

**Position Title:** River Restoration Specialist  
**Office Location:** Chico, CA  
**Status:** Non-Exempt



Do you value clean water, wild rivers, and healthy forests? Are you willing to lend your voice and your hands to protect fish and wildlife? Are you excited to work with a team of ecologists, farmers, and entrepreneurs? If you answered yes to all of these questions, River Partners needs your help. Notwithstanding our accomplishments and awards, the single best thing about River Partners is the people. Our staff is committed, creative, collaborative and diverse. We produce amazing results and have a lot of fun along the way.

**The Why:**

We give new life to river landscapes in California so that we empower people with proven solutions for resilient natural communities.

**Organizational Summary:**

River Partners is a California-based nonprofit organization dedicated to the restoration and preservation of rivers and floodplain ecosystems. We believe in achieving results that directly benefit people and the environment. River Partners is the largest habitat restoration contractor in the western United States. Our talented and hard working operations teams deliver large-scale ecological restoration attaining the highest standards of performance within the complicated world of public works contracting to bring life back to rivers. Our work has been recognized with several awards, including the Governors' Environmental and Economic Leadership Award.

**Position Description:**

The River Restoration Specialist works with the Directors of Conservation to advance channel and floodplain restoration projects along the middle and upper Sacramento River. The Specialist will work closely with River Partners' collaborators to plan, design, supervise, and monitor implementation projects funded by the US Bureau of Reclamation and other agencies. The River Restoration Specialist will be responsible for supervising restoration contractors during the implementation season to ensure that the contractors have the information and guidance necessary to complete projects on schedule and in budget. During the remainder of the year, the River Restoration Specialist will work with public agencies, landowners, other collaborators and the River Partners' Development team to develop grant proposals to fund new project activities and plan, design, permit, and monitor funded projects.

Some of the Essential Functions and Responsibilities:

- Identify channel, floodplain, and riparian protection and restoration sites that are ecologically significant and develop successful proposals to fund restoration projects.
- Build effective partnerships and coalitions with a diverse group of stakeholders to advance River Partner's mission and projects.

- Write grants, submit bids, and negotiate cooperative agreements to secure the funding necessary to successfully implement River Partners' projects.
- Collaborate with the Director of Operations and the Director of Science to test and develop innovative restoration strategies.
- Oversee project management and ensure that activities, budgets and milestones are coordinated and updated on a frequent basis to ensure that project scheduling, spending and reporting can expeditiously support project objectives and billing cycles.
- Develop scoping requests for subcontract work and enter into agreements to ensure that cost and quality expectations are met.
- Interface with funders to ensure grant funds and project expenditures are coordinated and if necessary create and submit change orders in a timely manner to ensure that variances are properly communicated and funded.
- Support River Partners' President, Senior Managers, and Regional Staff in developing strategic plans, budgets, and marketing materials.
- Coordinate with agency staff and conservation partners in the successful implementation of River Partners projects.
- Actively participate in regional planning efforts including the Sacramento River Science Partnership, the Central Valley Salmon Habitat Partnership, the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan (DWR and CVFPB), the Battle Creek Working Group, and USFWS and CDFW endangered species recovery efforts, and local and regional water quality and supply initiatives.
- Initiate and direct changes to increase efficiency and meet objectives.
- Establish and coordinate productive partnerships with the agricultural community, conservation organizations, and local, state and federal agencies.
- Represent River Partners before the general public, elected officials, agencies, stakeholders, and non-profits to generate support for River Partners programs.
- Other duties as requested.

**Knowledge Skills and Abilities:**

- Must enjoy working with diverse people and organizations to get things done.
- Demonstrate cooperative behavior with colleagues, supervisors, and managers at all times.
- Intermediate computer proficiency skills.
- Ability to apply logical thinking and sound judgment to a wide range of practical problems
- Effectively communicate complicated conservation initiatives orally and in writing.
- Excellent verbal, analytical, organizational and written skills.
- Possess advanced knowledge of California plants, riparian ecology, aquatic ecology, hydrology, soils and /or wildlife.
- Experience managing or implementing construction, natural resources management actions, or restoration projects in the field.
- Possess experience working with California and Federal environmental permitting including NEPA/CEQA, ESA, CDFW Code, California Water Code, Clean Water Act Section 404/401, etc.
- Ability to work on both a team environment and independently.

- Demonstrate good organizational skills, ability to work under multiple deadlines, and flexibility to handle changing priorities.
- Experience managing budgets and general understanding of contracting.
- Excellent verbal, analytical, organizational and written skills.
- Integrity and ethics beyond reproach.
- Commitment and enthusiasm to carry out River Partners mission.

**Qualifications:**

- MS in fisheries, aquatic, or riparian ecology; geomorphology, civil and environmental engineering, environmental science, environmental planning, landscape architecture, or related field or substitute work experience for advanced degree.
- Minimum of three to five years of appropriate work experience.
- Demonstrated experience preparing grant proposals to government funding agencies to for habitat restoration and enhancement projects.
- Professional contract management experience.
- Contracting experience including managing implementation projects in the field or estimating against proposal specifications, bid preparation, submittals and follow up on bid awards.
- Hands-on experience working with Federal, State and local government grants, to ensure that projects are managed within scope, budget and regulatory compliance.
- Experience developing subcontract agreements with standard general provisions and sourcing subcontractors.
- Driver's license with no restrictions.
- Possess the ability to communicate in basic Spanish (preferred, but not required).

To learn more about River Partners leading approach to restoring California ecosystems, please visit our website: <http://riverpartners.org>

**To apply email your resume & cover letter to:**

jobs@riverpartners.org, Subject: River Restoration Specialist (Chico)

**Or send to:**

River Partners Attn: River Restoration Specialist (Chico)

580 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico, CA 95926

***No telephone calls, please.***

