



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

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Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

KERN AUDUBON GATHERING Tuesday MAY 1, 2007 - 7:00PM

Location: Kern Superintendent of Schools (17th & L Sts.)
(Street parking or in the lot at 18th & K)

"The San Joaquin Valley: The Way It Was"

John Lindsay - photographer, birder, teacher/administrator

John Lindsay is Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kern County, and an accomplished biologist, birder and photographer as well. He will be presenting a program on the San Joaquin Valley and its habitat and wildlife---the way it was in pioneer days! John is a long-time member of Kern Audubon and will bring us a fascinating look at our "Valley"...

Refreshments served and great RAFFLE prizes...come and bring a friend!!

Sat. MAY 5 - Field Trip **KERN RIVER PRESERVE** **"Migrant Corner"**

Bob Barnes, who led a great trip to Butterbredt Spring in April, will help us see some of the thousands of migrant songbirds passing through the Migrant Corner of the Kern River Preserve in Weldon, Saturday, May 5. According to Bob, the peak of migration should be around May 5!

Meet to car pool at 5:15am so that we can leave by 5:30am!! We are leaving early in order to get there for the best viewing time! Meet at the Shell Station/Jack in the Box on the northeast corner of Brundage Lane and Union Ave. (Union Ave. exit off Hiway 58). We will have an early lunch (11-11:30AM) at the Sierra Vista Restaurant and be home by early afternoon. If you prefer, bring a lunch.

Call Ted Murphy (325-0307) or Madi Elsea (322-7470) for information or see <http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org/>

Upcoming Field Trips...

Kern Audubon will be having several field trips during May in addition to the Kern River Preserve "Migrant Corner", but dates, leadership and locations are still being arranged. Possibilities are Poso Creek and the Kern Nat'l Wildlife Refuge to view Tri-colored blackbirds. Go to the website or look for an email update for information! We will likely schedule trips on Sat. May 12 & May 19...

<http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org>

Tricolored Blackbird Colony Near Kern Refuge

Scott Frazer, Kern National Wildlife Refuge, reports a colony of Tricolored Blackbirds has been established in a huge cattail growth at the northwest corner of Gun Club Road at Sherwood Road, southeast of the refuge, the same as last year.

To see and hear a real spectacle, 50,000 or more birds, take I-5 to Hwy 46, then go about 8mi. east to Gun Club Road, then north 5 mi. to Sherwood. Or from Hiway 99, take Hiway 46 west 10 miles to Gun Club, then north to Sherwood.

"The birds are foraging on nearby irrigated croplands and cross the public roads in large numbers making viewing easy from the public road," says Scott, who emphasizes the need for visitors to stay on county roads and avoid entering private property. Take a folding chair and birdwatch from the roadside and go SOON or you will miss the spectacle!

Other colonies are being established in the area and KAS is planning a field trip to the area in early May. Check the website for latest developments.

Kern County is home of a number of protected/sensitive species. The Tricolored blackbird is the only fully protected blackbird in California and numbers only about 300,000 worldwide with over 99% of those in Kern County. (Call Scott Frazer 661-725-2767 for more information.)



BURROWING OWL SURVEY...

Kern County has 93 Burrowing Owl "blocks" that need to be surveyed for The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP) survey of the breeding range of this species, with 20 blocks in the area surrounding Bakersfield. Volunteers are needed to conduct the surveys which help inform the status and distribution of this sensitive species. Volunteering is fun! Each block is approx. 3 X 3 mi. and is visited once during the survey period, May 15 - July 15th. Maps of the survey area, instructions, data forms, and assistance are provided. Censusing usually takes between 5 -20 hours, depending on the location of the block, and usually between dawn--10am or 4pm--dusk, when owl activity is greatest.

To volunteer, contact Bill Lydecker (wlydecker@bak.rr.com or 664-1174), a member of Kern Audubon and the Volunteer Coordinator for our area. Bill will be hosting a brief training session at his home on Sat. April 28, 3pm (2800 Trengate) and after the Kern Audubon meeting on May 1st. Let him know which session works for you. A great opportunity to be involved in a vital project that needs our assistance!

Audubon Action News Alert

[Write to your members of Congress today!](#)

[Tell your Representative and Senators to cosponsor crucial global warming legislation](#)—the Safe Climate Act of 2007 (HR 1590), introduced by Rep. Henry Waxman in the House of Representatives, and the Global Warming Pollution Reduction Act of 2007 (S 309), introduced by Sens. Bernie Sanders and Barbara Boxer in the Senate. Both bills would mandate the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions that scientists say are needed to avoid the worst effects of global warming.

By tackling the biggest cause of global warming pollution—the burning of fossil fuels—we can create jobs, build a more secure future for our children, and leave behind all the wasteful, dirty practices that accompany our current energy path. Coal mining and oil drilling destroy critical bird and wildlife habitat. Air pollution from cars, factories and power plants harms our health and that of our children. A shift toward clean, renewable energy is a shift toward a healthier planet and a brighter future for us all! Many of the technologies needed to make these changes are available now and can be deployed to make an immediate difference, *if Congress acts now*.

[Please write to your members of Congress today.](#) You will be joining thousands of people who have taken action in recent weeks. On March 20, concerned citizens boarded buses to Washington, D.C. for the Climate Crisis Action Day. Rally participants took their concerns to Congress, demanding action on global warming *now*. Last Saturday, thousands of people participated in over 1,400 **[Step It Up](#)** events nationwide (including many sponsored by Audubon chapters), calling on Congress to reduce global warming pollution 80 percent by 2050. Global warming is a real problem—with real solutions that we can implement today.

Looking ahead to **JUNE 5, 6:00PM.... The June meeting of Kern Audubon will take place at FACT** (The Facility for Animal Care & Treatment), located on the CSUB campus. We will have a BBQ and potluck PLUS tours of FACT and the Desert Tortoise Compound! This will be a special evening of food and fun, so put it on your June calendars! More info to follow...

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. May 1 - Kern Audubon meeting/program with John Lindsay on "The San Joaquin Valley: The Way it Was" - 7pm
- Sat. May 5 - Field trip to Kern River Preserve's "Migrant Corner" - 5:30am
- Sat. May 12 & 19 - check the website!

All meetings & activities are open to the public --- bring your friends and family!

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (7XCHC30)

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*. (11 issues)

____ New Member \$20 ____ Renewal \$35

Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**

Send check & form to ...Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

I am enclosing an additional tax-deductible donation for the work of Kern Audubon in the amount of _____. (Check payable to Kern Audubon)

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