

# Kern

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

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### *Bird List*



*Kern National Wildlife  
Refuge was established  
to restore a small  
portion of the vast  
wetlands that once  
existed in the Central*

*Valley. These refuges  
are a welcome haven to  
birds migrating along  
the Pacific Flyway,  
as well to as to many  
resident species.*





## Introduction

### Kern NWR

Kern National Wildlife Refuge is located at the southern end of California's San Joaquin Valley in an area that was once a vast wetland called Tulare lake. This area supported millions of migratory waterfowl and other water birds during the winter months. By the early 1940s most of these wetlands were drained and reclaimed for agriculture and rivers were dammed for flood control and irrigation purposes.

### Pixley NWR

Pixley Refuge is home to a small marsh and has some of the last significant acres of Valley Grassland habitat. During the winter months, it is the best place in the Southern San Joaquin Valley to view Sandhill Cranes.

### Bird Refuge

Kern and Pixley Refuges were both established to restore a small segment of this valuable waterfowl habitat and to play an important role in providing refuge for birds migrating along the Pacific Flyway as they travel through the southern San Joaquin Valley.

*The Refuge headquarters is located at the junction of Garces Highway and Corcoran Road, 19 miles west of Delano, California.*

The most favorable season to visit the Refuges is October through March. This period provides an excellent opportunity to observe a variety of birds, including large numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds. Although there are still wildlife observation opportunities in the summer months, they are extremely limited due to the extremely dry conditions.

*Mourning Dove*  
Ken Morris/USFWS



## Bird List Key



*American White Pelican*  
Ken Morris/USFWS

### Abbreviations

The seasons and status of the 226 species listed are coded as follows.

#### Season

Sp - Spring, March through May  
S - Summer, June and July  
F - Fall, August to November  
W - Winter, December to February

#### Abundance

a - abundant species—hard to miss  
c - common, certain to be seen in proper habitat  
u - uncommon - present, but not certain to be seen  
o - occasionally seen  
r - rarely seen (intervals of 2–5 years)  
\* - birds known to nest here

#### National Wildlife Refuge

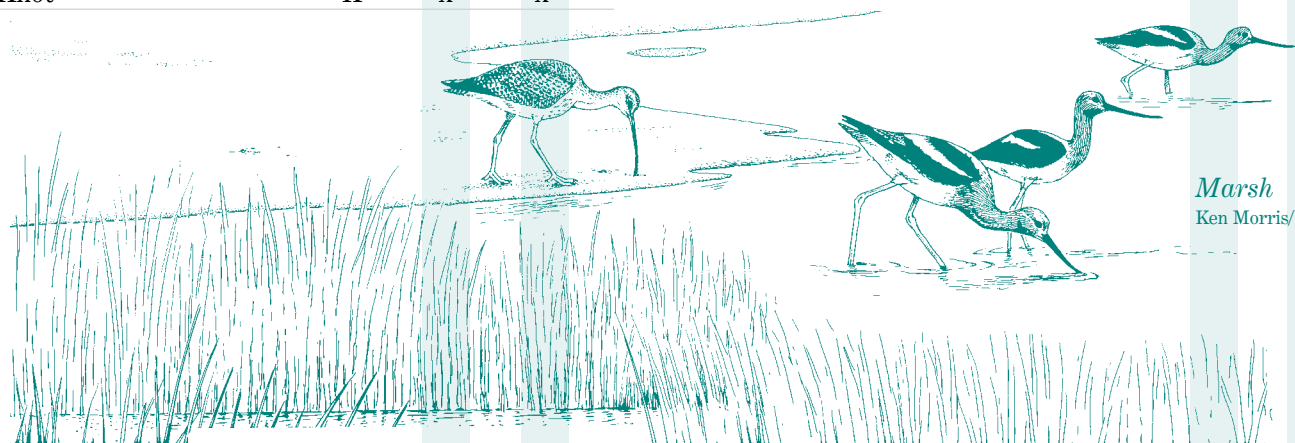
K - Kern NWR  
P - Pixley NWR

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Loons</b>					
Common Loon	K	-	-	-	x
<b>Grebes</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe*	K, P	c	c	c	c
Horned Grebe	K	r	-	r	r
Eared Grebe*	K, P	c	r	c	c
Western Grebe*	K, P	o	o	o	o
Clark's Grebe*	K, P	o	o	o	o
<b>Pelicans &amp; Cormorants</b>					
American White Pelican	K, P	o	r	o	o
Double-crested Cormorant*	K, P	u	o	u	u
<b>Hérons</b>					
American Bittern*	K, P	u	o	u	o
Least Bittern*	K	r	r	r	-
Great Blue Heron*	K, P	c	c	c	c
Great Egret	K, P	c	u	c	c
Snowy Egret*	K, P	c	c	c	c
Little Blue Heron	K	x			
Cattle Egret*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Green Heron	K, P	o	o	r	r
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	K, P	u	o	u	u
<b>Ibis</b>					
White-faced Ibis*	K, P	c	c	u	u
<b>New World Vultures</b>					
Turkey Vulture	K, P	o	o	o	r
<b>Waterfowl</b>					
Fulvous Whistling-Duck*	K, P	r	r	r	-
Greater White-fronted Goose	K, P	o	-	o	o
Snow Goose	K, P	-	-	o	o
Ross' Goose	K, P	x	-	r	r
Brant	K	x	-	-	x
Canada Goose	K, P	-	-	r	r
Cackling Goose	K, P	-	-	-	-
Tundra Swan	K, P	-	-	-	r
Wood Duck	K, P	r	-	o	o
Gadwall*	K, P	c	o	a	a
Eurasian Wigeon	K, P	x	-	-	r
American Wigeon*	K, P	c	o	c	c

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
Mallard*	K, P	c	o	c	c
Blue-winged Teal*	K, P	o	o	o	o
Cinnamon Teal*	K, P	u	r	u	u
Northern Shoveler*	K, P	c	r	a	a
Northern Pintail*	K, P	u	r	c	c
Green-winged Teal*	K, P	u	r	c	c
Canvasback*	K, P	r	-	u	u
Redhead*	K, P	u	o	u	u
Ring-necked Duck*	K, P	u	r	u	u
Greater Scaup	K	r	-	r	r
Lesser Scaup*	K	o	r	o	o
Bufflehead	K, P	o	-	u	u
Common Goldeneye	K, P	-	-	r	r
Barrow's Goldeneye	K	-	-	-	x
Hooded Merganser	K	r	-	-	r
Common Merganser	K, P	r	-	r	r
Red-breasted Merganser	K	x	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck*	K, P	c	r	c	c
<b>Osprey, Kites, Eagles, and Hawks</b>					
Osprey	K, P	r	r	r	r
White-tailed Kite*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Bald Eagle	K, P	x	-	-	r
Northern Harrier*	K, P	c	u	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk	K, P	u	-	u	u
Cooper's Hawk	K, P	u	r	u	u
Red-shouldered Hawk	K, P	o	r	u	u
Swainson's Hawk*	K, P	r	r	u	r
Red-tailed Hawk*	K, P	c	u	a	a
Ferruginous Hawk	K, P	r	-	r	r
Rough-legged Hawk	K, P	r	-	r	r
Golden Eagle	K, P	o	r	o	o
<b>Falcons</b>					
American Kestrel	K, P	o	u	u	u
Merlin	K, P	r	-	r	r
Peregrine Falcon	K, P	o	r	o	o
Prairie Falcon	K, P	r	r	o	o
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>					
Ring-necked Pheasant (I)*	K, P	u	u	u	u
California Quail	K, P	r	r	r	-

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Rails</b>					
Virginia Rail*	K, P	u	r	u	o
Sora	K	o	o	o	o
Common Moorhen*	K, P	u	r	u	u
American Coot*	K, P	a	c	a	a
<b>Cranes</b>					
Sandhill Crane	K, P	r	-	r	r
<b>Plovers</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	K, P	o	-	r	r
Snowy Plover	K	r	-	-	-
Semipalmated Plover	K, P	r	r	-	-
Killdeer*	K, P	a	a	a	a
Mountain Plover	K, P	r	-	r	r
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>					
Black-necked Stilt*	K, P	c	u	c	c
American Avocet*	K, P	o	o	r	r
<b>Shorebirds</b>					
Greater Yellowlegs	K, P	u	o	c	u
Lesser Yellowlegs	K, P	r	-	o	r
Solitary Sandpiper	K, P	r	-	-	-
Spotted Sandpiper	K, P	o	r	r	-
Willet	K	r	-	r	r
Wandering Tattler	K	-	-	x	-
Whimbrel	K, P	o	r	-	-
Long-billed Curlew	K, P	o	o	u	o
Marbled Godwit	K, P	r	r	r	r
Ruddy Turnstone	K	x	-	-	-
Red Knot	K	x	-	x	-

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
Semipalmated Sandpiper	K	x	x	-	-
Western Sandpiper	K, P	u	r	u	u
Least Sandpiper	K, P	u	r	u	o
Baird's Sandpiper	K	r	-	r	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	K	-	-	r	r
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	K	x	-	-	-
Dunlin	K, P	u	-	r	u
Ruff	K	-	-	x	-
Stilt Sandpiper	K	x	-	-	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	K, P	a	o	a	a
Short-billed Dowitcher	K	u	o	u	
<b>Snipe</b>					
Wilson's Snipe	K, P	o	r	u	u
<b>Phalaropes</b>					
Wilson's Phalarope	K, P	o	o	o	-
Red-necked Phalarope	K, P	r	-	r	-
<b>Gulls and Terns</b>					
Bonaparte's Gull	K	o	o	r	-
Ring-billed Gull	K, P	o	o	c	c
California Gull	K, P	u	o	o	c
Herring Gull	K, P	r	-	o	o
Glaucous-winged Gull	K	x	x	-	-
Caspian Tern	K, P	o	o	o	-
Forster's Tern	K, P	o	o	o	r
Least Tern	K	-	x	-	-
Black Tern*	K, P	r	r	-	-
Common Tern	K	-	-	r	-



*Marsh*  
Ken Morris/USFWS

**Common Name**                      **Refuge**   **Sp**   **S**   **F**   **W**



*Red-tailed Hawk*  
Ken Morris/USFWS

**Doves**

Rock Dove (I)	K, P	o	r	o	o
Eurasian Collared-Dove (I)	K	o	o	o	o
Mourning Dove*	K, P	a	a	a	a
Common Ground-Dove	K	-	x	-	-

**Cuckoos**

Greater Roadrunner*	K, P	o	o	o	o
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**Owls**

Barn Owl*	K, P	u	u	o	o
Western Screech-Owl	K	r	r	r	r
Great Horned Owl*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Burrowing Owl*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Long-eared Owl*	K, P	r	r	-	-
Short-eared Owl*	K, P	u	u	o	o

**Nighthawks**

Lesser Nighthawk*	K, P	o	o	o	r
Common Poorwill	K	-	r	-	-

**Swifts**

Black Swift	P	-	x	-	-
Vaux's Swift	K	r	-	-	-
White-throated Swift	K	r	-	-	-

**Common Name**                      **Refuge**   **Sp**   **S**   **F**   **W**

**Hummingbirds**

Black-chinned Hummingbird	K, P	r	r	r	-
Anna's Hummingbird*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Costa's Hummingbird	K	-	-	-	r
Calliope Hummingbird	K	r	r	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	K, P	r	r	r	-

**Kingfishers**

Belted Kingfisher	K, P	o	-	o	o
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**Woodpeckers**

Acorn Woodpecker	K	r	r	r	-
Red-breasted Sapsucker	K	-	r	-	r
Nuttall's Woodpecker*	K	o	o	o	o
Downy Woodpecker	K, P	-	-	u	u
Northern Flicker	K, P	o	o	c	u

**Flycatchers**

Olive-sided Flycatcher	K, P	r	-	-	-
Western Wood-Pewee	K, P	o	r	o	-
Willow Flycatcher	K, P	o	o	o	-
Hammond's Flycatcher	K	r	-	r	-
Gray Flycatcher	K	r	-	-	-
Dusky Flycatcher	K	r	-	r	-
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	K, P	u	-	u	-
Black Phoebe*	K, P	c	c	a	c
Say's Phoebe	K, P	o	o	u	u
Vermilion Flycatcher	K	-	-	r	r
Ash-throated Flycatcher*	K, P	u	o	o	-
Tropical Kingbird	K	-	x	-	-
Cassin's Kingbird	K			x	
Western Kingbird*	K, P	c	c	o	-

**Shrikes**

Loggerhead Shrike*	K, P	c	o	c	c
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**Vireos**

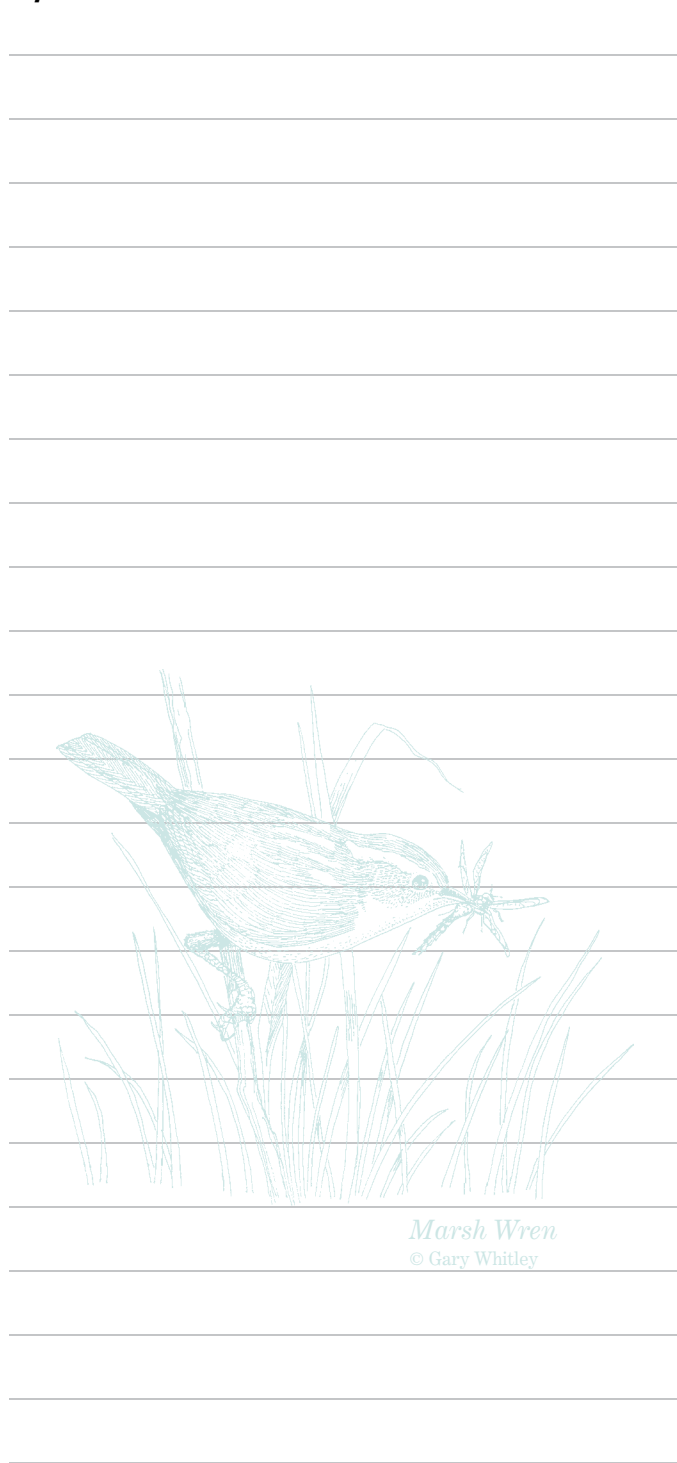
Bell's Vireo	P	r	-	-	-
Cassin's Vireo	K	o	-	-	-
Hutton's Vireo	K	-	x	-	-
Warbling Vireo	K, P	u	r	r	-
Red-eyed Vireo	K	x	-	-	-

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Corvids</b>					
Clark's Nutcracker	K	x	-	x	-
Western Scrub Jay	K, P	o	r	r	r
American Crow*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Common Raven*	K, P	c	c	c	c
<b>Larks</b>					
Horned Lark*	K, P	u	u	u	u
<b>Swallows</b>					
Purple Martin	K	x	-	-	-
Tree Swallow	K, P	a	u	a	u
Violet-green Swallow	K, P	u	-	u	-
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	K, P	o	o	-	o
Bank Swallow	K	r	r	r	-
Cliff Swallow*	K, P	a	a	o	o
Barn Swallow*	K, P	u	u	u	o
<b>Chickadees and Titmice</b>					
Oak Titmouse	K	-	r	-	-
<b>Bushtits</b>					
Bushtit*	K, P	r	r	r	-
<b>Nuthatches</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	K	r	-	-	-
White-breasted Nuthatch	K	-	-	-	r
<b>Creepers</b>					
Brown Creeper	K	-	-	-	r
<b>Wrens</b>					
Rock Wren	K, P	r	-	r	r
Bewick's Wren*	K	o	o	o	o
House Wren*	K, P	o	o	r	r
Marsh Wren*	K, P	c	c	c	c
<b>Kinglets and Gnatcatchers</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	K	r	-	r	r
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	K, P	u	-	u	u
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	K, P	r	-	r	r
<b>Bluebirds and Thrushes</b>					
Western Bluebird	K	r	r	-	r
Mountain Bluebird	K	x	-	x	r

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
Townsend's Solitaire	K	-	-	x	-
Swainson's Thrush	K, P	o	-		
Hermit Thrush	K, P	u	-	o	u
American Robin*	K, P	u	o	u	o
Varied Thrush	K	r	-	r	r
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>					
Northern Mockingbird*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Sage Thrasher	K	r	r	r	r
<b>Starlings</b>					
European Starling (I)*	K, P	u	u	u	u
<b>Pipits</b>					
American Pipit	K, P	u	-	c	c
<b>Waxwings</b>					
Bohemian Waxwing	K	-	-	-	x
Cedar Waxwing	K	u	-	u	-
<b>Silky-flycatchers</b>					
Phainopepla	K	x	x	x	-
<b>Longspurs</b>					
Chestnut-collared Longspur	K	-	-	-	x
<b>Wood Warblers</b>					
Orange-crowned Warbler	K, P	u	r	u	r
Nashville Warbler	K, P	o	-	-	-
Yellow Warbler	K, P	u	o	u	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	K, P	a	-	a	a
Black-throated Gray Warbler	K, P	o	-	o	-
Townsend's Warbler	K, P	o	-	-	-
Hermit Warbler	K	r	-	-	-
MacGillivray's Warbler	K	r	r	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	K, P	u	u	u	u
Wilson's Warbler	K, P	u	r	u	-
Yellow-breasted Chat	K	-	r	-	-
<b>Tanagers</b>					
Western Tanager	K, P	u	o	o	-
<b>Towhees and Sparrows</b>					
Green-tailed Towhee	K	-	-	-	x
California Towhee	K, P	x	-	-	x
<b>Towhees and Sparrows, continued next page</b>					

Common Name	Refuge	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Towhees and Sparrows, continued</b>					
Spotted Towhee	K, P	o	-	o	o
Chipping Sparrow	K, P	-	r	r	-
Brewer's Sparrow	P	-	-	r	-
Clay-colored Sparrow	K	-	-	-	x
Vesper Sparrow	K, P	-	r	o	o
Lark Sparrow	K	r	o	o	o
Sage Sparrow*	K	o	o	o	o
Lark Bunting	K, P	-	-	x	x
Savannah Sparrow	K, P	e	-	e	e
Fox Sparrow	K, P	o	-	o	o
Song Sparrow*	K, P	e	e	e	e
Lincoln's Sparrow	K, P	o	-	u	e
Swamp Sparrow	K	-	-	-	x
White-crowned Sparrow	K, P	a	-	a	a
Golden-crowned Sparrow	K, P	o	-	u	u
Dark-eyed Junco	K, P	r	-	o	o
<b>Grosbeaks and Buntings</b>					
Black-headed Grosbeak	K, P	u	r	r	-
Blue Grosbeak*	K, P	o	o	r	-
Lazuli Bunting	K, P	r	r	-	-
<b>Blackbirds &amp; Orioles</b>					
Red-winged Blackbird*	K, P	a	a	a	a
Tricolored Blackbird*	K, P	u	o	o	o
Western Meadowlark*	K, P	e	e	e	e
Yellow-headed Blackbird*	K, P	u	r	r	o
Brewer's Blackbird*	K, P	u	u	u	u
Great-tailed Grackle*	K, P	u	u	u	r
Brown-headed Cowbird*	K, P	e	e	o	r
Hooded Oriole	K, P	r	-	-	-
Bullock's Oriole*	K, P	e	e	r	-
<b>Finches</b>					
House Finch*	K, P	e	e	e	e
Purple Finch	K	r	-	r	r
Pine Siskin	K	r	-	r	r
Lesser Goldfinch	K, P	r	-	o	r
Lawrence's Goldfinch	K, P	r	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	K, P	r	-	o	o
<b>Weaver Finch</b>					
House Sparrow (I)*	K, P	u	u	u	u

## My Notes



Marsh Wren  
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**Kern National Wildlife Refuge  
Pixley National Wildlife Refuge  
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Telephone: 661/725 2767  
FAX: 661/725 6041  
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/kern>**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>**

**Refuge Information  
1 800/344 WILD**

**February 2015**

