

May's full moon was no brighter than any other, really. But it sure felt that way—mostly because for the first time in months it was warm enough to sit outside long enough to really enjoy it. On a short night walk to a nearby cascade there was no need for a flashlight as moonlight filtered through pungent Jeffrey pines to light the way. Water tumbling over granite boulders glowed and gurgled—the creek swollen with recent snowmelt. Negotiating rocks and logs, I perched in the middle of the creek with water rushing on all sides—yes, summer is on its way. And while full moon hikes may not be for you, there are endless sights, sounds, and smells to experience in the Mono Basin—something for just about everyone.

In this edition we've got a map with handy visitor information on pages 14–15 for those of you who will be in the Basin this summer. And if you're traveling Highway 395, or just keeping up on the Caltrans highway widening issue, we've got excerpts from our White Paper on Context Sensitive Solutions on page 5. Check out the exciting update on Walker Lake on pages 10–11. It's not too late to sign up for one of the Field Seminars, so take a look on pages 18–23 for details. I recommend starting right here with the dust monitoring article on page 3, as it has been a while since we've had a thorough article on this critical component of the Mono Lake issue.

If you're visiting Mono Lake for the first time, welcome! And if you're visiting for the umpteenth time, then welcome back! Don't forget to stop in the Mono Lake Committee Information Center and Bookstore to say hello when you're here. We always love to meet the folks who help keep the water running down the creeks, the waves lapping at the lakeshore, and the amazing spots to explore alive and healthy.

Have a great summer!

—Arya Degenhardt, Communications Director



COVER PHOTO BY MOOSE PETERSON
MOOSE PETERSON

A Sage Grouse performing his springtime mating ritual. This local treasure is quite impressive to behold at leks hidden in the sagebrush sea around the Mono Basin. See this and other wildlife photographs in the exhibit entitled Wonders of Eastside Wildlife by Moose Peterson at the Mono Lake Committee Gallery in Lee Vining this summer.

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.



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MONO LAKE

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