

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 48 no. 3 – March 2019

Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**

A chapter of National Audubon Society

KERN AUDUBON PROGRAM Tues, March 5th at 7pm

Kern County Supt. Of Schools

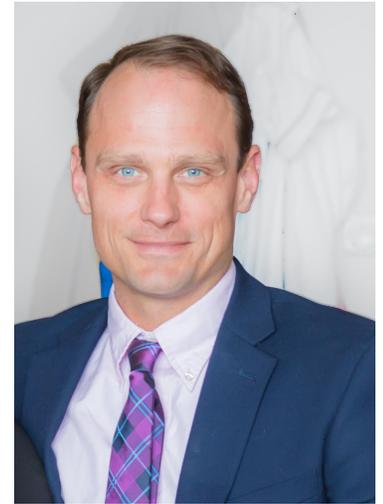
1300 17th St, Bakersfield, CA 93301

Environment: Impact of Drought and Fire on California Chaparral

Dr. Brandon Pratt, professor of Biology at CSUB, has studied the impact of drought and fire on our ecosystems for over 20 years. His research has taken him to the Mediterranean, South Africa, Australia, Chile, Catalina, and The Tejon Ranch. His particular focus is on chaparral ecosystems. His work is an ongoing collaboration with Dr. Anna Jacobsen and is a long-term experiment to assess how deer affect post-fire recovery in important chaparral endemics of Santa Catalina Island.



Also, Dr. Pratt was instrumental in getting Kern Audubon's "Environmental Kern Bike Trail" sign replaced at the Finish Line entrance. Please join us as we explore an important bird habitat - CHAPARRAL!



March Field Trips

Sat. Mar 9, 8:30-10:30 am-Uplands of the Kern River Parkway

Convenient, hidden gem of a birding spot just off Chester Ave, spanning both banks of the Kern River behind Sam Lynn Ballpark. An eBird Hotspot with 45 bird species seen in Jan-Feb. Now spring migrants will be stopping by. There are several observation decks overlooking the river. Meet in the parking lot behind Sam Lynn Ballpark and its big green backstop. **Directions:** Take Chester Ave north past the traffic circle and past the clock tower on your left. Turn left at 40th St. in front of the big red, white and gray Sam Lynn Ballpark sign. Go straight ahead ¼ mile along the asphalt drive keeping Sam Lynn Ballpark on your right. Then take small road on the right leading behind Sam Lynn Ballpark and its big backstop. You'll see the metal sign for Uplands of the Kern River as you go behind Sam Lynn. For info: call Mac 589-7768.

Tues. Mar 12, 8:30 am – Buena Vista Lake

Join us for a morning of spring birding at Buena Vista Lake, 30 miles west of Bakersfield. We'll be looking for migrating songbirds, raptors, waterfowl and shorebirds. A great location for new birders. Loaner binoculars available. **Meet at 8:30 am at the Kern River Parkway parking lot on Stockdale Hwy at Don Hart Dr. across from CSUB to carpool** or at 9:00 am at the Buena Vista Aquatic Rec. Area. There is a \$6.00 entry fee per car. So, it's a good idea to car pool. **Directions:** At junction of Enos Lane (Hwy 43) and Taft Hwy (Hwy 119), go south on Enos Lane to the park entrance. Bring water, snacks, binocs (loaners available), a hat, sunscreen, and \$5.00 for gas. Lunch optional at the BV golf course cafe or BYOL. For info: call Mac at 589-7768.

Sat-Sun, Mar 16-17- Wind Wolves Spring Nature Festival

Join Wind Wolves Preserve staff, guest experts and nature-enthusiasts in a variety of activities including guided hikes, wildlife and wildflower viewing, a virtual reality rock art show, and more! **Free!** Saturday's events are from 10:00 am-4:00 pm; Sunday's from 10:00 am-2:30 pm. **Directions:** 16019 Maricopa Hwy (Hwy 16) ph. 661.858.1115 The Preserve's entrance is 2 miles west of Old River Rd on Hwy 166.

https://www.wildlandsconservancy.org/www_naturefestival_2019.html

Sat. Mar 23, 8:30-11:00 am – CSUB’s Environmental Studies Area You can bird locally, at the Environmental Study Area near CSUB. After all the rain we had in February, the area should be alive with new growth that will bring birds! It is a great way to begin the weekend. The area was set aside by the city in the 1970s as a study area for CSUB science students (a golf course had been planned for the area). What to bring: binoculars, sun hat, water, snacks. Where: meet at the Park n Ride on Stockdale Highway at Don Hart Dr. across from CSUB (next to Finish Line). We will walk across the bike path towards the river bed and begin birding immediately. Afterwards walk along the bike path to eat lunch at a River Walk restaurant. Leader: Harry Love 805-1420

Save the Date: Thurs, April 4, 8:30 am – Mountain Wildflowers and Bird Walk along Mill Creek Trail in the Kern River Canyon. Leaders: Harry and Cathy Love at ph. 805-1420

Save the Date: Fri-Sun, April 26-28, Owens Lake Bird Festival

Register now. Last year 9 Kern Auduboners headed out to Lone Pine for this Festival. Our own Ali Sheehey was a field trip leader and will be one again this year. Field trips go all over the Eastern Sierra Nevada region as well as the incredible Owens Lake with its 1000s of birds. <https://friendsoftheinyo.org/owens-lake-bird-festival/>

Plan to Return Farmland to Natural State

Conservation Chair, Harry Love, attended a conference on identifying farmland that will be retired over the next 30 years due to the depletion of groundwater. In cooperation with Wind Wolves and others, California is looking for ways to have farmers vacate marginal lands. Audubon Society will play a role by assessing retired farmland for its potential to preserve threatened species. The land will then be purchased and monitored by a local land conservancy to ensure that native plant and animal species will be restored. The goal is to see species return to their pre-farming levels and better preserve California groundwater levels.

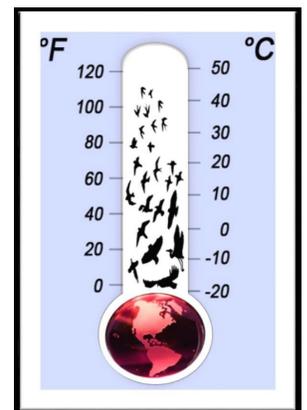


Climate Corner: Wind energy is blowing away all expectations

These days, more and more of the energy powering every aspect of our lives comes from wind – whether we know it or not. In the first six months of 2017, [wind energy supplied](#) 57 percent of Scotland’s total energy needs, and the nation [opened the world’s first floating wind farm](#), expanding the possibility of installing turbines on stretches of ocean that were previously unavailable. When you travel by rail in the Netherlands, you’re [traveling by wind](#). Germany, the Netherlands, and Denmark are building a [wind energy](#)

[island](#) that could provide clean energy to a whopping 80 million people. And in America, the [first offshore wind farm](#) opened off Rhode Island – saving 1 million gallons of diesel per year. Critically, this shift is creating more than just electricity. In the US, analysts project the increasing number of wind jobs mean that wind turbine service technician [will be the second fastest-growing occupation](#) through 2024, behind solar PV installers. These are just a few examples of why we’re such big fans of wind energy, which by some estimates could supply worldwide electricity consumption [more than 40 times over](#). (Note: Kern County is the leading county in the state and country in wind power production)

By Harry Love



Brooke's Birding Bits: Brooke Stutz, Wildlife Biologist 5--Mile Radius Patch

Part 1

Every year birding organizations excite birders organizing outdoor challenges. Last year, I discovered a challenge called the 5-Mile Radius (5MR) through a podcast. Basically, the podcast host discussed how creating a 5-Mile Patch around your home could help with keeping eyes on the local birds within your "Patch". This sounded appealing, so I drew a 5-mile radius around my home using the free online software, Google Earth. Earlier this year the 5MR reappeared to me through a Facebook Page dedicated to the 5-Mile Radius Challenge, 5MR Birding. The idea is to become familiar with the birds and places near your home. You are more likely to find a rare bird or discover a birding trend that has not been recorded in areas that are familiar to you. Plus, you are more likely to visit your "Patch" more frequently than areas that are a long drive away, such as the Morro Bay Birding Festival. The Cornell Lab of Ornithology manages the data submitted to eBird. Scientists and students use the data to understand bird populations and movements. Through eBird you can identify your "Patch" and compare to other eBirders that have registered in the region.
(Part 2 in our next Warbler)



Birds Sighted by Members

Submitted by Ron Worgul and Eva Nipp



Black Capped Night Heron in Tehachapi



California Quail Montano de Oro



California Thrasher



Hawk



Great Horned Owl



Redwing in Tehachapi

To keep our programs interesting and informative a **PROGRAM TEAM** is forming. We need 5 members. Our purpose is to seek out and schedule speakers for the 2019-2020 year. To volunteer please email or call Ginny Dallas: contact info in "Executive Board Box."

Raffle Items Needed Have more than one item at home? Received a gift that you do not need? If you answered 'yes' to one of these questions, please bring the item (or buy one) to our monthly meeting. We need more items for our raffle.

Kern Audubon Executive Board 2018-2019

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VICE PRESIDENT – ADMIN. TEAM

SECRETARY – ADMIN. TEAM

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Board Meeting March 19, 6 PM



Want to know about upcoming outings for Kern Audubon? Want to find out what similar groups are doing? Well, the easy answer is a new social media web site called **Meetup**.

It is very easy to sign up. You get email reminders of events, instructions on how to join, and, the best part, is it free. To become a member of Meetup: go to www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society and follow the easy instructions. That way you do not have to look at the Warbler for upcoming events. You will get reminders online. Many thanks to **Carly Summers** for updating events on the site.



KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings, and get updates on field trips and programs!

Laura Fahey manages our Facebook, email her at:

ityzmom@sbcglobal.net.

PHOTOS NEEDED!

Please send photos of birds you have seen on an outing, in your backyard, or anywhere else to **Harry Love** *harrylove1944@gmail.com* We would like to celebrate birds you have seen!

Please Pitch In!

Kern Audubon Board of Directors meetings are open to any member. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month Aug-May, except Dec. Usually at 6:00 pm in the same location as for our monthly meetings, at Kern Co Sup of Schools at 17th + L Sts. Contact is Harry at 805-1420 *harrylove1944@gmail.com*

Being on the **Executive Board** is meaningful. Please talk with an existing board member to volunteer, We can really use a few more Birders!

Kevin Fahey could use help on the **March Science Camps at Panorama Vista Preserve.** See his contact info in the Executive Board Box.

Good Ol' Audubon Fun



Outing to Lake Ming/Hart Park



Riverwalk Park



Greg Hargleroad giving program



Piute Ponds



Program on Tejon Conservancy



Tehachapi Outing

Kern Audubon Society

P.O. Box 3581

Bakersfield, CA 93385

Kernaudubonsociety.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The basic membership dues cover the cost of your subscription to the Warbler. Please consider joining or renewing at a higher level to support the important environmental education and conservation projects critical to the protection of wildlife and the environment. All of your membership dues will be used to support our local education and conservation efforts.

(Note: Membership in Kern Audubon Society does not make you a member of National Audubon. You must complete a separate membership form with National Audubon on its website. See link at bottom of this page.)

Check all boxes that apply to your membership in KAS.

_____ I am a new member

_____ I am a renewing member

_____ Individual membership \$20

_____ Student \$15

_____ Family membership \$35

_____ Benefactor Membership \$100

_____ Condor life time membership \$1,000

Donations: _____ \$5 supporter (recurring monthly) _____ \$10 sustaining (recurring monthly)

One time: _____ \$30 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ Other amount _____

Print this form. Make your check for membership in KAS and any additional donations payable to **Kern Audubon Society**. Mail check and this membership form to:

P.O. Box 3581, Bakersfield, CA 93385

If you wish to pay by credit card, you may use the Pay Pal button on our web site (kernaudubonsociety.org)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Kern Audubon Society will not sell or distribute any member information to any other organization.

If you want to also join National Audubon go to: <https://www.audubon.org>