.



2002

TRT, supported by the Resources Legacy Fund and National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, conducts outreach to landowners along the lower Tuolumne River and tours the Lyons family's original Dos Rios Ranch



2003

After discussing various land-protection approaches, the Lyons family partners with TRT in advancing a conservation project



2005

TRT secures initial funding for the Dos Rios Ranch acquisition from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to fund planning and due diligence



2013

Habitat restoration begins with phased restoration driven by permitting complexities and availability of public funding



2014

River Partners completes acquisition of 500-acre Hidden Valley Dairy adjacent to ranch. Begins partnership with fisheries agencies to track salmon migration along property as part of San Joaquin River Restoration Program. TRT establishes conservation easement for dairy



2020

New population of endangered riparian brush rabbit identified on property. Deer return, which hadn't been seen in decades



2022

California State Parks chooses Dos Rios Ranch to potentially become California's newest state park in nearly a decade and a half

## NEXT STEPS:

- **Transfer** property ownership to California State Parks-2023
- **Remove** rubble to facilitate bank restoration-2022-23
- **Secure** \$5 million and complete restoration of Hidden Valley Dairy-ASAP
- **Collaborate** with Central Valley Flood Protection Board and U.S. Army Corps to breach federal levee on property to expand floodplain by 1,000 acres-next 5 years



2006

River Partners and TRT complete a conceptual restoration plan, identifying habitat and wildlife recovery goals for the existing ranch

2012

River Partners and TRT complete acquisition of the ranch, with River Partners taking title and TRT taking a conservation easement



2017

Don Pedro Dam exceeds objective release based on Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations and Dos Rios Ranch floodplains inundated with floodwater for 3 months



2018

Habitat restoration commences on 750 acres of property's primary floodplain

2019

Dos Rios Ranch floodplains inundated again with floodwater for 3 months. TRT and River Partners file 1707 in-stream flow petition to dedicate saved water to instream flows

2021-22

Final phase of restoration begins





# Thank You

## PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

The Dos Rios Ranch project was delivered with deep engagement from both public and private funding partners at the local, state, and national levels. In total, more than \$45 million in acquisition and restoration funding was secured from the following generous sources.

### FEDERAL



### STATE



### LOCAL



### PRIVATE



BEFORE

AFTER





**“Dos Rios is a great, galvanizing opportunity to expand environmental conservation in California for the benefit of nature, to combat climate change, and to expand equitable access. Projects like Dos Rios show us how to achieve 30×30 with multi-benefit projects that aid natural places and our communities.”**

**—Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California  
Natural Resources Agency**



Download Event Materials

# Celebrating

DOS RIOS RANCH PRESERVE

OCTOBER 14, 2022 | 10 AM – 2 PM | MODESTO, CA



**RIVER  
PARTNERS**



**Tuolumne  
River Trust**