



# Cosumnes River Preserve

Can you find these important words  
related to the Preserve?

W E H R N P T O S R M E J D S  
A Z V E A R H L J O U B M R N  
T M P R E P A S K E P T E I L  
E I I E E M T E I M O W X B L  
R Q S G M S L O Q F O R Y G S  
S F E A R U E F R L S I X N Y  
H E M Z M A V R F I A V T O V  
E W C N X R T D P P H E J S F  
D J E C P S L O O P F R T V S  
F B K O W I M L R W C Q L W J  
K N U M W T S N P Y Q Q G B P  
S E N M U S O C Y F V I T Y G  
J U L C C W A T E R F O W L J  
W S U G R A S S E S U H T G B  
T S K S T D G A P T D G K B E

COSUMNES

FISH

WILDFLOWERS

GRASSES

MAMMALS

MIGRATORY

MIWOK

MOKELUMNE

PRESERVE

RAPTOR

RIVER

SONGBIRD

TREES

WATERFOWL

WATERSHED

# Learn More!

## Cosumnes River Preserve

The Cosumnes River Preserve is over 50,000 acres of protected land centered around the Cosumnes River! It is owned and managed by 10 different partners. These partners work together to permanently protect the floodplains, wetlands, valley oak riparian forests, vernal pool grasslands, and wildlife-friendly farms that make up the Preserve.

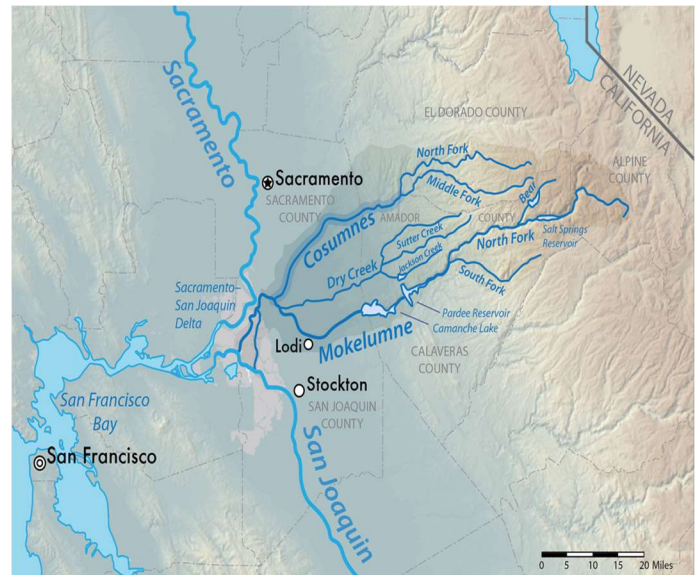


## Cosumnes River Watershed

The Cosumnes River starts in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and runs about 80 miles through the California Valley to meet up with the Mokelumne River. It then feeds into the Delta, leading straight to the ocean. This system of moving water is called a watershed.

## Mokelumne River

As you can see to the right, the Mokelumne is a river, like the Cosumnes, flowing west of the Sierra Nevada Mountains into the Delta. The Mokelumne River is 95 miles long. Unlike the Cosumnes River, which does not have any major dams or aqueducts, the Mokelumne provides water for the East Bay Area through the Mokelumne Aqueduct.



## Raptors, Songbirds, and Waterfowl

There are many kinds of birds at the Cosumnes River Preserve. Depending on the time of year and where you walk on the Preserve, you can see a range of raptors, songbirds, waterfowl, and others. A few common raptors are: Swainson's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, and Northern Harrier (plus many more!). A few types of waterfowl you may see are: Canada goose, Greater white-fronted goose, Northern shoveler, Northern pintail, American coot, and Sandhill Crane (of course, many more!). If you're walking along the River Walk Trail, you'll likely hear the songbirds singing in the trees. Some common songbirds are: Northern flicker, Tree swallow, House wren (picture to the right), Bushtit, Marsh wren, Lesser goldfinch, and many more!



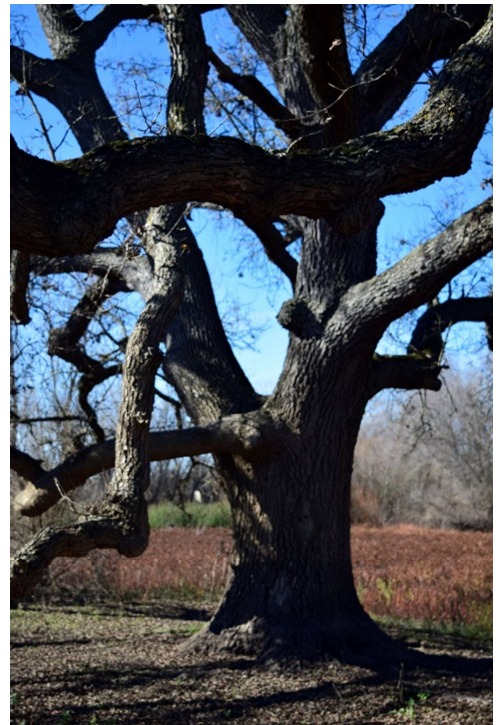
## **Mammals**

Many different mammals call the Preserve home. If you're walking along the river, or even driving on the roads near the Cosumnes River, you may see a river otter (pictured to the right). River otters are semiaquatic mammals (meaning they live partly on land and partly in water). Another common mammal at the Preserve is the deer. If you walk the trails at sunrise or sunset, you may see deer lurking in the forested areas, or gracefully walking in the open grasslands. One more interesting mammal at the Preserve is the bobcat. Bobcats are much smaller than mountain lions and are relatively skittish. It is uncommon to see them on the trails, as they like to stay away from people!



## **Trees, grasses, and wildflowers**

As you might have guessed, there are MANY different types of plants at the Preserve. Some of the most notable trees are the Valley Oaks (pictured to the right). These giant beauties are some of the oldest and largest types of oak trees. At the Preserve, you'll see them lining the River Walk Trail and scattered throughout the grassland areas. As for grasses, common ones you'll notice are the Valley sedge, Purple needlegrass, Soft rush, and Field Sedge, among many others. It can be hard to tell grasses apart, but if you study and use your detective skills, you'll become an expert in no time! As for wildflowers, there are over a hundred different species at the Preserve! To name a few, there are: Miniature lupine, Monkey flower, Common fiddleneck, Tidy tips, Hayfield tarweed, and the list goes on!



To learn more about Cosumnes River Preserve,  
visit our website at [www.cosumnes.org](http://www.cosumnes.org)  
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for educational videos and pictures!