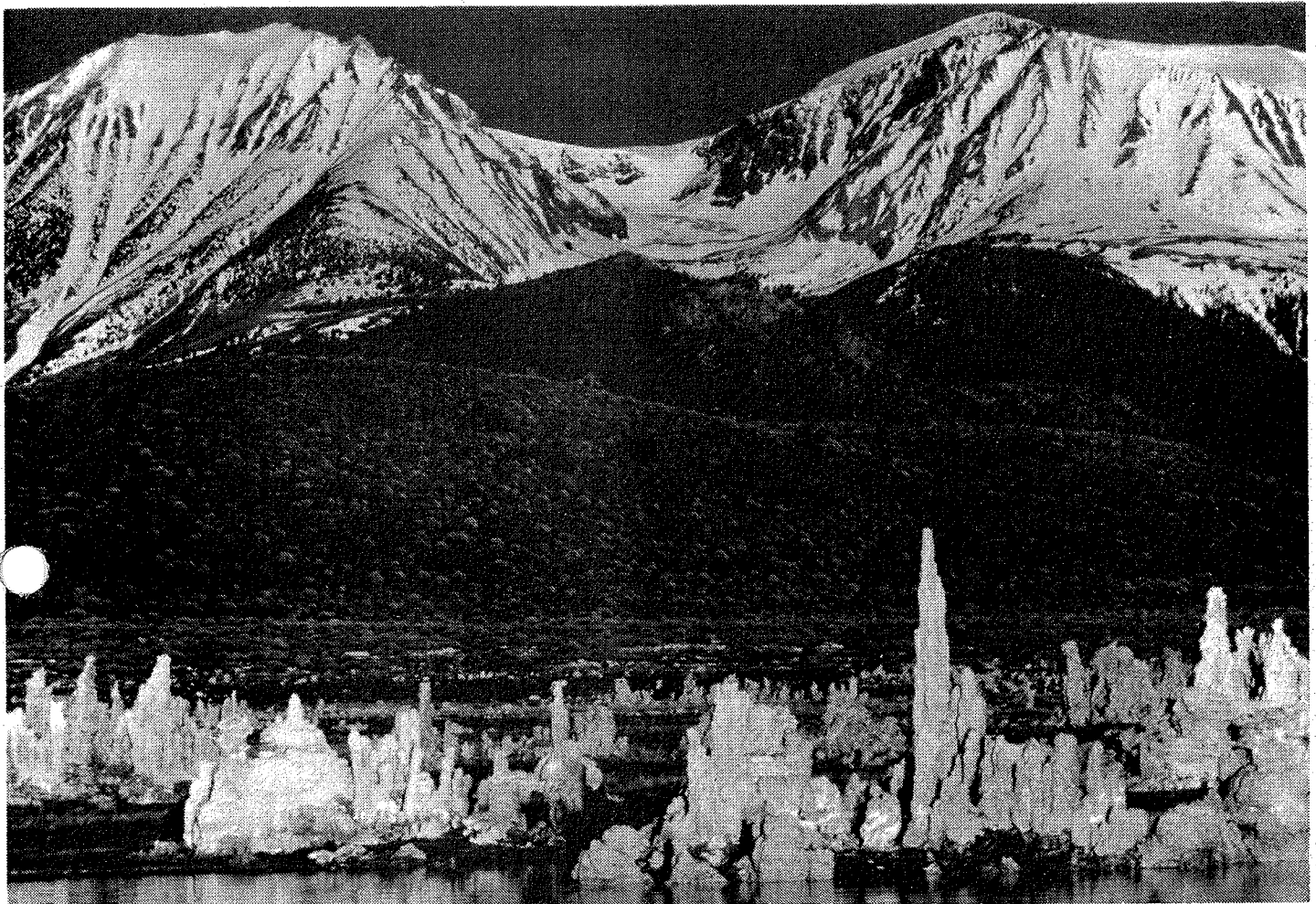


# THE MONO LAKE NEWSLETTER

Summer 1981

Vol. 4, No. 1

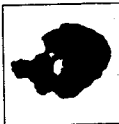


## A National Park? Or Property of Los Angeles?

Should Mono's federally owned lakeshores, with their tufa spires, bubbling springs and spectacular volcanoes, become a National Park or Monument? Or should the federal government sell to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP)?

It could go either way. Congressman Norman Shumway (R-Stockton), whose district includes the lake, is introducing a bill to establish Mono Lake National Monument. DWP is pushing to purchase approximately 23,000 acres of BLM and Forest Service land, much of it bordering Mono's shores.

Meanwhile the aqueduct is full, streams are dry, and Mono Lake continues to fall.



The quarterly *Mono Lake Newsletter* features updates on the latest developments affecting Mono's future as well as articles on the natural, geological and human history of Mono and other Great Basin lakes, reviews of current research and recent publications, and announcements of field trips and talks. We invite your comments and contributions. The newsletter is edited by the Mono Lake Committee in cooperation with the Mono Lake Coalition.

### The Mono Lake Committee

**OUR PURPOSE:** To preserve the scenic, wildlife and scientific values of Mono and other Great Basin lakes by limiting water diversions to levels that are not environmentally destructive, to further public interest in the natural history and preservation of these lakes, and to facilitate relevant research.

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Audubon Society, Mono Lake Committee, Sierra Club*  
c/o Friends of the Earth

124 Spear Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; (415) 495-4770

NOTE: Scott Stine, David Herbst, Evan Sugden, David Winkler and other scientists listed as "research consultants" in past newsletters are not salaried or connected in any formal way with the Mono Lake Committee; these individuals have graciously agreed to furnish updates on their ongoing Mono Basin research projects.

### Summer Fund Raising Appeal

## Dear MLC Members & Friends,

Thanks to your help and generosity, Mono Lake is finally receiving national attention. Millions of people will read of its plight in forthcoming issues of *Life Magazine* and *National Geographic*, and see the lake on national television.

Building on this publicity, we will redouble our efforts where they count the most: in Los Angeles and southern California. We know we can mobilize grass-roots support, catalyze volunteers, spark media coverage and mount a campaign that will bring our legislators to Mono's defense.

But in order to be effective, we need to increase our L.A. staff from one to three or more people. And though we work for subsistence wages, that will still require additional funds.

The Save Mono Lake campaign has come a long way in three years. Never have our chances for ultimate victory looked better. But if we are going to win, we must act quickly and decisively.

At this critical time we are asking you—the lake's strongest supporters—to help us raise funds and win new members. Here's how:

1) Sponsor our intrepid secretary-cyclist Sally Judy on the *L.A. to Mono Lake Bikeathon*, or our birdbrained chairperson David Gaines in the *Mono Lake Birdathon*.

Or better yet, participate as a cyclist or birdwatcher find your own flocks of sponsors. Details on page 15.

2) Whether or not you can spare any dollars, please alert friends, neighbors and colleagues to Mono's plight and invite them to become MLC members. We would be delighted to send literature to prospective members . . .

We think of our work as a vital step toward dwelling in peace with the living earth. Thanks for being part of it!

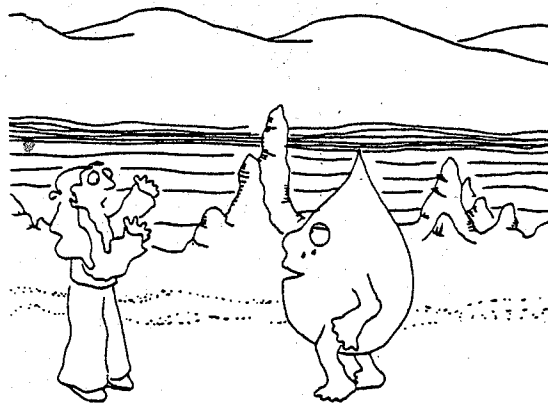
### *Life, Geographic, Smithsonian, Audubon* Articles Wanted

Please send us articles on Mono Lake, especially those full-color glossy magazines. The *Life Magazine* article should be out by July, *Geographic* by October. We can put these articles to use on Mono's behalf.

### In This Issue

State Reserve .....	3
Gulls .....	3
Mono Basin ACEC .....	4
Inyo Groundwater .....	4
Bucket Walk, Meeting, Picnic .....	5
Mono Lake Guidebook .....	6
Mono's Geological History .....	8
Kuzedika Paiute .....	11
Mono Basin Naturalist .....	11
Summer Fund Raisers .....	15

# Mono



# Lake Watch

## DWP Eyes Federal Lands Around Mono Lake

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) has applied to the Secretary of the Interior for purchase of approximately 23,000 acres of BLM and Forest Service land in Mono County, most of it around Mono Lake. A law passed by Congress in the 1930s would allow DWP to purchase the land at a measly \$1.25 an acre.

DWP's move was sparked by Interior Secretary James Watt, who would like to turn over federal land to state and local governments. In a letter to Governor Brown that was circulated among California counties and cities, Watt asked for input. In response DWP applied for lakeshore land and aqueduct right-of-ways.

DWP's motives are obvious: tighten control over Mono Lake. If successful, they would own much of the lakeshore. A national park or monument would be virtually impossible.

As of press time, we were still learning specifics. When letters are needed, we will send an alert.

## Shumway to Introduce Mono Monument Bill

There's still hope! Mono's Congressman Norman Shumway (R-Stockton) is pushing for a Mono Lake National Monument. He is introducing legislation that would grant public lands along the lakeshore, on the islands, on Black Point and in the Mono Craters the national monument status they so obviously deserve. The bill would also provide for studying ways of reducing diversions.

**What You Can Do:** Please write Congressman John Seiberling, Chairman, House Interior Public Lands and National Parks Subcommittee (House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515). Ask that public hearings on Shumway's Mono Lake National Monument bill be held as soon as possible. Constituent letters of support are also needed to the four California members of the subcommittee: Phillip Burton (San Francisco), Don Clausen (northwest coast), Robert Lagomarsino (Santa Barbara) and Charles Pashayan (central San Joaquin Valley).

## Mono State Reserve Passes Senate

On June 12 SB 83, State Senator John Garamendi's Mono Lake State Reserve bill, passed the senate by a vote of 30 to 0. It is expected to pass the assembly and be signed into law sometime this summer.

Because the Mono Lake State Reserve does not address the lake level question, it has won support from just about everyone. Even the Los Angeles Times endorsed SB 83 and ran a photograph of tufa towers.

## Late Bulletin

Congressman Norman Shumway introduced the Mono Lake National Monument bill on June 26th. The bill would provide \$5 million for the development of the park and \$150,000 for a study of alternative water management policies that would reduce the need for Mono Basin diversions.

Shumway also introduced a bill that would repeal the 1936 law permitting DWP to purchase federal Mono County land at \$1.25 an acre. More details in our next newsletter.

Passage of the State Reserve will in no way reduce our chances of raising the level of Mono Lake. On the contrary, it will protect the tufa formations and other shoreline features, facilitate appropriate visitor use, and indirectly, alert more people to Mono's plight.

**What You Can Do:** SB 83 will probably be heard in the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee on August 19. Letters to your assemblyman would be helpful.

## Gulls Hanging on as Lake Drops

By the summer solstice, most of the Sierran snowpack had melted away. The aqueduct was full and Mono Lake was falling. By June 21 it had dropped from an April elevation of 6373.5 feet to an elevation of 6372.8 feet.

Meanwhile thousands of California Gull chicks were hatching on the small islets northeast of Negit Island and west of Paoha. By the solstice, the chicks had fattened into active little fluff balls. A few were beginning to test their rapidly growing wings.

Until the chicks fly, however, they are vulnerable to mainland predators. Twain and Java islets, where about 40 percent of the remaining gulls nest, will be connected to the mainland by the end of the summer. The channel around the islets is less than one foot in depth—hardly enough to discourage coyotes. Hopefully the chicks can hang on for a few more weeks. But what about next year?

A thorough census of Mono Lake's gull colonies is scheduled for July 6. According to University of California biologist David Winkler, preliminary surveys revealed a few dozen pairs on Negit

"Island" (compared to tens of thousands in years past) and none at all on Paoha. The smaller islets seemed to harbor about as many as last year (about 40,000 nesting adults). A report on nesting success will highlight our next newsletter.

## BLM Drafts Mono Basin Management Objectives

The US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed designating public lands in the Mono Basin an *Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)*. This would require "special management attention" to protect Mono's extraordinary ecological and scenic values. The draft lists the following management objectives.

1. General — support projects or legislation designed to increase water flows into Mono Lake.
2. Air quality — meet state standards.
3. Wildlife — assure habitat, food and resting areas for nesting and migratory water birds.
4. Scenic — maintain and enhance visual quality.
5. Botanical — prevent extirpation of sensitive plant species.
6. Geological — prevent unnatural degradation of tufa, craters, islands, etc.
7. Reserach — facilitate long-term educational and research projects.
8. Interagency coordination — coordinate with state, local and federal agencies and other organizations.

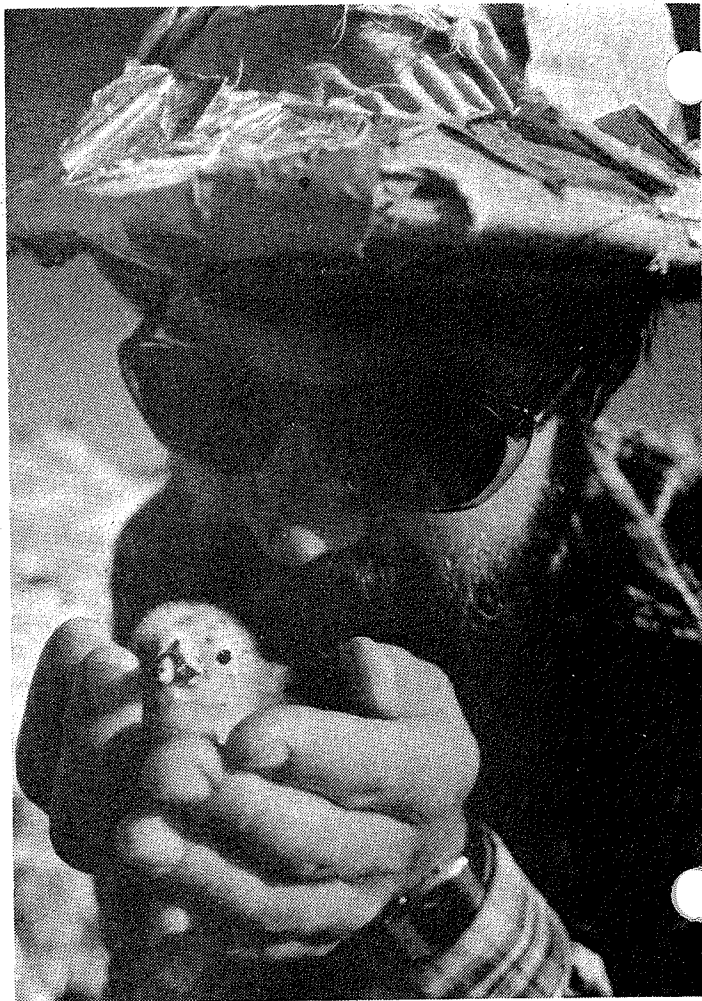
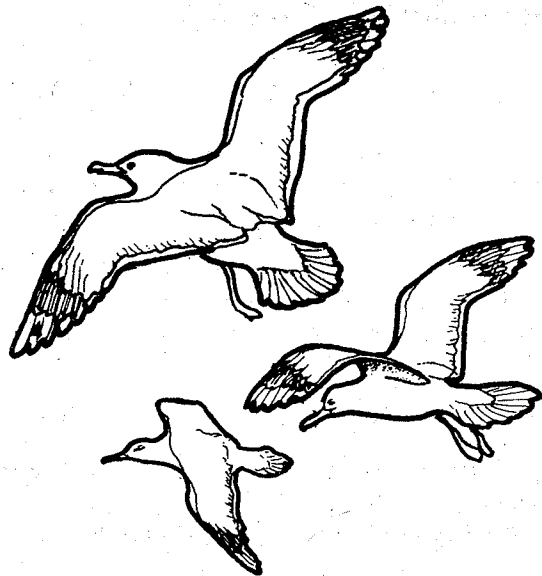
The ACEC would include all 160,032 acres of BLM land in the Mono Lake watershed (excluding Nevada).

In a letter to BLM, the Mono Lake Committee strongly endorsed the ACEC. The proposal will go to the state director for approval sometime this summer. If approved, a management plan will be drafted. Public hearings will be held this fall.

**What You Can Do:** Let BLM know you support the ACEC and want to be kept informed of its progress. Write to: Mr. Louis A. Boll, District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 800 Truxtun Ave., Room 302, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

## Mono Lake Lawsuit Still On Hold

A critical hearing on the Audubon/MLC/Friends of the Earth lawsuit is scheduled for August 17 in Markleeville, Alpine County. We will have a full update in our next newsletter.



Michael Dremler

Biologist David Winkler and newly hatched gull chick. Winkler has been studying Mono's California Gulls since 1976.

## No Deal With DWP

### Inyo County to Enforce Groundwater Ordinance

On May 19, 1981 the Inyo County Supervisors voted 4 to 1 to turn down an agreement that would have exempted the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) from complying with its groundwater pumping ordinance for three years. In return the county would have received \$540,000.

Just a week before, the supervisors appeared on the verge of accepting the agreement, which would have given DWP a carte blanche to pump the Owens Valley dry. As in the Mono Basin, DWP diverts Owens Valley streams into the Los Angeles Aqueduct; they also pump groundwater (is this in store for Mono?). The pumping is lowering Owens Valley water tables, killing vegetation and increasing the frequency and intensity of dust storms. Faced with overwhelming opposition and recall threats, the Inyo supervisors reversed themselves and nixed the agreement.

In response to the groundwater pumping ordinance, DWP filed suit arguing that Inyo County does not have authority to regulate groundwater. The state of California may intervene on Inyo's side.

For more information, please contact: Concerned Citizens of Owens Valley, P.O. Box 617, Lone Pine, CA 93545.

Come To The

# 1981 Mono Lake Bucket Walk, Meeting and Picnic



Stephen Johnson

Join Mono's friends on Sunday, September 6, for our third bucket walk, annual meeting, picnic and communal cry. 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** anytime between 9:00 and 11:00 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.

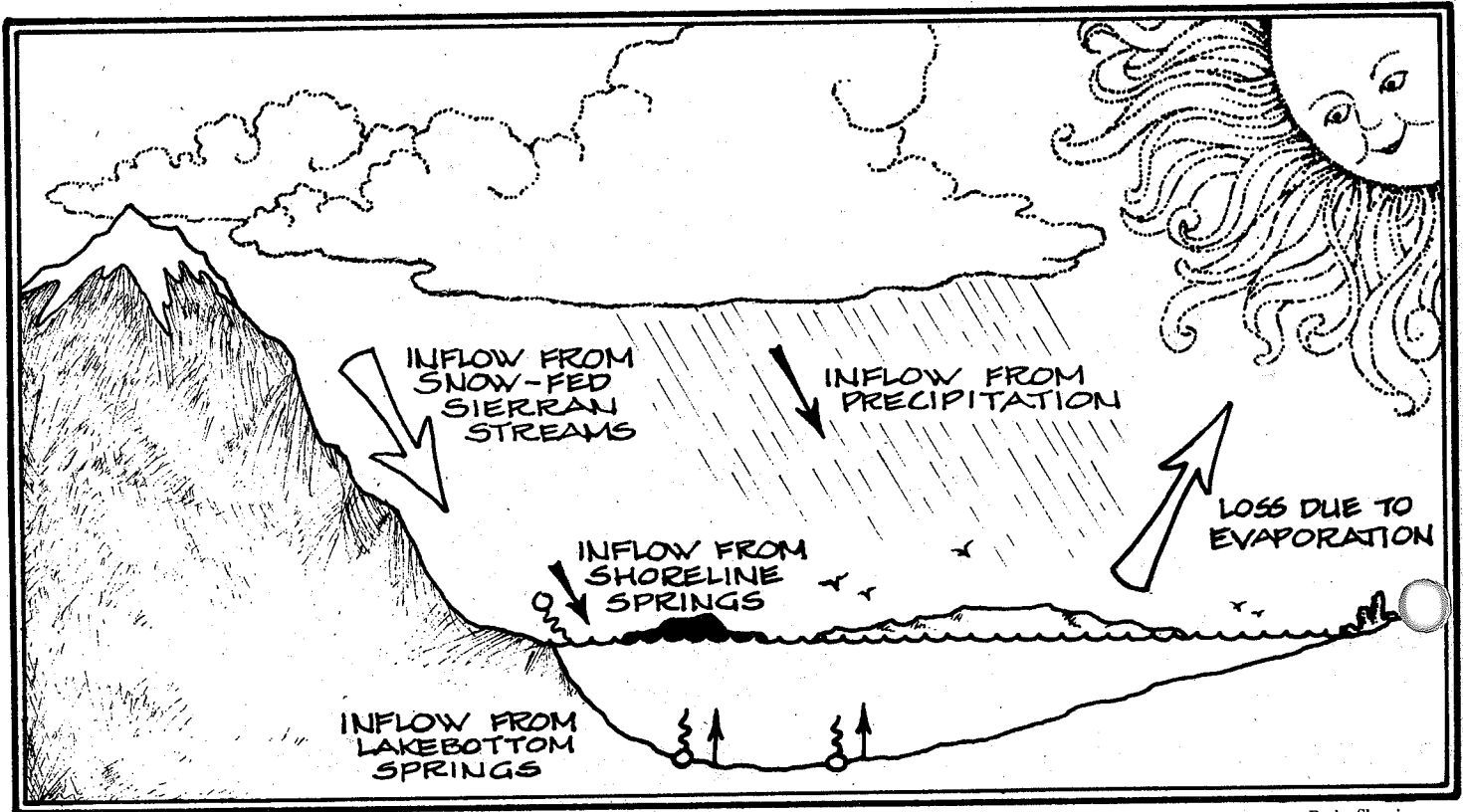
**MEETING and PICNIC:** The MLC tribe will gather at the Mono Lake County Park at 4:00 p.m. for our annual meeting (five miles north of Lee Vining). The picnic will follow around 6:00 p.m. (Bring your own food and libation.) See you there!

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,** contact the Mono Lake Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (714) 647-6386.

Available mid-July

# The Mono Lake Guidebook

by David Gaines and the Mono Lake Committee  
113 pages; 74 black and white photographs; 12 maps;  
10 figures; numerous line drawings



Becky Shearin

## CONTENTS:

### Chapter 1 DISCOVERING MONO LAKE

A Self-guided Tour

### Chapter 2 THE LAKE AND ITS SETTING

A Country of Wonderful Contrasts; Saline and Alkaline; Strange Water, Strange Tufa; Snow Fields and Sagebrush; Fluctuating Lake Levels; Geological History; During the Ice Ages; Volcanoes and Volcanic Islands

### Chapter 3 THE LIVING SEA

Few Species, Countless Individuals; Brine Shrimp vs. Algae; Brine Flies, Midges and Monsters; Nesting Gulls and Plovers; Travelers from Distant Shores; An Avian Gas Station; A Troubled Future

### Chapter 4 HUMAN HISTORY:

#### KUTSAVI-EATERS TO WATER-SEEKERS

Kuzedika Paiute; Mountain Men and Fortune Hunters; Writers and Settlers; Robbing the Gulls; The Aqueduct Builders; Tapping into Mono

#### PHOTOGRAPHIC ESSAY

### Chapter 5 TURNING PARADISE INTO ALKALI

Owens Dry Lake; The Deadly Salt Build-Up; Salt-stressed Birds; Alkali Smog; What Will Be Lost?

### Chapter 6 COMMON-SENSE WATER USE

#### CAN SAVE MONO LAKE

The Task Force Compromise; The Lesson of the California Drought; A Wet Year/Dry Year Approach; Greed, Not Need; Watershed Housekeeping

## Have you ever wondered...

How tufa towers are formed?

Why Mono Lake is salty?

Who hatched chickens in Paoha Island's steam vents?

How to prepare brine fly soup?

You'll find the answers (and much more) in the Mono Lake Committee's first book, the *Mono Lake Guidebook*.

The *Mono Lake Guidebook* is the first authoritative biography of America's most extraordinary lake. From tufa to volcanoes, brine shrimp to gulls, aqueducts to water conservation, it delves into Mono's geology, wildlife and history, and the alternatives to its destruction. Lively, informative and thoroughly referenced, the *Mono Lake Guidebook* is sure to delight vacationist and monophile alike.

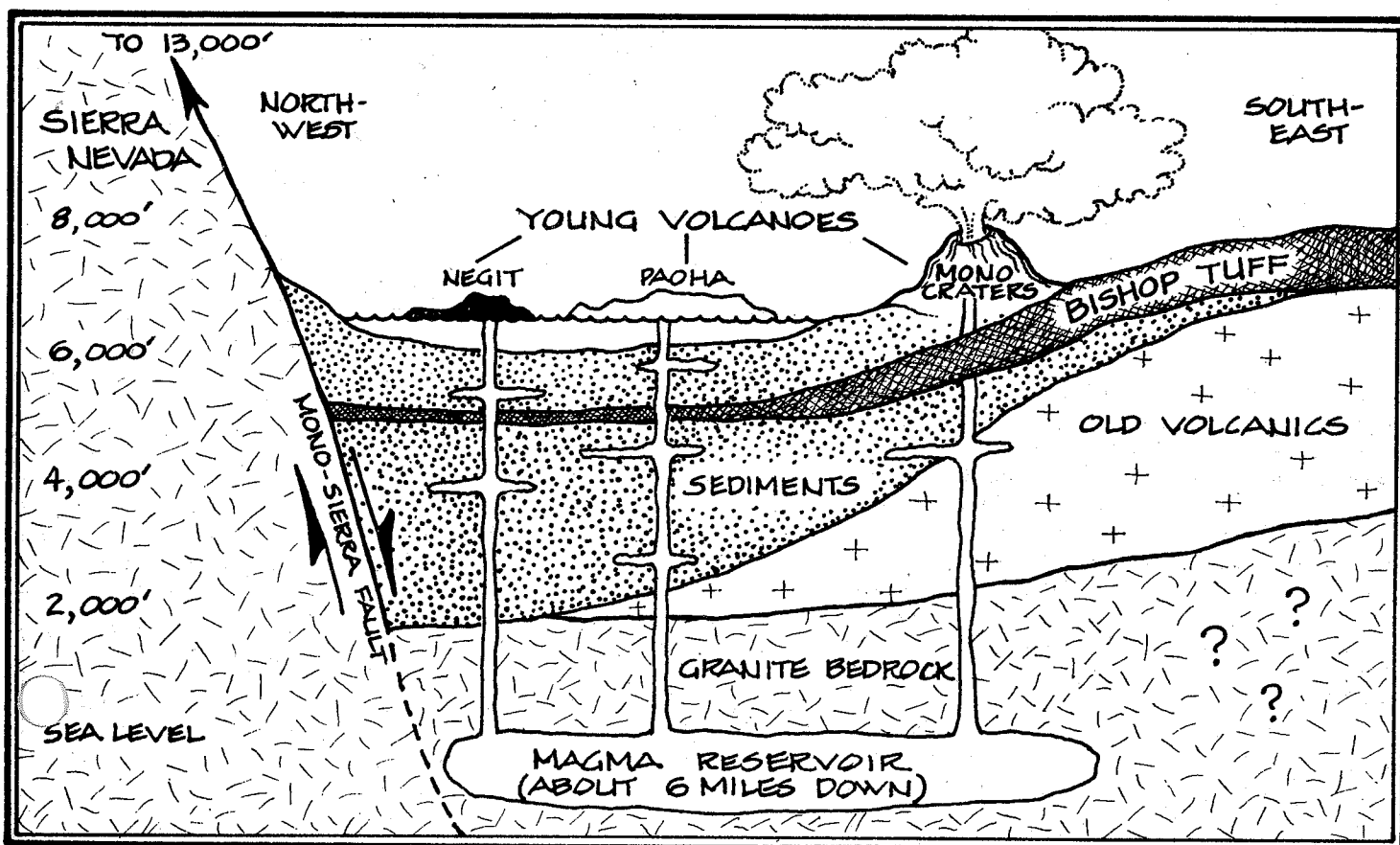
Price through September 1: \$3.95 (+ \$1.00 postage; Calif residents add 24c sales tax)

(After September 1, the price will be \$4.95)

send orders to: MLC, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541

# Mono Lake's Geological History

This article is excerpted from our Mono Lake Guidebook.



Becky Shearin

Figure 4. Idealized geologic cross-section of the Mono Basin. During the past three and one-half million years, the basin has slipped downwards over 11,000 vertical feet along the Mono-Sierra fault. It has filled with more than 4,000 feet of sediment washed out of the mountains. Volcanoes have repeatedly darkened its skies. Within the last ten centuries Negit, Paoha and the Mono Craters have all been in full eruption. Today these processes—faulting, erosion and volcanism—are still actively molding and changing the landscape.

Mono is one of the oldest continuously existing lakes on the North American continent. Yet compared to the age of the earth, it is young. If our planet had been born a day ago, Mono would only be about one minute (three million years) old—about as old as *Homo sapiens*. If that “minute” were projected on a screen, we would see a thrilling series of belching volcanoes and wrenching earthquakes, advancing and retreating glaciers and rapidly changing landscapes. The lake itself would rise and fall hundreds of feet, a “geologic heartbeat” pulsing to changes in climate and the passage of millennia.

For the past ten million years, the block that forms the Sierra Nevada has been rising and tilting to the west. Until about four million years ago, however, the precipitous eastern Sierra escarpment did not exist; you could have strolled from the crest east into Nevada. There was no Mono Basin and no Mono Lake. The modern landscape was molded, not by the uplift of the Sierra, but primarily by the dropping of the basin. For several million years, the basin has been tilting westwards due to downward slippage along a fault at the foot of the Sierra. It has dropped about 11,000 feet, two vertical miles, at a

rate of three to four feet per thousand years (see figure).

As the Mono Basin's western floor slipped downwards along the Mono-Sierran fault, its southern and northern margins tilted slowly toward its center. This downwarping, gentle compared to that along the Sierra, cradled the basin with rolling uplands to the north, east and south. The bottom of the basin filled with water to form Mono Lake.

Even before the Mono Basin came into existence, the climate was becoming colder and drier. Ten million years ago redwood forests clothed much of the region. But the Sierra rose up to block Pacific storms, leaving the land to the east in a rain shadow. Redwoods and ferns gave way to drought-resistant oaks and chaparral, and finally to pinyon pines and sagebrush.

In its infancy, Mono Lake may have drained to the south or east. Sometime in its youth, as its basin deepened and aridity increased, it ceased overflowing and became a sea without an outlet. Excepting brief interludes, it has been landlocked ever since.

## Kuzedika Paiute



Becky Shearin

Only 130 years ago, Mono Lake was a blank spot on the white man's map. Nomadic hunters, gatherers and traders dwelt along its shores. They were known to their neighbors as the *Kuzedika*, the *fly-pupae eaters*, for they harvested the pupae and larvae of Mono's brine flies at the end of each summer. "They come from far and near to gather them," wrote William Brewer in 1863. "The worms [pupae] are dried in the sun, the shell rubbed off, when a yellowish kernal remains, like a small grain of rice. This is oily, very nutritious, and not unpleasant to the taste, and under the name *kutsavi* forms a very important article of food. The Indians gave me some. It does not taste bad, and if one were ignorant of its origins, it would make a fine soup."

Using tools fashioned of stone, wood and bone, the Kuzedika Paiute survived in a land that dismayed its first white visitors. They were expert naturalists, intimate by inclination and necessity with

every bird, animal and plant. When the snow melted in the mountains, they carried heavily laden, elegantly woven willow baskets over the same ancient Mono Pass trail used by present-day backpackers. They traveled as far west as Yosemite Valley, bartering obsidian, pinyon nuts, kutsavi and salt for acorns, manzanita berries and bear skins. In the autumn, when caches were full of pinyon nuts, kutsavi, seeds and rabbit meat, they celebrated with feasts and dance, gambling and games. Storytellers passed the long winter nights with tales of coyote and the creation of Mono Lake.

Or so we must conjecture, for the aboriginal life way has been all but obliterated. Only an occasional arrowhead on a lonely beach reminds us of the people who belonged to Mono Lake as much as we belonged to them. We, by comparison, are strangers, tourists, newcomers.



A Kuzedika Paiute camp, photographed ca. 1900 by C. Hart Merriam.

courtesy the Bancroft Library



PLEASE HELP MONO LAKE

We the undersigned, share the conviction that Mono Lake is an irreplaceable natural treasure. We advocate stabilizing Mono Lake at its 1970 elevation of 6,388 feet. This will still allow an average annual diversion of about 15,000 acre-feet per year for human use. The islands will still exist, millions of birds will still have a place to nest, rest and feed, and the Eastern Sierra will not be plagued with alkali dust pollution.

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Please mail completed petitions to the Mono Lake Committee, PO Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541

This is a show of support, not a referendum petition; anyone can sign.

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Becky Shearin

## The Mono Basin Naturalist

Never before have we seen such a profusion of blooms adorning the Mono Basin's shrubs. By early May the desert peach was covered with fragrant pink blossoms. A few weeks later entire hillsides turned golden with bitterbrush flowers.

The spring birds arrived on schedule—gulls, swallows and robins in March, warblers and wrens in April, flycatchers in May, nighthawks in June. On April 2, despite a raging blizzard, a flashy male Northern (Bullock's) Oriole appeared in Lee Vining; obviously spring could not be far behind!

Among the rare birds were four species never before observed in the Mono Basin: Mississippi Kite, Hooded Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler and a White-rumped Sandpiper (along Mono's eastern shore).

At dawn and dusk, an eerie hollow tremolo sound could be heard above the boggy meadows near the Mono Lake County Park. This "winnowing" of the male Common Snipe is produced by their

vibrating tail feathers as they plummet earthward from heights of hundreds of feet. Pairs conceal their nests in the marshy vegetation around the lake.

As of the summer solstice, Mono's waters were still green with algae, though swarming with full-grown brine shrimp. Gulls were swarming around upwelling springs to harvest the shrimp for their hungry chicks.

Several times this spring Golden Eagles soared over the gull rookeries, but were driven off by angry gulls. A strange, large egg—about three inches across—was discovered in the colonies on May 28. Undoubtedly it belonged to a pelican, but how did it get there? A White Pelican was observed at Mono Lake County Park about the same time. Amazingly, the gigantic egg—about twice the size of a gull egg—was being incubated by gulls. We are eagerly awaiting developments!

## Loyal Members

We thank the following members for renewing since the last newsletter:

**MONOMANIAC:** David Devine, San Fernando Valley A.S., California Native Plant Society

**MONOPHILE:** El Dorado Nature Center, Mr. & Mrs. John Frankel, Mrs. B.H. Hill, Rudolph H. Light

**PATRONS:** Saul Chaikin, El Dorado Audubon, Robert Howell, Kent Johnson, Bill Mendoza, Dr. Alan Morris, Mr. & Mrs. David Volmer, Mack Wilkinson, James Wilson

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## Accolades

Our new office chairs are a wonderful improvement. Thank you M.G. West Company and Raffi Bedayn!

We are grateful to the Davis Monophiles who staffed a Mono Lake table at their Earth Day Fair: Karen Austin, Ted Beedy, John Harris, Dean Jue, Tom Love, Early Human, Lisa Palermo, Virginia Pickles, Stephanie, and Susan Sanders. United Parcel Service gets the booby prize for not delivering T-shirts on time.

Ginger Harmon arranged to have KCRA-TV's (Sacramento) excellent Mono Lake documentary aired on cable television in Los Angeles. Joyce Woodruff is helping spread the word by getting a display in the Cuesta Junior College Library in San Luis Obispo. Susan Sanders has been supervising an Audubon Education Intern who is doing Mono Lake slide programs in Davis schools.

Our supplier of Kodak film, Dobbs Photo of Mammoth, generously deducts 2% from the bill as her contribution to the cause. Wilderness Press donates most of their profits when we buy their books.

California Audubon chapters are working toward a fund-raising goal of \$2 per member to support the Audubon/MLC/Friends of the Earth lawsuit. Kern Audubon mailed out our leaflets along with a request for donations, while the Los Osos group gathered 90 runners for a benefit foot race. Please let us know what your chapter is doing.

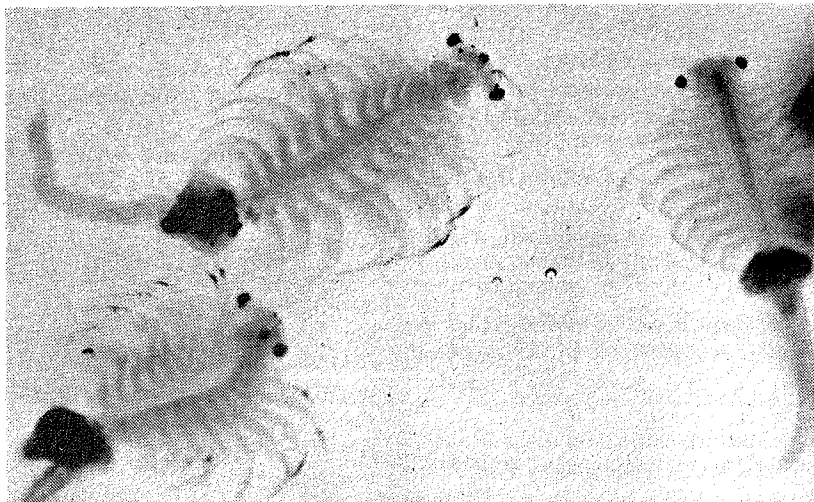
Nancy Conzett, Elliot Burch, Brett Engstrom, Mark Ross and Grace de Laet helped our chairperson through a marathon proofreading and paste-up session on the *Mono Lake Guidebook*. Sharon Johnson did last minute corrections and paste-up and delivered the manuscript to the printer.

Bob Van Hein, who harvested brine shrimp eggs from Mono Lake 30 years ago, donated several striking pictures of the lake in better days.

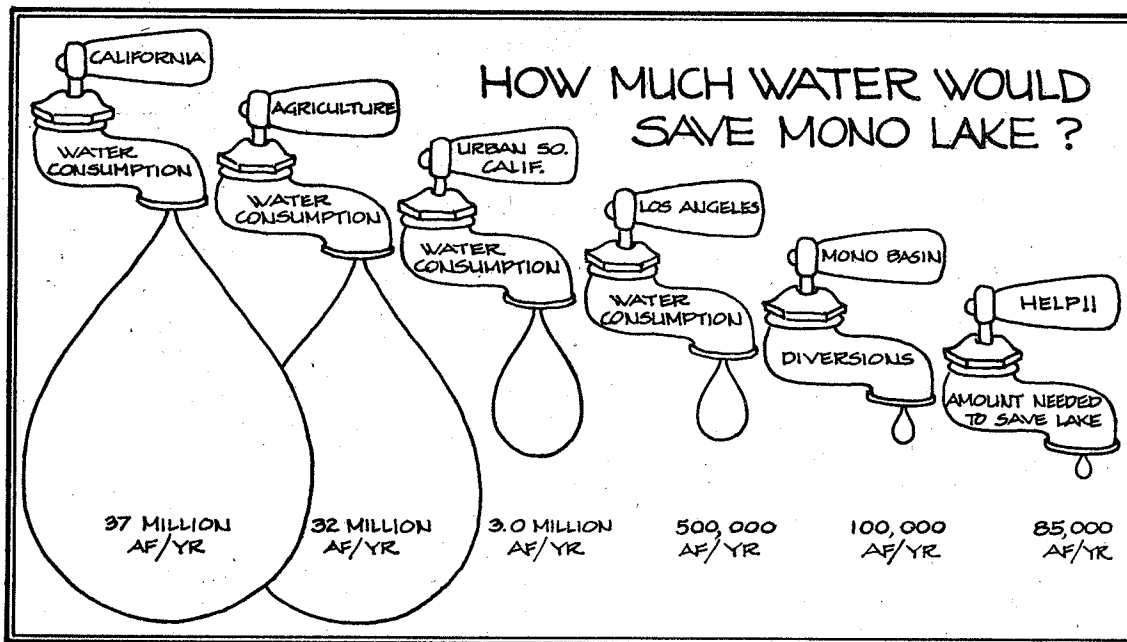
## With a Little Help from our Friends

We are exceedingly grateful to all our Lee Vining volunteers. Karen Clements came up for a week in early June. Summer intern Lisa Baugh arrived June 20 and Ralph Kunin will be helping through the very busy July Fourth weekend. Chris Gavin and Lora Shank are our other interns, and the following folks have volunteered for a week or two: Anne Takemoto, Betty Kenneday, Lauren Davis, and Susan Fox. We can always use a helping hand—so, if you have a few days or a few weeks, come by and help out.

Female brine shrimp  
with egg sacs.



Michael Dresler



## LETTERS

Dear friends,

Last year I had the chance to visit Mono Lake, and I was surprised of the beauty and destruction. I am a scientist and teacher on a College in Germany (Biology) and interested in environmental questions. Therefore I published an article in an environmental magazine called "Naturshutz und Naturparke" showing the problems of Mono Lake.

In the moment we have the same problems as you!! The huge area of Hamburg needs water. Therefore they drill in the National park and we are afraid of the sinking of the (under)ground water.

People all over the world are wasting water. I hope, we and you are successful fighting against the destruction of nature and the world.

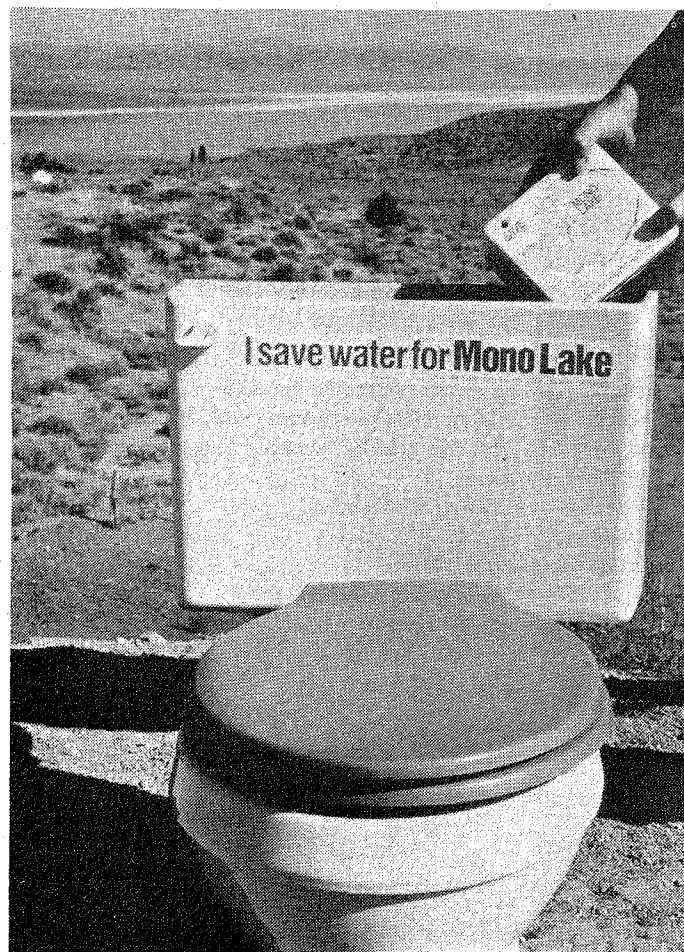
Michael Kuhl  
Hamburg, West Germany

## THE SECRETARY SPEAKS . . .

... comfortably sitting in her donated office chair. Not much news ... enjoy the newsletter ... but please check your mailing label. If anything is misspelled, drop us a friendly card. Don't forget to tell us your zip code, for the cards are filed by zip.

Our next issue will be the last in which we list renewing subscribers. By the end of the year we will be on a computerized renewal system. With about 500 renewals per quarter (hopefully), there will be too many names to list in the newsletter.

Our Muff Award of the month goes to Dale and Carol Dunkel - 95355 - for making our secretarial jobs easier. On the outside of their envelope, they legibly and considerably noted "membership renewal and merchandise order." Hurrah, you did the first part of our mail sorting for us!



Mark Ross

"Brick as art object . . . toilet tank as gallery." In 1979 Los Angeles artist Deborah Small crafted 50 porcelain Mono Lake bricks designed to displace water in recipients' toilet tanks. She sent them to public officials with the power to influence Mono's destiny. Simple, common-sense water conservation methods could save Mono Lake many times over.

## Mono Lake Color-and-Learn Book

"The Mono Lake Color-and-Learn Book is an outstanding accomplishment. It combines entertainment, humor, and education in a water conservation message that all Californians—young and adult—must understand if we are going to preserve the quality of life that Californians presently enjoy."

Huey P. Johnson

California Secretary for Resources



In order to get our *Color-and-Learn Book* out and working to save Mono Lake, we are offering them at reduced prices:

\$2.25 each — \$10 for five

(+ 15% handling; California residents add 6% sales tax)

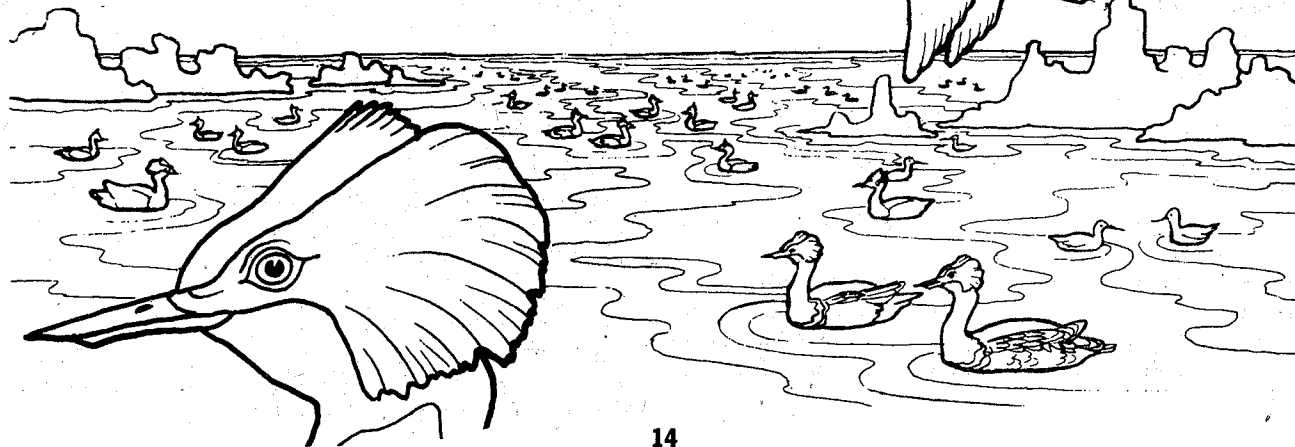
Checks should be payable to the Mono Lake Committee.

Send orders to: P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541.

### Wish List

Most of our funds are consumed by such ongoing expenses as printing costs, telephone bills, salaries and rent. Here are some items on our wish list. You can help by donating towards the purchase of any of the following:

Selectric typewriter for L.A. office	\$1,300
Electronic cash register	\$500
Slide projector for L.A. office	\$200
Cassette tape player for automated slide shows	\$130
Slide-tape sound synchronizer	\$70
Slide screen	\$50
Calculator	\$50



## New B/W Poster Available mid-July

In our visitor center so many people stand enthralled before high resolution USGS aerial photo and ask for a copy that we decided to print it up as a poster.

Our new 19" by 25" poster is a view from 55,000 feet up looking west across the state of California. All your favorite places are visible: Mono Lake and its ice-age shorelines, Tuolumne Meadows, the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne River, Half Dome, the San Joaquin Valley, the Coast Ranges and Monterey Bay.

Price will be \$2.50. Please add \$1.25 for postage and mailing tube. California residents please add 15¢ sales tax.

## Audubon Mono Lake Benefit Drawing

The Golden Gate Audubon Society is holding a drawing to benefit Mono Lake. Grand prize is an incredibly beautiful handmade quilt depicting Mono Lake and its wildlife. MLC chairperson David Gaines was so enamored by the quilt that he immediately purchased 50 tickets! The quilt will be displayed in our Lee Vining Information Center September 6-7 (same weekend as our bucket walk, meeting and picnic) and in the Berkeley Public Library September 8-21. Words cannot do justice to this masterpiece! The drawing will be held November 12, 1981.

Other prizes include an original watercolor by Gomke, a framed black-and-white photograph by Michael Beauceage (one of the finest we've seen), cross country skis, dinner for two at the Pelican Inn (Muir Beach), and the book *High and Wild* by Galen Rowell.

Tickets are \$1 apiece. They are available from the Mono Lake Committee or the Golden Gate Audubon Society (2718 Telegraph Ave. #206, Berkeley, CA 94705; (415) 843-2222). Please make checks payable to: The Golden Gate Audubon Society. All proceeds benefit the Audubon/MLC/Friends of the Earth Mono Lake lawsuit.

## FRIENDS OF THE RIVER FUND RAISER

At \$2 per ticket you can purchase a chance to win an 18-day raft trip down the Colorado River for two! Other prizes are two- to 15-day raft trips on rivers in Alaska, Chile and California. The drawing will be held October 31, 1981; the trips will run the following spring. Tickets may be purchased from: The Stanislaus Initiative Campaign, P.O. Box 161750, Suite 1, Sacramento, CA 95816.

# Summer Fund Raisers

## 1981 L.A. to Mono Lake Bikeathon

On September 1 a flock of hardy cyclists will once again pedal out of Los Angeles with water scooped from the DWP reflecting pool. They plan to fight gravity and politics by bicycling the water 350 miles to its natural destination—Mono Lake. They will also be publicizing Mono's plight and raising funds by soliciting pledges for each mile traveled.

Additional cyclists are most welcome. To go the distance, you must be able to ride 70 miles per day for five days through the desert along US 395. We will have a sag wagon to carry gear, and will be camping out along the way.

Cyclists are also encouraged to join the bikeathon anywhere along the route.

The Mono Lake Bikeathoners 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.

## Angel Island Fund Raiser

If you receive this newsletter before Saturday, August 9, you may still be able to join our gala fund-raising picnic on Angel Island in San Francisco Bay.

Private sailing yachts donated by members of the Oceanic Society Bay Area yachtsmen will transport you to the island. After a scenic stroll, you will be ready for the fabulous feast prepared by Chef Paul of Cercle de l'Union (French Club of San Francisco). Foster Farms and Safeway Stores will be donating the chicken, Boggiatto Packing the artichokes, and Bercut-Vandervoort, Maximillian, Ernies, Sebastiani, Round Hill Vineyards, and George Marie-Victoire an assortment of wines. Monogram of California is again supplying the paper items with the seagull motif.

The energy, organization and enthusiasm stems from Ric and Grace de Laet. Donations are \$25 per person. For reservations please contact: Grace de Laet, 37 Calhoun Terrace, San Francisco, CA 94133; (415) 398-6744.

## 1981 Birdathon

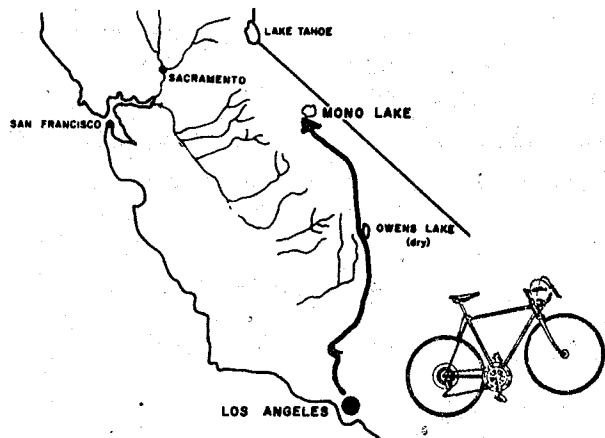
The 1981 Mono Lake/Point Reyes Bird Observatory Birdathon needs your support. Spend an exciting day birdwatching while helping us raise funds for two good causes—the Mono Lake Committee and the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO). PRBO is a nonprofit research group that has been studying Mono's birds, particularly Snowy Plovers, since 1977.

Here's how the birdathon works. You ask friends, neighbors, businesses, etc., to pledge a nickle, dime, dollar or whatever for every bird species you detect on Saturday, September 26. If you tally 50 species and have amassed two dollars per species in pledges, you will have raised \$100! Whatever you raise, you will receive your choice of a Mono Lake or PRBO T-shirt. There are additional prizes for the ten highest money raisers.

Or, if you don't wish to count, you may sponsor a birdwatching friend or our own bird-brain chairperson David Gaines. Last year he tallied 144 species!

The 1980 Birdathon netted \$19,008 for Mono Lake. This year, with your help, we hope to double that amount and fight on to victory.

If you pledge by August 31, you will have a chance to win a Bushnell telescope and tripod.



### Bikeathon Pledge Form

I would like to ride in the 1981 Bikeathon.

Please send me information.

I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_/mile to SALLY JUDY -or- \_\_\_\_\_

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Birdathon Pledge Form

I would like to participate in the Mono Lake/PRBO Birdathon.

Send me the forms I need. My T-shirt choices are (circle): Mono Lake/PRBO; men's, ladies, S, M, L, XL

I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_/species to DAVID GAINES -or- \_\_\_\_\_

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions may be directed to the Mono Lake Committee (not tax-deductible) or to the National Audubon Society or Friends of the Earth foundations (tax-deductible). Please return to: Mono Lake Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541.

# Join us! Mono Lake Needs Your Help

The Mono Lake Committee is a not-for-profit citizen's group dedicated to the preservation of Mono and other Great Basin lakes, and to the wise use of our water and energy resources.

- I would like to join the Mono Lake Committee  
 Please renew my membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT:** If you are renewing and have changed your address during the past year, please include your OLD ZIP CODE here: \_\_\_\_\_

## HERE IS MY CONTRIBUTION FOR:

- \$10 Regular Membership  
 \$5 "I Can't Afford More" Membership  
 \$25 Sponsor  
 \$100 Monophile  
 I am willing to write letters!  
 I am willing to visit my legislators for the cause!  
 I would like to volunteer my time, please call!
- \$50 Patron  
 \$500 or more Monomaniac

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
Mono Lake Committee

Post Office Box 29 Lee Vining, California 93541

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MONO LAKE COMMITTEE ARE NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

However, you can make a tax deductible contribution for education, research and legal expenses by making your check payable to:  
National Audubon Society/Mono Lake Fund

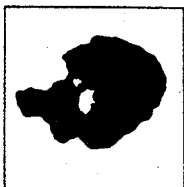
OR

Friends of the Earth Foundation/Mono Lake Fund



SOLICITATION OR SALE FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES DISCLOSURE AS REQUIRED BY AB 1839, 1980

1. Mono Lake Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541
2. One hundred percent of your donation payable to the Mono Lake Committee goes to the Mono Lake Committee
3. Approximately ten percent of our total expenditures are spent on fund raising, e.g. printing, stamps, staff time, etc.
4. Thirty to forty percent of the purchase price of merchandise goes directly to the Mono Lake Committee; sixty to seventy percent is for the cost of the goods.
5. Contributions to the Mono Lake Committee are not tax-deductible.



**The  
Mono Lake  
Committee**

Post Office Box 29  
Lee Vining, California 93541

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