



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 41 no. 3 - March 2012
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org
www.kastehachapibird.org

Kern Audubon Society

Tues. MARCH 6, 2012 - 7:00pm

Kern Supt of Schools, 17th & L Sts. Bakersfield

**"Audubon's Kern River Preserve:
Jewel of the Southern Sierra"**
Reed Tollefson, Preserve Manager



The South Fork Kern River supports one of California's finest remaining examples of Great Valley Cottonwood-Willow Forest. It is recognized at the state and regional levels as a valuable natural asset that provides opportunities for education, nature tourism, research and recreation. Audubon's Kern River Preserve protects 3,434 acres of this river forest, associated wetlands and uplands. Habitat restoration, invasive weed control and many other types of land stewardship are conducted on the property as well as surrounding private ranches and public lands. Audubon partners with local, county, state and federal resource managers to help ensure that this rare and unique river forest, the preserve and the surrounding rural landscape are preserved for the future.

Preserve Manager since 1992, Reed Tollefson will update us about this special place with its abundance of wildlife, native flora and over 240 species of birds located 57 miles east of Bakersfield along Highway 178. Join us for an informative and inspirational look at this wonderful preserve owned and managed by Audubon California!

MARCH FIELD TRIPS

Sat./Sun March 3-4 - Carrizo Plain & Morro Bay

This is the third annual Kern Audubon weekend of birding Carrizo Plain and hot spots in Morro Bay, areas where we can expect to see Golden eagles, owls, bluebirds, raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl. This is a caravanning trip with leader Scott Frazer. The group will meet at the Loves Gas Station in Lost Hills, Highway 46 & Interstate 5 at 7:30am and bird throughout the day in and near Carrizo Plain Nat'l Monument then head for Morro Bay in late afternoon where we will meet at a designated spot for dinner. Motel reservations need to be made by participants and Scott (319-1243) can provide suggestions. Birding on Sunday will begin after breakfast and continue until noon. Call Scott for information and if you are planning to attend. If you'd like to carpool, let him know. Saturday only participants are welcome as well. For Sat. bring water, snacks, lunch, binoculars, etc. (Email: scott_frazer@fws.gov)

Wed. Walk - March 14, 8am - Tule Elk Reserve

Join us for this Wednesday Walk with Park Ranger Bill Moffat at Tule Elk State Reserve where we will have the opportunity to see the elk as well as nesting Great Horned owls, early spring migrants. Meet at Kern River Parkway parking lot across from CSUB on Stockdale Highway & Don Hart Drive. Bring water, snacks, binocs. Call Al (833-6705 or Deb (832-0525).

Sat. March 17, 8:00am - Truxtun Lake

Truxtun Lake area and the Kern River (if there's any water!) is a good birding spot for year round birds as well as spring migrants...Roadrunners, egrets, white-crowned sparrows, raptors, etc. Meet at the Truxtun Extension parking area west of Mohawk Street near the painted water tower. Bring good walking shoes, water, snacks, binocs (we also have binoculars to borrow). Ends about 10:30am; 322-7470 for information.

Sat. March 24 - Flowing Wells Ranch

This private duck club is located north of California City near Cantil. Several lakes and shallow pools for shorebirds, plus the nearby Rancho de Nada attracts a lot of blackbirds, goldfinch and sparrows. Depending on rainfall, a sink to the east regularly becomes a large lake with flocks of Snow Geese. Bring water, snacks & lunch. **Bakersfield participants will meet at 6:30am** at the Stockdale Park n Ride (between Real Rd. & Highway 99) and **Tehachapi folks will gather at 7:30am** at the Kmart parking lot near Burger King to carpool. Call Angela Guy for information: 821-7702

BIRDING FESTIVALS

Bird festivals are fun! You meet other birders, visit new places, see lots of birds, hear interesting presentations, support local economies and much more. For information about festivals around the country, go to...

www.Americanbirding.org/festivals
www.birdwatchersdigest.com

For information about festivals in California, go to...
www.natureali.org/nature_festivals.htm

17th Annual GODWIT DAYS Bird Festival
April 19-25, 2012 - Arcata, CA
www.godwitdays.org or 707-826-7050

Thank you, Donors

These additional donations were received in January... Thank you very much!

Elaine Downing
Jerry Ludeke
Phyllis Selby-Dabbs
Helen Wheatley



Remember to submit your GBBC tallies (data) by Mon. March 5th!!

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

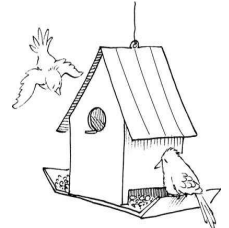
2011 -2012

Madi Elsea, President
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470
Al Caetano, Vice-President
alvic@bak.rr.com; 833-6705
Debra See, Executive Secretary
seemoffats@aol.com; 805-0232
Bill McDonald, Treasurer
WJLMCD@aol.com; 665-2111
Harry Love, Conservation
love3@bak.rr.com; 589-6245
Ginny Dallas, Programs
vdallas@bak.rr.com; 587-6323
Lisa Twiford, Program Secretary
letwiford@aol.com
Tim Lynch, Publicity
Lynchtim1968@yahoo.com; 428-4455
Kathy Love, Hospitality
kathylove64@gmail.com; 589-6245
Madi Elsea, Warbler Editor
madielsea@aol.com; 322-7470
Carol Gates, Tehachapi Rep.
Carolgates18@gmail.com; 822-0214
Angela Guy, Tehachapi Rep.
Angelaguy@att.net; 304-6816
Ted Murphy, Past President
tmurphy@bak.rr.com; 325-0307

Kern Audubon Executive Board will meet on Tues. Sept. 20th, 7pm and is open to interested members. contact a board member for locations.

KEEP BIRD FEEDERS CLEAN

Remember to clean your birdfeeders regularly, using a mild vinegar or bleach solution. Rinse thoroughly and dry. This includes hummingbird feeders which collect mold easily!



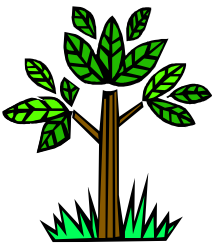
WIND WOLVES PRESERVE

Volunteers are invited to participate in monthly work parties at Wind Wolves Preserve, located south of Bakersfield along the Taft-Maricopa highway. Recently, Wind Wolves embarked on a project aimed at restoration of the saltbush scrub community and are doing this with a research component, attempting to find a method that works best for that area. During the work party on SAT. MARCH 10th, we will be installing fencing enclosures, and drip irrigation systems. We hope to establish two 2.5 acre enclosure plots, plant seeds, and install irrigation during this event, so we need a good crew of folks to help out. If you are free on March 10th, please come help out. We will meet at the Preserve office at 9:00am and head out to the site. Please bring your lunch, and wear sturdy clothes for work with layers for variable temperatures. There will be a BBQ dinner at the end of the day, so please RSVP. Those that also wish to camp in our public campground Saturday night should call the office at (661) 858-1115 to reserve a site & bbq. RAIN WILL CANCEL the workday!

Hope to see you here!
David Clendenen, Ecologist
(661) 858-1115 = Office; 747-0374 = Cell

RAFFLE PRIZES are needed for the monthly raffle...if you have items of interest, bring to the meeting. We don't mind being "re-gifted"!





SPRINGTIME AT PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

On **Saturday, March 3, from 9-11 AM**, Kern Audubon will have our March workday at Panorama Vista Preserve. Spring has arrived which means the tasks will include mulching plants and placing cuttings in pots to produce roots. This is a great time to learn more about the Preserve and to help start new plants. What to bring? Gloves, water, hat, and a shovel or hoe. The Preserve is located at the east end of Roberts Lane off Manor Dr. in east Bakersfield. Contact Harry Love (805-1420) for more information.

KERN AUDUBON-TEHACHAPI

Tehachapi area members of Kern Audubon are invited to go to the website for up-to-date information about sub-chapter activities such as quarterly meetings and field trips: www.kastehachapibird.org. We are also seeking to develop a Tehachapi area email list, so please send email addresses to madielsea@aol.com.

Audubon's "Birds of America" (right) Kern Audubon members traveled to USC's Doheny Library to see one of John James Audubon's life size folios of his bird paintings.



Tehachapi Makes National Top 20 NestWatchers...CONGRATULATIONS!!

Kern Audubon's Tehachapi sub-chapter celebrates making the national "Top 20 NestWatch All-Stars" list for the number of nests monitored in 2011. The list appears in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology NestWatch eNewsletter, January 2012. At number 20 out 1,358 participating groups, Tehachapi birders are proud to be recognized for their effort. A dedicated team of Tehachapi bird enthusiasts have maintained and monitored a network of western bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) nesting boxes from mid-March to mid-July for the last 12 years. The total numbers of birds fledged from the nest boxes during 12 years include: 1,828 western bluebirds, 83 ash-throated flycatchers, 14 tree swallows, 9 violet-green swallows, 9 mountain chickadees, and 4 house finches. We monitor the boxes once every other week, which totals about eight 1 to 2 hour outings. Other Tehachapi participants monitor their "backyard" boxes and send us the nest records.

NestWatch is a nest monitoring project developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in collaboration with the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, and funded by the National Science Foundation. The data collection includes information about nest site location, habitat, species, and number of eggs, young, and fledglings. As "Citizen Scientists" we submit our nest data to the NestWatch online database in a continent-wide effort to better understand and manage the impacts of environmental change on bird populations. With hundreds of thousands of nesting records reported by citizen scientists, researchers around the world have access to an incredibly powerful dataset that grows each year.

Go to www.Nestwatch.org for information and to join.

Kern Audubon-Tehachapi welcomes interested individuals to help monitor

nest boxes in the Tehachapi area as well as those handy with building and repairing nest boxes. If you would like to participate please contact

Bluebird Trail Coordinator Karen Pestana at 661-972-6897

or kptehachapi@sbcglobal.net.



We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission. (www.pbase.com/jvhigbee)

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Kern Audubon Society
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385



www.kernaudubonsociety.org

Non-Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
Bakersfield CA
Permit #93

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Sat. March 3, 9am - Panorama Vista Workparty
- Sat/Sun March 3-4, Carrizo Plain/Morro Bay trip
- Tues. March 6, 7pm - Program: Kern River Preserve
- Wed. March 14, 8am - Tule Elk State Reserve
- Sat. March 17, 8am - Truxtun Lake field trip
- Sat. March 24 - Flowing Wells Ranch field trip

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C30)

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

Make check payable to **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Send this form and your check for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # _____

Please indicate if you would like to receive your *Audubon's Warbler* electronically: ____yes ____no