



FRIENDS OF THE KERN RIVER PRESERVE

Volume 7, Issue 2

 Audubon CALIFORNIA

Summer/Fall 2003

TEN YEARS IN AWE OF THE HOLY ONES

by Terri Gallion, Director and Co-founder Kern Valley Vulture Watch

Ten years and a quarter of a million Turkey Vultures later the Kern Valley Vulture Watch is continuing for its 10th season 1 September 20 October 2003. This all-volunteer scientific research project studying migrating Turkey Vultures



A kettle of vultures takes off from the Kern River Preserve in September 2002.

Photo by Alison Sheehey © Nature Ali.

has discovered and documented the Turkey Vultures and raptors that move through the Southern Sierra Nevada each fall. We published our initial findings in *Western Birds* (Fall Migration of Turkey Vultures and Raptors through the Southern Sierra Nevada, California 27:48-53, 1996).

While counting the migrating vultures and raptors, we sit in lawn chairs in the shade of a California juniper tree and scan the northern skies from 9AM to 3PM everyday for 50 days in a row. Sound easy? The concentration of the effort is very tiring and sometimes the hot wind and bright sky make you feel

see Awe page 2

WILDFLOWER WONDERLAND

by Alison Sheehey

What a wonderful year for wildflower enthusiasts and visitors. Beginning in February of this year, the Kern River Valley and hillsides began one of the best year's for wildflowers ever. Throughout the central portion of the state reports came in from the coast to the desert on the fantastic displays of wildflower blooms.

The Kern River watershed was the first to be noted, quickly followed by nothing short of a spectacular displays in Short Canyon and Jawbone Canyons in the NW Mojave Desert.



Pygmy poppy, Biglow's monkeyflower, and desert star were just three of the many natural prizes for a beginning wildflower hunter.

Photo by Alison Sheehey © Nature Ali.

Acre upon acre of fiddleneck and popcorn flower lit up hillsides throughout

see Wonderland page 6

Calendar of Events

Sept. 1 - October 20,
Kern Valley Vulture Watch.
(760) 378-4173. E-Mail:
sanddragon@acninc.net

Saturday, September 20
Kern Valley Pride Day
Friday-Monday, Sept 26-29
9th Annual Kern River Valley
Turkey Vulture Festival, Kern River
Preserve, Weldon.

Saturday-Sunday, Oct 25-26
Friends of KRP Member Appreciation
Weekend,

Saturday, January 3, 2004: South
Fork Valley CBC: Compiler Denise
LaBerteaux. (760) 378-4278.

E-mail: eremico@aol.com

Sunday, January 4, 2004: Kern
River Valley CBC: Compiler Bob
Barnes. (760) 378-3044.

E-mail: krpfriends@lightspeed.net

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FRIENDS OF THE KERN RIVER PRESERVE



P.O. Box 833
Weldon, CA 93283-0833
(760) 378-3044

email: krfriends@lightspeed.net

website: <http://www.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver/>

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

The Friends of the Kern River Preserve is a membership organization that provides financial support for the Preserve. Your support is critical to the success of the Kern River Preserve.

Please consider making a donation by filling out the attached form and mailing it to the Friends.

PRESERVE MANAGER REED TOLLEFSON
DIRECTOR OF KERN VALLEY OUTREACH BOB BARNES
MEDIA SERVICES ALISON SHEEHY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT SANDRA WIESER
MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS JEFF KING
KRP FRIENDS LOGO KEITH HANSEN

Awe continued from page 1

like your eyes are going to burn out of your head.

Why have I climbed up on that hill and done this for so many years? Why have dozens of volunteers from all over the world come to help me? Simple. The spectacle of vultures flying silently over you in huge kettles and squadrons is an experience not to be missed in this lifetime. We do it for science and because we love it.

It might seem strange to love a supposedly ugly bird with a bald, red head and an appetite for stinky dead things. But, to know them is to love them. Turkey Vultures are Nature's clean up crew. Their stomachs can digest things that would make other animals sick. That is why medical researchers are so interested in knowing more about how they live. They are experts at soaring the thermals; they can glide at 60 miles an hour. A bird with a 5-6 foot wingspan weighing only 3 pounds can soar 200 miles in a day with hardly a flap. In the air, they are beautiful. Native people call the vulture, Eagle's Little Brother. One feather from a Turkey Vulture has the power to remove cancer from the human body. It is a holy bird.

It is hard to describe how it feels to be in the presence of a migration that is probably thousands of years old. At the vulture count site during the peak of the migration when 2000-5000 vultures pass by each day, you will likely hear words like, "Wow", "Oh, my God" or simply the hush of awe. To see the vultures come each fall is a sign that at least part of the world is in balance and that the mystery of life is still very much at play. We are living in awe of the holy ones.

If you would like to participate in the Vulture Watch please contact: Terri at (760) 378-4173 or by E-mail: sanddragon@acninc.net

9th ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE BIOREGIONS A SUCCESS!

For the ninth year in a row the Kern River Preserve



A rare Southwestern Pond Turtle- *Clemmys marmorata pallida*, makes an appearance on the Kern River Preserve during the BioFest.

Photo by Alison Sheehy © Nature Ali

hosted the Kern River Valley Festival of the Bioregions. This year internationally renown author Kenn Kaufman gave an especially humorous presentation as the keynote address.

The next evening Bob Steele gave a remarkable presentation

on his quest to photograph the area's bird diversity. His photographs along with text from Bob Barnes are featured in the April issue of the American Birding Association's "Birding" magazine.

With dozens of field trips offered, this festival was a hit with hundreds of people from all over the United States.



Bob Barnes leads another remarkably successful birding trip out to the Canebrake Ecological Preserve during the BioFest.

Photo by Alison Sheehy © Nature Ali

WEBSITE NEWS

With heavy heart I report that due to a technical snafu and an unscrupulous company in Germany, our URL www.kernriverpreserve.org, was taken from us. The purpose the German company chose to take our web address was to mine the traffic that goes to the website each day, in hopes that they can get people to buy their products.

Please do not use the [kernriverpreserve.org](http://www.kernriverpreserve.org) web address until further notice, we will never retrieve our name if this company believes it is profitable to keep it. Please change your bookmarks or favorites to reflect the new address.

Our new web address is:

<http://www.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver>

Thanks, your webmaster Alison.

HUMMINGBIRD HEAVEN

by Bob Barnes

July 25 - August 3, 2003 witnessed the Kern River Preserve hosting ten consecutive days of activities devoted solely to hummingbirds. For those who attended the entire ten days it was a hummingbird aficionado's dream come true!

Two hundred seventy hummingbird lovers attended the 5th Annual Kern River Valley Hummingbird Celebration July 25-28 and learned about viewing, identifying, gardening for, feeding, banding, distribution, status, and natural history of one of our most beloved wildlife species. A special thanks goes out to guest hummingbird expert Donald Mitchell, who came out from Hudson, Wisconsin.

July 29 - August 3, sixty hummingbird scientists and guests attended the 5th Biennial HumConference of the hemispheric Hummingbird Research Group and a day each of pre- and post-conference activities. HumConf attendees came from all over California and from Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, and Wisconsin. The HumConf consisted of banding & study sessions, workshops, and a research project in the field, plus indoor scientific paper presentations, workshops, dinners, and evening programs. Over 700 hummingbirds were banded in three days and nearly 900 in all.

To view some of the specific banding results go to our 2003 Fall bird sightings web page at http://www.valleywild.org/fall_2003.htm and scroll down to July 31. Tom Kaminski's comprehensive hummingbird video proved to be a highlight garnering rave reviews as the "best ever made" by likely the most critical audience possible. The Kern River Preserve will receive a copy of complete banding results and any scientific publications that arise from the data gathered at the HumConf. In addition, the tourism support services of the Kern River Valley appreciated the positive economic impact from the extended stay of HumConf participants.

Thanks to the following for donating host services and time for the Hummingbird Celebration and HumConference: Kern River Preserve, Sequoia National Forest, Teresa Benson, Les Chibana, Cathy Colwell, Bruce Garlinger, Frank Gibson, Ron Gillentine, Tom Kaminski, Jeff King, Denise La Berteaux, Kay Loughman, 'Buz' Lunsford, Shirley Manning, Tom Manning, Bob McAloney, Terri Middlemiss, Patt Nichols, John Schmitt, Alison Sheehy, Bob Steele, Reed Tollefson, and Sandra Wieser.

WELL'S SCHOOL KERN RIVER VALLEY VISIT

by Conrad Mattly and Taylor Wood

We would like to inform you of a field trip Miss Theotig's and Mrs. Brimhall's fifth grade classes from Wells Elementary School, Tehachapi, took on May 13, 2003 to the Kern River Fish Hatchery and Audubon California

Kern River Preserve.

Our first stop was the Kern River Fish Hatchery. Our purpose for going there was to release our class-raised rainbow trout into the Kern River. At the



Bob Barnes teaches Miss Theotig's class about binoculars and birding.

Photo by Reed Tollefson © Audubon California

beginning we got to feed the hatchery fish. During lunch the groups got to name their fish and let them go into a stream at the fish hatchery.

Next, we got on the bus and went down the road to our second stop at the Audubon California Kern River Preserve. Here we split into two groups by class. Our class went on a brief nature trail walk first. On this walk we saw many Fremont cottonwood and red willow trees. Then we went back for a binocular lesson. We had shade at this time because of the trees which also made it easier to see birds like Northern Oriole and Red-winged Blackbird. The Preserve also gave us two postcards and an information sheet. This was very kind. We visited the Preserve to learn more about the riparian habitat of the South Fork of the Kern River. Taylor, a student in Miss Theotig's class was quoted, "We had fun and learned a lot because of our guides."

TEHACHAPI THANKS KRP

Dear Kern River Preserve,

Thank you for taking your time to teach our class about the riparian forest. Our fifth grade class learned a lot from you. We liked the cottonwood trees.

Our favorite part was when you taught us how to work with binoculars. We loved the hummingbirds. They were so beautiful because they had so many colors. We also saw lizards.

The class learned from you that you have to be quick while using binoculars, you have to be quiet to hear the birds so you can find them, and you have planted a lot of trees by hand. We learned a lot more, but we just can't list them all.

Miss Theotig's Fifth Grade Class

Dear KRP,

Thanks so very much for your time, effort and the outstanding lessons. The class really enjoyed and benefited from our time at the Preserve. I am already looking forward to bringing next year's class.

Miss Georgette Theotig

THANK YOU DONORS & NEW MEMBERS

Since our last newsletter 189 people and organizations 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.

PACIFIC FLYWAY PATROL (\$100-\$999)

Tom & Debbi Adams	Carl Allen
Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society	
Marian Baird	George & Judy Beaty
Kern Valley Bioregions Festival	John Birsner
James Bland	Sarah & David Bottjer
Robert Brewer	Michelle Brodie
Deborah Brusco	Ron Burns
Roger & Barbara Coley	Frank & Janice Delfino
W. R. & Judith Ditzler	John Dukat
Deborah Farson	Gary M. File
Ernie & Nancy Flores	David A. Fong
Bugs & Joe Fontaine	Eleanor Fraser, M.D.
Barbara Garris	Parker Gay
Alice Gregory	Irene Heath
Sidney Tice & CleoBell Heiple-Tice	
Claire Hemingway	Raymond & B.J. Johnson
Dorothy & Thomas Jackson	Roy Kautz
The Jim Kiggins Family	Dave Kurdeka
Los Angeles Audubon Society	Jeffrey Martin
Barbara Maxwell	John & Susan Mills
Martine & Richard Metzenheim	SFSU Ornithology Class
Chuck Peck	Maggie Seely
Thomas Smith	Clinton Stallings
Bob & Susan Steele	Kemer Thomson
Suzanne Eiseman & Bruce Terzes	
John Tobin	Peter Watkins

SUPPORTERS (\$50-\$99)

Frederick C. Alpers	Alan & Sheila Baldrige
Robert A. Barnes	Carol Benedetti
Tehachapi Mountains Birding Club	
Dorothy Bolt	Ron & Ginnie Bottorff
Geraldine Brown	Lloyd Bulmer
Norm & Chris Byrd	Jim & Eleanor Campbell
Justine Carson	Eunice Corn
Johanna Dawes	Bill & Birdie Foster
Calvin & Louise French	Charlotte & Don Goodson
Bob McAloney & Ron Gillentine	
Rebecca Hamilton	Ann Hannon
Lynn Hemink	Andrew & Sasha Honig
Steve Iverson	John & Jane Johnson
Marilyn Jones	Larry & Eileen Kay
K.Z. Kurland, M. D.	Ken & Brenda Kyle
John & Christine Lewis	Bettie Mantague

Robert & Bernice Meade	Frances Oliver
John Macho & Martha O'Neal	Robert & Mary Phillips
Rose Rabinov & Dave Ogden	Terry & Jean Ronneberg
John & Kathy Schick	Robin Shirley
John & Patricia Silveira	J. H. Smith
Richard Sproul	Tom & Kathy Stephens
Pamela Stones	Richard Stromp
Dr. Richard Svihla, DVM	Jeff & Jeanne Wheaton
Chuck Williams	Debbie & John Wilson
Scott & Jeanne Winneguth	Monica Wyatt

FRIENDS (\$20-\$49)

Dorothy Almklov	Liz Altschule
Ron Beck & Janet Cunningham	Richard & Linda Beidleman
Andy & Teresa Benson	William Berger
Betty Berteaux	Gordon Black
Sheila Braden	Beverly Brock
Lloyd Brubaker	Dorothy Burnstrom
Thomas Byrd	Jane Cassity
Richard Cimino	Susan Cossins
Carol Jean Coulter	Pat & Christine Dauwalder
Margo DeGrosse	Randy Derhammer
Desert Planters of Ridgecrest	Eileen Dietz
Richard Elke	Brian Elliott
Donald & Margaret Emery	Claus Engelhardt
Judy Fiskin	Mr. & Mrs. Dave Fafarman
Leslie Flint	Mary Freeland
Don Gallup	Henry Gilmore
Phil & Pat Gordon	Dorothy Gould
Monte & Enid Harper	Elizabeth Ann Heflin
Marilyn Hemmeter	Mary Lou Hill
Victor C. Hostetter	Kathleen Intorf
Gretchen Keeler	Michael Klinkenberg
David S. & Sue C. Kyser	Deanne Larsen
Christy McGuire	Donna McKenna
Georgann Meadows	Laura Leigh Monterey
Nan Moore	Susan & Jerre Murphy
Brian & Judith Newton	Linda Nicoletto
Alan & Elaine Olson	Bruce & Jeanne O'Connor
Alan Paulsen	Harry Pollack
Dwight J. & Trudy W. Pascoe	Mary Prismon
Linda Redman	Roberta & Charles Reed
Barbara Reifel	Joan B. Reynolds
David & Ann Richards	David Richardson
Lee & Ruth Rupel	Charles & Nancy Robinson
Theresa Ryan	Jerry Secundy
Jack Shaw	Suzanne Shelhart
Dennis Sheridan	Sarita Simone
David Fitzgerald & Deanna Simmons	
Barbara Smith	Judy Spitler
Laura A. Stockton	Elizabeth Pearl Sylvester
Megan Thomas	Susan Trabing
G. N. Van Essen	Arthur Vander
Michael Vensky	Aino Vimb

see Friends page 5

Friends cont. from page 4

Beverly Wallace	Flo A. Weber
Audrey & Ron Watkins	Lawrence Wedeen
William C. Whiteside	Barbara Wilson
James & Jewellie Wolfe	Roger Zachary

2003 FRIENDS OF KRP APPEALS

Thanks to the generous support from members like you, the Friends of the Kern River Preserve has raised over \$20,000 since January of 2003. This money goes to support preserve maintenance and operations, festivals, tours, community outreach, brochures, newsletters and website.

KRP FRIENDS THANKS

Thanks to KRP Friends member Rich Cimino from Pleasanton who donated a full-size desk, two office chairs, and a Sanyo color TV for use in the combined Friends of the Kern River Preserve and Outreach Director's office.

Thanks to Rich and Max Lathum of Bakersfield who donated several boxes of birding magazines to be distributed among the KRP library, Southern Sierra Research Center Library, and local schools and libraries. Max has also donated a telescope for use at the Preserve or a local school.

THANK YOU!!!

Agua Bonita Flyfisherman – Thanks to the many volunteers from this great group that consistently provides some of our best volunteer work parties.

Friends of Kern River Preserve – Thanks to the generous support from members like you, the Friends of the Kern River Preserve raised \$30,317.25 during our last fiscal year from July of 2002 to July 2003. This money goes to support our outreach staff, festivals, tours, community outreach, newsletter and webpage. If we can't reach out to the public, we can't change the world.

Management Endowments – It is critical that Audubon and our partners develop income streams that support on-going stewardship, protection, education and outreach at the Kern River Preserve. Preserve staff is working to establish endowments to create permanent and reliable income streams to help fund these vital activities. One way for the average person to make a big difference is to consider planned giving options. If the Kern River Preserve is special to you and you may be interested, please call Reed or Bob and we will introduce you to one of Audubon California's new development staff. They have some pretty good ideas.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

This past spring, Ron Gillentine and Bob McAloney visited KRP and introduced themselves as recent retirees to the Kern River Valley. They mentioned that they were friends with Audubon California's State Director Jerry Secundy and his wife and thought that offering to do volunteer work on behalf of the Preserve was something they would like to do. When asked about their expertise they answered, in essence, "We are professional sign-makers - from small to large, simple to elaborate, directional to formal museum displays." Our

attention became riveting as we quickly realized the possibility of two professionals focusing on our signage program at the Kern River Preserve and releasing those of us who had been working on signs to better concentrate on our host of other responsibilities.

Since our fortunate meeting, Ron and Bob have produced exquisite signs for the Reptile and Hummingbird Celebrations and the HumConference. They have also produced welcoming signs, directional parking signs, and given input on signage needs and placement. Currently, Bob and Ron are working on entrance and primary information signs. Their services can not be overestimated, not only for what they are providing to KRP, but to the time they have given back to the rest of us to work on our other important Preserve work.



If you have a focused talent or service you would like to offer to the Kern River Preserve, please let us know. Among the specific talents that would greatly benefit the Kern River Preserve are: carpentry, cleaning, docent services, electrical, gardening & lawn care, media contacts & publicity, office machine maintenance, painting, plumbing, and printing. Join Terri, Sandra, Ron, Reed, Jeff, Dave, 'Buz', Bob, Birdie, Bill, and Alison as key people in shaping the present and future of the Kern River Preserve.

To join us more actively through direct services, e-mail krapfriends@lightspeed.net or phone Bob at (760) 378-3044 or Reed at (760) 378-2531. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP and MANAGEMENT
by Reed Tollefson

Mill and Colt Restoration Sites – So far in 2003, with support from grants and our volunteers, we planted native riparian vegetation on the Colt and Mill Field Restoration sites. We have planted these sites with understory and midstory plants including wildrose, elderberry, mulefat, sandbar willow, arroyo willow, stinging nettle and mugwort. Many birds and wildlife already use these fields but these plantings will enhance quality of the habitat as

see Stewardship page 6

Stewardship continued from page 5

well as overall plant and animal species diversity.

Bartolas Planting - 20 acre Habitat Improvement Planting - Kern River Preserve staff and volunteers worked hard last year to plant and care for hundreds of cottonwoods, ash, willows, wild rose and mulefat. This year we have planted additional elderberry, Oregon ash and alkali sacaton and are monitoring and irrigating as needed. We expect that it will become self sufficient by this time next year. A warm thank to all of the volunteers and staff that have helped to make this restoration site a success.

Operations and Maintenance – Thanks to Kyle Pinette, Marco Anzaldo and Jeff King, who made repairs and improvements over the spring and summer to our Headquarters facility including a new kiosk and fenced equipment storage area. We have old and interesting buildings that can be described as rustic (or dilapidated). Our buildings always need work and we always need help with them (see volunteer opportunities).

Wonderland continued from page 1

Kern County with orange-yellow hues interspersed with bridal white. Sporadic but brilliant displays of the ripest orange of California poppies sent chills down my spine. Pinks and purples were well represented by fields of owl's clover and lacy phacelia. As the deserts and valleys began to fade the mountains continued to blossom with the creamy white of death camas, the lavender of wild hyacinth, and a rainbow parade of blooms from annual and perennial plants.

Our region provides such a bounty of flora and fauna because of the intersection of so many bioregions. In less than two hours of driving the elevation changes by up to 9000'. From the valley to the mountains, you travel through saltbush scrub, grassland, marshland, riparian forest, deep cut river canyons, chaparral, pine/oak woodland, black oak/mixed conifer woodland, red fir forest, giant sequoia groves, and finally huge granite outcrops that have an alpine quality.

It has been my goal over the last 15 years or so to share the joy of our wildlands with as many people as possible in order to add political and economic pressure to preserve this wonderful diversity. In my quest I have photographed many of this region's animals, but this was my first foray in to the world of wildflowers. I have truly been blessed and mystified by the hundreds of species I have had the joy of photographing. This year's display of wildflowers yielded such beauty that visitor's from all over the world came to enjoy this spring's spectacle.

Even now in the first days of September there are still mountain areas with extended blooms of spring annuals and perennial buckwheat. The blooms of sunflowers and aster family shrubs in autumn guarantee that the beauty of



Leichtlin's Mariposa Lily was found all over Cherry Hill Rd in the Sequoia National Forest.

Photo by Alison Sheehy ©

wildflowers will continue until the first winter frost. What a wonderful year to experience Mother Nature's spectacle.

To see photos of this year's wonderland visit:

<http://www.natureali.com/wildflowers.htm>



Fields upon fields of wildflowers awaited the adventurous this spring, like this field of poppies, lupine, and popcorn flowers on Jawbone Canyon Rd in Kelso Valley. Photo by Alison Sheehy © Nature Ali.

**KRP FRIENDS APPRECIATION WEEKEND:
OCTOBER 25 & 26, 2003**

by Bob Barnes & Reed Tollefson

We want to show our appreciation to you, our Friends of the Kern River Preserve. Please join us in the South Fork Valley for a special KRP Friends Appreciation Weekend this coming October 25th and 26th fall weekend. The weather will likely be perfect and the fall colors will be awesome. You may participate for the entire weekend or for any portion.

Our plan is to start at 9am Saturday, October 25th with a walk to experience and enjoy the beauty and nature of the Kern River Preserve during our precious autumn season. We will treat you to a picnic lunch with all of the fixings'. In the afternoon, we will give you an insider's look at our education, land protection, management, monitoring, outreach, research, and restoration work and accomplishments during 2003. The afternoon will include site visits and participation by restoration site workers, Southern Sierra Research Station staff and our active, local KRP Friends volunteer corps. Among the highlights will be summaries of the results of 2003 Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Willow Flycatcher research. On Sunday our plan is to offer one or two field trips that will take you to places on the Preserve that most, if not all, of you have never visited before; areas that are never open to the general public.

We are very excited to be offering you this special KRP Friends Appreciation Weekend. We are very hopeful that you will accept our invitation to join us by giving your RSVP ASAP. Necessary details and answers to questions will be provided prior to the weekend's start to those of you who plan to attend. You may RSVP by e-mail to kprfriend@lightspeed.net or by phoning Reed at (760) 378-2531 or Bob at (760) 378-3044. Thank you.

FRIENDS OF THE KERN RIVER PRESERVE

Audubon CALIFORNIA

Membership / Renewal Application

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

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

Application for: New Member Renewal
 _____ \$1000 Raptor Circle _____ \$20 Friend
 _____ \$100 Pacific Flyway Patrol _____ Additional Contribution
 _____ \$50 Supporter Total \$ _____

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

All members in the Friend and above categories receive our newsletter

New members in the \$50 Supporter and above level are eligible to receive a KRP Friends T-shirt
 Please be sure to indicate size if you WISH to receive a T-shirt. Extra T-shirts are available for a \$15 donation
 small medium large XL XXL

Mail to: FRIENDS OF THE KERN RIVER PRESERVE • P. O. Box 833 • Weldon, CA 93283-0833

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2003 Kern River Preserve Volunteer Opportunities

Fall Work Parties at the Kern River Preserve

Volunteer Opportunity

Skilled volunteer painter, electrician carpenter and/or plumber – we will supply materials and a place for you to stay and/or camp. We will do our best to make you comfortable and welcome.

Saturday, Sept 20 – Kern Valley Pride Day

Help KRP Staff and Volunteers clean up this end of the Kern River Valley. We pick up litter, trash, tires and once a car frame along Highway 178, Sierra Way Highway and in the South Fork Wildlife Area. Except for last year when we narrowly got bumped into fourth place, we have always placed among the top three local organizations in volume (and quality) of trash collected. With your help we can prove that the Friends of the Kern River Preserve are some of the trashiest folks around and with luck we may reclaim our place among the victorious at the top of the heap.

Meet at Kern River Preserve Headquarters at between 7 and 8 am. We will set you up with some partners, water and garbage bags. At 11:30, we will

collect all of the trash and head over to the free BBQ and awards ceremony at noon at French Gulch Campground. Call Reed or Sandra to RSVP call 760.378.2531. Bring work gloves, wear sturdy outdoor clothes, shoes and a hat. We will provide drinks. (Attendance is limited so sign up soon while space is available!).



Our intrepid and most valuable volunteer Sandra Wieser helps keep the Kern Valley clean during last year's KV Pride Day. Photo by Alison Sheehy © Nature Ali.

Our thanks to Thomas Refuse and the U.S. Forest Service for sponsoring this valley wide clean up.

Wish List

- Flatbed Trailer suitable for hauling a tractor or automobile
- 25 to 35 hp Farm Tractor, Category III 3-point hitch
- Economical 4 door Sedan or Mini-Van for Outreach Program
- Economical 4x4 Pickup



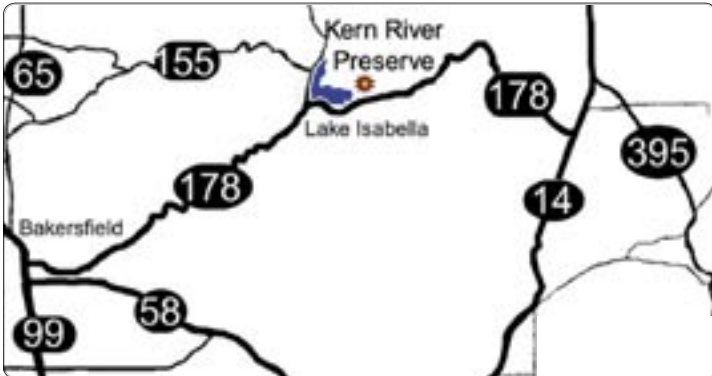
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P.O. Box 833
Weldon, CA 93283-0833

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

9th Annual Kern Valley
Turkey Vulture Festival
September 26-29, 2003

Friends of KRP Member
Appreciation Weekend
October 25 & 26, 2003



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.

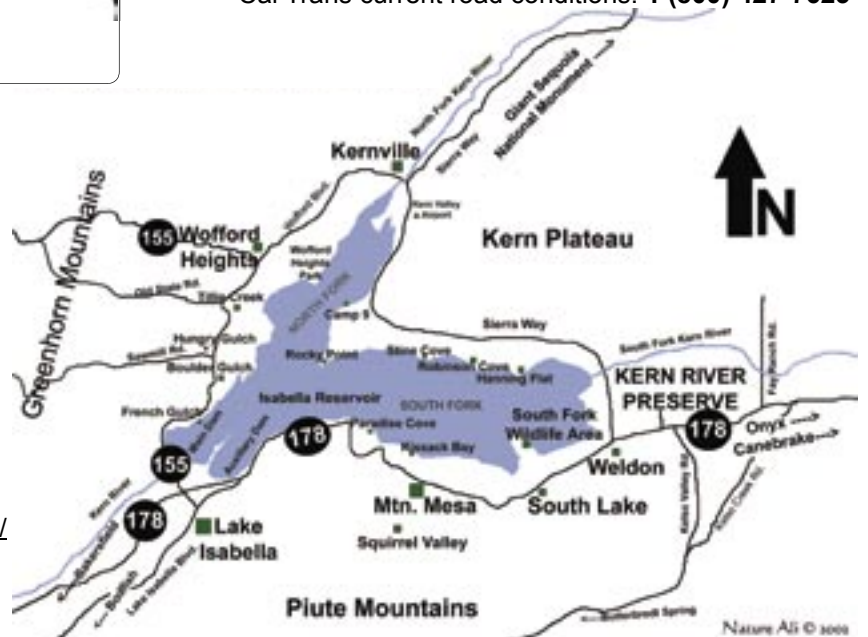
Driving time from:

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**



call: (760) 378-3044
 email: krpfriends@lightspeed.net
 or visit our websites:
 KRP: <http://audubon.org/local/sanctuary/kernriver/>
 Festivals: www.valleywild.org
 Wildlife: www.natureali.org