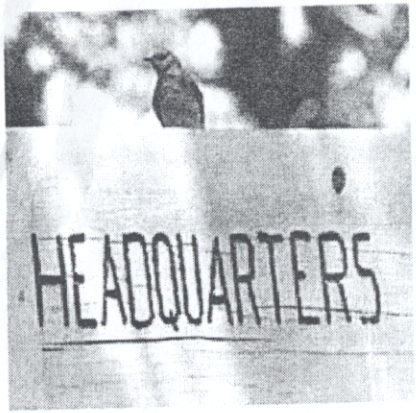


South Fork Kern River Preserve Information

SEARCH | FEEDBACK

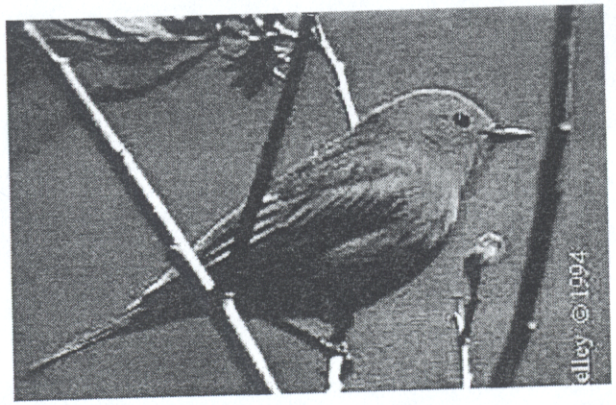
Audubon-California **Kern River Preserve**

HOME PAGE
Table of Contents
ABOUT KRP
- KRP History
- KRP in the News
- Kern Valley Pride Day
- Achievements
- Travel Information
- Accommodations

FRIENDS OF KRP
PROJECTS
BIRDING
EDUCATION
BIOREGIONS FESTIVAL
PARTNERS IN FLIGHT
WFO CONFERENCE RECAP
HUMMINGBIRD CELEBRATION
TURKEY VULTURE FESTIVAL
COMMENTS/ SUGGESTION?
Your Comments
LINKS

The South Fork Kern River is home to California's largest lowland riparian forest. It is one of four "Flagship Projects" of the California Riparian Habitat Joint Venture. A shared effort between Audubon-California and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has saved 1127 acres of this forest. In May, 1999, 156 acres of land forming the new Kelso Creek Sanctuary of the Kern River Preserve was purchased by Audubon.

Photo by Dede Rankin-Gilman



The Kern River Preserve, and environs, was one of the first ten sites in the U.S. to receive "Globally Important Bird Area" recognition. 332 bird species have been recorded here. Most significantly, two hundred species nest here including major breeding populations of Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Summer Tanager, and Willow Flycatcher. Audubon-California is engaged in a habitat enhancement program to benefit the Preserve's nesting wetland species including Wood Duck, Mallard, and Cinnamon Teal.

Photo courtesy of The Golden Trout Fund

Audubon-California's Kern River Preserve, a "National Natural Landmark," is located fifty-seven miles northeast of Bakersfield along the South Fork Kern River in Weldon, Kern County, California. It was formerly the old A. Brown Ranch. The old flour mill found just east of the Preserve's entrance stands testament to its past. The Preserve is open dawn to dusk every day of the year. See our Travel Information page for additional directions, Phone: (760) 378-3044, or e-mail: krpfriends@lightspeed.net.

2638 people have visited this site.

This page was created on October 16, 1998 and last updated on Thursday, June 07, 2001. For comments or corrections, please contact the webmaster.

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