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Bank Swallows & Incentives *for* Landowners *along the* Sacramento River



About the Bank Swallow

The Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) is a migratory species that winters in South America. In California, the Bank Swallow arrives in late March to scout for nesting habitat along the Sacramento River. The majority of that habitat is located in the 100-mile reach from Red Bluff to Colusa and on some of the major tributaries. They burrow into freshly eroded banks or may reoccupy burrows from previous years. Visit www.bankswallows.org for more information about Bank Swallow ecology.

Protected Status

The Bank Swallow has legal protection as a native species and is listed as a California threatened species. Goals of a 1992 Bank Swallow Recovery Plan are to ensure no further population decline and preserve sufficient natural habitat to maintain a viable population in perpetuity. It is federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Population Status

The Sacramento River Bank Swallow population has declined an estimated 40% since original surveys were conducted in 1985.

www.bankswallows.org



Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

*Altacal Audubon is pleased to inform
landowners along the Sacramento River
about the incentive programs
available to assist landowners who
protect Bank Swallow habitat.*



Sacramento River Aerial by Bruce King © 2010

Landowner Incentive Programs

Below we supply links to a number of voluntary programs designed to compensate and/or provide technical assistance for landowners interested in restoring or preserving fish and wildlife habitat, including Bank Swallow habitat. For a comprehensive list of incentive programs go to:

Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum's (SRCAF) "Landowner Incentive Library," under

Resources: http://www.sacramentoriver.org/SRCAF/index.php?id=incentive_library

- Robert Irwin, (530) 528-7401

Safe Harbor Agreements (USFWS/SRCAF/CDFG)

http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/partnerships/safe_harbor.htm

- Kathy Brown, (916) 414-6600

Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program (USFWS)

<http://www.fws.gov/cno/partners/>

- Carrie Thompson, (916) 414-6446

California Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (USDA/NRCS)

<http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/whip/2010/index.html>

- Alan Forkey, (530) 792-5653

Wildlife Conservation Board Programs (WCB)

<http://www.wcb.ca.gov/Programs/>

- Chad Fien, (916) 323-8979

Flood Protection Corridor Program (CDWR)

<http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/fpo/sgb/fpcp/>

- Earl Nelson, (916) 574-1244

Northern California Regional Land Trust (NCRLT)

<http://www.landconservation.org/ncrltprograms.php>

- Jamison Watts, (530) 894-7738

Resource Conservation Districts (RCD)

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/rcd/Pages/Index.aspx>

- (916) 324-0850

Do You Have Bank Swallow Habitat On Your Property?



Sacramento River Bank by Dawn Garcia © 2010

Bank Swallow nesting habitat can include one or more of the following features:

- The presence of numerous burrows
- Often tall, vertical, freshly eroded bank surfaces
- Variable overstory vegetation: grassland, orchard, riparian, or fallow land

Conservation Concerns

Because the Bank Swallow excavates burrows into river banks to nest and raise young, the main reasons for its population decline are measures that halt or decrease bank erosion. This includes water management practices and bank stabilization measures such as applying rock (riprap or rubble) or construction debris.

More information & links to incentive programs can be accessed through our web site, www.bankswallows.org

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