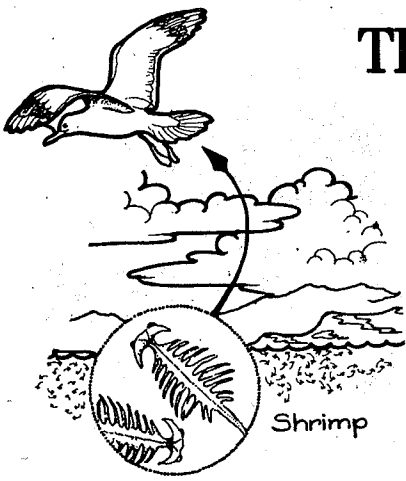


THE MONO LAKE NEWSLETTER

Summer 1982

Vol. 5, No. 1

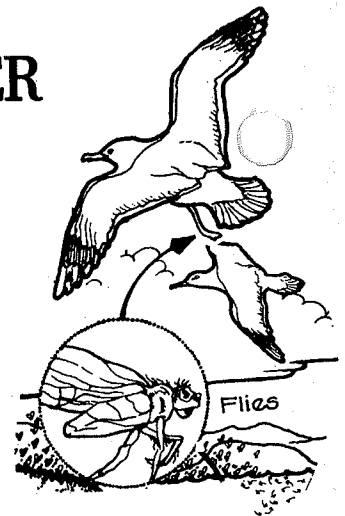




THE MONO LAKE NEWSLETTER

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The *Mono Lake Newsletter* features updates on the latest developments affecting Mono Lake's future as well as articles on the natural, geological and human history of Mono and other Great Basin Lakes. We invite your comments and contributions. The newsletter is edited by the Mono Lake Committee in cooperation with the Mono Lake Coalition.



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Membership Campaign

Members Vital to MLC's Efforts

by Ed Grosswiler

Executive Director

Last May, David Gaines and I stood at the bottom of the deep, narrow fissures that furrow the summit of Black Point, the ice-age volcano on Mono Lake's north shore, our shoulders rubbing each tufa-veneered wall. "I wouldn't want to be here in an earthquake," I commented. After a full day of viewing Mono's wonders, I learned that an earthquake had indeed been registered while we were exploring the fissures!

That first visit to Mono Lake left spectacular impressions and explained its appeal to the thousands of visitors who return each year. Hereafter, however, I will seek my impressions from atop the fissures.

That one visit also explained the dedication of MLC members and staff to preserving Mono Lake for future generations. It is this single-minded dedication that will be Mono's salvation.

The visual grandeur of the Mono Lake landscape attracts worldwide attention. But translating attention into action comes down to people. And, when the action involves lawmakers, the numbers of people become crucial.

That's why the Mono Lake Committee is investing a substantial portion of its staff and volunteer time into attracting new members. The campaign is already underway and we're asking your help in recruiting. Please encourage everyone you know to visit the lake. Urge your friends and acquaintances to become MLC members.

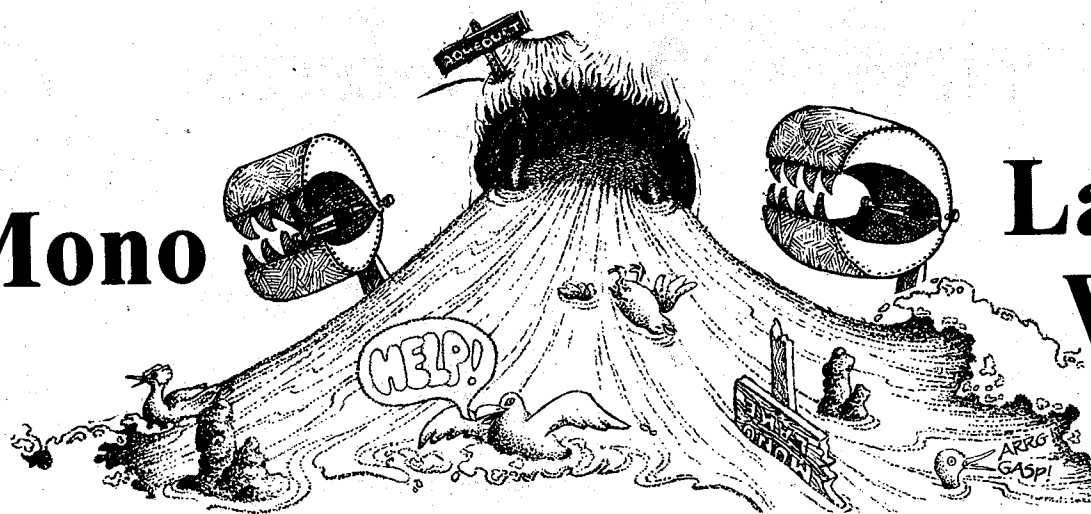
Increasing our numbers will vastly enhance Mono Lake's prospects as legislation is considered by the U.S. Congress, the California legislature and the Los Angeles City Council.

Your help is vital in this membership effort. The entire staff of the Mono Lake Committee joins me in thanking you for your continued commitment and support. Long live Mono Lake!

ON THE COVER: Two-year-old monophile Jasmine Marotta-Jaenecke models our great new Mono Lake cap. To order one for yourself, please see page 15.

Mono

Lake Watch



L.A. Agrees To Trim Diversions . . . This Year

In a letter dated July 6, Mayor Tom Bradley told state legislators that Los Angeles will reduce its water diversions and stabilize Mono Lake through the end of this year.

Bradley was responding to a request by Senate Majority Leader John Garamendi (D-Walnut Grove) and 48 other state legislators, who joined Resources Secretary Huey D. Johnson, Water Resources Director Ronald B. Robie and the Mono Lake Committee in urging Los Angeles to voluntarily curtail diversions.

"The Mono Basin environment is once again threatened with environmental disaster," the lawmakers warned. "In of the abundant water supplies currently available . . . our request would have no adverse impact upon water availability to Los Angeles or Southern California."

In his letter, Bradley attributed the city's largesse to mother nature. "Due to the above normal amount of runoff," he said, "the Department of Water and Power now plans to release enough water . . . to stabilize the 1982 Mono Lake elevation and still meet the needs of the City of Los Angeles."

This may be the first action ever taken by Los Angeles that sacrifices some measure of its own interests to those of Mono Lake. "I think there is a basic, fundamental policy change underway in the City of Los Angeles," commented Garamendi. "This does not solve Mono Lake's problem, but gives us another year to find a long-term solution."

Los Angeles officials, however, denied that Bradley's letter meant any change in city policy. Deputy Mayor Ray Remy reiterated that the reduction was possible only because of the large runoff.

Diversions Still Above Average

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) intends to share only enough water to stabilize Mono Lake, and not a drop more. Beginning in June, DWP began releasing water, but only the 30,000 to 40,000 acre-feet the aqueduct system was unable to handle. For every acre-foot that roared joyously down Rush and Lee Vining creeks into the lake, four acre-feet were diverted south.

If Los Angeles does honor its pledge to stabilize Mono Lake through the end of this year, DWP will have to relinquish a mere 10,000 to 20,000 acre-feet of divertable water. It still intends to export about 120,000 acre-feet—20,000 acre-feet *more* than it exports in an average year. It plans to use another 11,000 acre-feet to irrigate L.A.-owned Mono Basin sheep pasture, and to increase storage in Grant Lake Reservoir by 10,000 to 20,000 acre-feet. All told, 140,000 to 150,000 acre-feet will be prevented from reaching Mono Lake—water that might have raised the lake 2-3 vertical feet.

DWP could afford to be more generous. Water is abundant throughout the West. Runoff in the Mono Basin, for instance, is expected to exceed 153% of average, making this one of the wettest years on record. Runoff in the Colorado River watershed is projected at 124% of average, that from the California snowpack at 110-190% (statewide average 155%). DWP has preferential rights to about 600,000 acre-feet of water per year from the Colorado River and the State Water Project, but has stated its intention to take only about 25,000 acre-feet from these sources. It also is entitled to about 100,000 acre-feet from local ground-water basins, and has an additional 134,000 acre-feet of surplus water in storage, yet plans to pump only 80,000 acre-feet. Instead, it is taking water from Mono . . . and maximizing profits at the lake's expense.

The gulls are paying the price for DWP's greed.

In This Issue

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Gulls and Shrimp | 4 |
| National Monument Hearing | 5 |
| Research Bill | 7 |
| Lawsuit Update | 7 |
| Mono Lake Reserve | 8 |
| UCSB Research Symposium | 9 |
| MLC Activities | 10 |
| New Books | 12 |
| New Posters | 13 |

Another Bad Year for Gulls and Shrimp (But Not as Bad as Last Year)

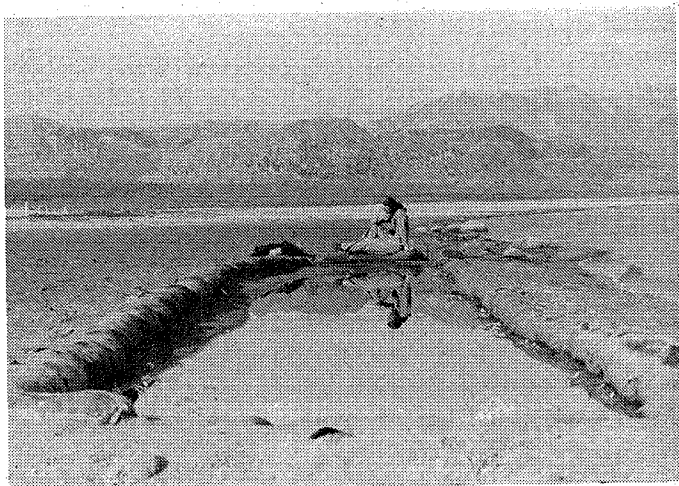
On July 6, the annual census of Mono Lake's California Gull colonies tallied only 5,010 chicks compared to 11,698 last year, 28,197 in 1980 and 35,500 in 1976.

One cause of the dismal count was obvious: Twain and Java islets, where 30% of the gulls nested last year, had been abandoned. Coyotes had waded the narrow, shallow channel to the islets and routed the nesting birds.

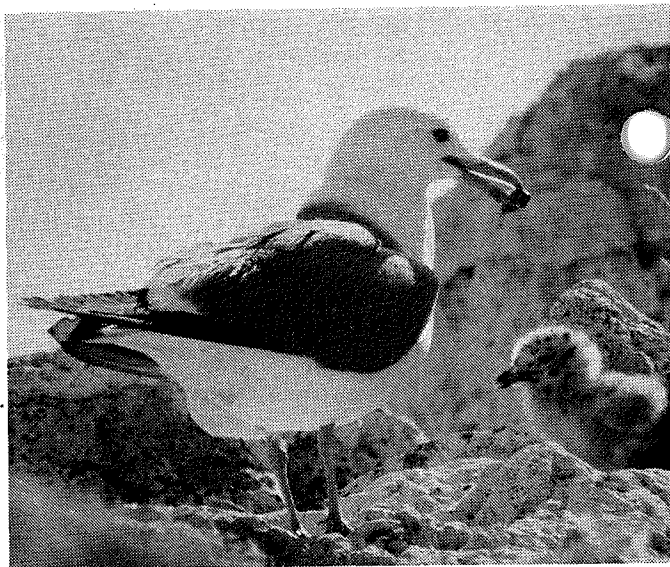
However, chick numbers were alarmingly low throughout the colonies. On the islets northeast of Negit (excluding Twain and Java), there were only 2,266 chicks this year compared to 3,917 in 1981. On the islets west of Paoha, there were 2,744 chicks this year compared to 4,096 in 1981 and 8,468 in 1980. While the causes of this trend are not definitely known, the scarcity of brine shrimp probably played a role.

Spring brine shrimp populations were down for the third consecutive year—less than 10% of the numbers recorded in 1979. As a result, the lake remained green with algae until mid-July, when second generation shrimp matured in large numbers and grazed the algae away. "It is very difficult for me to accept that this is a fluke," commented Petra Lenz, a U.C. Santa Barbara biologist who conducted a census of the shrimp this winter and spring. "We've had three years with very different weather, and each time the counts have been low." Co-worker Gayle Dana added that "the overwintering brine shrimp eggs may not be hatching in normal numbers . . . our experiments indicate that changes in the lake may be responsible, but we do not yet know for certain." DWP biologists, however, maintained that "natural factors could not be ruled out as the primary cause of the low counts."

As a result of the scarcity of shrimp (and probably brine flies as well), the gulls were forced to search for sustenance far from Mono's shores. Unusual numbers were observed in Bridgeport, Mammoth Lakes, Bishop, Yosemite and many other localities. Reports of strange behavior, such as stealing dog food, suggested the birds were exceptionally hungry.



DWP's "bird enhancement" project on Mono's south shore.



Larry Ford

California Gull brings a cicada to its hungry chick. This year the abundance of cicadas compensated for the scarcity of brine shrimp.

However, the 5,010 chicks tallied on July 6, far from being starved, were healthier than the 11,698 chicks tallied last year. A fortuitous emergence of cicadas in the sagebrush east and south of Mono Lake provided adult gulls with supplemental food for their hungry young. In past years, 85% of the items fed to chicks were brine shrimp. This year, only 29% were shrimp, but a whopping 49% were cicadas. One chick devoured 24 of these large insects at a single feeding! Cicadas are well-known emerging en masse at predictable intervals of up to 17 years (17-year locusts).

Many chicks succumbed, not to starvation, but to unusually heavy predation by adult gulls. The marauders were largely non-nesting birds, probably hungry, frustrated refugees from Twain and Java islets. They took a significant toll on eggs as well as young.

An estimated 3,500 gull chicks finally fledged, about 1,500 more than last year, but only a fraction of the numbers reared in the recent past.

DWP's Bird Bath

Rather than halt diversions, DWP has offered Mono Lake's imperiled birds one of the world's largest bird baths—a plastic lined pool 60 feet long, eight feet wide and four inches deep that collects water piped from a spring along the south shore. The pool is intended to furnish fledgling gull chicks, phalaropes, sandpipers and other birds with freshwater for drinking and bathing.

"If diversions were curtailed and the lake were stable, we could applaud this sort of thing wholeheartedly," MLC's David Gaines told the Los Angeles Times. "Under the circumstances, it seems nothing more than a diversionary tactic."

Birds were using the \$4,000 bird bath until it sprung a leak and dried up. DWP plans other "birdlife enhancement projects" if the pool proves successful.

In The Legislature

D.C. Hearing on National Monument

L.A. Assailed for "Rigid Position" on Mono Lake

Mono Lake supporters and Los Angeles officials gathered in Washington D.C. on May 18 to testify before the House Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks. The hearing focused, not only on the proposed national monument, but on the plight of the lake itself.

Representative John F. Seiberling (D-Ohio), chairman of the subcommittee, accused a panel of Los Angeles and DWP officials of taking a hard-line stance that could be summed up as "L.A. to Mono Lake: Drop Dead." "You're part of the problem," he told DWP Assistant Manager Duane Georgeson, L.A. City Attorney Ken Downey, City Councilwoman Joan Flores and their fellow panel members. "You're taking a rigid position which is mainly, 'to hell with Mono Lake.'"

Seiberling was especially critical of Los Angeles for supporting research while refusing to curtail diversions. "If we have a study," he argued, "we should maintain the status quo; anything else amounts to a smokescreen . . . If we don't know the answers, the only way to be safe is not to aggravate the situation . . . What is the point of mounting a study if before the study is completed the patient may be dead?"

Over 30 people testified at the day-long hearing, which centered on bills introduced by Representative Norman Shumway (D-Mecklenburg) that would establish a Mono Lake National Monument (H.R. 5424 and H.R. 4057) and repeal DWP's authority to purchase federal land in the Mono Basin (H.R. 4056), and an opposing bill that would confirm L.A.'s rights to divert Mono Basin water regardless of the impacts (H.R. 4403).

Representative Shumway, whose district included Mono Lake prior to reapportionment, made an eloquent statement in support of establishing the national monument and finding a way to save the lake. "I feel like the humble shepherd boy David as he approached Goliath," Shumway told the committee. He characterized L.A.'s opposition as "an irrational position," asserting that the national monument and associated studies authorized in his bills would not affect the city's legal right to divert water—a position supported by the California Department of Water Resources. L.A.'s real objection, Shumway maintained, is to the effect of more public exposure—"the slow death of the lake is something that DWP would rather the public not be aware of."

Shumway's testimony was reinforced by the bill's co-author, Representative Jim Santini of Nevada, who pointed out that Mono provides "recreation and scenic enjoyment for many, many Nevadans as well as Californians," and that "during the ice ages . . . the lake reached eastwards into Nevada." Congressman Vic Fazio (D-Sacramento) also spoke in support of the lake, saying it "would put pressure on Los Angeles in particular and Southern California in general to negotiate a solution."

Shumway's bills won the support, not only of environmentalists, but of Mono County government and the local business community. County Supervisor Robert Stanford effectively countered DWP's assertion that "Mono Lake has never sustained any water or lake-related recreation" by telling the subcommittee how he won the slalom water ski championships there in 1961. "The only reason there is not more recreation," he said, "is that the water level is dropping."

The Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce sent its president, Ken Steege, to testify on its behalf. He pointed out that "the Mono Lake National Monument will open one of America's most extraordinary natural treasures to millions of our visitors . . . and bolster our local, tourist-based economy."

Huey D. Johnson, California's Secretary for Resources, accused Los Angeles of "arrogance" in refusing to consider the water conservation alternatives proposed by the Interagency Mono Lake Task Force four years ago. "The real tragedy," he told the subcommittee, "is that Mono Lake does not need to die."

Similar sentiments were echoed by spokesmen from the Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, National Audubon Society, Defenders of Wildlife, The Wilderness Society and The National Parks and Conservation Association, as well as the Mono Lake Committee. U.S. Geological Survey geologist Kenneth Lajoie testified on the national park stature of the Mono Basin's volcanoes, tufa towers and other features. U.C. Davis biologist Gayle Dana addressed the lake's biotic values. MLC Executive Director Ed Grosswiler, Legislative Representative Tom Cassidy, board member Tim Such and Chairman David Gaines not only presented testimony, but labored long hours spearheading support and promoting coverage by the media.

Opposing the Mono Lake National Monument were Los Angeles and DWP officials, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and Representative Carlos J. Moorhead (R-Glendale), who claimed the Shumway bill threatened the city's water supply. "We don't have any water to spare," Moorhead maintained. According to DWP's Duane Georgeson, the national



Rep. Norman Shumway, author of the Mono Lake National Monument legislation, accepts a photograph from Bruce Barnbaum (left), chairman of the Sierra Club Mono Lake Task Force.

monument "would compel the Secretary [of the Interior] to take action to restrict and eventually eliminate Los Angeles' use of fresh waters feeding Mono Lake." "Los Angeles," he argued, "is absolutely dependent on the Mono Basin."

The L.A. contingent supported H.R. 4403 as an alternative to the national monument. While this bill would fund research, it would also give Congressional confirmation to Los Angeles' Mono Basin diversions regardless of their impact on federal land. This dangerous bill was strongly opposed by the Mono Lake Committee, Mono County, the State of California and environmentalists.

At this time, it appears H.R. 4403 will not be voted out of the subcommittee. The fate of Shumway's bills, however, is more difficult to foresee. Many knowledgeable observers feel national monument legislation will fare better in the next Congress. Nevertheless, there are indications that field hearings may be scheduled in California.



Mono Lake supporters flank Rep. Jim Santini of Nevada, a co-author of the Mono Lake National Monument legislation. From left to right are MLC Executive Director Ed Grosswiler, Legislative Representative Tom Cassidy, Rep. Santini, Barbara Blake of the Sierra Club, MLC board member Tim Such, and MLC Chairman David Gaines.

Cyclist Carries Mono Water to D.C. Hearing

In June of last year, 28-year-old David Grimes quit his job in the Bay Area, purchased a bicycle and set out on a 5,500-mile odyssey across America. In August, he cycled over Tioga Pass and arrived at Mono Lake. Convinced of its value and the common-sense alternatives to its destruction, Grimes determined to carry a bottle of Mono Lake water to Washington D.C. On May 18, he testified on behalf of the Mono Lake National Monument before the House Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks and presented the water to Chairman John Seiberling.

The following California legislators deserve our gratitude for asking Los Angeles to curtail voluntarily its diversions from Mono Lake.

ASSEMBLYMEN

Norman Waters
William Filante
Terry Goggin
Douglas Bosco
Bill Lockyer
Bob Campbell
Jean Moorhead
Dick Floyd
Art Agnos
John Thurman
Leroy Greene
Marilyn Ryan
Phil Wyman
Alistar McAlister
Jim Costa
Richard Lehman

Charles Imbrecht

Tom Bates
Ernest Konnyu
Byron Sher
Gilbert Marguth
Pat Johnston
Peter Chacon
Gary Hart
Dominic Cortese
William Baker
Stan Statham
Chester Wray
Don Sebastiani
Sam Farr
Lewis Papan
Robert Naylor
Willy Brown

Elihu Harris

Thomas Hannigan
Daniel Boatwright
STATE SENATORS
John Garamendi
John Doolittle
Jim Nielsen
Alan Sieroty
John Holmdahl
Nicholas Petris
Dan O'Keefe
Robert Presley
Ray Johnson
Henry Mello
Walter Stiern
Milton Marks
Barry Keene

Mono Lake: The Developing Tragedy

Excerpted from the statement presented by Huey D. Johnson, California Secretary for Resources, before the Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks, Washington D.C. May 1982.

The real tragedy is that Mono Lake does not need to die. A single decision, a single stroke of the pen by one political jurisdiction, could reverse the lake's fate. The Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles has the opportunity—particularly in this extraordinarily wet year—to halt Mono Lake's slow death. Instead the city's response has been to redouble its lobbying against efforts to protect Mono Lake. If the city had put as much effort into protecting the lake and its resources as they have into opposing Congressman Shumway's National Monument legislation, we would not need to be here today.

Mono Lake should be considered an indicator of our interest in survival. The recent history of the lake demonstrates how overconsumption and special interest manipulation can threaten the long-term survival of unique and productive resources that are important to a wide range of species, including our own. The arrogance implicit in the city's position is manifested by its recent assertion that the public trust doctrine—a protection as old as the Magna Carta—is "irrelevant" to the Mono Lake situation. If the alternatives were costly and harsh, the Mono Lake case would be easier to understand. But the alternatives are reasonable. An extensive interagency study four years ago determined that water conservation, reclamation and alternative supplies could make up for a reduction in diversions sufficient to save the lake. Mono Lake is a victim of waste and mismanagement.

The DWP is the captive of a cornucopian philosophy which assumes that there will always be more. Rather than face the realities of limited resources and turn to modern water conservation practices which would provide reasonable and economic solutions to the city's problems, it steps up its public relations efforts.

Because of the opposition of the City of Los Angeles and others, the Task Force recommendations have not been implemented. The events of the past year at Mono Lake should give us the impetus to try again to reach a cooperative solution that spares Mono Lake. To this end, I have proposed to Mayor Bradley that the city act immediately to limit its 1982 export to 85,000 acre-feet, compared to its average of 100,000 acre-feet. This rate of diversions would allow the lake level to rise slightly this year and set the stage for further discussions on Mono's future. I am hopeful that these discussions will lead to actions that permanently protect Mono Lake.

THANK YOUS. Many people and organizations helped make the D.C. hearings a success for Mono Lake. Working as a volunteer in our Sacramento office, Joan Sargent figured out which of our members lived in key Congressional districts so we could send out action alerts. In Washington D.C., David Marquart, Ray and Shirley Edgeton, Bill and Carol Weissert, Chris Jacobson, Sue O'Connell of the National Wildlife Federation and Connie Mahon of National Audubon Society opened their homes to MLC staffers. Marquart also ferried MLC'ers and boxes of documents to and from the airport. Polly Freeman and John McComb of the Sierra Club and Alison Horton and Bill Butler of National Audubon generously arranged our use of their busy D.C. offices. The Mono County Conservation Club helped defray the cost of airfare. To Representative Norman Shumway and his staff, especially Jim Burroughs, Chris Sargent, Gail Howard, Tracy Smith, Ann Carper, Faye Price and Ann McComb, we are exceedingly grateful for help and logistical support. To Gail and Tracy, in particular, goes much of the credit for our successful pre-hearing reception. Most of all, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to all the individuals and organizations that testified on Mono Lake's behalf.



Summer Fun(d)raisers

Victory is in sight! Help us keep on turning the tide by supporting our 1982 summer fundraisers: The L.A. to Mono Lake Bikeathon, the Mono Lake-PRBO Birdathon and the Mono Lake-Water Initiative Drawing. Be sure to return the drawing tickets enclosed in this newsletter—you could win a trip to Hawaii, or to the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite, or one of 25 other exciting prizes! Please turn to pages 14-16 for details.

Mono Research Bill Falters

The Mono Lake research bill (A.B. 2884), introduced by Assemblyman Norman Waters last March, may become a victim of California's bankrupt treasury.

The research bill calls for an appropriation of \$500,000 from the Environmental License Plate (ELP) Fund to the Department of Fish and Game for the purpose of contracting with the University of California to determine the effects of water diversions on the Mono Lake ecosystem. It was approved by the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee by a 6-0 vote on April 14.

However, a reduction in the sale of personalized license plates and state budgetary woes, aggravated by tax votes on the primary election ballot, have dimmed the research bill's chances. On June 10, when AB 2884 came before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, Waters requested a delay on the vote pending adoption of the state budget and the chance that additional money might be channeled into the ELP Fund.

Media Continues To Focus on Mono

During the past few months, Mono Lake has been the subject of numerous newspaper articles and television commentaries. The Los Angeles Times, for instance, printed articles on the national monument hearings, the scarcity of brine shrimp, the decline in gull numbers, DWP's bird bath and the reduction in diversions.

The San Francisco Examiner ran a front-page story entitled "The Rape of Mono Lake." KRON, Channel 4 in San Francisco, aired an outstanding four-part series that was shown on prime time news. KABC, Channel 7 in Los Angeles, covered the latest development in its news broadcasts. Every newspaper in California, and some across the country, ran articles on Mono Lake's plight.

Mono also attracted documentary filmmakers and journalists from as far away as Canada, Germany, Great Britain and Japan. Film crews shot segments for a series called "Belamy's America" and an untitled series on geology to be narrated by David Attenborough, who did "Life on Earth."

Much of the credit for the excellent media coverage goes to our MLC staff, who have issued 11 press releases and organized four press conferences since April.

In The Courts

State Supreme Court Weighs Fate of Mono Lake

On May 3, the California Supreme Court heard oral arguments on whether the "public trust doctrine" can be invoked to limit water diversions and save Mono Lake.

Attorney F. Bruce Dodge, representing the National Audubon Society, Mono Lake Committee, Friends of the Earth and the Los Angeles Audubon Society, argued that the "public trust" should be applied to protect wildlife, recreation and other public trust interests in areas that, like Mono Lake, are navigable bodies of water held by the state in permanent trust for public use. Attorney Adolph Moskovitz, representing Los Angeles, however, told the seven justices that the city's need for water makes the public trust "irrelevant." The water needs of Los Angeles, he maintained, were of "overriding concern" and the city's water cannot be taken away without compensation.

Questions posed by the justices were generally favorable to Mono and hostile to Los Angeles. After Moscovitz concluded his testimony, for instance, Associate Judge Frank Richardson asked, "So Los Angeles gets the water and California loses a lake . . . ? Are the taxpayers of the state entitled to compensation for their loss . . . ?"

The Supreme Court is expected to move relatively quickly and hand down a ruling by late this summer or early this fall. The court not only allowed bypassing the Court of Appeals, but placed the case first on its calendar—an exceptional procedure that indicates recognition of the urgency of the Mono Lake crisis.

In a major victory for Mono Lake, the City of San Francisco filed an amicus brief rebutting Los Angeles' allegation that the public trust would affect all major water projects, including Hetch Hetchy.

It is important to realize, however, that the Supreme Court is only ruling on a theoretical point—can the "public trust doctrine" be invoked to limit water diversions from a place like Mono Lake? If the ruling is favorable, the case will probably return to federal court for trial, where court watchers give us even odds.

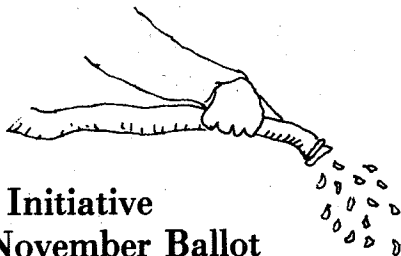
Mono Lake on Water Quality Board's Priority List

The State Water Quality Board, Lahontan Region, has ranked Mono Lake as a number one priority for this fiscal year. The board will be evaluating the condition of Mono Lake's waters, and setting up objectives to maintain or improve water quality.

In April, at a meeting in Victorville, MLC's David Takemoto-Weerts had urged the board to grant Mono Lake a high priority. At the same meeting, DWP officials had counseled dropping the Mono Lake issue entirely.

Desert Protective Council Commends MLC

We wish to express our gratitude to the Desert Protective Council for granting one of its two 1981 Awards of Merit to the Mono Lake Committee. The award commends the Mono Lake Committee "for its tireless fight against insuperable odds to protect one of California's most unique ecosystems." Webster defines "insuperable" as "not superable; that cannot be overcome or passed over; insurmountable." We are confident that the odds are not truly "insuperable," and with the support from Mono's many allies, including the Desert Protective Council, we will emerge victorious in the end. The Desert Protective Council, founded in 1954, is a non-profit citizens group dedicated "to safeguard for wise and reverent use by this and succeeding generations those desert areas of unique scenic, scientific, historical, spiritual and recreational value and to educate by all appropriate means children and adults to a better understanding of the desert." For more information on their worthwhile work, write the Council at: P.O. BOX 4294, PALM SPRINGS, CA 92263.



Water Reform Initiative Qualifies For November Ballot

This November California voters will have the opportunity to reform state water policy by passing the *Water Resources Conservation and Efficiency Act*.

Both the Los Angeles Times and the San Francisco Chronicle have published editorials sympathetic to the Water Reform Initiative, which would mandate water conservation, control of groundwater overdraft, and protection for rivers, lakes, bays, estuaries and wetlands. The Mono Lake Committee has joined with the California League of Women Voters, National Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth and many other groups in support of this crucial measure.

A grassroots movement, spearheaded by the California Water Protection Council, succeeded in gathering many more than the 346,199 signatures needed to bring water reform before the California electorate. They will need help, however, to pass the initiative in November. For more information, please contact: CALIFORNIA WATER PROTECTION COUNCIL, 401 SAN MIGUEL WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95819; (916) 453-0443.

Mono Lake Reserve in Full Swing

by David Carle, State Park Ranger

The Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve, California's newest state park, is hosting exceptional numbers of visitors daily. Most to the South Tufa Grove, which is marked by new directional signs on Hwys. 395 and 120.

The reserve's interpretive programs have been well attended. The guided tours conducted at the South Tufa Grove every Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. have averaged 80 people daily. An enthusiastic group of 25 showed up for a "Star Party," which included gazing at the planets through a 13-inch telescope. The rangers have also conducted tours for schools and other groups.

Six interpretive display cases are planned for key sites around Mono Lake. They will describe natural phenomena such as how tufa are formed and why the islands are protected for nesting gulls, and provide information on things to see and do. Two will be installed this summer.

Law enforcement problems, while minimal, have included sheep and cattle grazing within the reserve boundaries, and people climbing on tufa towers. The rangers feel that most of the problems will be eliminated with adequate signing.

At present, state reserve boundary signs are being installed. Signs indicating that the tufa groves are closed to loaded firearms, unleashed pets, vehicles, camping and firearms have been delayed due to problems at Folsom Prison, where the signs are painted.

The State Reserve has opened an office in Lee Vining next to the post office. Office hours are 9-10 a.m. and 4-5 p.m. daily. Due to a limited staff, however, the rangers are occasionally unable to open the office.

The State Park offers talks and guided tours to organized groups upon request. For more information, contact: MONO LAKE TUFAS STATE RESERVE, P.O. BOX 99, LEE VINING, CA 93541; (714) 647-6331.

Water Conservation

The California Office of Water Conservation publishes an excellent quarterly newsletter, *The Water Conservation News*, that documents common-sense means of using our existing water supplies more efficiently. For instance, the April, 1982 issue includes articles on the following:

- * Subsurface trickle irrigation can more than double tomato yields per unit of water applied.
- * A survey of leaks in California water systems suggests that "unaccounted for" water averages about 9.5 percent of total use; in German cities with long-standing leak detection programs, "unaccounted for" water is only 3 to 5 percent.
- * Installation of water-saving retrofit kits in homes can save about 5,600 gallons of water per person per year, and save \$35 to \$200 a year in power bills; the kits consist of displacement bags for toilets, shower flow restrictors and dye tablets to check for leaks.

The newsletter also discusses the wide range of water conservation classroom materials that are available to cooperating teachers and school districts free of charge.

If you would like to receive copies of *Water Conservation News*, please write to: WATER CONSERVATION NEWS, Office of Water Conservation, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 388, Sacramento, CA 95802-0388.

Ongoing Research

UCSB Symposium On Mono Lake

On May 6-7, independent and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) scientists and consultants gathered at the University of California at Santa Barbara for a two-day symposium. Its purpose was to facilitate communication and cooperation among Mono Lake researchers, and define research needs and priorities. The first day was devoted to the presentation of papers on topics ranging from hydrology and air quality to algae, brine shrimp, grebes and gulls. The second day was devoted to panel discussions. The symposium was co-sponsored by UCSB, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and the DWP.

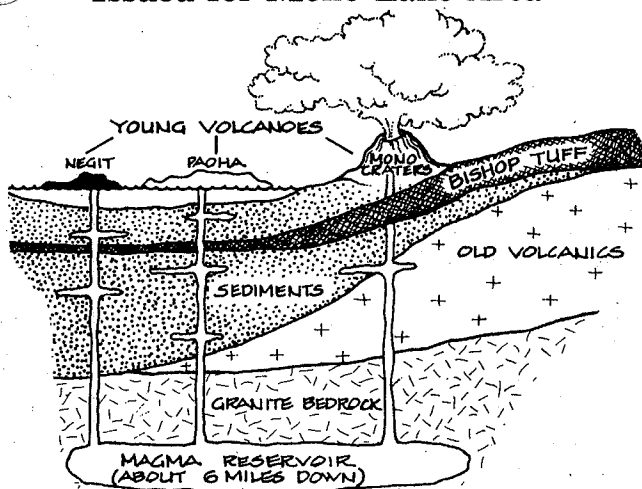
In general the scientists were unwilling to predict at what point increasing salinity might precipitate the collapse of Mono's ecosystem. Nor could they offer any definite explanation for the unusually low spring brine shrimp population densities. They recommended continued monitoring of the Mono Lake ecosystem, initiation of long-term experiments to measure salinity tolerances of the lake's biota, and development of computer models to predict future impacts of declining water levels.

Substantial differences of opinion surfaced in the areas of air quality and brine shrimp population dynamics. DWP consultant R. Robert Braittain argued that air in the Mono Basin is basically clean and that dust arising from the relict lakebed poses no

serious health hazard. UC Davis physicists Bruce Kusko and his colleagues, however, contended just the opposite, stating that the dust from the exposed lakeshore violates air quality standards and poses a substantial health hazard comparable to that from Owens (dry) Lake dust storms. DWP biologists suggested that the recent low spring brine shrimp numbers may be "within the natural fluctuations of the lake." UCSB biologist Petra Lenz, however, argued that the low numbers are indicative of significant changes in Mono's ecosystem.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the symposium was the panel on "research recommendations and responsibilities," which included MLC's David Gaines, DWP's Duane Georgeson, Dr. David Trauger of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fred Worthly of California Fish and Game, and Dr. John Melack of UCSB. Gaines urged DWP to curtail diversions and stabilize the lake level in order to avert further deterioration of the ecosystem while research is conducted. The agency representatives supported research, but were unable to commit any funds. DWP said they likewise supported continued research, but added that even if the evidence of environmental harm was "overwhelming," they would not necessarily curtail diversions. DWP also refused to participate on a "research advisory board" that included the Mono Lake Committee, and accused MLC of sabotaging the 1979 Interagency Task Force by filing a lawsuit to halt the diversions.

Volcanic Hazard Alert Issued for Mono Lake Area



On May 26 the U.S. Geological Survey issued a notice of "potential volcanic hazard" for the Mono-Mammoth Lakes area. Geologists have linked recent earthquake activity with magma movements. "We had been treating it strictly as an earthquake hazard," said Roy Bailey, coordinator of USGS's volcanic hazards program. "There's really good evidence now that there's magma moving around at depth and it could reach the surface." Nothing may happen, but the hazards being discussed range from moderate steam explosions to a cataclysmic eruption that could spew 10 inches of ash as far east as Salt Lake City. Volcanoes are most likely to erupt in the Long Valley caldera east of Mammoth Lakes, in the Mono and Inyo Crater chain that stretches from Mono Lake's south shore to Mammoth, or in the depths of Mono Lake itself.

The Mono Basin Naturalist



It seemed as if summer would never arrive. Unseasonably cool, wet weather dominated May and June. A week after the solstice a wintry storm dumped 12 inches of snow on Tioga Pass and over an inch of rain along Mono's shores, augmenting the already high runoff. Lightning flashed above Mono's islands, hail pounded the sagebrush, and high winds whipped clouds of alkali off the lakeshore. We thought the ice-age was upon us.

By mid-July, however, the weather had warmed. The wet June left a flowery legacy in the usually dry sagebrush. Summery days coaxed out a profusion of blooms and stimulated a late burst of bird song. It was a spring-like summer.

By July, Mono's shores were alive with fledgling gull chicks and southbound shorebirds. The baby gulls were able to fly, but still had problems with landings and take-offs. Clouds of Wilson's Phalaropes wheeled over the lake, then settled to feast on brine shrimp. Tens of thousands, mostly adult females, were molting from breeding to winter plumage and storing fat in preparation for non-stop flights to South America. Gulls and phalaropes shared Mono's bounty with grebes, sandpipers, godwits, curlews and many other water birds.

Among the unusual species were an Eastern Kingbird, a Parula Warbler and two Great-tailed Grackles—the first ever recorded in the Mono Lake watershed.

MLC News and Activities

New Bay Area Office Focuses on Fundraising, Membership Development

MLC's fundraising and membership development campaigns are being directed out of a small office, which we rent for a nominal sum from our conservation allies, *Friends of the Earth*.

Running the office is our Development Director Martin O'Malley, who has been with us on a consulting basis for the past nine months. Marty is pursuing a broad-based fundraising effort that includes corporations, foundations and individuals. He is being assisted by our new Special Events Coordinator Michael Hoke, who is concentrating on promoting the benefit drawing and other fundraising projects.

Information Center Renovated

Two to three hundred people have been streaming through our newly renovated Mono Lake Information Center in Lee Vining each day. With the help of our hard-working summer interns, Janice Enns, Debby Jewett and Cheryl Archer, we have been keeping the center open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., 7 days a week. We have also been presenting Mono Lake slide programs five times daily. As a result, we are progressing toward our goal of recruiting 1,000 new MLC members.

When you visit the lake, be sure to stop by, say hello, and view our new displays on Mono's natural and unnatural history. Special thanks go to volunteers Stephen Johnson, Margaret Frontella, Keith Like and Kathleen O'Connell for their help in putting the displays together, to Rebecca Shearin for designing our elegant new Information Center sign, to Jim Harlan and Warren's Motel for donating paint and rugs, to the Blue Skies Motel for shelves and lighting, to Don Banta and the Best Western Motel for wood and paneling, to Ken and Sherrie Steege of the Gateway Motel for drapes and a helping hand, and to the Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce for defraying most of the capital costs. We are also grateful to Larry Ford for donating photographs of brine shrimp, and to Stephen Johnson for donating a photograph of the 1980 bucket walk.



The "Lee Vining crew." In the front row, left to right, are David Gaines, Jasmine Marotta-Jaenecke, Janice Enns and Debbie Jewett; in the back row are Sally Judy Gaines, Jim, Liz and Misha Marotta-Jaenecke, and Marty O'Malley (visiting from San Francisco).

Field Trips

Our free weekend field trips, which began on June 12, have been well attended. About half of the participants become MLC members. We have also led tours for numerous high school, college, Audubon, Sierra Club and other groups, and met with reporters from around the world.

In Los Angeles

News conferences, press releases, phone calls, slide shows and a flurry of environmental fairs kept us busy into summer, and forced us to spruce up our impressive traveling display.

We would like to invite all Mono's friends to visit our Los Angeles office during regular working hours. You can make use of our information files, borrow materials, purchase MLC caps, T-shirts, posters and other paraphernalia, or just talk with us about the latest developments . . . the coffee is always hot!

You may also wish to borrow one of our Mono Lake slide programs to show to your class, club, church group or business organization, or you can invite us to make a presentation in person.

As always, volunteer help is very much needed. Give us a call and become a grassroot (213) 477-8229.

Our sincere thanks to Barbara and Gerry Copeland, Loretta Drowica, Gary Sekerak, Doug Smith and Steve Wenker for helping staff our display at the Wildlife Festival, and to Gary for inspecting our accounting procedures.

Staff Hellos and Good-byes

We are bidding a reluctant good-bye to one of our veteran staffers, Tom Cassidy, who is departing in August to attend law school in Washington D.C. In 1979, Tom postponed his legal career to join the fledgling MLC as our first Southern California coordinator. After two years in Los Angeles, he moved to Sacramento to plead Mono's cause in the state capitol. Tom was instrumental in the passage of the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve legislation, and in coordinating our testimony at the National Monument hearing in Washington D.C. Even more important, he has won the respect and support of key legislators and their aides. His presence will be sorely missed.

Tom's position will be filled by our very capable Southern California coordinator, David Takemoto-Weerts. David's organizing skills and political acumen will serve us well in Sacramento.

We are also bidding adieu to our business manager and treasurer Barbara Takemoto-Weerts, who is leaving to pursue a career in business. Barbara did a herculean job keeping tabs on our finances and legal paperwork, and did it incredibly well.

Replacing Barbara in our Los Angeles office is Kathleen Kaz, an experienced bookkeeper who previously worked for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Another new addition to the staff is Michael Hoke, a political science student who will be handling the details of our benefit drawing at least through October. He is working with Ma O'Malley out of our new Bay Area office.

Joe Marek has moved on to other things, but vows to volunteer on a regular basis. We owe a great debt to Joe's organizing energy, and are sad to see him go.

Hiker Braves Crest Trail For Mono Lake

On March 5, toting a 50-pound backpack, Phil Floyd struck out from the Mexican border on a 3,300-mile trek along the Pacific Crest Trail. Ninety-four days and 800 arduous miles later, he arrived in Mammoth Lakes, the first leg of a journey that will eventually lead him to the wilds of British Columbia.

Phil is asking sponsors to pledge a penny, nickel, dime or whatever to the Mono Lake Committee for each mile he hikes. To date, he has amassed about \$3,000 in pledges.

Along the trail, Floyd has found that fellow hikers have a "50 percent recognition factor" of the plight of Mono Lake.

In late June, Floyd headed for Tuolumne Meadows over Donahue Pass, the last 11,000-foot pass between Mammoth and the Canadian border. "It's all downhill from there, sort of," he claimed.

Let's thank Phil and help Mono Lake by pledging as much as we can in support of his epic hike. You can phone in your pledges to our Mono Lake (714 647-6386), Los Angeles (213 477-8229), Bay Area (415 956-7532), or Sacramento (916 448-1045) offices.

Used Paperbacks Wanted

We can sell your used paperbacks to the vacationing throngs here at our Mono Lake Information Center, and raise funds for the save the lake campaign. So please clean out your dusty bookshelves and donate those extra volumes. We prefer fiction, but will accept just about anything that looks salable. Send your paperbacks to: MONO LAKE COMMITTEE, P.O. Box 29, LEE VINING, CA 93541. Or, if you prefer to ship via UPS, address them to the MONO LAKE INFORMATION CENTER, HWY. 395, LEE VINING, CA 93541. Thank you!

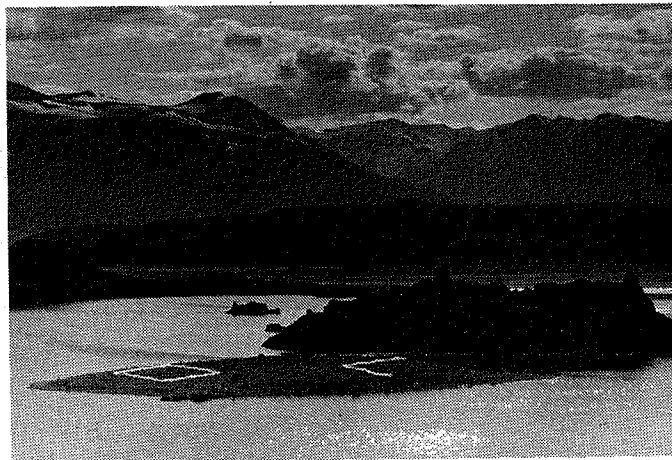
Can We Trade Your Name?

In order to inform new people about Mono Lake and our efforts to save it, we are trading our mailing list with other environmental organizations. Most groups will trade on a one-for-one basis. If you do not wish your name traded, however, just let our Lee Vining office know as soon as possible.



Sally Judy Gaines has resigned as corporate secretary, but is continuing to manage our voluminous mail as only she is able. Sally and David Gaines were married this spring, and are expecting a child in January.

The offices of MLC treasurer and secretary have been capably filled by members of our hardworking board of directors. David Phillips, wildlife coordinator for Friends of the Earth, is our new treasurer. Genny Smith, editor of numerous books on the eastern Sierra, has assumed the duties of secretary.



Larry Ford

Several gull nesting islets northeast of Negit Island. The enclosures, made of old parachutes, demarcate study plots used by U.C. researchers.

A Fishy Story

L.A. Councilman, Guests Visit Mono Lake?

It all came to light when Fish and Game wardens cited three prominent Angelenos for catching too many trout. The trio were among 19 prominent L.A. citizens, including City Hall officials and lobbyists, who went fishing in Mono County as the guests of a city councilman. They stayed at the city-owned Cain Ranch south of Mono Lake, which, according to city guidelines, can only be used "for elected or appointed officials for purposes related primarily to city business."

City Councilman Hal Bernson claimed he reserved the Cain Ranch lodgings to educate "prominent community residents and constituents" about the importance of Mono Lake to Los Angeles, and to drum up community opposition to federal legislation that would prevent L.A. from diverting the lake's tributary streams. "We just figured this would be a good opportunity for people to see the thing," he told the L.A. Times. "While they were up there, they could do a little fishing."

Accolades

As if they hadn't done enough, Jean Dale and the Ventura County members of the Mono Lake Committee followed up their very successful fundraising drawing with a "Trash to Treasures" rummage sale on June 26. The result—a \$640.68 donation to the save the lake campaign! A special thank you to Erma Golden, who did more than anybody (except Jean) to make these fundraisers successful.

Marion Palmer of Los Gatos donated three exquisite hand-sewn Mono Lake pillows for our use as fundraisers, and Victor Marotta gave us a truckload of used paperbacks, which have been selling briskly. We are equally grateful to Bob Abbey and John Devy for taking things away, namely, our voluminous Information Center trash to the county dump each week.

Jean and Andy Anderson, Martha Davis and Judy Kinsley have graciously shared their homes with our traveling leader, Ed Grosswiler, on his visits to San Francisco. Over the past several months we have received generous donations from the Universal Pantheist Society, the California Native Plant Society-San Francisco Bay Chapter, and the Los Angeles, Mendocino, Napa-Solano and Lake Almanor Audubon Societies. We also acknowledge a contribution in memory of Hervey Parke Clark of Woodside.

NEW BOOKS

The three books reviewed below will be of special interest to monophiles: William Kahrl's probing history of the Los Angeles Aqueduct, John Harris' intimate natural history of Mono's mammals, and a reprint of J. Ross Browne's classic account of his visit to the lake—in 1863. In addition, the Mono Lake Committee has published a 26-page German self-guided tour translated from the Mono Lake Guidebook, *Mono Lake: Eine Eigenführung*. Translated by Irmtraud L. Stugard, it is selling well to our German visitors. All of these books, as well as the additional titles listed below, are available by mail from the Mono Lake Committee. Please use the order form on page 15 of this newsletter.

WATER AND POWER

By William L. Kahrl (Univ. of Calif. Press, 1982,
583 pp, hardbound, \$24.95)

The roots of the Mono Lake crisis reach back to the beginning of the century, when Los Angeles bankers and businessmen determined to seize the waters of the Owens Valley 250 miles to the northeast. That action laid the basis for the city's growth and prosperity, and set off the most enduring and influential water war in American history.

Water and Power is the most comprehensive, impartial account to date of the L.A. Aqueduct and the "Owens Valley Water War." Author William L. Kahrl, editor of the *California Water Atlas*, has exposed the conspiracies, faked droughts, official cover-ups and financial wheelings and dealings that underlie the development of California's largest city. Here is the complex, fascinating and important story of how Los Angeles acquired water rights in faraway Inyo and Mono counties, built an aqueduct without precedent in human history, annexed the San Fernando Valley, crushed the Owens Valley farmers, led the movement to import Colorado River water, diverted Mono Lake's tributary streams, built a second aqueduct and saddled itself with an ongoing legacy of acrimonious disputes and litigation.

Water and Power traces the conflict from its beginnings to the modern-day battles over groundwater pumping in the Owens Valley and diversions from Mono Lake's tributary streams. Kahrl characterizes the Mono Lake Committee as "underfunded, loosely organized" and "sustained principally by the dedication of a small band of bird-watchers and graduate students who were activated by nothing more complex than their deep affection for a place few Californians will ever see." However he is painfully oblivious to the lake's esthetic, economic and scientific values. "For the successors of William Mulholland," he comments, "the real stuff of nightmares must consist in the thought that a significant part of the work of three-quarters of a century might be undone for the sake of some tiny shrimp and a flock of birds."

Kahrl's rendering is also marred by a tendency to condone L.A.'s "water imperialism" as the fulfillment of the city's manifest destiny. Since the outcome was inevitable, he reasons, the principal actors cannot be held accountable. Yet Kahrl also argues that William Mulholland ("this elemental man") and the other architects of Los Angeles' water policies were crucial to the city's success.

Despite these minor faults, *Water and Power* is essential reading for anyone concerned with the politics of water, the growth of California and the future of places like Mono Lake.

MAMMALS OF THE MONO LAKE-TIOGA PASS REGION

By John H. Harris (Kutsavi Books, 1982, 55 pp, paper, \$3.95)

This wonderful booklet is indispensable to anyone interested in the natural history of Mono's mammal inhabitants. From shrews and bats to bears and mountain lions, mammologist John Harris describes the habits, habitat and distribution of every species known to dwell in the Mono Lake watershed.

Harris includes a wealth of fascinating detail that can otherwise be found only in scientific journals. For instance, did you know the following:

- * Give a pocket mouse a dinner of mixed seeds, and in the morning each type of seed will be found in its own pile?
- * Moles are especially active after rains, when they may burrow at the surprising rate of 18 feet per hour?
- * Kangaroo Mice leap into the air when danger threatens; by swinging their long tails, they return to the ground running in a new direction, which further confuses predators?

Harris also discusses such difficult identification problems as distinguishing the Long-tailed from the Short-tailed Weasel, and telling apart Mono's seven species of chipmunk and eight species of bat. This information can be found nowhere else.

The booklet is attractively illustrated by Kelly L. S. Manley's line drawings.

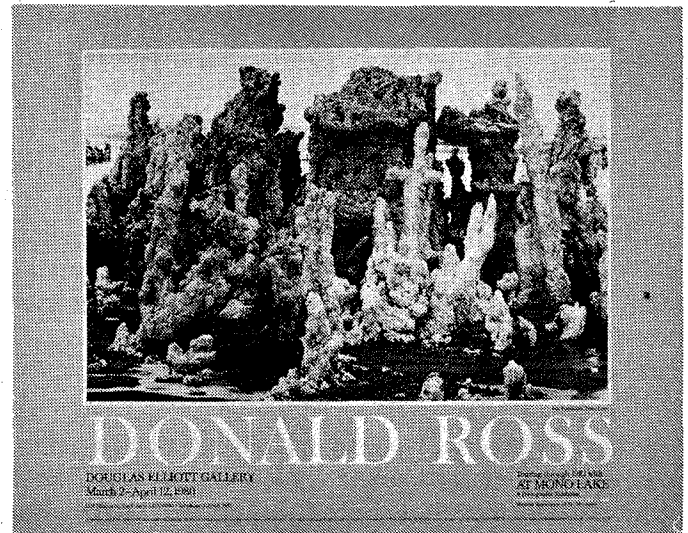
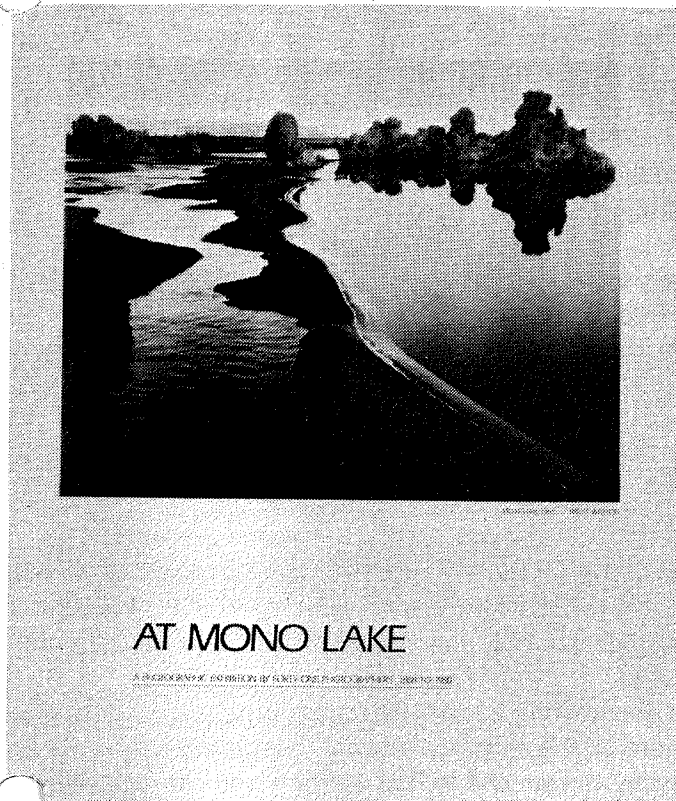
A TRIP TO BODIE BLUFF AND THE DEAD SEA OF THE WEST (MONO LAKE) IN 1863

By J. Ross Browne (Outbooks, 1981, 72 pp, paper, \$2.50)

What a pleasure to have a reasonably priced paperback edition of J. Ross Browne's account of his 1863 visit to Bodie and Mono Lake! Browne was a keen observer who accurately described Mono's wildlife as well as the pioneer homesteads along its shores. His articles, which were originally published in the 1865 *Harp New Monthly Magazine*, are illustrated with his own delightful sketches.

Ross Browne was more than a chronicler of pioneer life. He was one of the first to celebrate the natural landscapes of the American

NEW POSTERS



Two eloquent black-and-white posters, one by Brett Weston (left) and one by Donald Ross (above), are now available from the Mono Lake Committee.

Photographs courtesy of Stephen Johnson.

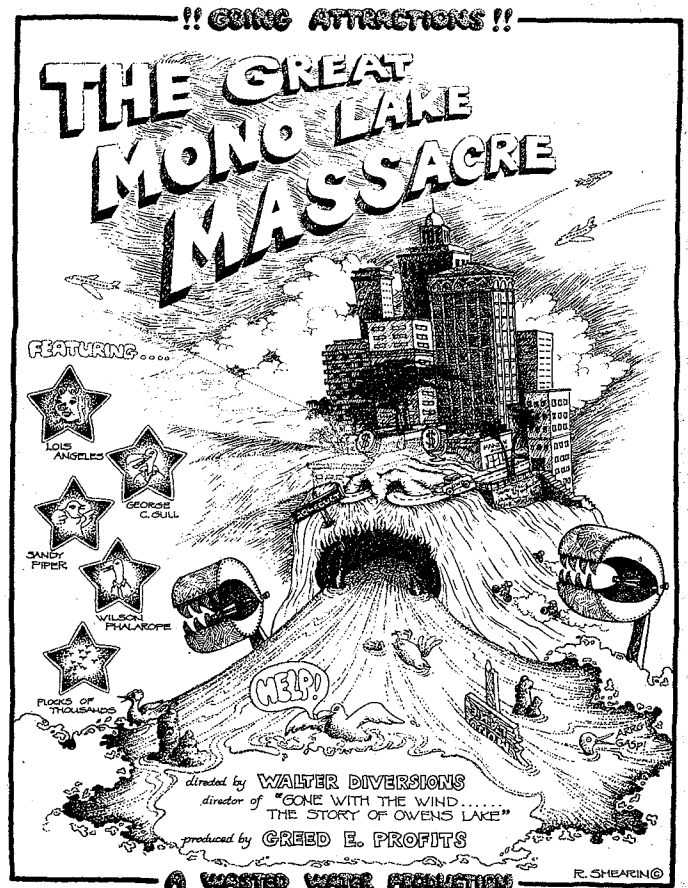
Mono Lake Black-And-White Posters

Two of the finest photographs from the *At Mono Lake* photographic exhibit are now available as handsome, high quality posters.

Brett Weston's classic 1961 photograph of north shore tufa has been printed as an 18" by 24" poster by the Mono Lake Coalition. The "state of the art" laser scan duotone reproduction is printed on 100 lb. cover stock, and has been varnished.

The second poster, also produced by the Mono Lake Coalition, features Donald Ross' evocative photograph of tufa formations—one of the finest we have seen. The poster measures 18" by 22" and is printed on heavy 100 lb. cover stock.

Both posters are available from the Mono Lake Committee, the Weston print for \$10 and the Ross print for \$7.50.



GREAT MONO LAKE MASSACRE POSTER

Rebecca Shearin's imaginative movie poster is now available as a 17" by 22" print. 95c

Mono Lake • Water Reform BENEFIT DRAWING

Win a 10-day trip to Hawaii or one of 26 other exciting prizes while helping us raise funds for saving Mono Lake and reforming California's environmentally destructive water policies.

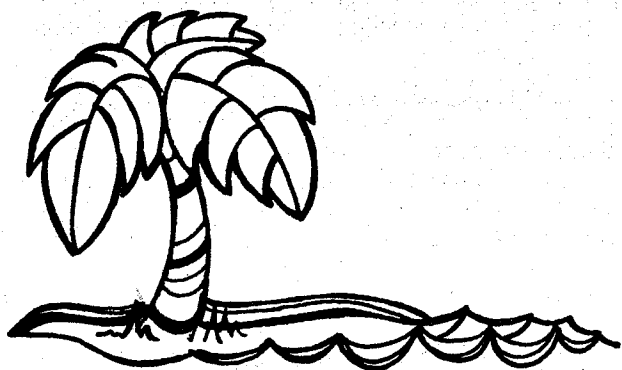
Here's how the drawing works. Just fill out the stubs of the free drawing tickets enclosed in this newsletter. Return the stubs with your check in the enclosed remittance envelope.

Proceeds from the drawing will be divided equally between the Mono Lake Committee and the California Water Protection Council, the group that has placed the Water Reform Initiative on the November ballot.



We are asking a \$2 donation per ticket, \$20 for a book of 10. Check should be payable to the Mono Lake Committee. The drawing will be held on October 9, 1982, and you need not be present to win.

Help us make the drawing a success by promoting it among friends, neighbors, clubs and businesses in your community! To obtain more free drawing tickets and to find out how you can help, please contact: Michael Hoke, Mono Lake Committee, 1045 Sanson Street, Room 219, San Francisco, CA 94111; (415) 956-7532—or any MLC office.



Grand Prizes

HAWAIIAN VACATION—10-day, three-island trip for two, including round-trip air fares from Los Angeles or San Francisco (estimated value \$1,500).

LEITZ ARMORED BINOCULARS—top of the line, 10 x 40 mm binoculars, donated by The Nature Company, Berkeley (estimated value \$1,500).

AHWAHNEE HOTEL, YOSEMITE—two separate prizes, each for two people, including 3 nights accommodations and 11 meals at the Ahwahnee Hotel, donated by the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. (estimated value \$500 each prize).

SNAKE RIVER, IDAHO—a 5-day journey for two people on the Snake River through the Birds of Prey Conservation Area, donated by ECHO, The Wilderness Company, Oakland (estimated value \$1,000).

Additional Prizes (and their donors)

1-day sailing trip for 2 people on SAN FRANCISCO BAY with gourmet lunch (Grace and Ric De Laet) * 2-day rafting trips for 4 people on the KINGS RIVER, including all meals and equipment (Zephyr River Expeditions, Sonora) * three 2-day outings for 2 people on the AMERICAN RIVER (Sierra Whitewater Expeditions, Placerville) * 3 personally signed copies of "Yosemite and the Range of Light" by ANSEL ADAMS (Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite) * Trailwise Goretex Slimline Sleeping Bag (Ski Hut, Berkeley) * Cat's Meow Polarguard Sleeping Bag (The North Face, Berkeley) * Alpenlite Frame Pack (Dealin' Down, Palo Alto) * Kelty Bristlecone Backpack (Sunrise Mountaineering, Fremont) * 3 nights accommodations plus cross-country ski lessons, one dinner and one breakfast for two people at MAMMOTH LAKES (Tamarack Lodge and The Stove restaurant, Mammoth Lakes) * Pullover Windbreaker Jacket (Marmot Mountain Works, Berkeley) * Coleman Peak Backpacking Stove (Recreational Equipment, Inc., Berkeley) * 2 nights accommodations for 2 during summer at JUNE LAKE (Vista Motel, June Lake) * Weekend for 2 at MONO LAKE, including accommodations (Best Western Lakeview Motel, Lee Vining) prime rib dinners (The Mono Inn, Lee Vining), boat trip to Mono Lake's islands (Construction Specialty Associates, Lee Vining) and a Mono Lake tour (David Gaines) * 2 "At Mono Lake" photo exhibition posters signed by Brett Weston * 2 copies of "Field Guide to Western Birds" signed by Roger Tory Peterson

1982 Bucket Walk, Annual Meeting and Picnic

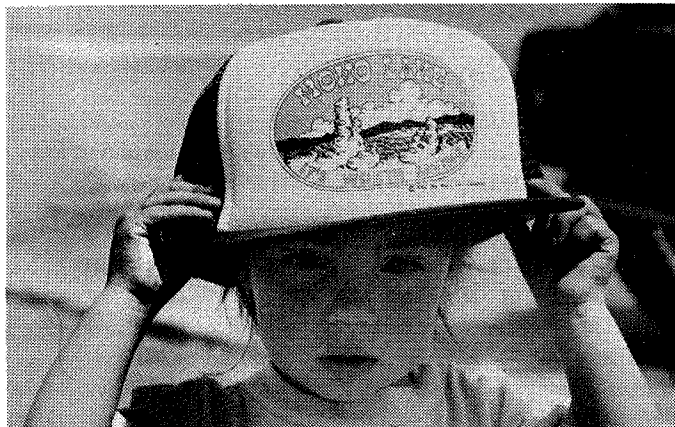
Join Mono Lake's friends on Saturday, September 4, for fourth bucket walk, annual meeting and picnic. We will each dip a small container into Lee Vining Creek and deliver the desperately needed water to the lake, symbolizing our commitment to its preservation.

On the same day the L.A. to Mono Lake bikeathoners will be arriving with water scooped from the DWP's reflecting pool in downtown Los Angeles. Let's welcome them with hundreds of people!

MEET at 10:00 a.m. at the Old Marina (parking area just east of US 395 one mile north of Lee Vining). We will provide shuttles to the beginning of the walk.

BRING a small container for carrying water, snacks, and signs with appropriate slogans.

MEETING AND PICNIC: MLC members and friends will gather at the Mono Lake County Park at 4:00 p.m. for our annual meeting (five miles north of Lee Vining). The picnic will follow around 6:00 p.m. Bring your own food and libation. See you there!



MONO LAKE CAPS

These quality caps, silk-screened with Rebecca Shearin's classic "Mono Lake: It's Worth Saving" logo, are available in six colors (red, light blue, dark blue, brown, purple and black). Their size is adjustable, and fits everyone we know. \$4.95

BOOKS

The following books on Mono Lake, the Los Angeles Aqueduct and related subjects are available from the Mono Lake Committee:

| | |
|--|---------|
| <i>Water and Power</i> , by William Kahl | \$24.95 |
| <i>Mammals of the Mono Lake-Tioga Pass Region</i> , by John Harris | \$3.95 |
| <i>A Trip to Bodie Bluff and Mono Lake in 1863</i> , by J. Ross Browne | \$2.50 |
| <i>Mono Lake: Eine Eigenfuehrung</i> | \$2.50 |
| <i>Mono Lake Guidebook</i> , by David Gaines | \$5.95 |
| <i>An Ecological Study of Mono Lake</i> , edited by David Winkler | \$7.50 |
| <i>The Water Seekers</i> , by Remi Nadeau | \$9.95 |
| <i>Vision or Villainy</i> , by Abraham Hoffmann | \$18.50 |
| <i>Water in California—Special Issue of Fremontia</i> | \$2.00 |
| <i>Earthquakes and Young Volcanoes along the Eastern Sierra Nevada</i> , by C. Dean Rinehard and Ward C. Smith | \$5.95 |
| <i>Roadside Geology of the Eastern Sierra from Bridgeport to Big Pine</i> | \$2.00 |
| <i>Basin and Range</i> , by John McPhee | \$5.95 |



ORDER FORM

| QUAN. | ITEM | SIZE | COLOR | | UNIT PRICE | AMOUNT |
|-------|------|------|-------|-----|------------|--------|
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Please include check or money order or credit card information

Minimum credit card orders, \$15

Master Charge _____ Visa _____

Credit Card# _____ Bank # _____

/ / Expires _____ Signature _____

SUBTOTAL

Ca. residents add 6% sales tax

Shipping & Handl. add 15%

AMOUNT ENCLOSED

Post Office Box 29/Lee Vining, CA 93541 (714) 647-6386

FUN(D)RAISERS

3rd Annual L.A. to Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon

On August 30, a band of dedicated cyclists will depart from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's downtown skyscraper, small vials of water strapped to their bicycles, and the Third Annual L.A. to Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon will be underway. Six days later, on September 4, the wheeled adventurers will swoop down to Mono's shore, joining the assembled bucket-toting multitudes in our annual celebration of the lake's right to life, symbolized by the return of the once-diverted water to its natural destination.

You can join us, either directly by cycling along, or in spirit by pledging your support to MLC Chairman David Gaines, Legislative Rep David Takemoto-Weerts, or the rider of your choice.

If you'd like to hit the road with us, contact the Mono Lake Committee as soon as possible. The 350-mile long ride is not as grueling as it sounds. We average about 60 miles per day, and a "sag wagon" carries all our supplies (we still need a sag wagon and driver—we'll cover expenses). Cyclists are also encouraged to join the bike-a-thon anywhere along the route.

The Mono Lake Bike-a-Thoners deserve your support. Please pledge whatever you can . . . and ask friends to do the same. Every cent will further the fight to save Mono Lake.

1982 Bird-a-Thon

For the third year MLC is joining with the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) in a joint fundraising event—the 1982 Bird-a-Thon. Spend an exciting day birdwatching while helping raise funds for two good causes. PRBO is a nonprofit research group that has been studying Mono's birds since 1977.

The rules are simple. You ask friends to pledge a nickel, dime, dollar or whatever for every species you find on Saturday, September

ber 25. For example, if you see 50 species and a sponsor has pledged 50¢ per species, you have raised \$25!

Or, if you don't wish to count, you may sponsor a birdwatching friend or our own birdbrained chairman, David Gaines.

All counters receive a free Mono Lake or PRBO T-shirt. Counters who raise over \$300 will receive a free field guide or equivalent prize. Sponsors who send in their pledge before August 31 will be eligible for the raffle of a Bushnell telescope and tripod.

If you want to count, please contact Bob Stewart at the Point Reyes Bird Observatory as soon as possible (Box 321, Bolinas, CA, 94924; 415 868-1221).

Bay Cruise Benefit

Join Mono's friends on Sunday, October 17, for an exciting and informative day-long cruise into the northern reaches of San Francisco Bay and the marshlands of the Delta. Expert naturalists will be on board to talk about the bay's history and wildlife. We have chartered the Harbor Queen, a large, commodious vessel with a complete galley. We will be sailing at 8:40 a.m. from the Berkeley Marina, and returning at 5 p.m..

The October fundraising cruise is a repeat, by popular demand, of the very successful April 18 outing organized by MLC volunteer Mildred Bennett. On that trip, over 100 "monophiles" enjoyed a glorious day on the bay complemented by the informative commentary of Dan Luten, Fish and Wildlife biologist Roy Lowe, South Bay Audubon warden Lyman Fancher. Over \$1,000 raised for the Mono Lake cause. Thank you, Bennett!!

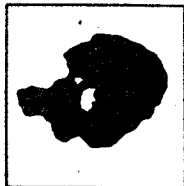
The October cruise should be even better, as we plan to visit the Delta and view the spectacular flocks of migratory water birds. Be sure to purchase your tickets early to assure space for yourself and your friends! We ask a donation of \$30 per person before September 19, and \$33 per person after that date. Please make checks payable to the Mono Lake Committee (not tax-deductible) or to the Golden Gate Audubon Society (tax-deductible).



I pledge \$____/mile to help save Mono Lake for every mile (up to 350 miles) bicycled by David Gaines, David Takemoto-Weerts, or _____ during the 1982 LA-Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon.

Yes, I'd like to join the October 17 San Francisco Bay Benefit Cruise for Mono Lake. I have enclosed \$____ for ____ tickets.

I pledge \$____/species to help save Mono lake for every species tallied by David Gaines or _____ on the 1982 Mono Lake-PRBO Bird-a-Thon.



**The
Mono Lake
Committee**

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