

# River Pathways

Agua Fria National Monument



Western Patch-Nosed Snake  
Photo: Morgan Moore



Photo: Steve Prager



Photo: Morgan Moore

## Are your students thinking about careers in conservation?

Join Audubon Arizona and the Bureau of Land Management for a trip to the Agua Fria National Monument. The Agua Fria National Monument is one of Audubon Arizona's Important Bird Areas – 42 sites that Audubon has determined to be critical to the future health of bird populations. During this trip, your students will spend the day working with Audubon and Bureau of Land Management field biologists, collecting habitat data that will be used to protect this valuable area.

### WHAT TO EXPECT:

Plan to be outside for the majority of the day. The field sites on the Monument do not have restrooms. Your feet will get wet!

### STUDENTS SHOULD BRING:

- Water
- Lunch and snacks
- Sunscreen and hat
- Shoes suitable for easy hiking

### MORE OPPORTUNITIES:

Students that join us for this field trip have a big advantage when applying for Audubon Arizona's Summer Field Internships!

This summer, we will be offering paid part-time positions helping Audubon biologists with their annual surveys of the Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service proposed federal protection for the cuckoo in 2013, and your students can help us collect the data that will be critical in its ongoing protection.

For additional information, please contact Steven Prager at:

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Yellow-Billed Cuckoo.  
Photo: Glenn Bartley

## Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo

The Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo, about the size of a dove, has a long black and white tail, rusty brown wings, contrasting white underside, and a curved yellow bill. Each year in early June, these birds migrate north from their South American wintering grounds to breed along Arizona's rivers and streams. As these riparian habitats have been damaged and altered, populations of Yellow-billed Cuckoos have significantly declined. In October of 2013, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service proposed federal protection for this species under the Endangered Species Act.