



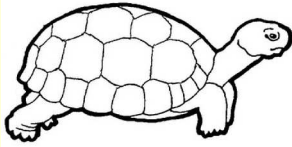
AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 46 - No.4 - APRIL 2017
Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

KERN AUDUBON

Tues. APRIL 4, 2017

Kern Supt of Schools 1300 17th St, Bakersfield
(Street parking or in lot at 18th & K)



"The Desert Tortoise & Its Challenges"

Jillian Estrada, Manager of the Desert
Tortoise Natural Area, Kern County



Jillian Estrada is the preserve manager of the Desert Tortoise Natural Area, located in Kern County east of California City, and conservation coordinator for the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Zoology and Animal Behavior from Michigan State University as well as a Master's of Science in Conservation Ecology from the University of Michigan. She has worked on research projects spanning the continent of Africa and North America. Her presentation will focus on "Protecting and managing the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area in an era of growing threats". She will give an update on recent events at the DTRNA and will discuss actions being taken to combat the growing number of threats to the desert tortoise and other species. Of particular concern for birders is the threat to the endangered Desert Tortoise posed by the Common Raven. (A field trip to the DTNA is planned for Sat. April 8th -- see below for details.)

APRIL FIELD TRIPS

Sat. April 8, 6:30am - Desert Tortoise Preserve

As a follow-up to the April 4th program on desert tortoises and the preserve in the Mojave Desert, Madi Elsea will lead a field trip to the preserve and a stop at California City's Central Park, a birding hotspot. At the preserve we will have a naturalist-led tour. An early start is important, so we will meet to carpool at the Stockdale Park n Ride (Stockdale Hiway between Hiway 99 & Kaiser) at **6:30am**. Bring water, snacks, hat, \$10 (for drivers), binoculars. We will stop at the Subway in Cal City on the way home for lunch. Call Madi (322-7470) for more info. Chance to see wildflowers, too!

Wednesday, April 12, 7:30 am - Fort Tejon & Quail Lake

Bill Moffat will lead this birding field trip to Ft. Tejon and vicinity and then to the Quail Lakes area. We will do short walks at each location. Early migrants and mountain species will be seen. This will be an enjoyable morning for birders of all levels. Meet to carpool at the Stockdale Hwy/Hwy 99 Park n Ride located between Real Rd. & Hiway 99 at **7:30 AM**. Bring snacks/lunch, water, binos, layered clothes. We will also have binoculars to loan. \$10 gas donation suggested for drivers. We will return after lunch. Call Bill for more info at 661-805-0232.

Sat. April 15, 7:00am - Kern River Preserve

Reed Tollefson, Kern River Preserve's manager, will lead this outing at the preserve. Expect to see spring migrants as well as year-round birds. Meet Ginny Dallas at the Costco Rosedale (near the gas station) to carpool to the preserve in Weldon. Bring water, snacks, a lunch, binocs, \$10 for drivers. Call Ginny 301-8188 for more info.

Sat. April 22 - Piute Ponds

Kern Audubon-Tehachapi's Greg Hargleroad will lead this outing to Piute Ponds located on Edwards Air Force Base near Mojave. Meet at **8:00am** at the Tehachapi Burger King to carpool. Bring binocs, snacks, water. Bakersfield birders meet at **7:15am** at the Stockdale ParknRide (between Real Rd. & Hiway 99) to carpool to Tehachapi meeting spot. For information: 818-645-3664 (\$10 for drivers)



WORKPARTY AT PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

Saturday, April 8 will be another work day at the Panorama Vista Preserve. The thistles will have started to grow by then but there is always something to do at the Preserve. Bring work gloves, water, a hat, and shovel or hoe if you have one. Wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the preserve gate at the east end of Roberts Lane. If it's starting to get warm early we may meet at 8 am, otherwise 9 to 11 a.m.

David Schaad 428-2841 davidws@pacbell.net



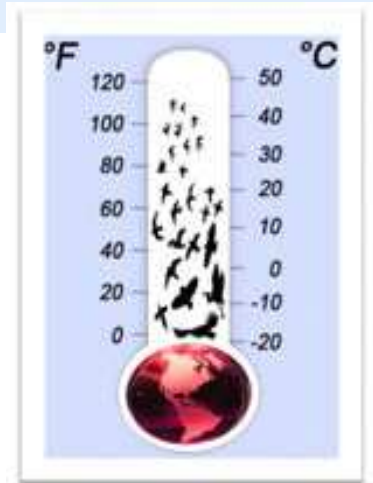
CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER: 4 FACTS TO MENTION TO SCEPTICAL FRIENDS

Greenhouse gases keep heat close to the earth's surface making it livable for humans and animals. However, global warming is happening largely due to an over-emittance of these gases and fossil fuels (natural oil, gasoline, coal).

With the start of industry in the 1700's, humans began emitting more fossil fuels from coal, oil, and gas to run our cars, trucks, and factories. By driving a "smarter" car, you will not only save on gas, but help prevent global warming.

There is more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere today than at any point in the last 800,000 years.

Though Americans make up just 4 percent of the world's population, we produce 25 percent of the carbon dioxide pollution from fossil-fuel burning -- by far the largest share of any country.



WEBSITES to check out...

Info about birds? Go to www.birds.cornell.edu, the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, world leader in the study and conservation of birds

Kern Birding For a great website about Kern County birding spots go to www.natureali.org

Audubon California has an excellent website: www.Audubon-ca.org

Audubon in the news - To learn about National Audubon go to: www.audubon.org



Above: Birds n Bikers February outing (photo by Harry Love)



If you'd like to find out what similar groups to Audubon are doing, consider joining **Meetup!** You get email reminders of events and it's free! Go to: www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society and follow the instructions. We now have over 220 members! Thanks to Carly Summers for keeping the site updated!

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

2016-2017

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John1942@sbcglobal.net; 747-2855

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Mary Dufraim, Tehachapi Rep.

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Madi Elsea, Warbler Editor

madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470

Looking ahead....Kern Audubon's May 2nd meeting will be about BATS with Erika Noel, Biologist with McCormick Biological



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK "Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings and get updates on field trips and programs! Thank you to Facebook editor, Laura Fahey!



KERN AUDUBON DONATES TO TETON RAPTOR CENTER'S POO POO PROJECT

In January 2017 Kern Audubon's Exec Board approved the donation of \$150 to support a project to cover open pipes in the Sequoia National Forest that cause the death of cavity nesting birds. Kern Audubon joined with Kerncrest Audubon in support of this project. We received a thank-you (see below) for purchasing "PooPoo" screens to cover the large open vent pipes in vault toilets in the Sequoia Nat'l Forest. All the vault toilet vent pipes, we have been told, are now screened over so birds can't get trapped.

The Long-eared Owl pictured above on the front of the thank-you card, looks mad and probably was mad because it had just been fished out of a sewage-holding tank under an outhouse. It was lucky. Most birds that get trapped in these "Vault-Toilets" struggle to get free but can't and die there. (The Poo-Poo Project is also known as the Port-O-Potty Owl Project.)

Thank you for your generous support of the Teton Raptor Center's Poo-Poo Project and Sequoia National Forest. What a great 3-way partnership that truly benefits cavity-nesting birds in California. As of today (1/17/17) we have distributed 8,165 screens through 332 partners in 31 states!

Thanks again!

David Watson, Director of Development

Amy Brennan McCarthy, Executive Director

Editor's note: The Teton Raptor Center is located in Wilson, Wyoming. For more information: www.tetonraptorcenter.org.

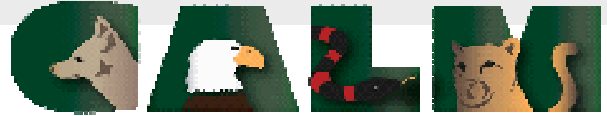
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL QUESTIONS

Not sure when your Audubon membership expires? The expiration date is printed on the *Audubon Warbler* newsletter label and on the *Audubon Magazine* label. In addition, Membership Coordinator Linda McMillian is sending reminder postcards. Please use the membership form on the back page and send with your \$20 renewal check made out to NATIONAL AUDUBON and mail to Kern Audubon, PO Box 3581, Bakersfield CA 93385. Questions? Call Linda: 205-3521.

NATIVE PLANT TOUR AT CALM

Monday April 3, 2017

Kern Audubon & the California Native Plant Society have been invited to the Spring Native Plant Tour at CALM, April 3rd, 9:00am. The California Living Museum is located on Alfred Harrell Hiway east of Hart Park. The cost will be \$3.50 and we will share snacks after the tour at the museum. No reservations are required. Bring your friends!



Kern Audubon - Tehachapi

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 - 7 p.m.

Golden Hills Elementary School Cafeteria
20215 Park Road.

"Tehachapi Western Bluebird Trail Report"

Karen Pestana, Bluebird Trail Coordinator

Guest Speaker Karen Pestana will present her annual report on the Tehachapi bluebird nest box program at the Audubon-Tehachapi meeting. For the last seventeen years Karen has coordinated the effort of many volunteers to maintain the nest boxes, monitor the birds' nesting progress and report the findings to Cornell University Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch program. In addition to an update on the local bluebird trail, Karen will give instructions on attracting bluebirds, installing a nest box, and how to become a nest box monitor.



Karen is a wildlife biologist at Edwards Air Force Base and before settling in Tehachapi, she held positions with California Fish and Wildlife and the National Park Service.

Light refreshments and a raffle will follow her presentation.

Everyone is invited to attend. For more information call Dixie at 661-599-1889.

Owens Lake Bird Festival

Lone Pine CA - April 28 - 30, 2017

Friends of the Inyo invites all birders and lovers of wildlife and beautiful landscapes to celebrate with us during the 3rd Annual Owens Lake Bird Festival, April 28-30, 2017 in Lone Pine, California. The Owens Lake Bird Festival promises great opportunities for experiencing a special place during the height of an awe-inspiring migration of birds travelling between hemispheres.

Registration and information is online at www.friendsoftheinyo.org/foiD7/owenslakefestival

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Kern Audubon Society
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385



www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. April 4, 7pm - Meeting & program
- Sat. April 8, 9-11am - PVP Workparty
- Sat. April 8, 6:30am - Desert Tortoise Preserve
- Wed. April 12, 7:30am - Ft Tejon & Quail Lake
- Sat. April 15, 7:00am - Kern River Preserve
- Sat. April 22 - Piute Ponds field trip

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C4ZC300Z)

If you would like to be part of a grass-roots conservation organization with a distinguished history, join the National Audubon Society and Kern Audubon! Please complete the form below and send with your check.

Membership includes *Audubon Magazine* (6 Issues) and the *Audubon's Warbler* (10 issues)

New Member \$20
 Renewal \$20

Make check payable to **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

SEND this form and your check to National Audubon for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____

KERN VALLEY BIOREGION FESTIVAL

Saturday April 22, 2017

Circle Park in Kernville & the Kern River Preserve in Weldon

Located at the southern edge of the Sierra Nevada, the Kern Valley is a unique place. Five of California's six bioregions (a region defined by characteristics of the natural environment rather than by human-made divisions) meet here in the Kern River Valley: Great Basin, Mojave Desert, Coastal Chaparral, Sierran Forest and California Grassland plus the largest remaining contiguous riparian forest in the state. With so many different habitats meeting in one place, plants and animals usually separated by many miles can be spotted within a short distance including 350 bird species, 138 butterfly species, 2,000+ species of plants, and the highest mammal diversity in the United States (115 species). ***The Kern Valley Bioregions Festival is an annual event that celebrates the local unique biological diversity found in the valley. Come join us to celebrate the uniqueness of the Kern River:*** This year events will be headquartered in Kernville at Circle Park as well as the Kern River Preserve in Weldon, CA. Walks are **free** and spaces for events are limited. Additional events may be added. To sign up or obtain more information please contact **Wendy Rannals at wrannals@fs.fed.us**

7:30-11:00am Guided bird identification walk at Tillie Creek Campground by John Schmitt, professional wildlife artist. Meet at Circle Park, Kernville. Participant total limited to 12.

7:30-11:00am Bird Banding Demonstration at the Kern River Preserve by the Southern Sierra Research Station. Meet at the Kern River Preserve Headquarters in Weldon. No limit.

8:00-12:00 Introduction to birds and bird watching by Lee Sutton of Kerncrest Audubon. Meet at the Kern River Preserve Headquarters in Weldon.

7:00 and 9:00 am Bird walks at the Kern River Preserve, Weldon. Take a 1 mile walk through cottonwood-willow riparian forest and forest restoration plots along the South Fork Kern River. Each walk will take between one and two hours. Meet at the Kern River Preserve headquarters in Weldon.

9:00-11:00am Lily Canyon Wildflower Walk by Steve Anderson, Biologist USFS. Meet at Circle Park and caravan to Lily Canyon. This will include hiking along a trail and the hillsides of Lily Canyon discussing and identifying flowers, types of brush and some historical features found in Lily Canyon. Area subject to change, Participant total limited to 25.

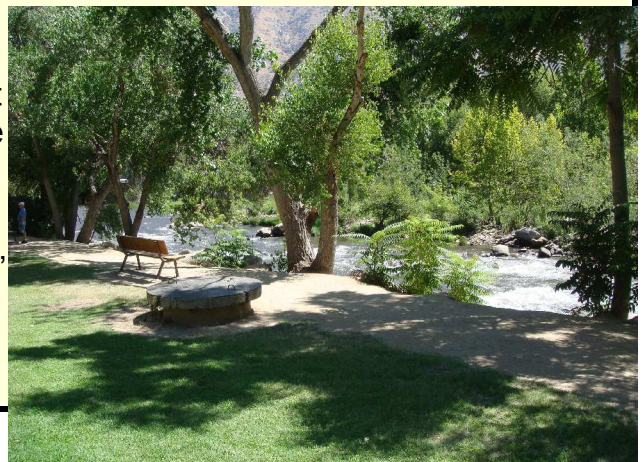
12:30-2:00pm Keysville Historic mining walk and talk by Tim Kelly, USFS archaeologist . Meet at Circle Park and caravan to Keysville making stops at various locations of historic features along the way. Participant total limited to 15.

9:00-11:00 Hot Springs Valley Wetlands Walk: Past, Present, Future by Bob Barnes. Meet at the Park-n-Ride just off the junction of CA Hwy 155 & CA Hwy 178 freeway interchange at the edge of the community of Lake Isabella (entrance to Isabella Motel & Lutheran Church). Enjoy the open space, animals and flowers on site and discuss future plans for the Hot Springs Valley Wetlands. Participant total limited to 25.

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS - Meet at circle park for presentation at **9:45 AM**. Talks will be given at the USFS Kernville office, from 10 – noon. Attendance total limited to 30.

Sequoia National Forest drought and recent tree mortality by Beverly Bulaon, Forest Entomologist, 30 minute talk

Oak regeneration and propagation by Martin Mackenzie, Forest Pathologist, 15 minute talk



Kernville's Circle Park-photo by Harry Love

If you'd like to help staff Kern Audubon's booth at the festival, please contact Harry Love: 805-1420