



Friends of the Kern River Preserve

Volume 9, Issue 2

 Audubon CALIFORNIA

Fall 2005

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."

Habitat Diversity Explodes as Kern River Preserve Doubles in Size

In March 2005, the Kern River Preserve more than doubled in size from 1,127 acres to 2,789 acres with the addition of extensive native grass meadows, seasonal wetlands, riparian forest, desert grassland, sagebrush flats, and gray pine/juniper woodland. The number of species of birds and wildlife protected within the boundaries of the preserve has increased significantly with the addition of the new acreage and habitats.

Audubon staff has worked hard for several years with a diverse group of agencies, organizations, and individuals to acquire this important habitat. Of course, the Sprague family who sold this beautiful property must be properly thanked, without their vision and generosity to protect this

see Sprague page 4



Sprague acquisition looking east from the gray pine/juniper woodland habitat along Fay Creek. Nichol Peak is the mountain in the background. © Nature Ali

Friends of the Kern River Preserve Appreciation Weekend

As the leaves change color and the birds migrate south, we look forward to celebrating all who have helped keep the Kern River Preserve's outreach and education programs running throughout the year.

Without the numerous people who support the preserve through memberships
see Friends page 6

Wonderful World of Nature

Emily Cohen began one of the most successful outreach programs for the Friends of the Kern River Preserve in February of this year. She scheduled experts to lead free family nature programs each month and did all of the publicity and preparation for these events. From hawks, wildflowers, water, bird research, river ecology, native plant uses, astronomy, and nocturnal animals each program has been attended by a diverse group of people and averaging about 30 people each time.

The first program on falconry was by Bill Foster. He demonstrated the ancient art of falconry with his juvenile Red-tailed Hawk, JoJo. Bill and his wife Birdie are retired zookeepers from the L.A. Zoo and now live in Weldon.

see Nature page 2

Calendar of Events

Saturday & Sunday, October 29-30:
KRP Friends Appreciation Weekend

Saturday, Nov. 12 - Nature
Photography with Alison Sheehey

Saturday, Dec. 10 - Bluebird Boxes
with Jeff King

Saturday, Dec. 31: South Fork Valley
CBC: Compiler Denise LaBerteaux.
Email: eremico@aol.com

Sunday, Jan. 1, 2006: Kern
River Valley CBC: Compiler
Alison Sheehey Email:
natureali@lightspeed.net

For information email:

krpfriends@lightspeed.net

Friends of the Kern River Preserve



P.O. Box 833
 Weldon, CA 93283-0833
 email: 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
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT..... SANDRA WIESER
 MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS..... JEFF KING

VOLUNTEERS

NEWSLETTER EDITOR..... ALISON SHEEHEY
 BIRD FEEDING..... BIRDIE FOSTER & MARYA MILLER
 FESTIVAL SIGNS..... RON GILLENLINE

SPECIAL PROJECTS

ERNIE FLORES, BILL FOSTER, TERRI GALLION, DEBBIE KIGGENS, DAVE KURDEKA, ASHLEY SUTTON

Nature continued from page 1

The March program led by Alison Sheehey was an adventurous tour of the Kern River Preserve's wildflowers. This program was multifaceted with a slide program, followed by a lesson in lawn botany, and ending up with a hike to the preserve's wildflowers. Attendance at this event was really great, a couple even came all the way from New York to enjoy this little wildflower walk.



North Fork Kern River ©NatureAli

The April talk was given by Melissa Amentt, hydrologist for the Sequoia National Forest and Debbie Kiggins, on "What in the world is a Watershed". Forty-eight people, many from the Kern Valley Hiking Club enjoyed an overview of the Kern starting at the very top

of the headwaters of both the north and south forks of the Kern.

Did you know the Kern River begins at the tallest mountain in the lower 48 states? Yup, it starts at Mount Whitney and is the only north - south flowing river in the Sierra Nevada. The upper Kern Canyon is a deep flowing gorge where the North Fork of the Kern flows with many waterfalls and rapids through the Golden Trout Wilderness down to the Giant Sequoia National Monument and through the Kern Valley.

The South Fork was the main channel thousands of years ago and meanders through mountain meadows while descending through ancient volcanic fields. It wanders through the Inyo National Forest into the Sequoia National Forest and rushes down through the Domelands Wilderness before gently flowing through the South Fork Valley.

The May program was a MAPS banding station with Ashley Sutton and Emily Cohen. Visitors watched banding and even got to listen to a bird's heartbeat! Visitors observed birds being netted, weighed, identified, tagged and released. Many got a chance to release a bird after banding.



Ashley Sutton with Swainson's Thrush

The June program began with a surprise, Reed Tollefson couldn't lead his walk in the river due to the fact that the normally placid river was still raging. The late spring rains assured all of the guests a wet experience right on the flooded nature trail! Several people on the walk had never been to the preserve before and were thrilled to learn about riparian forests and the role of the Kern River Preserve in protecting this endangered habitat.



Single-needle Pinyon Pine

The July program was on traditional uses of native plants by Terri Gallion. Terri went far and wide to bring samples of many of the edible and medicinal plants. From pinyon pine to mugwort, native plants provide a wealth of wonderful remedies and recipes for past and present cultures.

August sun is so hot... Sandra Wieser taught her group about the astronomy of our sun, why we need it, and some of the techniques animals use to beat the heat.

The September program was led by Wendy Rannals of the Forest Service. She showed how to survey for nocturnal animals. Boxes with sooted plates were placed all over the preserve to see what made the tracks. There were skunks, mice, and fox prints found on the track paper.

Debbie Kiggins then showed us how to make plaster casts of tracks.

Check out the results in the visitor center.



Friend of KRP, Dan Portway, examines tracks during the September nature program © NatureAli

Our first year of nature walks has been a wonderful series. Special thanks to Emily Cohen (who has moved on to pursue her doctorate) and to all of our leaders. §

KRP BRIEFS

KERN RIVER PRESERVE HOSTED THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL BIOREGIONS FESTIVAL

Another successful Kern Valley Bioregions Festival was held in late April. Beautiful weather in the low country was the highlight of this year's activities. This year's incredible snow pack limited access to the mountains, so the owling trips were not as successful as hoped. The bioregions are always beautiful and unpredictable. Each year brings new delights and surprises.

A big thank you to volunteers, Phil & Phyllis Allin, Bob Barnes, Darrell Barnes, Marlene Benton, Ron Bolyard, Joe Fontaine, Bill & Birdie Foster, Michael Gallagher, Ron Gillentine, Richard & Liz Grotsky, Debbie Kiggins, Jeff King, Dan Lockshaw, Fletcher Linton, Buz Lunsford, Michael McQuerrey, Marya Miller, Gary Potter, Kelly Richers, John Schmitt, Pat Seamount, Alison Sheehy, Steve Sosensky, Bob & Susan Steele, Ashley Sutton, Reed Tollefson, Bruce Webb, Carol Wermuth, Sandra Wieser. Thanks also to Sequoia National Forest Service employees, Teresa Benson and Wendy Rannals and the Cannell Meadow District for their fantastic job for again creating a wonderful festival in Kernville's Circle Park. §

SPRAGUE RANCH HOUSE HOSTS AUDUBON CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The first official event at the new Sprague House was an evening barbecue with many of the people who helped put the entire deal together. The next day all staff and board members of Audubon California held a meeting in the newly refurbished house.



Audubon Board & Staff

The hit of the event were two rattlesnakes found in the immediate vicinity of the house just prior to the activities. Appropriately housed in an aquarium the snakes were displayed for the enjoyment of all during the barbecue and meetings. The snakes were released unharmed far away from the house a few days later. §

RARE PLANT FOUND ON NEW KRP PROPERTY



Pygmy Poppy © Nature Ali

A tiny plant that is sensitive and found only in California was discovered on the Sprague Ranch section of Audubon's Kern River Preserve. The Pygmy Poppy, *Canbya candida*, is such a diminutive plant that it is easily missed. It only grows on sandy desert soil and is frequently crowded out when exotic annual grasses overwhelm an area.

Last year Pygmy Poppy was also discovered on the Kelso Creek Sanctuary making Audubon one of the most important protectors of this tiny beauty. §

ALAN JONES ... STAR VOLUNTEER

For two months Alan Jones a resident of Walla Walla, Washington spent countless hours repairing the new Sprague House. Alan helped move out the previous occupants... desert woodrats... repaired the sprinkler system... planted trees... repaired the swamp coolers... repaired and painted the bathrooms...repaired the split rail fence... helped Jeff King chase cattle from the Kelso Creek Sanctuary and assisted Bill Foster in building a brand new water feature for the Sprague House birds and other wildlife. While Alan has moved on, his legacy of bringing the new house up to livable condition will be appreciated for years to come. §

BUTTERFLY COUNTS

Bob Barnes has outdone himself in keeping the NABA butterfly counts going. Three were held this year; South Fork Kern River Valley, South Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument Butterfly Counts, all helped to verify the status and distribution of butterflies in the area.



Pygmy Blue © Nature Ali

Interesting information coming out of the counts are the benefits of the McNally fire to this region's butterflies, both diversity and population numbers have increased. §

FIRE AT MIGRANT CORNER

On Thursday June 23rd a fire broke out at Migrant Corner along Sierra Way. The contents in a pickup bed caught fire and the owners tried to put out the fire but the hill caught fire when someone tossed a burning item into the dry brush. Michael McQuerrey, a Bakersfield birder, witnessed the entire event while leading a birding trip at the corner and immediately called 911. By the time the fire crews arrived the entire hillside was on ablaze.



BLM & Kern County Fire trucks at the entrance to Migrant Corner Trail © Nature Ali

Most of the fire was contained to hillside vegetation but 1-2 acres of riparian forest also burned. Altogether fire officials estimated a total of 19.2 acres consumed by the fire. Sixty percent of this was on the BLM inholding and the rest was preserve land.

The fire consumed the only juniper and elderberry native to the preserve and several very large cottonwoods and willows. We are looking to repair the trail and fences with the help of volunteers.

Thanks to... Kern County Fire - Bureau of Land Management... and Sequoia National Forest firefighters for responding and containing the fire so quickly. §

Sprague continued from page 1

land, the viability and health of the Kern River Preserve and the surrounding Valley may have been forever altered. “The addition of the Sprague Ranch is critical to conserving this valley’s natural heritage, and I can’t thank the Sprague Family enough for working with us over the past several years to complete this transaction” said Reed Tollefson.



The Sprague acquisition is on the upper left - the original preserve is the forest on the right © Nature Ali

So how did the whole deal come together? Funding for the acquisition was provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, California Wildlife Conservation Board with funds from Proposition 40, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation’s Conserving California’s Landscapes Initiative, and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. A round of thanks is due all of the partners. “It’s important to note that funds from Proposition 40 bond, passed overwhelmingly by voters in 2001, were vital to making this acquisition possible. California residents should be applauded for their role in this important conservation effort” said Glenn Olson, Audubon California’s executive director.

The Sprague Ranch acquisition also secures key habitat for the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and benefits more than a dozen other sensitive bird species, including the Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo. The 15-mile-long riparian corridor that makes up the South Fork Kern River has been identified by Audubon as an Important Bird Area because it holds a globally significant population of nesting species, including the endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher.

Cottonwood willow (riparian) forest is one of California’s most threatened habitats with more than 90 percent lost in the past two hundred years. For twenty-five years conservationists have been working to protect and restore land on the South Fork Kern River. These acquisitions strive to protect the quality and character of life for the people of the Kern River Valley. The forest not only protects the plants and wildlife, it also provides a natural filter for pollutants in the air and water as well as helping to stabilize the river banks and reduce soil erosion.

Audubon’s Kern River Preserve including the Allen Sanctuary and the Kelso Creek Preserve now encompass 3,462 acres, including five miles of frontage on the South Fork Kern River. But, we still have a lot to do to achieve lasting

protection in the South Fork Valley. We need to continue to work with our established partners and build relationships to work more effectively with surrounding ranchers that want to preserve their agricultural heritage. By purchasing the development rights while allowing a viable farming operation to continue, dedicated ranchers may be able to make a permanent commitment to protect their ranches rather than to sub-divide and develop. It can be a difficult choice where a world economy and the “almighty dollar” prevail in so many cases. We can help ensure our ability to provide food and fiber to a growing population, while we help to preserve our open space and the adjoining Kern River Preserve.

The Kern River Preserve is visited by people from all over the world, who are attracted to our unique wildlife and our beautiful rural setting. Local residents utilize the preserve’s nature trail for quiet contemplation and for exercise in a pristine environment. “Audubon’s work makes it possible for California’s families to enjoy this jewel of the southern Sierra,” said Al Wright, director, California Wildlife Conservation Board.

“We are definitely experiencing some growing pains and working hard to improve our operating budget to support programs,” says semi-crazed and harried Preserve Manager Tollefson. However, staff and volunteers of the Kern River Preserve look forward to restoration projects, expanding our knowledge of the property and beginning new outreach programs. As always help is needed by the Friends of the Kern River Preserve to achieve these goals and to carry out new projects that are underway to protect this beautiful watershed. Thanks to all of you who have volunteered and given generously to the Friends of the Kern River Preserve, the Kern River Preserve wouldn’t exist without you. §



The Sprague House © Nature Ali

Sprague House

While habitat protection was the goal of the Sprague acquisition, the Sprague house is a bonus that we are using for guests of Audubon and to house field researchers.

This beautiful house sits in the middle of pastures that are bisected by the alluvial fan of Fay Creek. The house has



More forest and many acres of grasslands are part of the Sprague acquisition © Nature Ali

been rehabilitated thanks to star volunteer Alan Jones.

At this time the oldest section of the house serves as the caretakers apartment while the master bedroom is used for guests. The living room functions as a formal visiting area and natural history museum. The south wing houses our conference room. We are also working with Kerncrest Audubon to begin a series of bi-monthly sub-chapter meetings for Kern Valley Audubon members and Friends of the Kern River Preserve.

The conference room is usable in its present condition but if there are seamstresses among our readers or people good at creating shades, we are in need of light excluding coverings for the windows, so that we can have programs during the day.

Bill Foster and Alan Jones built a great pond that attracts all types of birds and dragonflies. Reed, Jeff King, and Alan planted ash trees and elderberries around the house to increase shade.

Of course the house is beautiful but not without a few problems, the roof leaks (and is a shake shingle fire hazard), some piers under the building have been undermined, and we have termites. If anyone can help us repair these defects, please contact Reed right away. §



Fay Creek runs through the Sprague property © Nature Ali

VOLUNTEERS REPAIR FLOOD DAMAGED NATURE TRAIL

On Thursday July 7th, Darrell Barnes, Sandra Wieser, Jeff King, Reed Tollefson and Alison Sheehey repaired the damaged boardwalk portion of the nature trail. The high water flow this year pushed sections of the boardwalk downstream. The river actually flowed through some sections of the trail requiring dirt to be moved to prevent trip hazards. Much of the trail was also blocked by an overgrowth of stinging nettle and mugwort, these were pulled and weedwhacked to clear a 5-foot path. §



Turkey Vulture

ELEVEN YEARS OF CELEBRATING VULTURES

The vulture festival was attended by 200 people who came from as far away as the Bay Area. The festivities were attended by agencies, organizations and vendors who displayed some beautiful articles of nature from their lands and programs. A real hit at the festival was the display from the California State Parks Tule Elk Reserve in Tupman.

Ranger Bill Moffat brought racks of antlers that were goliaths compared to the diminutive rack of our local mule deer antlers.

Thanks to all of the agencies and organizations the attended. A special thanks to our festival volunteers, Charlotte Goodson, Bill & Birdie Foster, Kelly Richers, Terri Gallion, Kate Goodson, Ron Gillentine, Lee Sutton, Shirley Sutton, Noel & Ellene Gravelle, Dan and Brenda Burnett, John Schmitt, Richard Bruns, Reed Tollefson, Sandra Wieser, Jeff King, Buz Lunsford, Richard Grotzky, Alison Sheehey, Debbie Kiggins and Marlene Benton. §

Kern Valley Pride Day

by Sandra Wieser

You have probably seen the ad on TV stating: "California is your home, why would you want to trash California?" Many people in Kern Valley want to encourage this attitude, especially in children.

There is, of course, competition for prizes, but most people just want a clean and beautiful valley. Organizations, businesses, families and even individuals contribute. Trash can come from remote areas, decades-old "traditional" dump sites, or just the street in front of your home. If every community had a clean-up day, just think of how much more beautiful and safer California would be.

Kern River Preserve did its share this year with 9 people bringing in 180 bags of trash. We had a minor set-back when our big trailer had a flat. We still managed to claim 2nd place with what was already brought in.

A hearty thanks to all who worked so hard. We are looking forward to next year. §

THANK YOU DONORS & NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter 47 people and organizations have generously sent in much needed donations. As of this year the entire Kern River Preserve 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 all of our anonymous donors. Your privacy matters, if you prefer to remain anonymous please state that on your donation form.

GRAY FOX (\$500-\$999)

Chana Cortez Kerncrest Audubon Society

GREAT BLUE HERON (\$100-\$499)

Ohlone Audubon Society Robert Brewer
 Richard Bruns Ernie Flores
 Bugs & Joe Fontaine Sherry Gaskin
 Chris P. Hargrove Maggie Seely
 Joe & Cathy Cunningham - Sequoia Lodge
 Tom & Kathy Stephens Peter Watkins

BOBCAT (\$50-\$99)

Alan & Sheila Baldrige James D. Cehand
 Johanna Dawes Thomas Duque
 Merle Dvorak Leslie Flint
 Theo Glenn Alan Jones
 Marilyn Jones Linda McGrew
 Charlotte Braun Pofeldt Barbara W. Porter
 Richard Sproul Jim White
 Chris Gotschalk & Kathleen Whitney
 Alan & Joan Woodman

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

Frank Gibson Roberta & Charles Reed
 Carolyn & James Shepherd Ashley Sutton
 Jackie Williams

RACCOON (\$25-\$39)

Rosalie R. Cape Kathy & Blair Jarrett
 Mary Merriman Kathleen Mugele
 Linda Redman H.T. & Marguerite Richter
 David Rutz Jack Sanford
 Dennis Sheridan Linda & George Sward
 James & Jewel Wolfe

Friends cont. from page 1



Friend of KRP, Charlotte Goodson provides children's activities at most festivals

in the Friends of the Kern River Preserve, then bird feeding, tour guides, checklists, even toilet paper for the restrooms would disappear. Without the core group of volunteers who help, then the festivals, the nature walks, and much of the maintenance of the preserve would not happen. Thank you our friends for all you do!

FRIENDS OF THE KERN RIVER PRESERVE WEEKEND

At Kern River Preserve we want to thank “the Friends of the Kern River Preserve” and celebrate another good year. The Preserve has more than doubled in size and our partners at the California Department of Fish and Game have protected several thousand acres in the area as well.

We have also had good success with our festivals and monthly events thanks to the dedication and generous help from some great volunteers. So plan on coming to our appreciation weekend to find out what you helped us achieve and what is in store for next year as we strive to protect one of California’s finest remaining riparian forests. This event is for members and volunteers – so join up if you haven’t.

Saturday, October 29, 2005.

7:00 am – Birding KRP Headquarter/Visitor Center and Nature Trail (easy to moderate)

9:00 am – Continental Breakfast

10:00 am – Nature Walk and Stewardship Update (easy to moderate)

Noon – Lunch. Location Sprague House – This is a good chance to view the expanse of the new preserve addition while you have lunch provided by Kern River Preserve.

1:00 pm – PowerPoint Presentations

- a. 2004-5 Preserve Managers Overview
- b. Southern Sierra Research Station – Update and results of monitoring and research.
- c. Outreach Program – Alison Sheehey will review festivals and events

2:00 pm – Round Table – everyone gets a chance to bring up suggestions and make comments on the past year. People may also advance new projects and make commitments for the coming year.

3:00 pm – Walk About - on the new addition to the Preserve when we hike out to the Fay Canyon Area (easy to moderate hike).

7:00 pm – No host dinner at Peacock Inn

Sunday, October 30, 2005.

7:00 am to 2:00 pm – Allen Sanctuary - See part of the Kern River Preserve that most people never get a chance to visit. This is a moderate hike grading to strenuous from the Canebrake Ecological Reserve out to the Allen Sanctuary. The first part of the walk is easy, but the hike gets progressively longer and more difficult – so come for just the first part if you like. We will meet at the Kern River Preserve HQ and carpool to the trailhead, stopping along the way briefly to view some watershed protection and stewardship highlights. Bring a sack lunch, water, sturdy shoes and field clothes.

RSVP by calling 760-378-2531 or sending e-mail to rtollefson@audubon.org.



Friends of the Kern River Preserve

Membership / Renewal Application



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

Application for: New Member Renewal Gift

_____ \$10,000 Golden Eagle	_____ \$100 Great Blue Heron
_____ \$ 5,000 Black Bear	_____ \$50 Bobcat
_____ \$ 1,000 Fremont Cottonwood	_____ \$40 California Quail (Family)
_____ \$ 500 Gray Fox	_____ \$25 Raccoon
\$ _____ other	Total \$ _____

Anonymous Donation
 Please send me information on planned giving / bequests.
 Please send me information on volunteer opportunities.

All members in the Raccoon and above categories receive our newsletter. New members in the \$50 Bobcat 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 are available for \$15 (\$10 for 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

v9 12

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Live in 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? Then please contact Reed Tollefson to help. Phone: 760-378-2531 or email: rttollefson@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 protection and education efforts by becoming a member at the highest monetary level you can comfortably afford.



FREMONT COTTONWOOD
 Fremont Cottonwood - *Populus fremonti* - is one of the cornerstones of the valley riparian forest. A keystone member of the Friends of the Kern River Preserve in this category helps

to support many facets of the programs at the Kern River Preserve. Although other plants like the willow are important, the cottonwood is the heart (look at its leaf) of the ecosystem.

This beautiful tree is in the willow family. It grows rapidly and can reach heights of 30' in less than 10 years. Re-creating cottonwood/willow forest along natural riverbanks is not hard to do at all. Maintaining them can be a problem with ground water overdraft. People benefit directly from natural riparian forests as the roots decontaminate runoff. Several sewage treatment facilities use riparian forest as the final treatment for human waste. The trees and other vegetation remove the harmful minerals including nitrogen from the water making the water potable.



If the Friends of the Kern River Preserve had sixty members in the Fremont Cottonwood category then the currently unfunded Outreach and Education program for the preserve would be fully-funded.



Friends of the Kern River Preserve

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

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

October 29-30, 2005
KRP Friends Appreciation
Weekend

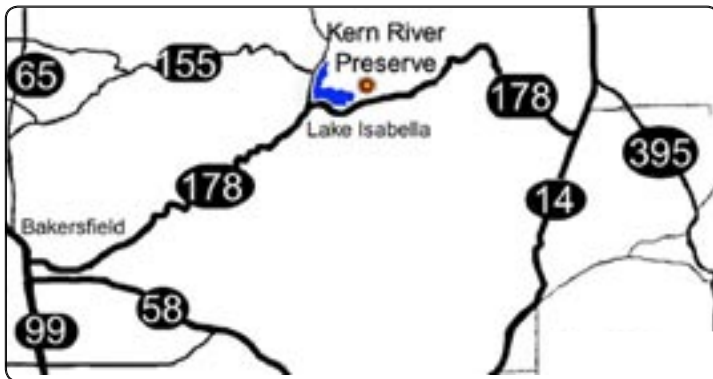
November 12, 2005
Nature Photography

December 10, 2005
Building Bluebird Boxes

December 31, 2005
South Fork Valley CBC

January 1, 2006
Kern River Valley CBC

Please note the date of expiration on your mailing label. If it says "exp" then this will be your last issue. 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:

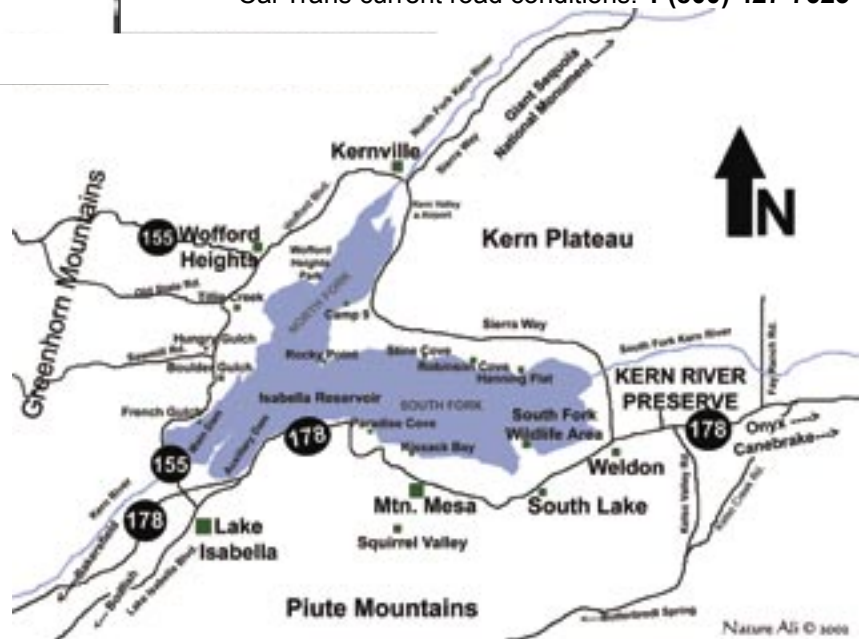
- Los Angeles.....3.5 hours
- San Diego.....5.5 hours
- San Francisco.....6.5 hours
- Reno.....7.5 hours

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

For further information about the



*Friends of
the Kern
River Preserve*



Email: krpfriends@lightspeed.net
or visit our website:
<http://kern.audubon.org>