

# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 48 no. 5 – May 2019

Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**

A chapter of National Audubon Society

## **KERN AUDUBON PROGRAM Tues, May 7th at 7pm**

### **The Return of California Condors to Kern County and beyond**

Joseph Brandt Supervisory Wildlife Biologist  
USFWS California Condor Recovery Program

Join us for a talk on the challenges the California condor reintroduction effort has faced in bringing this magnificent bird back from the brink of extinction, including efforts here in Kern County. We will hear about the changes in recovery strategies for the future as the wild population of condors grows and occupies more and more of its former range.

Joseph Brandt has been a part of the condor program since 2005 when he started as a volunteer intern at the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex. He has also worked along the Big Sur coast tracking condors for the Ventana Wildlife Society and was the first to locate a condor nest in Monterey County in over 100 years. Before working with condors, Joseph worked with grizzly bears in Montana, sea birds along the Oregon Coast and with penguins in Southern Chile.

**Kern County Supt. Of Schools**

1300 17th St, Bakersfield, CA 93301



## **May Field Trips**

**Sat-Sun, May 4-5, Overnight Desert Oasis Birding with Ali Sheehey** This is a full weekend of migrant trap birding and nature watching in the Kern County desert and southern Sierra Nevada with Ali Sheehey ([www.natureali.org](http://www.natureali.org) ph. 760-417-0268). All parts of the weekend are optional. Later in the day arrivals should call or text Ali to find the group. No cell phone coverage available Sunday in the mountains and Butterbredt area. Saturday and Sunday will be all-day outings so bring drinks, food, and snacks for breakfasts and lunches and lots of water.

The Best Western in California City is a great option for those wanting a good Friday night's sleep before Saturday's 5:45 a.m. start time.

**Saturday, May 4.** Due to the annual off-road race in Jawbone Canyon, our adventure will begin in California City, stopping at scouted hotspots and, depending on the number of participants, some areas may or may not be covered. Saturday morning will be extensive birding at California City's Central Park beginning at dawn. **Meet at 5:45 a.m.** at the Best Western Motel at 10386 California City Blvd, across from Central Park. (Late arrivals can meet the group at the main Central Park parking lot **about 7 a.m.**) Later participants can text Ali (760-417-0268) to find out where the group is the moment you arrive in California City. Depending on birdyness we may move fast or slow.

**Saturday evening:** We will regroup in California City to pick up cars left for the day at the Best Western. Dinner will be in Cal City restaurants; look for our group at Gloria's Mexican Restaurant, 7027 California City Blvd. Saturday night we will get a late start up to Butterbredt Spring and camp in the Butterbredt camping area that the Friends of Jawbone and BLM have set-up. There are no toilet facilities or water at the site.

**Sunday, May 5.** We will be up pre-dawn to catch the migration. The windier the night, the better the morning migration. (Lousy weather = great birding). We will bird the springs walking down as far as we can as a group, those who feel less ambitious can stay at the cottonwood forest and help the group find birds that might have been missed on the walk down the canyon. After Butterbredt, we will wind our way up Kelso Valley and into the Piute Mountains for mountain birds and then head back down into the Kern River Valley to stop at the Kern River Preserve and Isabella Reservoir. Dinner in Kernville or Lake Isabella, group choice. For info: call Mac McCarthy at 661-589-7768.

**Sat, May 11, 8:00-9:30 am – Panorama Vista Preserve in Bakersfield** Our usual second Saturday bird walk at a local birding jewel. 900 acres on the Kern River below the Panorama Bluffs in northeast Bakersfield. Afterwards keep birding or join any PVP volunteers at work. Bring water and binoculars (loaners available). **Directions:** Take Union Ave north, veering left onto Manor St when Union Ave ends. After crossing the Kern River, take the Roberts Lane onramp. At the top of the ramp, turn left (east) onto Roberts Ln. Proceed ½ mile, past horse stables on the right, and meet at the gate across the end of Roberts Ln. For info: call Mac at (661) 589-7768.

**Tues. May 14, 8:30 am – Fort Tejon and Quail Lake** Margaret Dolan and Linda McMillian will lead this field trip to Fort Tejon and then to the Quail Lake area off Hwy 138. We will do short walks at each location, looking for migrants and mountain species. Bring snacks, water, binoculars (loaners available) and layered clothing. Before returning home, join the group for lunch in Gorman. **Directions to Fort Tejon:** Take I-5 south toward Lebec and Frazier Park. At exit 210, take ramp right and follow signs for Fort Tejon. **Carpoolers from Bakersfield** meet at **7:30 am** at Stockdale Hwy/Hwy 99 park n ride between Real Rd and Hwy 99. \$10 gas donation suggested for drivers. For info: call Mac McCarthy at 589-7768.

**Tues. May 21, 8:30-11:30 am - Canebrake Ecological Reserve on the South Fork of the Kern River off Hwy 178:** Mickey Dyke will lead a morning bird walk. Level, well-maintained trails wind through two thousand acres of riparian and woodland habitat. Afterwards, stop for lunch at the historic and charming Onyx Store on Hwy 178 for a made to order sandwich from its well-regarded deli. There are lots of old-time teas, sodas, and candies. **Directions:** Canebrake Reserve is on Hwy 178 about 15 miles east of the Isabella Reservoir and past Weldon and Onyx. Reserve's sign and parking lot will be on the left about 5 miles east of Onyx. **Carpoolers from Bakersfield** meet at 7:00 am at Albertson's parking lot on the north side of the junction of Hwy 178 and Mt Vernon. For info: call Mac McCarthy at (661)589-7768.

**Wed. May 22, 1:00 pm – Scout Prairie Falcon Nests near Cal City** There's room for 6 people to join falconer Steve Shaw as he checks nest sites to prepare for a Kern Audubon outing on Sat, May 25. Meet at the Best Western Inn and Suites in Cal City at 10386 California City Blvd, across from Central Park. To sign up, call Steve at (530) 559-1902.

**Sat. May 25, 9:00-11:45 am - View Prairie Falcon Fledglings - Cal City** Falconer Steve Shaw will coordinate docent led visits to active Prairie Falcon nest sites close to California City. Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, and binoculars (loaners available). Meet at 9:00 in Cal City at the Best Western Inn and Suites at 10386 California City Blvd, across from Central Park. Higher clearance vehicles will be useful. **Tehachapi carpool meetup at 8:00 am** at Burger King (620 Tehachapi Blvd.) **Bakersfield carpool meetup at 7:00 am** at the Stockdale park n ride (between Real Rd. & Hwy 99) to carpool up to the Tehachapi meetup and a short rest stop. \$10 suggested donation for drivers. For info: Mac McCarthy at 661-589-7768

### KAS COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

For many years, KAS has set a goal to go out into the community to tell children and adults about why *'birds matter'*. Here is a list of some recent events to reach this goal. Kevin has given several talks to community groups about **condors** and their role in Kern County, both past and present. Our children education program has traveled to two elementary schools, Harris and Frank West, to give students lessons about owls and other birds. An event organized by the Buena Vista Museum of Natural History called "The Wonderful World of Science" brought our team to quiz visitors about birds and to see our owl and red-tailed hawk. Later this month we will have a booth at the Bioregional Festival in Kernville. In May we again will participate in the birthday party at CALM. All of these events would not be possible without our great group of volunteers and your financial support. We thank you!



## Helping Wildlife in Need

Many members who attended Brooke Stutz's presentation April 1 want more information on Local Animal Rescue. For bats in particular Erika Noel is a local expert. She works at McCormick Biological. Her email is: [erika@mccormickbiologicalinc.com](mailto:erika@mccormickbiologicalinc.com) Her work phone is: 661-809-7225 Brooke has made an easy reference list of other resources.

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Please note that these are guidelines and resources to help find the trained, permitted individuals or organizations to help wildlife in need. Do not put your safety at risk or the animal's safety at risk without notifying the proper agencies and/or facilities. In California possessing wildlife is illegal without the proper permits. However, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department or CDFW) allows for temporary confinement of the animal, small terrestrial animals, as long as the nearest regional office has been notified (see **regional office contacts**). Note large carnivores, such as bear and mountain lion, shall be handled by the Department or other government agency in the jurisdiction they fall under. The Department requires information about the finder and location where the animal was found (name and address; the species of wildlife and a description of its injury, disease or condition; the date and location the wildlife was found; and the location where the wildlife is confined). If you are anywhere in California and find an injured or orphaned wild terrestrial animal, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has a list of permitted wildlife centers at

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Laboratories/Wildlife-Investigations/Rehab/Facilities>

If a marine mammal has been found. The animal cannot be confined or rescued by any finder. Only trained, permitted facilities are legally allowed to rescue.

Please call a Marine Mammal Center for trained professionals to help.

If you have a smart phone, two mobile apps were developed to find help for a wild animal. The app will help you find the nearest wildlife facility that specializes in the animal you have found. WildHelp and Animal Help Now will help find a wildlife professional nearest you.

### Bird and Wildlife Information

#### Kern County Injured, orphaned, or sick California Native Wildlife

- **Bakersfield => California Living Museum:** 1-661-872-2256
- **Tehachapi => Tehachapi Wildlife Rehab and Education:** 1-661-822-7670
- **Ridgecrest => VCA Crestwood Animal Hospital:** 1-760-446-7616
- **Mountain Lion => California Department of Fish and Wildlife** 1-916-322-8911
- **Oiled Wildlife => U.C. Davis' Oiled Wildlife Care Network:** 1-877-UCD-OWCN
- **Bat: **DO NOT TOUCH!** MAKE CONTACT WITH A WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR FOR INSTRUCTIONS.**

<https://batworld.org/local-rescue/>

- **CDFW Central Region (Region 4) Office:** 1-559-243-4005 ext. 151

#### Outside Kern County:

- **California Wildlife Rehabilitation Facilities Permitted by County:**

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Laboratories/WildlifeInvestigations/Rehab/Facilities>

- **CDFW Regions:** <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/regions>

#### Smart Phone Apps to help find the nearest professional:

- WildHelp App
- Animal Help Now App

#### Resources for injured, orphaned, or sick...

**Aquatic Bird:** <https://www.bird-rescue.org/contact/found-a-bird/helping-a-debilitatedbird.aspx> or

**Baby Bird:** <https://www.ojairaptorcenter.org/i-found-a-baby-bird/>

**Songbird:** [http://nativesongbirdcare.org/i\\_found\\_a\\_bird.html](http://nativesongbirdcare.org/i_found_a_bird.html)

**Baby Mammal:** <https://library.pacwilica.org/docs/BabyMammals.PDF>

**Marine Mammal Stranding:** 866-767-6114

**Marine Mammal Entanglement:** 1-877-SOS-WHAL or 1-877-767-9425

**Other concerns or help** you can contact Brooke Stutz at ke

## SAVING VALUABLE LAND FOR BIRDS!

The California Wildlife Conservation Board voted unanimously to approve \$1,385,000 toward the acquisition of eight properties: Bird Spring, Brown Flat, Dove Spring, Freeman Junction, Frog Spring, Mustang Spring, Shoemaker Spring, and Tunnel Spring. In addition, Audubon California contributed \$100,000 towards the purchase. The properties will be managed by several land trusts. The Kern Audubon Society, along with other groups, provided a letter of support. These properties, by the fact that they are springs, provide a resting and feeding location for migrate birds passing through the region between the San Joaquin Valley and the Mojave Desert. The land is currently in private hands and the expected close of escrow in June will finalize the sale. Much thanks goes out to **Bob Barnes, Reed Tollefson**, and others in making this very important preservation of key birding properties possible.

## UPDATE ON RAPTORS

There are over 40,000 nesting red-tailed , cooper, and sharp shin hawks in California and about 4,000 productive pairs of falcons, both peregrine and prairie. However, the primitive nesting areas for the prairie falcon are also found within Off-Highway Vehicle lands. It is important that a cooperative plan needs to be developed so that these two 'species' can co-exist. If you wish to know more about what is being done and what needs to be done to make this happen, go to: <https://prairiefalcon.org>.

## BIRD MERCHANDISE DONATED TO KAS

In the beginning of April, we received a phone call from a business in Taft, *Cooper's True Value Store*, which had bird merchandise that they no longer wanted to stock. **Fran Hersh** and **Ginny Dallas** drove to get the items, believing it was only a few items. To their surprise, the owner, **Jeff Cooper**, gave them a minivan full, from bird feeders to suet and feed. It was well over \$400 worth. We will be using the items for raffles and as gifts for children a community events. How did he find us? Easy, he went to our website! If in Taft, drop by and thank Jeff.

**Remember the CALM BIRTHDAY May 18 9 - 3  
Stop by the Audubon Booth to help out or say :Hi"**

### **Badger (Tejon in Spanish)**

*Chris Gardener*, a recent KAS presenter and docent at Tejon Conservancy, recently found this American badger coming out of its hole to look at the world.



## REMINDER: JUNE 4 PICNIC

Mark you calendar now to attend our annual June picnic, **Yokuts Park**, on **Tuesday, June 4**. Steve Shaw, will be in Wyoming, Frank Virga, a local veterinarian and Steve's friend, will bring his hawks, Zeld and Zella. See you at six! It's a great way to end a great birding year!



## VOLUNTEERISM: KAS STYLE!

**Frank Bedard** became a member of KAS about two months ago. Since then he has been on several outings and volunteered to work both days at our science camp in March. He recently retired from the County, working as an environmental specialist at landfill sites. A good friend and fellow worker called him the 'bugs and bunny' guy. After receiving his degrees from the University of Arizona and Arizona State University, he joined the Peace Corps and was sent to Samoa to work and where he met his future wife. Frank also volunteers at the Desert Tortoise Preserve near Cantil and works with the Tree Foundation. We appreciate it very much that Frank is now part of our volunteer team. We are the beneficiaries of his history of helping others. Welcome!



# Birds Sighted by Members

Submitted by Linda McMillian, Wend Hodash, Ron Worgul, Lucy Clark



Bullocks Oriole



Great Blue Heron



N. Flicker



Rose Billed Parakeet

## Good Ol' Audubon Fun

### April Program



## Outing to Tejon Ranch



Kern Audubon's April field trip to Tejon Ranch provided views of majestic scenery, wild turkeys, and an early Western Tanager. Our gracious hosts from the Tejon Ranch Conservancy took us up into two remote canyons. In one, a fallen tree blocking an old road forced a reluctant turn around.



## Mill Creek April 4



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 UPGRADE IN PROGRESS

We will again raffle off a crispy clean \$50 dollar bill. Also we will raffle off some of the items donated by True Value Hardware in Taft.

### Kern Audubon Executive Board 2018-2019

#### PRESIDENT- ADMIN. TEAM

#### VICE PRESIDENT – ADMIN. TEAM

#### SECRETARY – ADMIN. TEAM

#### MARGARET DOLAN - TREASURER

*mdolan635@gmail.com; (661) 330-9059*

#### HARRY LOVE, CONSERVATION CHAIR

*harrylove1944@gmail.com; (661) 805-1420*

#### FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR – MAC McCARTHY

*macmccarthy3@gmail.com; (661) 589-7768*

#### GINNY DALLAS – PROGRAM CHAIR

*vdallasdull@gmail.com; (661) 301-8188*

#### KEVIN FAHEY, OUTREACH CHAIR

*kjfahey@sbcglobal.net; (661) 706-7459*

#### JOHN WILSON – HOSPITALITY CHAIR

*john1942@sbcglobal.net; (661) 747-2855*

#### LINDA MCMILLIAN, MEMBERSHIP DATA

*lamcmillian@sbcglobal.net; (661) 205-3521*

#### DAVID SHAAD – CHAPTER LIBRARIAN

*davidws@pacbell.net; (661) 428-2841*

#### MARK HODSON, MEMBER-AT-LARGE

*mhodson@bak.rr.com; (661) 699-8415*

#### MONA SIDHU, MEMBER-AT-LARGE

*fairmonas@aol.com; (661) 800-8970*

#### BROOKE STUTZ, MEMBER-AT-LARGE

*bearstutzcat@yahoo.com; (661) 331-5606*

#### SUSAN CASTLE, MEMBER-AT-LARGE

*bcastle4100@sbcglobal.net; (661) 477-4818*

#### CAROL GATES, TEHACHAPI REP.

*carol.gates18@gmail.com; (661) 300-1429*

#### GREG HARGLEROAD, TEHACHAPI REP.

*gregory.hargleroad@hotmail.com; (818) 645-3664*

#### JAKE ABEL, WEBMASTER

*thatcadguy@gmail.com; (661) 337-9143*

#### EX-OFFICIO: JOLIE ROBERSON, WARBLER EDITOR

*communications@kernaudubonsociety.org;*

*(661) 9721264*

**Board Meeting May 21, 6 PM**

## CLIMATE CHANGE CORNER

**Energy storage keeps improving:** How we create energy with renewables is important. How we store this energy – so we can use it when needed – is just as critical. That's because the sun doesn't shine 24 hours a day every day, nor is it always windy. The good news is this: we're seeing incredible progress in energy storage as batteries get better [and demand keeps growing](#). The numbers here are headed in the right direction. "Roughly 790 megawatts of [renewable] energy were stored last year and overall capacity is expected to hit 45 gigawatts in seven years". (And in case you're not an engineer, that's a whole lot of energy.)



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](http://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

Join 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> + L Sts. Contact is Harry at 805-1420 [harrylove1944@gmail.com](mailto: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!

# 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>