KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY
Tues. May 7, 2013 - 7:00PM
Location: Kern Supt of Schools
17th & L Sts. Bakersfield (1st floor)

“National Monuments: The Antiquities Act
and the Preservation of America’s Heritage”
Dr. Doug Dodd

For over 100 years, the 1906 Antiquities Act has empowered American presidents -- from Theodore Roosevelt to Barack Obama -- to create national monuments to protect and preserve America’s natural and cultural heritage. Doug Dodd’s illustrated talk will discuss the origins of the preservation ideal, the conservation movement, and the development of America’s system of national monuments.

How many national monuments has President Obama named? And did you know that the most recent is right here in Kern County?! The Antiquities Act may be the best law you never heard of! Answers and more at the May 7th Kern Audubon gathering!

Douglas Dodd is an Associate Professor of History at CSU Bakersfield, where he teaches U.S. history, environmental history, and the history of the American West. His work focuses on the history of the federal public land management policy. His current research project is on the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California’s national parks, 1933-1942.

Doug is a member of Kern Audubon and has served as Conservation Chair.

MAY FIELD TRIPS

Sat. May 11 - Paradise Valley Rd. Tehachapi
This is a great local hike that begins at the Norbertine Monastery and continues to the top of Paradise Valley Road. We should get to see many of our resident birds. We’ll ook for Golden Eagles, Western Wood-Pee wee, Western Tanager, MacGillivray’s Warbler as well as Band-tailed Pigeon and Mountain Quail. Call Angela for info: 821-7702.
6:45am - Bakersfield: Meet at the Stockdale Park n Ride (between Real Rd & Hiwayy 99) to carpool to Tehachapi. Bring snacks, binocs, etc. Call Deb See for info: 805-0232
7:30am - Tehachapi: Meet at the Kmart parking lot near Burger King (Tehachapi Blvd.) at 7:30 am.

Wed. Walk May 15 - Birds & Bikes along the Kern River Parkway, 8:00am
Join Park Ranger Bill Moffat (201-9279) for a morning of birding & biking! Meet at the Kern River parking lot off Manor Drive across from Calvary Church. Bring own bike, binocs, snacks, water. A leisurely ride & birding opportunity!

Fri. May 17, 7:30pm - Owling on Breckrenridge
Michael McQuerry will lead us on this Friday evening owling adventure up Breckenridge Mtn. Michael will have owl calls and a spotlight. Meet at the Chevron Station/Jack-in-the-Box at the corner of Union Ave & Brundage (Union Ave. exit off of Hiway 58) to carpool. Remember to DRESS WARMLY as it gets cold as we progress up the mountain. We will finish by 11pm. Bring binoculars, flashlights, snacks.
Call Deb See for info: 805-0232
KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD
2012 - 2013
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TUMBLEWEEDS UP IN SMOKE
Earlier in April Panorama Vista Preserve received
permission from the Valley Air Pollution Control
District to burn tumbleweeds that had been made into piles
during several Kern Audubon workdays. We'd like to
thank the following who turned out and spent long hours
helping to burn a whole lot of these nasty invasive
weeds: Dave Schaad, Bill Cooper, Phil Shepard, Harry
Love, Al Caetano and Andy Honig

HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS
Hummingbird solution must be changed every 2-3 days
in the summer as it sours very quickly in the heat. Please
refresh your solution and thoroughly clean your feeders
with a light mix of vinegar & water each time. Spoiled
sugar water is bad for the birds! Remember to use a
sugar solution of 4 parts water to one part sugar (e.g.1 cup boiled water plus
1/4 cup white sugar). Red coloring is
not necessary and never use honey.
Extra solution can be stored in the
refrigerator for up to 10 days.

RAFFLE PRIZES are needed for the
monthly raffle...if you have items of
interest, bring to the meeting. We don’t
mind being “re-gifted”!

Kern Audubon Society, founded in 1974, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society.
Its mission is to provide educational programs and services that build awareness of the importance of birds and other wildlife and to promote conservation and restoration of natural habitats, primarily in Kern County.

WEBSITES to check out...
Info about birds? To learn more about birds, go
to www.birds.cornell.edu, the website of Cornell Lab
of Ornithology, the world leader in the study and
conservation of birds.

Kern Birding For a great website about Kern
County birding spots: www.natureali.org/birding.htm.

Kern County Bird Sightings/photos
For what’s unusual in Kern County, go to
kerncobirding@yahoo.groups.com You’ll find recent
bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Michael
McQuerry, Alison Sheehy and others.

Audubon California has a great website about its
activities and organization: www.Audubon-ca.org

Audubon in the news - To find out more about
National Audubon go to: www.audubon.org or
chapterleaders@audubon.org

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Spring Workday Day at Panorama Vista Preserve

On Saturday, May 11, 8-10 AM, Kern Audubon will have its monthly workday at Panorama Vista Preserve. Last month, a great crew of workers, tried their hand at ‘tumbleweed herding’ and won! Using pitchforks, the tumbleweeds were placed in large piles to be burned later. A great find (and left undisturbed) was a California quail’s nest with seven eggs. Many thanks to Andy Honig, Carol Gates, Paul Gipe, Al Caetano, Monica Tudor, Lori de Leon, Vickie Boehning, and six very hard working Garces H.S. students from Vickie’s science class. This month tasks will include more ‘herding’, planting and tending the existing plants. What to bring?: hat, water, gloves, long sleeve shirt, and shovel/hoe/pitchfork. For more information call Harry Love (805-1420). PVP is located at the end of Roberts Lane off of Manor Drive.

MISSING BOOKS FROM KERN AUDUBON’S LIBRARY

If you have any of these books, please bring to the May 7th meeting!

100 Birds and How They Got Their Names
Enslaved by Ducks
Bird Brains (A Sierra Club Book)
The Fort Tejon Letters
The Kern Plateau by Joe Fontaine
Master Guide to Birding Vol. 3

Off the Beaten Path (Stories of Place)
The Grail Bird: In Search of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker
To See Every Bird on Earth
Listening to Whales

KIDS, CALM & KERN AUDUBON

On Saturday, May 18, CALM will be having its annual spring open house. It is also CALM’s 30th birthday! This is a great event for families, especially for the younger group. Kern Audubon will again have a booth at the event. Last year over 60 kids were involved! The booth will be geared to both adults and children. For children, we will have them make bird feeders from bagels, learn how to identify birds, use binoculars, be given a coloring book on birds, and learn about owls and dissect owl pellets. It is great fun to watch the excitement and wonder of the children as they learn about birds.

Helpers are needed! All supplies are provided. Two hour block of time is best. The times for the event are from 8 AM to 4 PM. Contact Harry Love (805-1420 or love3@bak.rr.com) if you're interested in helping out at the booth. Come and enjoy the fun!

Friends of California Condors Wild and Free, a nonprofit 501c3 organization, has a mission of enhancing public awareness of the endangered California Condor and ensure that they are protected, healthy, and free. This is being done in collaboration with the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge Complex and other organizations. The Friends of California Condors is a dedicated group of volunteers who work in conjunction with the US Fish & Wildlife Service to educate the public about the California Condor.

A membership and fundraising drive has recently been announced by the group with the goal of funding a remote camera and all the associated materials for use by the Condor Recovery Program in the nest guarding/nest monitoring portion of the Recovery Program. This is an exciting time for the California condors with a record 8 nests in Southern California, including TWO in the Bitter Creek area! With a remote camera biologists and volunteers will have to spend less time hiking to remote locations to monitor the nests and more time watching parents and chick.

Friends of Condors needs about $10,000 for the camera, conduit, cables and more. The Executive Board of Kern Audubon feels this is an excellent effort to support and after having checked with US Fish & Wildlife about the Friends group, has voted to donate $500 toward this project.

If you are interested in supporting the Friends of California Condors Wild and Free through a donation and/or membership, you may do so via their website: www.Friends of Condors.org or by mailing a check to 2493 Portola Rd. Suite A, Ventura CA 93003.

RENEWING YOUR AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewal notices are sent to Audubon members by the National Audubon Society not Kern Audubon. You can also learn about the expiration of your membership by checking the date on the address label of this newsletter or on the Audubon magazine.

For example: Exp: 5/13 means your membership expires May 2013. You can also check your membership status and renew your membership online at www.audubon.org and click on “Member Center” at the very top of the homepage. You can renew online...just follow the directions! Or you can send your renewal check in the amount of $15 (one year), $25 (two years), $35 (three years) to:

National Audubon Member Center
PO Box 422250
Palm Coast Fl. 32142
Kern Audubon is pleased to welcome the many folks who joined this chapter of Audubon in the past year (May 2012 - February 2013). We hope you will participate in the fun & informative meetings and programs presented on the first Tuesday of the month in Bakersfield and quarterly in Tehachapi as well as in the many field trip offerings that explore Kern County and the birds that live and migrate through this rich area. If you have questions about Kern Audubon and our sub-chapter Kern Audubon-Tehachapi, please feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board (listed on page 2). *Birds matter and so do you!* Get involved and be enriched by the Audubon experience!
KERN COUNTY BIG BIRDING WEEKEND – MAY 2 - 5, 2013
For the past 9 years, Kern County has won the distinction of being America’s “Birdest Inland County” with a total of 245 species counted last year. The 2013 Kern County effort will take place over 72 consecutive hours from 3:30pm, Thursday, May 2 through 3:30pm, Sunday, May 5, 2013. All bird species observed by anyone during any of the 72 consecutive hours may be contributed to the overall list, as long as the sightings are made in Kern County. Kern Auduboners are welcome to participate…send sightings to: Bbarnes@lightspeed.net
These are among the areas needing coverage:
- Annette Rd & Bitterwater Valley Rd along San Luis Obispo County line (Grasshopper Sparrow)
- Antelope Valley portion of Kern Co. (e.g.: Edwards AFB-restricted access, Rosamond)
- Bakersfield [(e.g.: Bakersfield Sewer Ponds, Beale Park Spotted Dove), Heritage Park, Hart Park/Lake Ming, Kern River Parkway, Kern Sanitation Authority, Panorama Vista Preserve, Riverside Park]
- Breckenridge Mountain (owls)
- Buena Vista Lake/Tule Elk Reserve (Burrowing Owl)
- Butterbredt Spring
- California City Central Park
- China Lake (restricted)/Ridgecrest (e.g.: Cerro Coso Community College, Ridgecrest Watchable Wildlife Park)
- Desert Oases (e.g.: Frog Spring, Kelso Creek Sanctuary, Rocky Point, Tunnel Spring)
- Frazier Park/Los Padres National Forest/Mill Potrero Rd/Mt. Pinos
- Galileo Hill
- Greenhorn Mountains (montane species, owls)
- Hwy 58/base of foothills/Arvin/Hwy 184 quadrangle (Arvin ponds, Common Ground-Dove)
- Isabella Reservoir
- Kern Co. portion of CA Hwy. 41 between Kings Co. and San Luis Obispo Co. (YB Magpie)
- Kern National Wildlife Kern River County Park (Hart Park, Kern River Group Picnic Area, Lake Ming)
- Kern River Valley (e.g.: Tillie Creek Campground)
- Piute Mountains (Jawbone Canyon Rd., Piute Mtn Rd., Saddle Springs Rd-Black-chinned Sparrow)
- South Fork Kern River Valley (e.g.: Canebrake Ecological Reserve, Chimney Peak Byway, Kern River Preserve-Fay Ranch Rd/Headquarters/Migrant Corner Trail/Sierra Way, South Fork Wildlife Area)
- Tehachapi/Bear Valley Springs (e.g.: Purple Martin)
- Wetland areas throughout Kern Co. (including sewer ponds)
- Wind Wolves Preserve (e.g.: California Condor, Common Ground-Dove, Least Bell's Vireo)

BIRDING FESTIVALS
Bird festivals are fun! You meet other birders, visit new places, see lots of birds, hear interesting presentations, support local economies and much more. For information about festivals around the country, go to...
www.Americanbirding.org/festivals
www.birdwatchersdigest.com
For information about festivals in California, go to...
www.natureali.org/nature_festivals.htm

BIRD CAMS - NEST CAMS
Watching online nest cams gives birders a glimpse of the life of a baby bird from the moment the eggs are laid until that first, terrifying flight. For many birders, watching nest cams is a way to observe their favorite species without disturbing them, and many conservation organizations and awareness groups host seasonal nest cams to introduce birders to the joys of nest monitoring. If you haven’t watched a live streaming, go to www.birdcams@Cornell.edu.
Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. May 7, 7:00pm - Monthly meeting/program - Kern Supt of Schools (17th & L Sts.) Bakersfield
- Sat. May 11 - Paradise Valley Rd. Tehachapi field trip
- Sat. May 11, 8:00am - Panorama Preserve workparty
- Wed. May 15, 8am - Wed Walk Birds & Bikes
- Fri. May 18, 7:00PM - Owling on Breckenridge

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C2ZC300Z)

If you would like to be part of a grass-roots conservation organization with a distinguished history, join the National Audubon Society and Kern Audubon! Please complete the form below and send with your check!

Membership includes *Audubon Magazine* (6 Issues) and the *Audubon’s Warbler* (10 issues)

____New Member $20

Make check payable to **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Send this form and your check for $20 to:
Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s)________________________________________ Amount enclosed_______________

Address_______________________________________E-mail__________________________

City_________________________________Zip Code____________Phone #__________________

*Please indicate if you would like to receive your Audubon’s Warbler electronically: ____yes ____no*