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Perea Bill to Help San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) Protect Their Land

SACRAMENTO – Yesterday, Assemblymember Henry T. Perea’s (D-Fresno) Assembly Bill (AB) 1506 was endorsed by the San Joaquin River Conservancy (SJRC) Governing Board. AB 1506 would allow California peace officers to cite violators of SJRC regulations. SJRC was created by the legislature to preserve land around the San Joaquin River for the enjoyment of future generations and was given the authority to make regulations to protect their land. Unfortunately, the legislation that established the SJRC did not include a way to penalize violators of SJRC regulations.

“The Conservancy must be granted the right to enforce regulations in order to keep the land safe and accessible to visitors,” said Assemblymember Perea. “This land is beautiful and we want to ensure it stays this way for generations to come.”

Once SJRC has the ability to make enforceable regulations, they will establish park rules that will keep their parkland safe and protect nature while allowing diverse forms of recreation. Similar to other local, state, and national parks, SJRC needs to be able to restrict activities like starting fires, hunting, and destroying the natural landscape. These regulations will preserve SJRC land so that it can be enjoyed by everyone.

“As Chairman for the San Joaquin River Conservancy and Councilman for the district which includes the parkway area, I fully support AB 1506 by Assemblyman Perea,” said Steve Brandau. “This bill provides more ways that the Conservancy and local agencies can deal with prohibited activities to protect natural resources and public health and safety.”

The Conservancy's boundaries include land on both sides of the San Joaquin River with approximately 4,000 acres in Fresno County and 1,900 acres in Madera County.

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