

Natural History Ramble



Desert Peach

Nora Livingston

August 10, 2017 • Nora Livingston

\$75 per person / \$65 for Mono Lake Committee members
enrollment limited to 15 participants

At the edge of the Great Basin high desert and the steep eastern escarpment of the Sierra Nevada, the Mono Basin has beautiful and diverse habitats, as well as ample opportunities to observe wildlife, wildflowers, and wild views. Hike with a naturalist guide on this half-day seminar and learn to identify local plants, birds, mammals, clouds, rocks—you name it! Family friendly.

This seminar will involve easy to moderate hiking at elevations ranging from 6,400 to 9,600 feet above sea level. We will hike 1–3 miles over the course of the day, mostly on level terrain, but with the possibility of steeper sections of trail.

Nora Livingston is our very own Lead Naturalist Guide. She has spent nine years exploring the many unique nooks and crannies of the Basin. Before moving to Lee Vining permanently, she bounced around California for eight years as a field biologist, studying birds on the Channel Islands, the Farallon Islands, and in the Eastern Sierra.

ITINERARY

Thursday, August 10 at 8:00am: Meet at the Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore in Lee Vining. After brief introductions, we will carpool to our destination. Possible locations include Lee Vining Canyon, DeChambeau Ponds and Ranch, South Tufa area, Rattlesnake Gulch, and a few lesser known patches. Itinerary may vary with animal and plant activity, weather, or the instructor's whims. This class will end around 12:00pm.

Altitude and Dehydration Cautions: Remember to bring (and drink!) lots of water because your body loses more water at the higher altitudes of the Mono Basin. Experts recommend that you begin drinking extra water as you drive to higher elevation in order to prevent dehydration and headaches. Also, the sun is rather fierce at high elevations, capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat.

TO BRING

- binoculars
- field guide(s) (optional)
- notebook/pencil (optional)
- sturdy footwear
- day pack
- rain jacket, hat
- sunscreen, sunglasses
- plenty of drinking water



Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

P.O. Box 29 • Lee Vining, CA 93541 • (760) 647-6595 • monolake.org/seminars