

Mono Lake Newsletter

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MONO LAKE
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One morning early this summer I was lucky enough to join the Point Reyes Bird Observatory bird banders conducting their research for the Eastern Sierra Riparian Songbird Conservation project out on Lee Vining Creek. Before the sun poked over the horizon they were

moving deftly and quietly amongst the aspens along the creek setting up mist nets, catching birds, and quickly and carefully taking data before setting them free. Their knowledge of the birds and their caring dedication was as wonderful to see as the birds themselves.

Summer is simply amazing around here and the stunning sunsets, flocks of birds, hillsides covered in flowers, the dark night sky, and the glassy lake let you know it. Equally amazing are the people that are drawn to the basin. You'll see our staff photo on page 22 is full of people, and in this issue we've tried to give you a behind the scenes picture of how we work together each day to accomplish the Committee's restoration, protection, and education goals.

While you're at it check out what's cooking on the policy front on pages 8–10. And if you're thinking about making a visit, check out the late summer and fall seminars on pages 19–21. And if you can't visit this year then make sure to look at the gift section on pages 14–15 or logon to the Members' Section at www.monolake.org and see the new things in store for you there.

As always, thank you for reading the Newsletter and for your dedicated support—we couldn't be here without you. Come in and say hello if you're in the area, and have a great summer!

—Arya Degenhardt



Photo by Arya Degenhardt

Heidi Kirk of PRBO with a Yellow Warbler.

Mono Lake Committee Mission

The Mono Lake Committee is a non-profit citizens' group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Mono Basin ecosystem, educating the public about Mono Lake and the impacts on the environment of excessive water use, and promoting cooperative solutions that protect Mono Lake and meet real water needs without transferring environmental problems to other areas.

Mono Lake is a part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, a member of the international Living Lakes partnership (www.livinglakes.org), designated as an Outstanding National Resource Water under the Clean Water Act, and home to a National Forest Scenic Area and a California State Reserve.

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