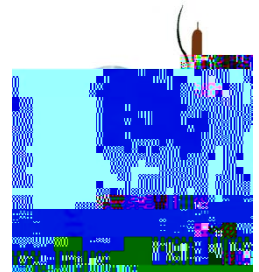


## **WINTER WATER**

At Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, the wet season is here. Water is flowing the length of the old river channel in the park. The wetland areas are flooded. Over 2,500 waterfowl are present. It's a great time to visit Rio Bosque!



makes possible vigorous plant growth and abundant, species-rich animal communities.

Once common, native riparian areas are largely gone from our river valley today. At Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, we are working to bring wetland and riparian habitats back. Lack of water during the growing season makes this a challenging task.

Prolonged drought, as we've experienced in recent years, intensifies the challenge. Still, one area at Rio Bosque is showing progress. The well at the park's inlet keeps a 0.5-mile reach of the old river channel in the park consistently wet. Here, native riparian