Plant species that compose riparian vegetation are variously adapted to the river processes of sediment erosion and deposition, flooding duration, and the hydraulics of moving water (and sediments). Each species’ response to these processes creates the different structural types of riparian vegetation. We will explore the Willow Bend Reserve to examine the structure of riparian plants from the edge of the channel upslope to the top of the floodplain. We will also attempt to ascertain how plant community succession proceeds through time in response to the physical river processes.

This will be a “cross-country ramble” that will involve bush-whacking through open to dense woody and herbaceous vegetation. There will be stinging nettles, rose, and blackberry. Mosquitoes may be abundant. It may be hot and humid. Good news: There is no poison oak. I will scout and mark our route a few days prior. Suggested (required?) dress is two shirt layers with long sleeves, long-legged levis, boots, sun-hat, head-mosquito-net recommended. Bring lunch and two quarts of water per person.

We will meet at the intersection of Gould Road (to the west), Gridley Road (to the east), and River Road (to the north), (about a one hour drive south of Chico) at 8 AM on Saturday 13 June 2015. We will drive less than one-quarter mile to the Willow Bend Reserve to park. The workshop will end at 2 PM.

The workshop will be led by Tom Griggs. Tom conducted his graduate work at Chico State studying the Orcuttiae tribe of grasses and went on to obtain his Ph.D. from U.C. Davis. He has since worked throughout the Central Valley on acquiring and managing preserves and on a multitude of restoration projects, including starting the Sacramento River Riparian Restoration Program in 1989, during his time spent working for The Nature Conservancy. In 2002 he joined River Partners, working towards developing restoration designs that not only function as a riparian plant community but also provide high quality habitat for various wildlife species. Tom retired from River Partners in 2013.

The workshop will meet Saturday, June 13, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. along the Sacramento River at Willow Bend. Registration is $100.00 personal, $125.00 business, $90.00 for members of Friends of the Herbarium, $40.00 student (only 2 seats available at the student price). Please register in advance; class size is limited to 16 participants, class cancelled without at least 6 participants. For more information about workshop content or about the location please contact Tom Griggs at tgriggs@riverpartners.org. For more information about registration please contact the Biology office at (530) 898-5356 or at epurvis@csuchico.edu.

*** Registration form on page 2 ***
Riparian Vegetation:  
Individual Plant Species’ Adaptations to River Processes  

June 13, 2015

workshop registration form

Please make your check payable to “Friends of the Herbarium” and mail to
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