

## **Friends of the Swainson's Hawk Accomplishments**

### **Habitat Lands Preserved**

Friends of the Swainson's Hawk has been instrumental in enforcing laws intended to preserve habitat lands for threatened Swainson's Hawks. Our actions to enforce these protective laws since 1994 have resulted in land set aside for permanent protection and use by Swainson's Hawks.

#### City of Sacramento:

- Fisherman's Lake Preserve now numbering almost 400 acres. Through settlement of litigation, habitat land was required to be acquired at Fisherman's Lake.
- Through litigation, the Natomas Basin Habitat Conservation Plan was improved to guarantee habitat lands be protected.

#### County of Sacramento

- Sacramento County Department of Airports had been destroying habitat through fill at Prichard's Lake and destruction of nesting trees, until complaint was filed in 2002 by FOSH. The resulting restoration and mitigation program required by the federal government enforcement action has resulted in hundreds of acres of permanent habitat protection.

- At the urging of FOSH, County of Sacramento upgraded its Swainson's Hawk mitigation program, resulting in a 1:1 mitigation ratio, and guaranteed land dedication.

#### City of Elk Grove\*

- FOSH's campaign to get Elk Grove to purchase habitat land instead of holding fee monies in the bank resulted in action in 2004. It upgraded its Swainson's Hawk mitigation program to require 1:1 mitigation. Elk Grove has also acquired and converted 800 acres of non-habitat to Swainson's Hawk habitat. Elk Grove has now acquired over a thousand acres of mitigation land.

#### County of Yolo\*

- Friends of the Swainson's Hawk complained to Yolo County and cities in 2005 that fees collected for mitigation of impacts on Swainson's Hawk were not being spent for habitat. Our pressure resulted in change. The Yolo Habitat JPA reports: "Changes to the Swainson's Hawk Interim Mitigation Fee program in 2006 (that require developers with projects over 40 acres in size to mitigate directly) have resulted in the protection of an additional 1,027 acres of Swainson's hawk foraging habitat." In addition, the JPA has acquired about 400 acres.

\*Meanwhile there is still money in the bank intended to acquire habitat land but not spent. We urge you to help us pressure those responsible to acquire land.