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## **Mono Lake Reaches Highest Level in 34 Years**

**Press Contact:**

Elin Ljung, Communications Coordinator

Mono Lake Committee

(760) 647-6595

*www.monolake.org*

### **For Immediate Release**

If you haven't visited Mono Lake recently, now is the time! The lake looks very different this year—it is two-and-a-half feet higher than in August 2005. Due to the high snowpack last winter that melted and flowed into Mono Lake this summer, the lake rose two feet in four months, flooding ground that has not seen water since 1972.

The shoreline of Mono Lake changed daily this summer—water washed over berms along the shore, creating large lagoons where waterfowl have taken shelter. The lake has reached the end of the County Park boardwalk, and California State Parks staff have moved the South Tufa trail uphill ahead of the rising waters. Tufa towers that stood dry on shore for many years now have water lapping at their bases, and freshwater springs all around the lake have begun to flow again. It's a very exciting year for Mono Lake!

From this summer's high point of 6385.1 feet above sea level, Mono Lake could drop as much as a foot this fall due to evaporation, before beginning to rise again in the winter. For a perfect Labor Day weekend, make a trip up to the Mono Basin to explore the new shoreline, find newly bubbling springs, and see Mono Lake at its highest level in over thirty years! Stop into the Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore in Lee Vining for details about the rising lake, or call (760) 647-6595.

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The text of this press release may be downloaded from

*[www.monolake.org/press](http://www.monolake.org/press)*.

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*The Mono Lake Committee is a nonprofit 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.*