



# River View News

[www.kingsriverconservancy.org](http://www.kingsriverconservancy.org)

WINTER 2022

**Our newsletter is going completely digital!** We are excited to announce this important step we are taking to support our vital work in conservation. This simple transition will produce long-lasting effects! We will now be able to update you more frequently and provide you with the latest news and information. If you have never received an email from us, you are not on file. Please **visit our website or send us an email at [kingsriverconservancy@gmail.com](mailto:kingsriverconservancy@gmail.com)** to continue to receive our newsletters and important information about our events and fundraisers. We promise not to overload your inbox or share your information.

## President's Message:

On a recent third Saturday Kings River Clean-up, organized by Soua Lee of Kings River Conservation District in collaboration with KRC, Kings River Water Association, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the US Army Corps of Engineers, it was heartening to see so many new faces of all ages and all walks of life. It's amazing how much work many hands can accomplish in 90 minutes! After the clean-up, all those who were interested took a little tour of some of the access areas. That was such a good experience I think we should try it again. Look on the [kingsriverconservancy.org](http://kingsriverconservancy.org) website for the third Saturday clean-up meet-up site. We'll work from 8-9:30, then choose a public access area to explore. Feel free to bring a picnic; make a morning of it, a morning to appreciate nature and your Kings River.

*Long Live the Kings!*

*Deb Lapp*



*We are so happy to be working with Reedley College students and their professor Sam Escutia, to clean up the invasive wild fig trees at Choinumni Park. We look forward to future partnerships to improve our wonderful Kings River together.*

## 2022 Upcoming Events



**CLEAN-UP DAY**  
8:00-11:00 A.M.  
LOCATION TBA



**PHOTO CONTEST DEADLINE**  
11:59 P.M.



**SPRING FLING**  
11:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.  
LAPP RIVER HOUSE



**CLEAN-UP DAY**  
8:00-11:00 A.M.  
LOCATION TBA



**CLEAN-UP DAY**  
8:00-11:00 A.M.  
LOCATION TBA



## Spring Fling April 9! Come Down to the River to Play!

On Saturday, April 9 KRC will host the eighth annual "Spring Fling on the Kings" once again at the Lapp River House on the banks of the beautiful Kings River. Guests will enjoy a full day of camaraderie and live bluegrass music by **Snap Jackson and the Knock on Wood Players!** Spring Fling will also feature kayak demonstrations, boating safety, volleyball, and petanque. A taco lunch, wine, cold beer and soft drinks will be available for sale to benefit education and conservation projects on the Kings.

Gather a group of friends or family, bring your lawn chairs or blankets, and spend the day. The festivities will be held from 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Lunch tickets (\$10) go on sale March 1, or you may pay at the door. Call a board member or the office at 559-787-9500 for more information or visit: [kingsriverconservancy.org](http://kingsriverconservancy.org).

**Tickets go  
on sale  
March 1!**

Sponsored by:



Dr. Jerry and Sue Buckley  
Deb and Greg Lapp

**For the low price of  
\$10.00 you get:**

3 tacos  
*chicken, beef, and/or pork*

Beans

Rice

**From  
Las Cabañas Taco  
Truck!**

*Kayaking, games,  
fly fishing demos,  
project booths,  
and more!*

*Grab a blanket or a  
lawn chair and come  
out to enjoy the  
river!*

### **Partner Sponsor \$1,000+**

Everything below PLUS:

- Booth at event
- Six lunch tickets

### **Donor Sponsor \$500+**

Everything below PLUS:

- Banner at event
- Logo/name on website with link
- Four lunch tickets

### **Friend Sponsor \$250+**

- Named in all advertising
- Two lunch tickets

### **In-Kind Sponsorships also**

**available.** Benefits based on level.

**BECOME A SPRING  
FLING SPONSOR!**

**CALL 559-787-9500 FOR INFORMATION!**

*We offer a sincere welcome* to the new warden! Warden Travis Kappen is now the Kings River/Reedley/Squaw Valley Dunlap warden. We look forward to working with him and am sure will be an asset to the Kings River Conservancy and the enforcement of regulations on the river and region.



## Grant Highlights!

KRC has received a \$50,000 grant from the Edward K. Martin Family Endowment Fund at the Central Valley Community Foundation. Along with funding overtime warden patrols and supporting the incubator house, our conservation committee has been hard at work on new projects along the river. We are excited to highlight just a few in this issue with more on the way!

**We are working to re-establish the trail from the County access point that is next to Choinumni** (now, officially Sycamore Point) to the KRCD All-Access Fishing Area. A rough trail will be cleared and invasive wild fig and any dead and dangerous trees or limbs will be removed. Debris and trimmings will be stacked uphill in order to provide habitat for wildlife. We are excited to work with Reedley College who will work with the fire crews to use this as a learning experience for students learning how to work with chainsaws and how to scrape hand lines (trail building).

**Check dams and water boards will be installed along the two main offshoots of the re-established** trail to mitigate erosion. We will also be working with Reedley College students to get the job done.

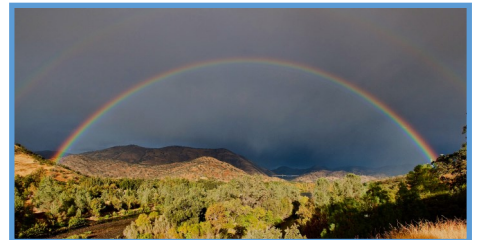
**We are broadening the existing trail from Cobble Weir to Avocado Lake.** This would include ensuring that the trail is cleared for approximately 1.5 miles. We plan to also install signage along the route.

*It's official! The area commonly known as "Frustration Lake" has been renamed to Sycamore Access Point.*

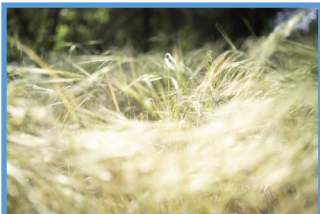
While "frustration" may be what some have experienced fishing this calm stretch of the Kings, the Sycamore trees that grace this beautiful spot suggest a more apt name. The County access area is located just to the east of the end of the Choinumni Park on Pine Flat Road. A trail heads upriver from the parking area and features two groups of Native pounding holes.

## Spring Fling Photo Contest! Enter to win!

We are excited to offer our second annual photo contest in conjunction with our annual Spring Fling on the Kings! We hope families and contestants will find enjoyment in the Kings River and KRC's access parks, and capture the beauty of what they see. Pictures must be taken along the Kings River. For entry guidelines and to print a release form, visit [www.kingsriverconservancy.org](http://www.kingsriverconservancy.org) or scan the QR code below. Call 559-787-9500 for more information.



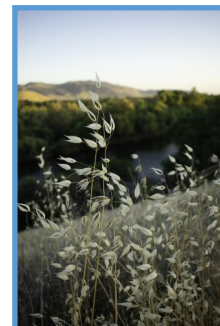
Barbara Carlson, River Rainbows  
2021 1st Place, Adult Amateur



Sherry Lynn Loeser, Windy Sunshine  
2021 1st Place, Adult Professional

**Cash prize for 1<sup>st</sup> place in all divisions! Ribbons for 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> place.**

*Winning photos will be on display at the Spring Fling on April 9.*



Isa Muñiz Simunovic,  
Quiet Kings  
2021 1<sup>st</sup> Place,  
7-12<sup>th</sup> Grade



**Submission Deadline is March 25, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.**

**[kingsriverconservancy@gmail.com](mailto:kingsriverconservancy@gmail.com)**

## KRC is Growing, and We Are Excited!

### Meet our New Development Director!



Tammy Eggert is an active outdoor enthusiast, with a long career in development and marketing for several non-profits in the Central Valley, including Valley Public TV, Fresno County Boys and Girls Club, Fresno Chaffee Zoo and even San Joaquin River Parkway Trust.

Tammy will be focusing on the website and social media, including our video presentations. This past December she was awarded "Producer of the Year 2021" by Community Media Access Collaborative (CMAC).

A long-time resident of Fresno, Tammy spends her free time teaching weekly self-esteem classes through Cirque du Soleil type training. In addition, you may find her rock climbing, whitewater navigating, mountaineering, mountain biking and producing even more exciting adventure videos with her husband.

### ...AND our New Co-Education Director!

Matt Bailey joins the Kings River Conservancy having recently moved from coastal Florida. Matt will be leading group visits to properties along the Kings River.

Matt is a former middle school teacher, park superintendent, nonprofit and municipal board member, and a stay-at-home parent helping to raise three sons.

His love and appreciation of nature, his experience, his enthusiasm and energy will benefit our local students. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work for a nonprofit that is committed to the welfare of the environment and understands that awareness and education are pivotal. I look forward to serving the Conservancy and spending time on the Kings with all who wish to enjoy nature."



### AND our Newest Board Member!



Patrick Turner oversees the Employment Services Dept. at the Fresno Economics Opportunities Commission. He and his wife, Esperanza, have two children and one grandson. Patrick is a member of multiple boards and local organizations. He is our new conservation committee chair. His maternal Great Uncle was Moses J. Church who was the first to channel irrigation off of the lower Kings River in the 1870's.

## Yellowstone Tickets Still on Sale!

It's not too late to support the Frank Jones Memorial Warden Patrol Fund! [Our next drawing will be held on April 23, 2022 for fishing in Yellowstone. Tickets will be on sale at the Spring Fling on April 9, 2022.](#)

Enjoy Yellowstone National Park and fishing for two people with two days on the water. [This trip is scheduled for August 22-24, 2022 \(with August 23-24 on the water\).](#) Included is three nights stay at a house in West Yellowstone (one room provided). Meals and transportation are not included. Total value is \$1,150, including guided service on the water.

100% of the proceeds are forwarded to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to fund extra warden patrols on the Kings River to help reduce the trout poaching. The program has raised more than \$115,000.

[Congratulations](#) to John Gray, this year's winner of the KRC Owens River Trip. A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who bought tickets and to Jimmie Morales for providing the trip!

Don't miss the next opportunity for a fabulous Yellowstone trip: call the KRC office today at 559-787-9500.



# Special Thank You to our Donors!

This is a listing of donations from February 1, 2021-February 1, 2022.  
Donors after this date will be recognized in the next newsletter.

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From Mas and Marcy Masumoto

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P.O. Box 1550  
Reedley, CA 93654

Long Live the Kings  
559-787-9500  
[www.kingsriverconservancy.org](http://www.kingsriverconservancy.org)

## **Annual Moonlight over the River a Success!**



The Kings River Conservancy held the 16th Moonlight over the River in September at the home of John and Gail Gray. Close to 150 people attended the dinner and fundraiser. Guests enjoyed a beautiful evening full of live music, dinner, drinks, silent auctions, and lively conversation with old and new friends.

Moonlight over the River event sponsors included: Calaveras Materials, Inc., Doerksen Taylor Trial Lawyers, Familius Publishing and California Teaching Fellows Foundation, John and Gail Gray, Jim and Julie Ishimaru, Nancy Jones, Kings River Conservation District, Deborah and Greg Lapp, Tom Mulholland, Reedley College, Summers Engineering, Vulcan Materials

