



**ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER**, Governor  
**Lester A. Snow**, Secretary for Natural Resources

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## **SECRETARY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES LESTER SNOW ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR CALIFORNIA'S RIVER PARKWAYS**

### *Proposition 84 Funding Will Benefit Communities Statewide*

**MODESTO, Calif. Sept. 14, 2010** – Thirty-one California river parkways projects, including a Modesto site, were awarded \$31 million in Proposition 84 funding Secretary for Natural Resources Lester Snow announced today. Award recipients were announced at 11 a.m. during a ceremony at Beard Brook Park, 11<sup>th</sup> Street and S. Morton Blvd., Modesto.

“Working to restore, preserve and improve watersheds benefits all Californians,” said Secretary Snow. “Enhancing this property supports native wildlife foraging, nesting and movement and allows this and future generations to better experience the natural world first hand.”

The City of Modesto, on behalf of the Tuolumne River regional park JPA, will use their award of \$2.2 million to leverage previous grants to extend fully accessible trails, install a fishing deck and restore habitat at the Tuolumne River Regional Park Gateway project site. The project will restore the banks of the Tuolumne River to their natural gradient and historical flow line, reintroduce floodwaters to the native floodplain and promote the return of native species to the area.

In addition to announcing the Modesto grant, Snow also announced funding for 30 other river parkways projects statewide.

The grants will be used for the acquisition, restoration, protection and development of areas along rivers, streams and creeks. In total, the grants will fund more than 21 miles of trail creation or enhancement and more than 2,232 acres of wildlife habitat restoration and land acquisition.

In 2006, California voters passed Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act, which authorized the Legislature to appropriate funds to benefit river parkway projects.

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## **River Parkways 2010 – 2**

The California River Parkways Program, a competitive grant program administered by the Secretary for Natural Resources, awards funds to public agencies and non-profit organizations to develop river parkways in their communities.

These grants are the first round of Proposition 84 funding. A second round of awards has not yet been scheduled. A similar program for Proposition 50 in 2006, 2007 and 2008 funded 92 projects with \$91.7 million.

All proposed projects that are awarded funding must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Funding for proposed project implementation is contingent upon satisfactory evidence of compliance. To be approved by lead agency decision makers, the proposed projects may change as a result of the CEQA process. However, any changes to the proposed projects must continue to meet all the objectives of the River Parkways Program and be consistent with the intent cited in the original applications.

Proposition 84 River Parkways 2010 first round grant recipients can be found on the Natural Resources Agency Web site: <http://www.resources.ca.gov/>

For additional information on the grant process, visit the Natural Resources Agency's Proposition 84 Web site: [http://www.resources.ca.gov/bonds\\_riverparkways.html](http://www.resources.ca.gov/bonds_riverparkways.html)