



The **PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA** is pleased to announce that they are now accepting registrations for their April 20-22, 2017 Annual Meeting and Field Tour.

The meeting will be based out of Lodi, California, and will focus on a wide variety of Sacramento Delta region topics.

We will start the meeting off with a series of talks providing a geographical orientation, and historical and background information on the challenges of the Sacramento Delta Region. Confirmed speakers will be listed on the website.

We will visit the **USDA NRCS PLANT MATERIALS CENTER (PMC)** and have a presentation by Dr. Margaret Smither-Kopperl and Ms. Valerie Bullard on PMC operation and cover crops. Focus will be on the NRCS Soil Health Initiative, and field soil health assessment factors. Comparisons will be observed between conventional tillage practices and no-till (conservation) tillage and cover crop rotations. The Columbia (Fluvent) soil series will be viewed.

On Earth Day, April 22nd, we will visit **STATEN ISLAND AND TALK WITH THE NATURE CONSERVANCY** managers, Dawit Zeleke and Morgan Johnson, who will discuss the challenges of managing for wildlife habitat in relation to supporting that operation with agriculture, by legal mandate. This entails Sand Hill Crane habitat requirements, crop rotations, managing mineral and organic soils, sub-irrigation methodology, fertility management, herbicide management, levee maintenance



and the regulatory balancing act. Truly fascinating. Oh, and then there are the Delta issues! It is a rare opportunity to view the 'peat dirt' and the 'yellow dirt' (as they call it) side-by-side. We will tour the island and look at the Rindge (Histosol) and Valdez (Fluvent) series.

## AGENDA OVERVIEW

**Thursday Evening:** PSSAC Board of Director's Meeting (6:00-8:00 p.m.) Richmaid Diner's Meeting Room, 100 S. Cherokee Lane, Lodi, CA. *All are welcome, dinner cost is on-your-own.*

**Friday Morning:** (8:00-1:00) Various presentations on Sacramento Delta Topics including a Soil's Focused Brief History of the Delta, Evolution of the Delta and the Mokelumne River Fan, the Role of Water Management in the Delta, Levee Management, and more. This informative session will be held at the Holiday Inn Express Conference Room, 1337 E. Kettleman Lane, Lodi, and a continental breakfast and build-your-own burrito lunch will be provided.

**Friday Afternoon:** (1:00—5:30) Carpool to USDA Plant Material's Center at Lockeford. Inspect soils and learn about the function of the Plant Materials Center.

**Friday Evening:** (5:30-8:30) Catered Annual Dinner at Harmony Wynelands.

**Saturday [Earth Day]** (8:30-4:30) Carpool to Staten Island and spend the day with The Nature Conservancy key leaders, and take a look at several unique soils, levee management, wildlife habitat management and more. (Breakfast is on-your-own. Box lunches and snacks will be provided.)

**Saturday Evening:** Those interested are encouraged to convene for dinner at Foster's Bighorn, a unique and historical restaurant located at 143 Main Street in Rio Vista.

A **Guide Book** will be included in the registration fee.



Photo credit: Bill Reed



Photo credit: NRCS



Photo credit: Bill Reed

# MORE ABOUT THE MEETING!

**Lodging:** A small block of rooms has been reserved at the Lodi Holiday Inn Express at a rate of \$129/night. Federal and State employees will receive a government room rate upon showing government ID. Call 209-210-0150 to reserve your room. Visit their website <http://www.hiexpress.com/lodi.ca> for additional information. Participants are also welcome to stay at other nearby hotels.

**Included in the \$205 Registration Fee:** Friday’s Continental Breakfast and Build-Your-Own Burrito lunch, a Catered Dinner at Harmony Wynelands’s event venue, a Box Lunch and Snacks/water on Saturday. Transportation to the various Field Tour Sites will be by carpool. A Field Tour Guide will also be included.

**Mailing Address:** Mail your registration, check made payable to “PSSAC”:

PSSAC 2017 Meeting  
P.O. Box 5972  
Vacaville, CA 95696

**Online Registration** is also available at <http://www.pssac.org/meetings/2017-annual-meeting>

**Scholarships Available!** Two scholarships will be available for enrolled university students, and will include a discounted meeting fee and two nights lodging. See the website ([pssac.org](http://pssac.org)) for application information.

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## 2017 PSSAC ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

_____	Yes, I want to attend the April 20-22, 2017 PSSAC Annual Meeting and Field Tour, and I am registering on or before March 24th, please give me the <b>early registration</b> fee	\$190.00
_____	Yes, I want to attend the April 20-22, 2017 PSSAC Annual Meeting and Field Tour, and I am registering after March 24th, I will pay the <b>full registration</b> fee	\$205.00
_____	I am a PSSAC member with dues in good standing, please give me my “member’s discount”	- \$10.00
_____	In addition to my registration fee, I would also like to contribute to support the scholarship fund	_____
<b>TOTAL ENCLOSED</b> (Please make check payable to “PSSAC”)		_____

I have the following dietary requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

C/S/Z \_\_\_\_\_

***We hope you can join us, and look forward to seeing you there!***