



# Friends of the Kern River Preserve

Volume 10, Issue 2

Audubon CALIFORNIA

Fall 2006

Audubon's mission is "to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity."

## PARTNERS PROTECT CYRUS CANYON

In mid-August Audubon California purchased the Cyrus Canyon parcel (1,666 acres) located just northwest of the Kern River Preserve. The parcel is adjacent to Sequoia National Forest and public lands managed by the BLM.

This rugged and beautiful canyon holds a seasonal stream and supports a narrow cottonwood-willow forest interspersed with scenic waterfalls and uplands covered by scrub oak, chaparral and desert grassland. This property has strategic conservation values because it connects public lands to the north and south providing a corridor

*see Cyrus page 2*



Cyrus Canyon in Spring

## CELEBRATING NATURE



"Out of the Blue"  
2006 TV Fest

Oh, what a wonderful year of festivals! Since our last newsletter we have experienced all of the year's festivals and this year was one for the record books.

In spring, the Bioregions Festival was enjoyed by all who dared venture out as gas prices began to skyrocket. Birdie Foster planned the whole festival

*see Festivals page 2*

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

KRP's mission is the preservation of one of California's largest contiguous cottonwood-willow riparian forests and the wildlife it supports..

What is stewardship? And who is responsible for making sure it is done? In general stewardship is responsibility for taking good care of resources entrusted to one. As an environmental steward Audubon is responsible for conservation, regeneration, and restoration of the South Fork riparian forest.

Arranging for land to be put into land trusts and then actively working to regenerate and restore habitats that have been so altered that they have lost significant value as wildlife habitat is how Audubon practices stewardship.

We are looking forward to sponsoring many volunteer stewardship opportunities throughout the year. If you would like to participate make sure you are on our volunteer email list: [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net). §

## Calendar of Events

2006

Saturday, December 9 – 9 a.m. - Winter – Trail Maintenance. RSVP

Saturday, December 30: 16th Annual South Fork Valley CBC: Compiler Denise LaBerteaux. 760-378-4278

Sunday, December 31: 29th Annual Kern River Valley CBC: Compiler, Alison Sheehey 760-378-2029

2007

Saturday, January 20 - 9 a.m. – Set up Greenhouse and fill with cuttings. RSVP.

Saturday, February 10 & 17 – 9 a.m. – Planting on Sprague Ranch – Restoration. RSVP.

Saturday, March 10 & 17 - 9 a.m. – Planting on Sprague Ranch. RSVP.

Saturday, April 21 – 8 a.m. Nature-Fest Prep. RSVP.

Saturday - Sunday April 28-29 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Spring Nature Festival (formerly BioFest), Kernville, Weldon.

Saturday, May 19 – 8 a.m. – Spring Cleaning. RSVP.

Saturday, June 16 – 8 a.m. – clean HQ, groom nature trail. RSVP.

Saturday, July 7 – Bird Count - South Fork Rapid Assessment Bird Survey.

Saturday July 14 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. California Amphibian & Reptile Celebration. KRP HQ, Weldon.

Saturday, July 21 – 8 a.m. – clean HQ, groom nature trail. RSVP.

Saturday August 11 - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Hummingbird Celebration. KRP HQ, Weldon.

For more information or to RSVP email: [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net)

*Friends of the Kern River Preserve*



P.O. Box 833  
Weldon, CA 93283-0833

email: [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net)  
website: <http://kern.audubon.org>

*The Kern River Preserve is managed by Audubon California for the preservation of one of California's largest contiguous cottonwood-willow riparian forests and the wildlife it supports.*

The Friends of the Kern River Preserve is a membership organization that provides financial support for outreach, education, wildlife habitat protection, and land stewardship.

Your support is critical to the success of the Kern River Preserve. Please consider making a donation by filling out the membership form and mailing it to the Friends.

**STAFF**

PRESERVE MANAGER..... REED TOLLEFSON  
OUTREACH COORDINATOR .....ALISON SHEEHEY  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT..... SANDRA WIESER  
MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS..... JEFF KING

**VOLUNTEERS**

BIRD FEEDING COORDINATOR..... BIRDIE FOSTER  
FEEDERS: DARRELL BARNES, GORDON & CHRIS HANCOCK,  
BILL FOSTER, CHLOE KENNEDY, MARTINE METZENHEIM,  
MARYA MILLER, BOB SHOWERS & GERRY TESSMAN  
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT..... DENIS DUNNING

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

BOB BARNES, MIKE GALLAGHER, RON GILLENTEINE,  
CHARLOTTE GOODSON, BUZ LUNSFORD, KERNCREST  
AUDUBON SOCIETY, LAURIE ROBINSON, JOHN SCHMITT, PAT  
SEAMOUNT

*Cyrus continued from page 1*

for the movement of wildlife. Also by removing the potential of rural subdivision into this remote canyon we help to reduce problems for local fire agencies. This acquisition also protects one of only a few known populations of Kelso Creek Monkeyflower (*Mimulus shevockii*) a very rare and beautiful little flower (land under another significant local population has been graded for housing).



**Kelso Creek Monkeyflower**

Audubon has transferred the parcel to the BLM and they will be the long-term manager. Audubon's purchase of the property for \$550,000 was made possible by an anonymous donor.

Audubon also thanks the Sprague Family who demonstrated great patience and generosity to help see this protection effort succeed. §

*Festivals continued from page 1*

with assistance from Bob Barnes who planned the field trips. Volunteers at the Forest Service always do a spectacular job of putting together a great celebration at Circle Park.

Slitherin' succotash... Buz Lunsford and his great crew are at

every festival and even hold one of their own in July. The California Amphibian & Reptile Celebration is one of our most unique festivals and so many new and interesting people come to the preserve to visit some of our most uncelebrated groups of animals. Thanks to Reptile Rescue and Herp-Ecology for educating about these misunderstood creatures.

What would motivate us to have a Hummingbird Celebration in the heat of the summer? Why one of California's most spectacular displays of hummingbirds. So many people are amazed and excited about hummingbirds, that visitors filled the parking lot even before the opening of the festival. With dozens of spectators at each workshop, it was standing room only at most. Workshops on hummingbird gardening, photography, feeding, and identification were really appreciated by the throngs in attendance.



Bob Steele sets up feeders during a very popular hummingbird photography workshop

And finally, Fall soared into view with our annual Turkey Vulture Festival. Friday night and Saturday morning



**Turkey Vultures**

visitors' were thrilled with over a thousand vultures that spent the night in the South Fork Valley. After the birds began their migration south, the headquarters at the preserve filled with so many wonderful booths and educational displays and the air filled with glorious music. It was so sad to see the day end and I can't wait for next year for the festivities to begin again. See our article about planning for next year's festivals and then come join us.

Our thanks to the following volunteers that helped on many of the festivals: Phil & Phyllis Allin, Bob Barnes, Darrell Barnes, Marlene Benton, Bob & Georgie Bergeron, Brenda & Dan Burnett, Rachel DelRio, Alice & Denis Dunning, Gary File, Bill & Birdie Foster, Marcela Freerks, Michael Gallagher, Terri Gallion, Ron Gillentine, Charlotte Goodson, Kate Goodson, Noel & Ellene Gravelle, Liz & Richard Grotzky, Murrelet Halterman, Christine & Gordon Hancock, Terry Harris, Judy Hyatt, Steve Kenton, Jeff King, Greg Kollenborn, Eve Laeger, Fletcher Linton, Critter & Tia Lomax, Buz Lunsford, Michael McQuerrey, Terri Middlemiss, Marya Miller, Gary Potter, Wendy Rannals, Kelly Richers, Laurie Robinson, Rob Robinson, Andrea Saari, John Schmitt, Justin Schuetz, Pat Seamount, Alison Sheehey, Jackie Smith, Steve Sosensky, Bob & Susan Steele, Valerie Steen, Ashley Sutton, Lee & Shirley Sutton, Reed Tollefson, Sandra Wieser, and John Wilson. §

## KRP NEWS BRIEFS

### CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

Preregistration for both Kern Valley counts is available via the CBC website. <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc> (click GET INVOLVED). Each field participant pays \$5 to Audubon to offset the cost of compilation and printing of the CBC magazine.



Several Bald Eagles spend their winter around Isabella Reservoir.

**South Fork Valley Christmas Count:** Compiler Denise LaBerteaux. Contact Denise by phone: 760-378-3021 or email: [eremico@aol.com](mailto:eremico@aol.com). Meet on Saturday December 30 at 6:30 a.m. at KRP Headquarters for assignments. Compilation dinner at Denise and Bruce's - 211 Snow Street, Kelso Valley - plan to arrive around dark.

**Kern River Valley Christmas Bird Count:** Compiler Alison Sheehey. Contact Alison at 760-378-2029 or email [natureali@lightspeed.net](mailto:natureali@lightspeed.net) for pre-assignments then meet on Sun. Dec. 31 at 6:30 a.m. at Rainbow Donuts in the Lake Isabella Von's Shopping Center. Compilation dinner follows after, catered by Ron Gillentine at his home. RSVP for the dinner. \$10 donation to help defray the costs of the meal. §

### FESTIVAL PLANNING

Planning is underway for next year's exciting slate of festivals. A few changes have already begun to take place. One of the most important is that the Bioregions Festival has undergone a name change. It will now be known as the "Kern Valley Spring Nature Festival".

The purpose of the change is threefold actually... first Bioregions are a nebulous concept at best and not easily placed into a neat box... second Nature is something everyone knows and feels good about... third, the festival falls near Earth Day and we would like to make this the Kern Valley's Earth Day celebration. So, do not worry, the festival will have all of the elements that celebrate the diversity of the area, plus new elements that we hope the whole community will adopt as their own. Check out the already forming schedule of activities on our website.

#### 2007 Schedule of Festivals

- April 28-29: Kern Valley Spring Nature Festival
- July 14: California Amphibian & Reptile Celebration
- August 11: Kern Valley Hummingbird Celebration
- September 29-30: Kern Valley Turkey Vulture Festival

If you would like to volunteer on the festival committee or have a special skill that would be a great addition to the festivals, please email [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net). §

### E-NEWSLETTER

If you are interested in getting updates between newsletters;

please send a note to [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net). We publish a quarterly e-newsletter, festival updates, and announcements pertinent to the preserve. §

### KERN VALLEY PRIDE DAY 2006

Friends Take First Place

Every year as part of National Public Lands Day, Kern Valley businesses and government agencies sponsor a community trash clean-up. The third Saturday in September, Friends of the Kern River Preserve gather at 7:30 a.m. to begin the task of de-littering the South Fork Valley. We work our fingers to the bone hunting for every last bit of trash. It is a challenge and our efforts normally pay off in a big way and this past year was no exception. Thirteen friends picked up a total of 181 bags of trash and the area and wildlife are so much better off for it, plus we won \$250 to boot. Thanks to all of you for the great effort:



Pride Day volunteers anxiously await the announcement of the winner

Darrell Barnes, Birdie & Bill Foster, Mary Freeland, Marcela Freerks, Chris & Gordon Hancock, Ron Hyatt, Jeff King, Marya Miller, Alison Sheehey, Bob Showers, Reed Tollefson, and Sandra Wieser. §

### CLEAN-UPS, PLANTINGS, etc...

Each month we have scheduled activities for Friends of the Kern River Preserve to join. The preserve always needs help and our volunteers are crucial to the success of many of our projects. Please check the calendar of events for upcoming activities and then let us know if you can help. Thanks! §

### KRP ENDOWMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The preserve continues to grow with staff working diligently to provide new amenities for our friends and guests. Under our current funding our programs are running at maximum and we rely on volunteers to fill the gaps in necessary programs. We need your help to move forward. Please consider a gift to grow the preserve's management endowment to support stewardship, education, and outreach efforts.

Consider making a donation or leaving a bequest in your will that we can ensure will be used at the Kern River Preserve. If you would like more information or help on how to go about doing this, contact Reed Tollefson, E-mail: [rtollefson@audubon.org](mailto:rtollefson@audubon.org) or phone: 760-378-2531. §

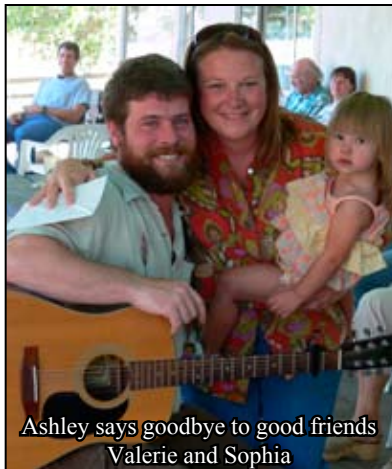
### DEPARTURES

Laurie Robinson resigned her position with Audubon to begin a new phase of her life as a foreign language interpreter. We laud her tenacity and drive to pursue this very worthwhile profession, and will miss her numerous skills and abilities. Our program most certainly benefited by her

presence and her excellent grant writing skills. Good luck in all of your future endeavors, Laurie!

Ashley Sutton, an employee of the Southern Sierra Research Station and our volunteer bird bander, has taken a job as Assistant Stewardship Manager for Delaware TNC.

We certainly will miss Ashley's dedication to documenting the winter and summer status of birds. We will also miss his ever present smile. Good luck Ashley, Delaware's gain is certainly our loss. §



Ashley says goodbye to good friends Valerie and Sophia

## ALISON SHEEHEY JOINS THE AUDUBON STAFF

As many Friends of the Preserve are aware I have been a volunteer at KRP behind and in front of the scenes for many years. On October 23rd, I was hired as a part-time Audubon staffer in the position of Outreach Coordinator / Caretaker. While this is just a 20 hour a week position, it offers me the opportunity to continue my efforts to coordinate many of the activities I have enjoyed doing over the past 8 years with some financial stability.



Alison Sheehey © Tara Sheehey

*Why Audubon? I fell in love with Audubon and its programs after attending a meeting about the Carrizo Plain and the plight of the California Condor in 1987. Audubon has been at the forefront of many environmental challenges; making life better for wildlife, wildlands and people too. Being a part of the Audubon family is a life long dream from which I hope to never awake.*

Over the next year our goal is to acquire funding for building new state of the art facilities housing a Visitor's Center and Natural History Museum. As for now I will continue to support the goals of the outreach program through writing of newsletters, e-newsletters, coordinating the Kern Valley CBC, Kern Valley Festivals, hosting meetings and social events at the Sprague House along with other vital programs.

It is a pleasure to be part of the Kern River Preserve and an organization that has such wonderful friends. I want to thank each and every one of you personally for your support of Audubon and the Kern River Preserve. Let's keep moving forward building a future for the land we love and the creatures that rely on us for their continued existence. §

*Alison has a degree in Anthropology from Bakersfield College and is working toward completion of her Bachelor's Degree in Biology/Geology. Her company "Nature Alley" is an eclectic mix of massage therapy, photography, and natural history education. She has worked for the Forest Service, biological consulting firms, as a Real Estate associate, and as a Teacher's Aide. She has been researching the natural history of Kern County for the past 18 years and recently published the first in a series of natural history brochures; "Wildflowers of the Kern River Valley and Southern Sierra". Her goal is to eventually write the definitive natural history of Kern County and the Southern Sierra.*

## BIRD FEEDING

A visit to the preserve would not be as easily rewarding if not for the dedication of our bird feeders. If you visit the preserve while one of our feeders is there don't forget to say hi and thanks. Here is their schedule so you will know the name of who to thank.

- Sunday - Gerry Tessman
- Monday - Birdie Foster
- Tuesday - Chloe Kennedy
- Wednesday - Bob Showers
- Thursday - Marya & Darrell Barnes
- Friday - Chris & Gordon Hancock
- Saturday - Martine Metzenheim
- Jeff King helps when needed



Nuttall's Woodpecker

If you would like to donate to the bird feeding program, please, donate to our seed account at the South Lake James Station Feed Store, "Kern River Preserve Seed Fund - Account #18". Volunteers can then pick up the seed as needed. §

## TURTLE PROJECT ... Star Volunteers

Construction of the pond turtle headstart holding ponds begins in mid-November as all of the state permits and money are now in hand. Bill Foster, Darrell Barnes and Gordon Hancock have already put in hundreds of hours refurbishing the research trailer and now the real work begins. They are building two ponds; one will house 3 adult pair of pond turtles and one will house the hatchlings. The turtles will be collected in spring after all of the construction is complete. Thank you Bill, Darrell and Gordon for all of your hard work... you are definitely all Star Volunteers. §



Darrell Barnes

## PASSINGS

Piute, 14, died in August after years of greeting visitors to the Kern River Preserve. She never met anyone who wasn't her friend and is missed by all who knew her.



Piute

Mary Ann Henry, 88, a Friend of the Kern River Preserve and a longtime advocate for the environment, passed away on Friday, Aug. 11, 2006. Mary Ann was a tireless champion of the desert and provided much help and skill in collecting plants for the Kern River Preserve herbarium. Our condolences to her family and friends. The desert sage will never bloom as bright.

Don Moore, president emeritus of Kerncrest Audubon and longtime Friend of the Kern River Preserve passed away October 14, 2006. The family requests memorial donations to Maturango Museum or the Kern River Preserve. Our condolences to the Moore Family. Don, we hope there are many bighorns where you are now. §

### INVASIVE SPECIES ERADICATION

Staff of the Kern River Preserve and California Department of Fish & Game spent time last year eradicating purple loosestrife and perennial pepperweed from Sprague Ranch lands.

Each of us can help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals. The article that follows is a tutorial on perennial pepperweed: one of a series of articles we have planned to educate about local invasives and some steps each of us can take to help eradicate them. Our next tutorial will be about giant cane.

### PERENNIAL PEPPERWEED

(*Lepidium latifolium*), from bank to bank and shore to shore, this noxious newcomer to the South Fork is native to southern Europe and western Asia. It spreads by mostly by creeping roots and seed under many different environmental conditions.

This perennial plant has glabrous (hairless) bright green to gray-green leaves. It is distinguished from the native hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*) by the stalked leaves that do not clasp the stem like the cress. Rosette leaves are ovate to oblong with entire to serrate margins on long petioles. Rosette leaves are about 4 to 11 inches long and 1 to 3 inches wide. Stem leaves are sessile and lanceolate, have entire to toothed margins, and become smaller toward the top of the stem.

The plant grows up to six feet tall forming dense thickets that crowd out native plants. Mature plants have numerous erect, semi-woody stems that originate from large, interconnected roots. Roots are long, minimally branched, and enlarged at the soil surface forming a semi-woody crown. It normally flowers in summer

but as with most plants in the mustard family can flower at any time conditions are right. The flowers are small white and form dense clusters at the end of the branches. The fruit (seed housing) is a two seeded, reddish brown, slightly hairy, 1/16" long capsule.



Perennial Pepperweed seeds

Native to southern Europe and western Asia, it grows in waste areas, wet areas, ditches, roadsides, cropland, along waterways, and dry habitats such as road cuts and fills. Robust, deep-seated spreading roots and numerous seeds make this weed very difficult to control. Past attempts at mechanical removal have actually caused the spread of the plant and an increase in numbers.



Recent surveys identify perennial pepperweed as a weed problem in nearly all of California, and both the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and California Invasive Plant Council (Cal-IPC) list it as a noxious weed of greatest ecological concern. Small to moderate infestations of perennial pepperweed are found along the South Fork Kern River from Tulare to Kern County, and large infestations are found along the Susan River (Lassen County), the Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge (Siskiyou County) and the Truckee River (Washoe County, Nevada) Scattered infestations occur along the Sacramento River north of Lake Shasta (Shasta County), as well as along roadways in Lassen County and Washoe County, Nevada.

### MANAGEMENT IN HOME LANDSCAPES

Prevention is the best management strategy for avoiding problems with perennial pepperweed in and around home landscapes. If perennial pepperweed is found growing in landscaped areas, immediately control the plant before it can spread. Pulling plants (try to remove as much of the root as possible) is an effective way of controlling a few scattered plants growing within landscaped areas. Use of a broad-leaf herbicide is another option but care must be taken to avoid injuring nearby plants.

### MANAGEMENT IN PASTURES, RANGELAND, RIGHTS-OF-WAY, AND CROPS

Established perennial pepperweed populations are difficult to control and require multiple years of intensive management. Suppressing the extensive root system is critical for successful control. A management program should include prevention, monitoring, and treatment of small satellite populations before plants develop extensive roots. Make sure root fragments and seed are not transported to other sites. Always clean vehicles, machinery, and clothing after visiting infested areas.

Read more about Perennial Pepperweed and other invasive plants at California's IPM program. <http://tinyurl.com/y82jyh>



Perennial Pepperweed leaves



Perennial Pepperweed flowers

**THANK YOU DONORS & NEW MEMBERS**

Since our last newsletter 164 people and organizations have generously sent in much needed donations. As of this year the entire Kern River Preserve outreach budget comes from your donations. If your name is missing or misspelled please let us know. We enjoy providing recognition to our wonderful friends. A special thank you to our 5 anonymous donors. Your privacy matters, if you prefer to remain anonymous, please state that on your donation form.

**FREMONT COTTONWOOD (\$1000-\$2499)**

Pomona Valley Audubon Society Roger & Barbara Coley  
Laman Fowler

**GRAY FOX (\$500-\$999)**

Kerncrest Audubon Society Chana Cortez  
B. W. Catlin Cunningham Philip DeCocco  
Frank & Janice Delfino

**WILLOW FLYCATCHER (\$250-\$499)**

Tom & Debbi Adams Aguabonita Flyfishers  
Robert Brewer Dave Kurdeka

**GREAT BLUE HERON (\$100-\$249)**

Laguna Hills Audubon Society	Ventura Audubon Society
Elizabeth Babcock	Kathleen Barry
Joyce Bartlett	George & Judy Beaty
Aletha S. Benson	Geri Brown
Richard & Judy Bruns	Camp James
David Campbell	Jane Cassity
Jim & Judy Collier	Ernie & Nancy Flores
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Cal & Letty French	Sherry Gaskin
Sidney Tice & CleoBell Heiple-Tice	
Ron Harton	Marilyn Jones
Maatje Scherpenisse & Gerard Kroon	
Gena Kay	Elizabeth Massie
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Katja Nyholm	Carol Paquette
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Sequoia Lodge	Carolyn & James Shepherd
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Clint Stallings	Ian & Natalie Starr
Charles & Patricia Stearns	Tom & Kathy Stephens
Geraldine Tessman	Peter Watkins
Alan & Joan Woodman	

**BOBCAT (\$50-\$99)**

Tom & Jeanne Anderson	Dorothea Ann Anton
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Ron & Ginnie Bottorff	William Brabender
Beverly Brock	Barbara Burke
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Sue & Tom Carter	Karen Dann
Johanna Dawes	Don & Margaret Emery
Leslie Flint	Michael & Judith Golub

Helen Green	Tom & Alexis Haley
Chris P. Hargrove	Jack & Deyea Harper
John H. Harris	Lynn Hemink
Doris Hughes	Laura J. Huntington
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Robert Krase	Larry & Karen Lee
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Al Borissenko & Bonnie Mierta	Warren & Marge Minner
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Jack Shaw	Bob Showers
Rhonda & John Stallone	Dr. Richard Svihla, DVM
Robert Sykes	Deborah Tyler
Arthur & Lorraine Unger	David & Debbie Warren
Deb & John Wilson	Monica Wyatt
Rich Pelletreau Wildlife Gallery & Studio	
South Fork Women's Club	

**CALIFORNIA QUAIL (Family) (\$40-\$49)**

William & Elizabeth Adams	Barbara Berilla
Darrell Barnes & Marya Miller	Peter Bloom
Julia & Gene Breitenstein	James D. Cehand
George & Susan Danielson	Ronald & Lynne Eid
Claus & Connie Engelhardt	Jan Hintermeister
Blair & Kathy Jarrett	Richard Jimenez
Gerald & Caryl Kay	Ken & Brenda Kyle
John Bailey & Carol Littleton	Paige & Matt Marron
Jacqueline Morgan & Don Morrison	
Roberta & Charles Reed	Mick & Joanna Rindt
Rob & Nancy Robinson	Miko Tollefson

**RACCOON (\$25-\$39)**

Robert & Kathryn Mitchell Ball	Todd I. Berens
Betty Berteaux	Gordon Black
Michelle Brodie	Jeanne Charles
Pat and Ken Colbert	Eileen Dietz
Rod Lee & Madi Elsea	Lisa Fimiani
Sally Gaines	Catherine Gamble
Sanger Hedrick	Elizabeth Ann Heflin
Lee Hulquist	Carol Lair
Arthur Langton	Leslie Long
John & Jerry Ludeke	Jane Manning
Christy McGuire	Donna McKenna
Oasis Garden Club of IWV	Eleanor Pearson
Mary Prision	Joan B. Reynolds
H.T. & Marguerite Richter	Richard Cayia Rowe
Chris & Carol Rush	David Rutz
Susan Stevenson	Georgette Theotig
	Jim White
William Wittmann	Roger Zachary

**MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

In memory of Donald Moore from Chris Dollaghan & Tom Campbell



# Friends of the Kern River Preserve

## Membership / Renewal Application



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  Check for change of address / email / information

Application for:  New Member  Renewal  Gift  In Memory

_____ \$ 5,000 Summer Tanager	_____ \$100 Great Blue Heron
_____ \$ 2,500 Black Bear	_____ \$50 Bobcat
_____ \$ 1,000 Fremont Cottonwood	_____ \$40 California Quail (Family)
_____ \$ 500 Gray Fox	_____ \$25 Raccoon
_____ \$ 250 Willow Flycatcher	Total \$ _____

Anonymous Donation  
 Web Newsletter Only

Please Send Information on:

Planned Giving / Bequests  
 Volunteer Opportunities

All members in the Raccoon and above categories receive our newsletter. New members in the \$100 Great Blue Heron and above level are eligible to receive a KRP Friends T-shirt. Donations in the Gray Fox and above categories receive lifetime membership. Please be sure to indicate size if you WISH to receive a t-shirt. Extra T-shirts available for \$15 (\$10 members) plus \$2.50 shipping.

small ♦ medium ♦ large ♦ XL ♦ XXL

Please make checks payable to : **NAS / KRP Friends**

Mail to: *Friends of the Kern River Preserve* • P. O. Box 833 • Weldon, CA 93283-0833

V1012

*Our Friends continued from page 6*

- In memory of Donald Moore from Kathryn & Pat Gallagher
- In memory of Donald Moore from Robert & Helen Lyon
- In memory of Donald Moore from Len & Cathy Wegner
- In memory of Mark Braaksma from Richard & Alice Lopez
- In memory of Marge Wieser from Phil & Phyllis Allin §

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Do you live in or visit the Kern River Valley? Would you like to help feed the birds, help plant and maintain the hummingbird garden, or help with the trail projects? See our scheduled work days on the calendar. Then please contact Reed Tollefson to help. Phone: 760-378-2531 or email: [rtollefson@audubon.org](mailto:rtollefson@audubon.org). §

**KEYSTONE SPECIES**

Our membership categories characterize keystone species that rely on intact ecosystems to survive. Our goal is to provide long-term sanctuary for these species through outright acquisition of habitat or conservation easements along the entire South Fork Kern River watershed. Although most of the property will not be owned by Audubon, staff of the Kern River Preserve are integral to the success of protection efforts by government agencies and other private organizations.

Supporting the Friends of the Kern River Preserve by becoming a keystone donor allows these important efforts to continue. Without you, none of this critical work can continue... Please unlock the potential of the Kern River Preserve by becoming a member at the highest monetary level you can comfortably afford. §

**KEYSTONE SPECIES  
 WILLOW FLYCATCHER**



photos courtesy  
[www.Natureall.org](http://www.Natureall.org)

*Empidonax traillii*

The Willow Flycatcher is one of the most important keystone species of the riparian forest. Arriving in mid-May and leaving by mid-September, the buzzy-whit call announces the arrival of this cute neotropical migrant.

The Willow Flycatcher is slightly smaller than a sparrow at 5 1/4 to 6 1/2 inches. This is one of the group of flycatchers known as the *Empidonax*. This group is very difficult to distinguish by sight but easily told apart by voice. Listen for Willow

Flycatcher's distinctive "fitz-bew" during the summer months in the forest. The subspecies Southwestern Willow Flycatcher – *Empidonax traillii extimus* was listed as an endangered species by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in 1995. It nests in cottonwood / willow riparian forests in the southwestern U.S. and along California's central valley rivers.

A friend in the Willow Flycatcher category helps to support many facets of the programs at the Kern River Preserve. Friends of the Kern River Preserve members in this category provide needed funds for outreach operations, such as office supplies, utility bills, and printed materials. No donation is too small to help make a big difference to the protection and outreach efforts along the South Fork Kern River. §



*Friends of the Kern River Preserve*

P.O. Box 833  
Weldon, CA 93283-0833

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**Upcoming Events...  
Don't Miss!**

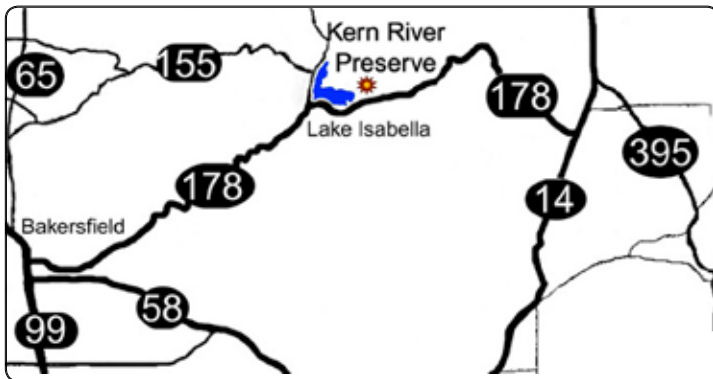
**December 30**  
South Fork CBC

**December 31**  
Kern Valley CBC

April 28-29  
Spring Nature Festival

**Check the Calendar of Events  
for upcoming work days**

Please note the date of expiration on your mailing label. If it says "exp" then this will be your last issue (if this is in error please contact us right away). We appreciate your support in the past and hope you consider renewing your membership soon. Thank you.



The Kern River Preserve is located 1.1 miles east of the intersection of State Highway 178 and Sierra Way in Weldon, Kern County, California.

Driving time from:

- Los Angeles.....3.5 hours
- San Diego.....5.5 hours
- San Francisco.....6.5 hours
- Reno.....7.5 hours

Cal Trans current road conditions: 1 (800) 427-7623

For further information about the



*Friends of  
the Kern  
River Preserve*

Email: [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net)  
or visit our website:  
<http://kern.audubon.org>

