



# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 36 No. 8 - OCTOBER 2007  
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society  
A chapter of National Audubon Society  
[www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

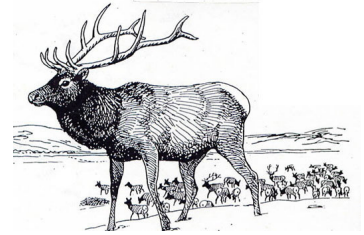
*Join us for the October gathering...*

**Tuesday OCTOBER 2, 2007 - 7:00PM**

**Location: Kern Superintendent of Schools (17th & L Sts.)**  
(Street parking or in the lot at 18th & K)

*"Preserving Another California Legacy--The Tule Elk"*

**BILL MOFFAT, Park Ranger & Preserve Manager:**  
**Tule Elk Reserve, Allensworth & Tejon State Historical Parks**



Bill Moffat has over 25 years of service as a state park ranger and will bring his expertise, experience and enthusiasm when he speaks at the next Kern Audubon meeting about preserving the Tule Elk populations of our state, especially the herd at the Tule Elk Reserve just west of Interstate 5 in Kern County. Bill is currently the Supervising Ranger of four parks in our area: Tule Elk Reserve, Tejon and Allensworth State Historic Parks, and most recently, the Mojave Desert State Park as well. Prior to coming to the Bakersfield area in 2001, he served as Ranger at Big Sur State Park, Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area near Livermore, and was a volunteer firefighter with his wife, Deb See. Bill is a 1979 graduate of UC Santa Cruz with a BA in Biology/Natural History. He and Deb and their two sons live on site at the Tule Elk Reserve.

Bill is a lifelong birder and member of Kern Audubon. He is also a professional photographer, so we can look forward to excellent visuals as a part of his program. Join us as we gather for an informative evening on Tues. October 2, 7:00pm!

*Refreshments served and great RAFFLE prizes...come and bring a friend!!*

## Sat. October 6th - Field Trip

### TULE ELK RESERVE

**8:15AM - 12 NOON (approx.)**

Leader: Bill Moffat, Reserve Manager

Bill Moffat, one of Kern Audubon's members and the Park Ranger who manages Tule Elk Reserve, will lead us on a field trip to view the Tule Elk and to bird the area. Join us for a beautiful fall morning walk and tour!

Meet at the parking lot north of CSUB on Stockdale Hiway, 8:15am for carpooling to the site. Bring water, snacks, mosquito repellent, binoculars. Call Roger Coley (832-1820) for more information or [www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

## Field Trip - Sat. Oct. 27th

### PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

**8:00am - 11:30am**

Leader: Andy Honig

We will meet at the gate to Panorama Vista at 8:00am. To get there, follow Roberts Lane east from Manor St. exit for .5 mile, past the stables to a white gate. Park in staging area on north side of road. Leader will be Andy Honig, member of Kern Audubon and retired teacher, who has been instrumental in establishing this preserve along the Kern River. This should be an interesting field trip for both birds and native plants. Contact Roger (832-1820) for more information or [www.kernaudubonsociety.org](http://www.kernaudubonsociety.org)

### FOR THE BIRDS...

I have just completed my letter to the Governor regarding the importance of his signing the legislation passed by the legislature to ban the use of lead ammunition in Condor country (AB 821) and I want to thank Doug Dodd, KAS Conservation Chair, for inspiring me to get this done. The governor needs to hear from all of us, especially by mail as politicians pay even more attention to a personal letter than to email and phone calls. However, if you don't have time for a letter with a stamp, please call or email (see next page for details). The California Condor needs our support!

Hope to see you at our next meeting, October 2nd!  
Madi Elsea, Co-Chair

### HAVE TREES...WILL PLANT!

The Kern River Parkway Foundation is planning a tree planting day on the Kern River Bike Pat Sat., November 10, 8-12 noon. 250 trees will be planted along the bike path near the Park at River Walk (Stockdale Hwy. @ Buena Vista). Kern Audubon is organizing a party of volunteers to help with the project. If you plan to come, please bring a shovel/gloves. Contact Douglas Dodd (654-6815; [ddodd@csub.edu](mailto:ddodd@csub.edu)) to sign up or at the next Kern Audubon meeting.

### WHAT ABOUT THE BEES...

The California Native Plant Society invites members of Kern Audubon to attend the October 16th meeting, 7:00pm at Beale Library (Lake Room-1st floor). The program will be on BEES, which have been in the news this year due to the mysterious failure of hives. The presenter will be Denis Kearns, botanist with the Bureau of Land Management.

Note that the annual plant sale will be on Sat. Nov. 3rd this year and will be at CSUB/FACT instead of CALM.

### WORK PARTY AT TORTOISE PRESERVE

Interested in a day in the desert working and birding? Then you might consider helping out at the Desert Tortoise Natural Area (just east of Calif. City) on the weekend of Oct. 13-14. A work party is planned by the Desert Tortoise Preserve Comm. For more information contact Mark Bratton: [montanagrizzlies\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:montanagrizzlies_2000@yahoo.com).

**California eBird...** An online bird observation and data recording program has been developed for birders by Audubon CA, PRBO and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, which will help with personal record keeping of bird sightings and to help the scientific community with research into what's happening with birds. [www.eBird.org/California](http://www.eBird.org/California) provides an easy way for birders, citizens and scientists to enter bird observations into a common database accessible to those working to protect and restore habitats for birds in California. All you have to do is register on the website as a new user and follow the instructions. When you record your own bird sightings, you are helping science and conservation AND eBird keeps our lists for us! Interactive maps and graphs are provided. Andrea Jones, IBA Coordinator, strongly recommends that Kern Auduboners get involved in by visiting the website and recording our bird sightings!

Websites to check out...

**Kern Birding Website** For a comprehensive web site covering numerous Kern County birding locations go to [www.natureali.org/birding.htm](http://www.natureali.org/birding.htm).

### **Kern County Bird Sightings/photos**

What's unusual in Kern County birding? Go to [kerncobirding@yahogroups.com](mailto:kerncobirding@yahogroups.com) for recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Mike McQuerry, Alison Sheehy, pictures by Ken Kyle and others.

**ASK AUDUBON...** The newest addition to Audubon's Newswire: submit questions re: consumer choices and the effect on the environment: [cblayer@audubon.org](mailto:cblayer@audubon.org).

**www.Audubon-ca.org** is a great website all about the activities and organization of Audubon California "**Audubon in the News**" - To find out more about Audubon happenings around the country, you can receive an informative electronic newsletter. Just write: [chapterleaders@audubon.org](mailto:chapterleaders@audubon.org)

### GOT E-MAIL?

e-Warbler...if you would like to receive the Kern *Audubon Warbler* as a pdf file instead of the hardcopy, send an e-mail with PDF Warbler as the subject to [rodmlee@aol.com](mailto:rodmlee@aol.com). Let's save some trees!

### MOST KERN LEGISLATORS DON'T STAND UP FOR CONDORS

Alone among Kern County's delegation to the state legislature, only Sen. Dean Florez (D-Shafter) supported Audubon's major legislative priority by voting for AB 821, the Ridley-Tree Condor Preservation Act. Sen. Roy Ashburn (R-Bakersfield), Assemblymember Jean Fuller (R-Bakersfield), and Assemblymember Nicole Parra (D-Hanford) all voted against protecting the endangered California condor from leaded ammunition. Write your legislators and let them know how you feel!

Senator Dean Florez  
State Capitol, Room 5061  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(661)395-2620

Senator Roy Ashburn  
State Capitol Room 3063  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(661) 323-0443

Assemblymember Jean Fuller  
State Capitol Room 3098  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(661) 395-2995

Assembly member Nicole Parra  
PO Box 942849  
Sacramento CA 94249-0030  
(661)334-3745

We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission. ([www.pbase.com/jvhigbee](http://www.pbase.com/jvhigbee))

## Save the California Condor: Urgent Conservation Action Needed

In early September, the legislature passed AB 821, the Ridley-Tree Condor Preservation Act, which would ban the use of lead ammunition for hunting in condor country. It now awaits Governor Schwarzenegger's signature. PLEASE...write, call, and e-mail the governor IMMEDIATELY to urge him to sign this important piece of conservation legislation. He has until October 22 to sign. Republican legislators and the NRA recently pressured Schwarzenegger to remove a supporter of the lead ammunition ban—Judd Hanna—from the Fish and Game Commission. The Gov. needs to hear a powerful message of support from conservationists to overcome his party's entrenched opposition to the bill.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

916-445-2841

[governor@governor.ca.gov](mailto:governor@governor.ca.gov)

Some points to make:

- AB 821 is essential to the survival of the California condor.
- Lead poisoning is one of the greatest threats to the survival of the California condor.
- Alternatives to lead bullets are available.
- Tejon Ranch, which operates a substantial commercial hunting operation, has already banned lead ammunition on its lands—demonstrating that hunting and condor preservation can coexist.



## 25th Annual FACT BBQ

Put the FACT/Desert Tortoise compound Open House/BBQ on your calendar for Sat. Oct.13th beginning at 2pm (tours, entertainment, raffles, door prizes, etc.) with the BBQ at 5pm. Tickets are \$15/adult, \$10/seniors, \$6/kids. Reservations: 654-3167 or at [fact@csu.edu](mailto:fact@csu.edu).

## "EXPERIENCE HIGHWAY 178" Photo Contest

A new on-line photo contest will celebrate the beauty, history, and culture of the Highway 178 Corridor! Entries are welcome from amateurs & professionals who capture the wonders along Highway 178 from Bakersfield to Death Valley. From now through October 28, 2007, submit your best photos (no larger than 1000 pixels wide) to [natureali@gmail.com](mailto:natureali@gmail.com) in categories of human Interest or nature. Photos need to be of the Highway 178 Corridor; meaning, within one of the regions the highway passes thru or at a location accessible from the highway. Online voting will be October 29th--November 30th. Top 3 winners in each category receive a ribbon and accolades! For info. go to [www.experiencehighway178.org](http://www.experiencehighway178.org).

This project is a part of the Highway 178 Corridor Regional Tourism and Stewardship Development Project and is coordinated by Bob Barnes.

## KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD

Madi Elsea, Co-Chair

[madielsea@aol.com](mailto:madielsea@aol.com); 322-7470

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Don & Yvonne Turkal, Program Coordinators

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Annette Wells, Membership

[awells0526@yahoo.com](mailto:awells0526@yahoo.com); 333-4019

Lisa Twiford, Secretary

[letwiford@aol.com](mailto:letwiford@aol.com)

## KERN AUDUBON OUTREACH

Dr. Ted Murphy, Kern Audubon Co-Chair, is forming an outreach team to tell the community about Kern Audubon and Kern wildlife. He plans for a group of KAS members who will take powerpoint presentations to service clubs, schools and lead nature walks for groups such as Scouts. This will be a good opportunity to meet the public, meet interesting people and help **create a culture of conservation in Kern County!** Contact Ted at 325-0307 or [tmurphy@bak.rr.com](mailto:tmurphy@bak.rr.com) and get involved!

## TUESDAY BIRDERS TO MEET MONTHLY

The Tuesday Birders will meet the third Tuesdays instead of bi-monthly: October 16th.

Beginners as well as the experienced are welcome! Contact Brenda Kyle (871-4867) for meeting time and place.



**CURLEW SURVEY** Kudos to BILL LYDECKER for organizing the Kern County Long-billed Curlew survey, sponsored by Audubon CA and the Point Reyes Bird Observatory to track what is happening to this species of interest in California. Many thanks to these folks who participated in the survey effort for Kern Audubon: Roger & Barbara Coley, Don & Yvonne Turkal, Lisa Twiford, Bill Moffat, Bill Lydecker, Rod Lee & Madi Elsea.

Looking ahead to **November 6th 7:00PM...It's Election Day--vote early so that you won't miss this special program on the California Bluebird Recovery Project and efforts in Kern County to monitor, provide nest boxes, etc. for Bluebirds in our area!**

# AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Kern Audubon Society  
PO Box 3581  
Bakersfield CA 93385



www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...**

- Tues. Oct. 2, 7:00pm - Kern Audubon meeting/program with Bill Moffat, Ranger & Manager on the Tule Elk Reserve, Tejon State Park & Allensworth State Park
- Sat. Oct. 6th - Field trip to Tule Elk Reserve, 8:15am
- Sat. Oct. 27 - Field trip to Panama Vista Preserve in east Bakersfield, 8:00am

All meetings & activities are open to the public --- bring your friends and family!

### Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (7XCHC30)

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*. (11 issues)

\_\_\_\_ New Member \$20      \_\_\_\_ Renewal \$35

Make check payable to **National Audubon Society**

Send check & form to ...Kern Audubon  
PO Box 3581  
Bakersfield CA 93385

I am enclosing an additional tax-deductible donation for the work of Kern Audubon in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_. (**Check payable to Kern Audubon**)

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_