

Sometimes it's really good to sit. With what feels like a million things to do and places to explore, it's easy to forget just how good it is to be still. An old friend came to town recently and a group of us got together for the afternoon. The list of possible things to do was endless, but we knew we had chosen well as we sank comfortably into the grass on the south shore of Mono Lake. With warm sun, blue sky, a Sierra wave cloud, and just enough breeze to keep the no-see-ums away we sat, talked, marveled, laughed, and sat some more. Bluebirds, Osprey, and a rustling in the grass beckoned, but we stayed put. In these kinds of moments you become distinctly aware of the difference between letting life pass you by and living it fully.

Down at the lake you can't help but notice the changes at the shoreline. It's been a big water year and it's fascinating to see how it translates out on the landscape. Renewed lagoons are filling up, once-beached mounds of tufa are submerged and bubbling ... these are the changes countless people have dreamed of for this lake. Sure, there's more to be done, but it's important to take time out and revel in the beauty of it too.

I am reminded of a quote written by Christopher Fry and spoken by Andrea Lawrence as she received the Committee's Defender of the Trust Award this summer: "What is deep as love is deep, I'll have deeply. What is good as love is good, I'll have well. Then if time and space have any purpose, I shall belong to it." I think those words describe the feeling perfectly.

Taking time to sit down at Mono Lake just may have been the best thing I've done in a long time. Don't you think it's time to visit Mono Lake? Pull up a seat.

—Arya Degenhardt, Communications Director



COVER PHOTO, FALL ALONG LEE VINING CREEK, ALASDAIR MCCONDOCHIE /AMCCONDOCHIE@YAHOO.COM & WWW.PBASE/AMCCOND.COM

BARTSHE MILLER

A rare and exciting sight! 109 White-faced Ibis spotted by Education Director Bartshé Miller along the shoreline foraging in new lagoons formed as the lake rises.

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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Founded by David Gaines in 1978

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