



## **Sonoran Audubon Society Supporters of the SAS' Western Yellow Billed Cuckoo Internships 2021-2024**

Many thanks to all Collaborating Organizations & People Who have helped SAS for the past Four Years. Date: November 15, 2024

**Friends of the SAS Cuckoo Survey Internship program:** SAS is indebted to all those who have provided start up ideas, technical and program support, generous grants, intern recruiting, yearly report-writing, and to long term locally- based volunteer Cuckoo counters and all of our many "SASers"!

**November 7th,, 2024 SAS Board Meeting Attendees:** Jackie Anderson, Jim Consolloy & Kathy Dashiell (Former SAS Board Members); Kaylee Del Cid (2022-2023 SAS Intern & SAS Board Member, Communications & FT at Butterfly Wonderland, Scottsdale); Grey Garten (SAS Cuckoo Survey volunteer); Joe Ford (Former SAS Board Member & Chair, SAS' Maricopa County Parks Family Bird Walks); Kathleen McCoy, Donna Smith, Andre'e Tarby, Jerry Theis (SAS Board members & Super Volunteers); Ana Sanchez, Ariana Ewell, & Myra Wangsness (2024/2025 SAS Interns); Sierra Planck & Irene Perez (2023/2024 interns); Adam Stein (ASU Professor, Applied Biological Sciences); Tice Supplee (NAS Consultant, Important Bird Areas, & Audubon SW Director of Bird Conservation—retired); Tim Flood (Cuckoo Interns & Volunteers' Guide, Secretary, Friends of Agua Fria National Monument and Leader, Wet/Dry Mapping) and Jelena Grbic (2022 SAS Cuckoo Intern, Maricopa Audubon Secretary, SAS Interns' Guide 2023, FT Bird Surveyor in private sector)—on ZOOM.

**SAS' Collaborating & Permitting Organizations:** SAS thanks the nonprofit, Federal and State entities that sponsor the Permits for Western Yellow Billed Cuckoo yearly surveying. This important item is the heart of the SAS program as these permits enable the gathering of data on publicly-owned & managed conservation lands. Permits allow scientific research because of the bird's status as an Endangered & Threatened Species Due to Loss of Critical Habitat under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act

(<https://www.fws.gov/species-publication-action/endangered-and-threatened-wildlife-and-plants-designation-critical-179>). Especially involved in this effort are National Audubon SW, US Fish & Wildlife, US Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US Forest Service & AZ Game & Fish.

**SAS thanks everyone who has helped SAS and the interns AND MANY MORE WHO MAY BE INADVERTENTLY NOT LISTED:** Rachel Stringham (2023/24 Intern, Director of Community Engagement, Desert Foothills Land Trust), Jonathan Hayes (VP/ Executive Director Audubon Southwest), Cathy Wise (Community Science Manager, Audubon Southwest & Interns Guide 2022-2024), Steven Prager (Audubon SW Director, National Audubon Appleton Whittell Research Ranch, Elgin, AZ & former Chapters liaison in Phx who started the whole thing with SAS!), Bob McCormick (SAS Board Member & Past President, SAS Important Bird Area — "IBA" Coordinator & SAS Cuckoo Interns & Volunteers' Guide), Emily Thomas (2021-2022 SAS Cuckoo Intern, Maricopa Audubon President, SAS Interns' Guide 2023), Kim Brand (National Audubon Conservation Action Vice President, Chapters), Damon Haan (Wildlife Biologist, Bureau of Land Management Phoenix Office), Trevor Kerin (AZ Game & Fish, Horseshoe Ranch Manager) & Bobby Lamoureux (AZ Game & Fish, Prog. Manager, Region 6).

We are looking forward to our **Fifth Year of Cuckoo Internships in 2025!** For information about the program, contact Karen at [klaf40@gmail.com](mailto:klaf40@gmail.com) And, yes, SAS is already recruiting interns for summer 2025!