

THE MONO LAKE NEWSLETTER

Autumn 1984

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Mono Becomes a National Scenic Area

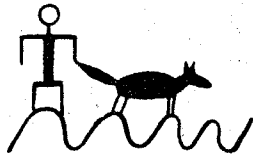
DWP Subterfuge

Mono Lake Catalogue

THE MONO LAKE NEWSLETTER

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ON THE COVER. California Senate majority leader John Garamendi canoes among the tufa with MLC Executive Director Martha Davis and state park ranger Janet Carle. Over the years, Garamendi has been one of Mono's best legislative friends. He has championed the task force recommendations and successfully carried legislation to establish the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve and secure funds for research.



IN THIS ISSUE

DWP Subterfuge.....	4
Mono Becomes National Scenic Area.....	5
Grazing Threatens Tufa, Wildlife.....	6
Gulls Need Negit Island.....	7
Bike-a-thon and Bucket Walk.....	8
Plight of Owens Valley.....	10
Visitation vs. Wilderness.....	12
Russell's Benchmark Rediscovered.....	14
MLC Financial Statement.....	16
Mono Lake Gifts and Catalog.....	17

It is the story of all life that is holy and is good to tell, and of us two-leggeds sharing in it with the four-leggeds and the wings of the air and all green things; for these are children of one mother and their father is one spirit . . .

. . . Black Elk

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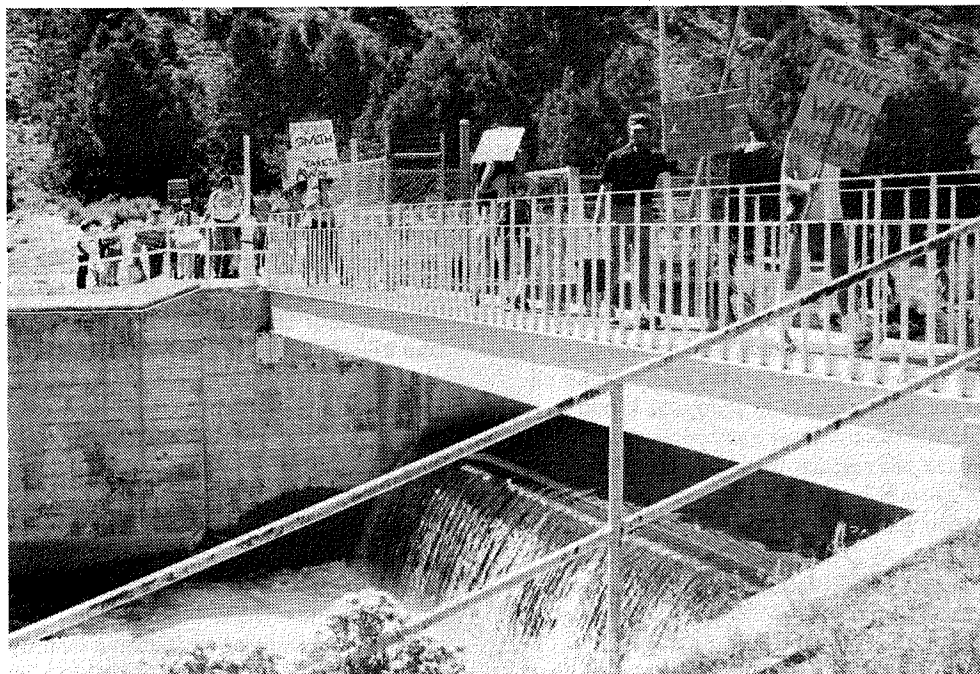
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Mono Lake Watch



Bucket walkers cross the Lee Vining Creek diversion dam. The wet summer has forced DWP to let water breach the dam and reach Mono Lake.

It's been a monsoon summer. During July, August and September, moist, tropical air from the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico spawned cloudy afternoons, lightning storms and locally heavy downpours in the Mono Lake watershed. Hot, humid mornings yielded to showery afternoons spiced with the fragrance of sage- and rabbitbrush.

In Mono's Sierran watersheds, rain-swollen streams stranded campers and filled reservoirs to capacity. In late July, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power was forced to halt diversions and allow the runoff to replenish Mono Lake.

The wet summer prolonged a trend that began in 1978. During the past seven-year period, precipitation and runoff have been the highest on record.

At the same time, DWP has continued to take, regardless of need, all the water its aqueduct system could handle. Between April and July of this year, it diverted nearly 45,000 acre-feet out of the Mono Basin and south to Los Angeles.

This 45,000 acre-feet could have come from other sources. DWP has a surplus storage credit of more than 185,000 acre-feet in the San Fernando Basin. It is using only 4 percent of its preferential right to approximately 650,000 acre-feet of Metropolitan Water District water.

DWP's sources, the Colorado River and the State Water Project, have surpluses this year.

Moreover DWP has been ineffective at curbing water consumption in Los Angeles. Demand is projected to reach a record level of 624,000 acre-feet in the April 1984 to March 1985 runoff year. According to studies by

the California Department of Water Resources, modest, common-sense conservation measures could increase the efficiency with which Angelenos—and all Californians—use water, and reduce L.A.'s water demand by up to 24 percent.* Yet DWP's token conservation efforts have not prevented demand from increasing!

Why won't DWP share water with Mono Lake, even when alternative supplies are plentiful? Why has it not mounted effective water conservation and reclamation programs? Because it profits DWP to squeeze every drop from Mono's tributary streams. The water is cheaper than that from other sources, and generates hydropower as it flows down the aqueduct. It's cheaper because DWP does not pay for the damage it wreaks on the Mono Lake environment.

Nature's beneficence will not save Mono Lake. The run of wet years forebodes a prolonged period of drought. While we rejoice in Mono's rising fortunes, let us not forget that nature's generosity will not last forever, and that DWP retains its stranglehold on the waters of the Eastern Sierra.

* The 24-percent figure is documented in: California Department of Water Resources, Southern District, 1977, *Effect of conservation on south district urban water demand from 1980, 1990 and 2000*. This projection has been supported by pilot programs in Ventura and San Diego counties. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, however, have disputed its validity, contending that this level of conservation requires mandatory rationing. Neither DWP nor MWD has detailed its objections. More on water conservation in upcoming newsletters!

DWP Subterfuge Jeopardizes Water Agreement

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, acting in violation of the agreement it reached with Inyo County last winter, slipped an amendment through the California Legislature that would have excluded its ground-water pumping from local regulation. At the last minute, Inyo County, Mono County, the Mono Lake Committee and other environmental groups convinced Gov. George Deukmejian to veto the measure.

The DWP-drafted amendment was quietly added to A.B. 3567, a bill by Fresno Assemblyman Jim Costa that gives local governments the power to establish programs for the management of ground-water resources. The amendment would have excluded local governments from managing ground water on lands owned and used by another agency for supplying water. This would have given DWP a carte blanche to pump all it wants from its extensive land holdings in Inyo and Mono counties regardless of local concerns over environmental degradation. The amended bill reached the governor's desk without the knowledge of local legislators, Inyo or Mono county officials, the Mono Lake Committee or environmentalists.

Inyo County officials were shocked and incensed. Last spring they approved a five-year agreement with DWP that promised "cooperative ground water management." The agreement specified that neither side would seek or support legislation that gave one side jurisdiction over management of water resources.

"We took a great risk in deciding we could trust them," commented Inyo County Water Commissioner Cindy O'Connor. "And the department has betrayed that trust."

DWP and the Los Angeles City Council did not join the call for a veto. DWP aqueduct engineer LaVal Lund expressed "surprise" at Inyo's concerns, and claimed that DWP was only "protecting [its] legal position." Rather than push for a veto, DWP suggested that the law be changed in the next legislative session.

But Inyo County officials rejected this proposal. "We need the bill killed," said Inyo County Water Director Greg James. "In all likelihood [it] would take away our rights to regulate

[groundwater]."

In vetoing the measure, Deukmejian chastised Los Angeles for seeking legislation that "would adversely impact the delicate status quo existing between Inyo County and the city . . . regarding ground water management in the Owens Valley." He specifically called attention to the provision in the Inyo-Los Angeles agreement that binds the parties to refrain from seeking or supporting legislation of this kind.

Another virtually identical measure nearly passed the legislature as well. In the last days of the session the Association of California Water Agencies succeeded in adding an amendment to a bill that would have prevented county regulation of DWP's pumping. This amendment was spotted and killed through the vigilance of Sen. John Garamendi and the Planning and Conservation League. DWP, which is on ACWA's board of directors, denied any knowledge or involvement.

Can DWP Be Trusted?

Opinion by David Gaines

The past few weeks have been sad and sobering. The spirit of cooperation fostered by the Inyo County-Los Angeles water agreement, which held the promise of settling 80 years of acrimony, has been sabotaged by the machinations of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. Mulholland himself could not have been more devious.

Inyo County officials, despite the strident warnings of many citizens, trusted DWP. The department had given its word not to seek or support legislation that would strengthen its hand in the Inyo County ground-water dispute. Instead it used the water agreement as a smoke screen to divert attention from legislative subterfuge.

By trampling on people's faith, DWP has unmasked itself as an unscrupulous adversary for whom the end justifies the means. We can trust DWP to do everything it can to tighten its stranglehold over Mono Lake and the Eastern Sierra.

For more on the impact of DWP's ground-water pumping, see the article "Dying of Thirst" on p. 10

LAWSUIT: Still in Limbo

For the past 14 months, the public trust lawsuit filed by the Mono Lake Committee, National Audubon Society, Friends of the Earth and others against the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has been proceeding at a snail's pace. There is still no indication of when Superior Court judge Lawrence Karlton will rule on whether the case should be heard in state or federal court. Nor is there any way to expedite the judge's decision.

While litigation is slow and expensive, it may be the only way to get DWP to share the water Mono Lake needs. The California Supreme Court decision of February 1983 mandated a "better balance" between DWP's water-gathering activities and the public interest in preserving what it called "a scenic and ecological treasure of national significance." Eventually, if DWP does not desist voluntarily, the courts are likely to order a reduction in its Mono Basin diversions.

Mono in the Media

Mono Lake continues to attract international attention. Journalists from Germany and Italy researched feature stories for European magazines and newspapers. A Japanese television crew filmed the lake for a documentary.

A lavish new book by the National Geographic Society, "Our Threatened Inheritance," includes a sympathetic discussion of Mono's plight, and several pages of superb color photographs. Another spectacular coffee-table volume, Robert Cameron's "Above Yosemite," features stunning aerial photographs of Mono Lake (available from MLC; see the book section of the Mono Lake Catalog).

Most California media noted the passage of the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area, but focused on the wilderness compromise. The Mono Lake Bike-a-thon received the best press ever, with five Los Angeles television stations covering the cyclists' downtown exodus.

Mono Becomes a National Scenic Area

One Mono Lake National Forest Scenic Area became official Sept. 28, when President Reagan signed the Wilson-Cranston wilderness compromise into law. The package also preserved 1.8 million acres of California wilderness and gives the Tuolumne River "wild and scenic" status, protecting it from new hydroelectric dams.

The scenic area does not reduce water diversions or save Mono Lake. But it does require the Forest Service "to protect [the] geologic, ecologic and cultural resources" of Mono's islands, shores, most of the Mono Craters, Panum Crater, Black Point and part of the adjacent Sierran escarpment, and to provide compatible recreational and interpretive facilities. It is an important step toward preserving Mono's aesthetic, scientific and recreational values for future generations.

The Mono Scenic Area owes its passage to the dedication and skill of Congressman Richard Lehman, D-California, who overcame formidable opposition shepherding it through Congress. Lehman's original proposal for a Mono Lake National Monument was attacked by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power on the grounds that it would weaken the city's legal position and jeopardize its diversions from Mono Lake's tributary streams. With the help of Congressman John Seiberling, D-Ohio, Lehman negotiated a compromise that changed the designation to the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area, deleted a water use study, and added language that clarified that water rights would not be affected one way or the other. Lehman was also able to address

concerns of local residents and overcome objections from Reagan administration. Most of the bill's substantive measures remained intact. This is an impressive accomplishment, especially for a freshman congressman.

What does the Mono Scenic Area accomplish? Following is a summary of the legislation passed by Congress:

1. Establishes a 57,000-acre Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area as a separate unit within the Inyo National Forest. Bureau of Land Management lands within the scenic area are transferred to Inyo National Forest.

2. Requires the Forest Service to "protect . . . geologic, ecologic and cultural resources," and to "provide recreational and interpretive facilities." These facilities, which include trails and campgrounds, are to be compatible with resource protection. The Forest Service is authorized to construct a visitor center "for the purpose of providing information through appropriate displays, printed material and other interpretive programs, about the natural and cultural resources of the scenic area."

3. Prohibits commercial timber harvesting, unless necessary to control fires, insects and diseases. The utilization of trees for such domestic purposes as firewood, posts and Christmas trees may be permitted.

4. Provides that individuals holding grazing permits within the scenic area may continue to exercise those permits.

5. Prohibits new mining, mineral and geothermal claims on federal lands within the scenic area. Existing mineral claims are subject to "reasonable regulation . . . to assure that mining will be consistent with protection of the scenic, scientific, cultural and other resources of the area."

6. Provides that hunting and commercial brine shrimp operations will be permitted.

7. Protects existing uses of private property within the scenic area, but limits major new development. "Any development or



Congressman Richard Lehman, whose skill and leadership secured passage of the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area. Lehman considers Mono Lake "a holy place with lessons for future generations of Americans."

proposed development of private property within the scenic area that is significantly different from . . . development existing as of June 1, 1984, shall be considered . . . as detrimental."

8. Requires the preparation of "a detailed and comprehensive" management plan. This plan will include an inventory of natural and cultural resources, development plans for public use facilities, and measures for the preservation of natural and cultural resources.

9. Provides for the establishment of a "Scenic Area Advisory Board." The advisory board will consist of nine members, five appointed by Mono County, two appointed by the governor of California, one appointed by Los Angeles and one appointed by the Forest Service. The board will make recommendations on policies, programs, activities, the management plan and the location of the visitor center.

Most importantly, the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area will introduce hundreds of thousands of Americans to Mono's natural beauty, winning the lake new friends and supporters. It is bound to boost our efforts to stabilize the lake at an aesthetically satisfying, life-sustaining level.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Please take a moment to write Representatives Richard Lehman, John Seiberling and Sala Burton to thank them for their support for the Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area (U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515).

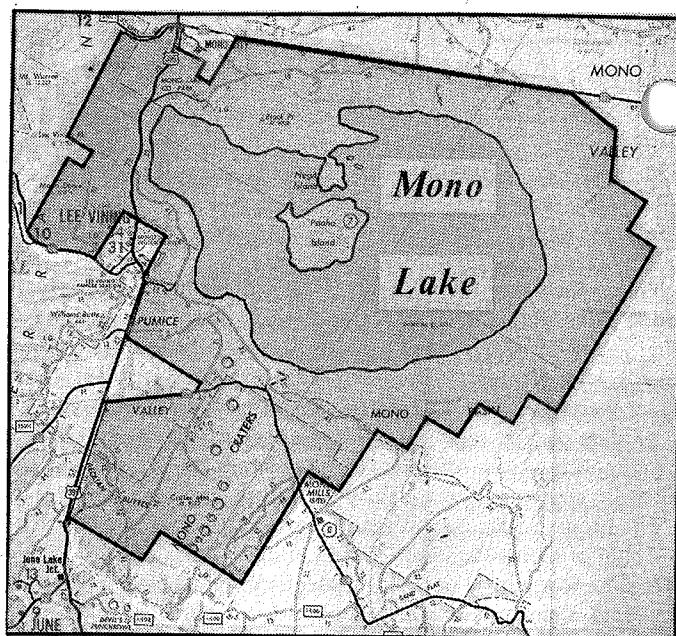
THE TUFA STATE RESERVE: What's in Store?

The Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area completely surrounds the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve, which was established by the California Legislature in 1981. The reserve consists of state-owned portions of the Mono Lake bed lying at or below an elevation of 6,417 feet. It includes the most spectacular and delicate tufa formations.

Will state parks and Inyo National Forest jointly manage the Mono Lake area, as the state and Bureau of Land Management are doing now? Or will the Forest Service try to consolidate management under the scenic area?

Of the two designations, the state reserve places the greater emphasis on protecting the pristine qualities of the environment. The scenic area mandates protection of Mono's geologic, ecologic and cultural resources, but does not preclude other compatible development. The state reserve requires preservations of "native ecological associations, unique faunal and floral characteristics, geological features and scenic qualities in a condition of undisturbed integrity," and limits "resource manipulation" to "the minimum required to negate the deleterious influence of man." For example, campgrounds could be constructed in the scenic area, but not in the state reserve.

The Mono Lake Committee was instrumental in establishing the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve, and supports its coexistence with the scenic area. The State Parks Department has done an outstanding job of meeting its mandate to preserve and protect Mono's natural resources, and its expertise in natural area management will be helpful in future planning.



Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area

Complicating the matter is the question of ownership of the Mono Lake bed. Last fall a federal judge ruled that the federal government, not the state of California, has title to lands exposed by the shrinkage of Mono Lake where the federal government is the upland owner. The state is currently managing these lands as part of the state reserve. The state is appealing the decision, which court watchers believe will be close call.

Judge Opens Mono's Shores to Grazing *Tufa, Wildlife Threatened*

A Mono County judge has ruled that sheep have a "right" to graze in the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve, but have to be fenced out of major tufa areas. This is a serious setback for the state, which is battling to keep livestock from trampling not just tufa, but marshes and meadows as well. The state has yet to decide what to do next.

The grazing crisis came to a head at Simon's Spring, where 1,600 sheep have been wreaking havoc on delicate tufa formations and spring-fed marsh and meadow habitats for the past two summers. This area, situated on Mono's southeast shore, is especially important to nesting and migratory water birds. It is the only place in the basin, for instance, where pintail, black-necked stilt and marsh wren are known to nest. It shelters large flocks of geese and ducks every autumn.

State reserve rangers cited Joseph Mendiburu, one of the state's largest woolgrowers, for trespassing in the Simon's Spring area last fall. Mendiburu, however, chose to fight the state on the grounds that (1) he is the upland land owner at Simon's Spring, and therefore has title to the "relicted" lands exposed by Mono's receding waters, and (2) he was grazing at Simon's Spring prior to the establishment of the reserve, and therefore must be allowed to continue.

On the first ground, Mendiburu's case is weak. The state is virtually certain to retain ownership of relicted lands exposed below private lands, including the Simons' Spring area.

Mendiburu's second contention is given some weight by language in the legislation that established the reserve. To quote the legislation, the reserve "shall be managed primarily for the purpose of protecting the tufa," and shall not "interfere with any reasonable use of land or other activity existing or occurring on or before Jan. 1, 1981 . . . that does not conflict with the purposes for which the reserve is established." This could be construed to permit grazing if it does not harm tufa formations.

Yet even this argument lacks substance. If the legislature had intended to protect only tufa, it would not have included all of Mono's relicted lands in the reserve. The word "primarily" in the phrase "primarily for the purpose of protecting the tufa" implies that other values are to be protected as well. Most cogently, the legislature chose a designation, *state reserve*, that mandates the preservation, not just of tufa, but of ecological communities, animals, plants, geological features and scenic qualities in "a condition of undisturbed integrity." This is the most protective status the state can confer on an area.

Moreover Mendiburu has never been given a lease or permission to graze state land. Even without a reserve, the state would have the right to regulate or deny grazing.

Mono County Superior Court Judge Harry Roberts, however, sided with Mendiburu. After a cursory visit to Simon's Spring, during which he walked no more than 100 feet

from the parking area, he commented that it was "less spectacular" than South Tufa and too remote for visitors to reach on the "horrible" road. He did not examine the areas where most of the sheep damage has occurred. He called the marsh "meadow grass," and, despite the trampled vegetation, concluded that grazing "obviously" does no harm. In the courtroom, Roberts stated that he had not read seven declarations submitted by the state supporting its claims of sheep damage, the availability of alternative grazing sites and the ecological importance of the Simon's Spring habitats. He repeatedly interrupted the state's attorney, and never allowed the declarations or any other evidence to be presented. After declaring it "pure nonsense" for the state to exclude grazing,

he ruled that sheep could graze the meadow, but must be fenced out of the principal tufa area.

At stake is the health of Mono's shoreline habitats and the lake's aesthetic integrity. Sheep and cattle will devastate wetlands and severely impact wildlife. Fencing tufa groves will destroy the lake shore's pristine, wild beauty.

These concerns are recognized by the federal Bureau of Land Management, which joined the state in barring grazing. The lake's new steward, the Forest Service, is also committed to keeping livestock off Mono's shores. But without support for this policy, Mendiburu may succeed, to paraphrase John Muir, in populating Mono's meadows and marshes with thousands of "hooved locusts."

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO: Please write to William Briner, Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811. Emphasize the importance of keeping livestock out of the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve. Ask him to take whatever steps are necessary to achieve this goal. Ask to be kept informed of what he is doing about the grazing problem.

Gulls Need Negit Island

Although Negit is an island again, coyotes have been landed on its shore. It is virtually certain that gulls will not attempt to nest so long as predators remain there. To complicate matters, the rising lake is eroding away the sedimentary islets west of Paoha Island, where nearly one-third of the gulls nested this year [1983]. By the 1984 season, up to two-thirds of the land mass of these islets may be gone. If gulls are unable to recolonize Negit, they will have to cram themselves onto what's left of the Paoha islets or shift to the already densely packed Negit islets. Overcrowding in gull colonies frequently results in increased egg and chick predation. This could have a devastating effect on next year's nesting success.

Mono Lake Newsletter, Autumn 1983

This prediction has come to pass. Coyotes remained on Negit Island, preventing gulls from returning to nest. Over half of the Paoha islets eroded away, forcing birds to overcrowd the Negit islet colonies. The gulls fared poorly, fledging less than 6,000 chicks compared to approximately 12,000-13,000 in 1983 and 26,800 in 1976-78. It was almost as bad as the 1982 and 1981 seasons, when the lake was at its lowest ebb and gulls were able to fledge only 3,900 (1982) and 1,600 (1981) chicks.

Four interacting factors probably played significant roles: (1) overcrowding, (2) tick parasitism, (3) hotter-than-average temperatures, and (4) the Negit Island situation. Of these

Of these, the latter may be the most important. Consider the Mono Lake gull colonies in 1976, when the first systematic census was conducted. Two-thirds of the birds were nesting on Negit Island's greasewood-covered slopes. The Negit colony alone accounted for the production of approximately 17,400 chicks, about three times this year's total.

The turning point came in 1979, when declining lake levels exposed a land bridge between Negit Island and the mainland. Coyotes crossed the land bridge, routing the nesting gulls and preying on their eggs and chicks.

With the coyotes came rabbits, mice and other small mammals that were once unknown on the black island. These became a prey base for a permanent coyote population that currently includes at least one and possibly a family of animals.

In sum, the ecology of Negit Island has been drastically and permanently altered. Mono Lake has risen to its 1975 level, but Negit will never return to 1975 conditions. It may be possible to remove coyotes, but not rodents and rabbits.

How has this affected nesting gulls? Clearly it has reduced the amount of suitable nesting habitat. If gulls had nested on Negit this year, there would have been no overcrowding and, in all likelihood, much greater reproductive success. The island is considerably larger than the combined area of the smaller islets the gulls have been forced to colonize.

Moreover Negit probably provides more favorable nesting conditions than the bare, sunbaked islets. The island is clothed with extensive stands of greasewood that offer shady refugia on hot days. This point is emphasized in a 1984 paper by Chappell, Goldstein and Winkler that is worth quoting at length:

Chicks can usually avoid severe heat stress if shade is available . . . Gull chicks on Negit could find shady refugia even if their parents were absent . . . Although the islets provide protection from predators, they support almost no vegetation or other natural cover, and essentially all shading must be provided by parent gulls. This requirement sharply restricts the activity patterns of nesting adults since almost continuous nest attendance is necessary for most of the breeding season. If chicks are left unshaded for more than 20-30 minutes on a wind-free sunny day, they are likely to

experience dangerous hypothermia . . . Chick mortality [in 1981, when over 90 percent of the 50,000 hatchlings died] probably would have been much smaller had the gulls been using the Negit colony site with its abundant shade.²

Clearly Negit is important to the long-term health of Mono's nesting gulls. But can the colony be restored?

Two conditions have to be met: (1) coyotes must be removed, and (2) the lake has to be stabilized above its current elevation. Neither will be easy.

The Mono Lake Committee is urging the Bureau of Land Management to use the most humane means possible to remove coyotes from Negit Island. Negit's rugged terrain will make just finding coyotes difficult and time-consuming. It may be necessary to sacrifice the animals. We are saddened by this prospect, but believe it is crucial to restore the natural balance and help the gulls.

Of course, unless the lake is stabilized, Negit might as well become coyote city. Mono's present elevation is undoubtedly close to the minimum needed to deter hungry animals from swimming to the island for gull egg omelettes. The lake will have to be stabilized at a substantially higher level in order to provide a buffer against the drops that will occur during periods of draught.

Even if these steps are taken, and gulls find Negit coyote-free next March, it may be many years before large numbers return.

Gulls, like other colonially nesting birds, are traditional in choice of nesting sites. They tend to return year after year to the same places where they have nested successfully, and to shun places where they had problems. If this is the case with Mono's birds, Negit may be colonized, not by survivors of the '70s, but by young pioneers who are crowded off other islets. It may be years before the first gulls return. It may be decades before their numbers grow to the thousands that nested on Negit only five years ago.

The problem of Negit's coyotes raises ethical and philosophical questions to which we are deeply sensitive. We would appreciate your feedback on our position.

¹ Estimates of numbers of gull fledglings are from: (1) Winkler, David W., 1983, *Ecological and behavioral determinants of clutch size: the California gull in the Great Basin*, Ph.D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley (1976-82), and (2) Shuford, David, Emilie Strauss and Robert Hogan, 1984, *Population size and breeding success of California gulls at Mono Lake, California, in 1983*, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Final Report for Contract #14-16-0009-83-922.

² Chappell, Mark A., David L. Goldstein, and David W. Winkler, 1984. Oxygen consumption, evaporative water loss, and temperature regulation of California gull chicks (*Larus californicus*) in a desert rookery. *Physiol. Zool.* 67 (2): 204-214.

Bike-a-thoners, Bucket Walkers Water the Lake

I can only hope that this year's bike-a-thon is as rewarding for the committee as it was for me. I can't express how great a time I had—good company, better scenery and all for a great cause. The presentation at the annual meeting was interesting and informative. All in all, a great event.

. . . Bruce Lundquist, bike-a-thoner

Several hundred monophiles converged on Mono Lake over Labor Day weekend to greet the L.A.-to-Mono bike-a-thoners, hike in the sixth bucket walk, attend our annual meeting and celebrate the lake's rising fortunes.

This year 44 hard-pedaling bike-a-thoners completed the 350-mile trip. It all began in downtown Los Angeles, where the cyclists filled vials with water from DWP's moat-like reflecting pond, taped them to their bikes and vanished into the traffic and smog. After six glorious days of flat tires, scorching asphalt, painful blisters, Labor Day traffic, spectacular scenery and new friends, the bike-a-thoners returned the water to its natural destination—Mono Lake. Thanks to generous sponsors, they also raised over \$15,000 to help save the lake.

Again this year, Father Christopher Kelley of Bishop led the bucket walkers to Mono's shore. Each toted a bucket of water from DWP's Lee Vining Creek diversion dam four miles to the lake. Joined by the bike-a-thoners, everybody joyously gave the lake a ceremonial drink.

In the afternoon, the tribe gathered at the Mono Lake County Park for our annual meeting, country dancing, feasting, music and storytelling. Special thanks to Larry Abbott for the dances and to David Barrett for songs and stores.



L.A.-Mono bike-a-thoners at the press conference in downtown Los Angeles. They are holding vials of water from DWP's reflecting pool. This year five television stations as well as newspapers and radio stations covered the ride.

Reflections of a Novice Bike-a-thoner

David Wimpfheimer

The morning of Aug. 27 found me at the Department of Water and Power's Los Angeles headquarters with 45 other eager bike-a-thoners. At the shout of "go," we were on our way, and I began to wonder whether commuting to work across the Golden Gate bridge was adequate training for a 350-mile bike ride across deserts and mountains to Mono Lake.

After we crossed the San Fernando Valley, the temperature edged toward 100° as the climb began toward a 3,000-foot pass in the San Gabriel Mountains. The "Support and Gear" (SAG) wagons, with their cold water and fruit, were much appreciated. Despite flat tires and muscle cramps, I managed to crawl into Palmdale just at sunset.

At Tuesday's breakfast, watching my fellow cyclists wolf down eggs, bacon, hash browns, pancakes and chocolate milk, I realized my weak condition was partially due to improper diet. I resolved, like a marathon runner, to load up on carbohydrates.

This was our longest day—85 miles through the hot Mojave Desert. In the late afternoon our ride was spiced by the sandstone strata of Red Rock Canyon. On the descent into Inyokern, we proved that cyclists could reach speeds of 50 mph.

I discovered that bicycle travel allows one to experience sounds, smells, temperatures and other aspects of the environment that are never appreciated inside a car. Moreover I began to take pride in feeling my body strengthen and respond to challenge.

I felt that pride riding to Lone Pine in the southern Owens Valley. The dry bed of Owens Lake—a barren expanse of alkali—was our companion to the east. Once steamboats had plied its waters and birds had fattened along its shores. Its fate at the hands of the water weekers fueled our resolve to save Mono Lake.

The next morning the clouds around Mt. Whitney's summit cleared, and we enjoyed expansive views of the precipitous Eastern Sierra and the lofty Inyo and White mountains. I remarked that this was one of the few areas in the country that approached Alaska in the magnitude of its scenery.

In Bishop we were welcomed by Father Christopher Kelley and many friends at the St. Timothy's Church. Father Kelley held a special mass, and stressed the need to strengthen our ties to the natural world which sustains us. I knew that after he blessed our bikes I would not have any more flat tires. A rich lasagne dinner at the church continued our carbohydrate loading.

The fifth day was the highlight of the trip. After pedaling through lush green fields and cottonwood-shaded lanes, we climbed 3,000 feet in 10 miles up the old Sherwin Grade. I had been warned about the grade, but I was stronger now and pulled up the switchbacks without difficulty. As we climbed out of the Owens Valley, we encountered pinon pines and Jeffrey pines above them. Along lower Rock Creek were lush aspens and chattering chickadees. By the time we reached Tom's Place, we were at 7,000 feet. Cycling into Mammoth Lakes, I again reflected that this was the ideal way to travel, one's senses fully exposed to the environment.

By the last day, we didn't want the trip to end or to have to return to the "real" world. Only 30 miles remained. We paused at Deadman Summit for photographs—at 8,000 feet, the highest point on the trip. From there it was all downhill.

We arrived at Mono Lake like triumphant warriors. We were greeted by a rousing, heartwarming welcome. **WE MADE IT!** In spite of aches and the award for the most flat tires, I felt the bike-a-thon exceeded my greatest expectations. I'll be back next year.

The Mono Naturalist

Autumn arrived on schedule. Sept. 22, the fall equinox, dawned calm and warm, but ended with a blow that shook trees, houses and humans out of their summer reverie. The following week a Pacific storm powdered the peaks with snow down to 8,000 feet. Frost finished off squash and tomatoes, and coaxed fiery colors from the foliage of aspens.

As if overnight, thousands of red-necked (northern) phalaropes vanished from Mono's waters, just as the Wilson's phalaropes had a month before. It seems but yesterday that we were floating with phalaropes nose-to-beak in the lake's warm water. Now they have followed summer south of the equator to pass our winter on the open seas (red-neckeds) or in the salty lakes of the high Andes (Wilson's).

As if to make up for the departing shorebirds, eared grebes red Mono's surface in astronomical numbers. In excess of half a million will remain through November.

Birds were not the only migrants. Monarch butterflies appeared in unprecedented numbers. In late September, thousands spent shivery nights in the cottonwood trees along Mono's northwest shores.

There were exciting mammals as well. Pronghorn antelope grazed the sagebrush country east of Black Point. A bobcat with three kittens settled in the vicinity of Mono Lake County Park. Bears and mountain lions haunted Lundy and Lee Vining canyons.

Among the unusual birds were the first Mono Basin least flycatcher and the second prairie warbler. Red-breasted merganser, sanderling, ruddy turnstone, Sabine's gull and parasitic jaeger were seen on the lake—rare but regular all. Two ospreys spent August along the south shore, raising suspicions they might have nested locally.

Mono Lake Bird Count Dec. 22

Everyone is invited to participate on the eighth Mono Lake Christmas Bird Count on Sunday, Dec. 22. MLC offers counters a place to throw a sleeping bag on the nights of the 21st and 22nd. For more information, contact us in Lee Vining.

Dying of Thirst: The Plight of Owens Valley

Mary DeDecker and David Gaines

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power diverts water, not only from the Mono Basin, but from the Owens Valley watershed as well. In this article, Owens Valley resident Mary DeDecker and MLC editor David Gaines describe the environmental impacts of DWP's diversions and ground-water pumping policies. DeDecker is an expert botanist who has discovered several species of plant, including a new genus of desert buckwheat that now bears her name (Dedeckera).

In the Owens Valley, as at Mono Lake, the export of water to the city of Los Angeles is devastating vegetation and endangering wildlife. Stream diversions and groundwater pumping have dried up springs and marshes, killed trees, shrubs and grasses, endangered the Owens Valley mallow (*Sidalcea covillei*), and turned Owens Lake into a barren expanse of alkali.

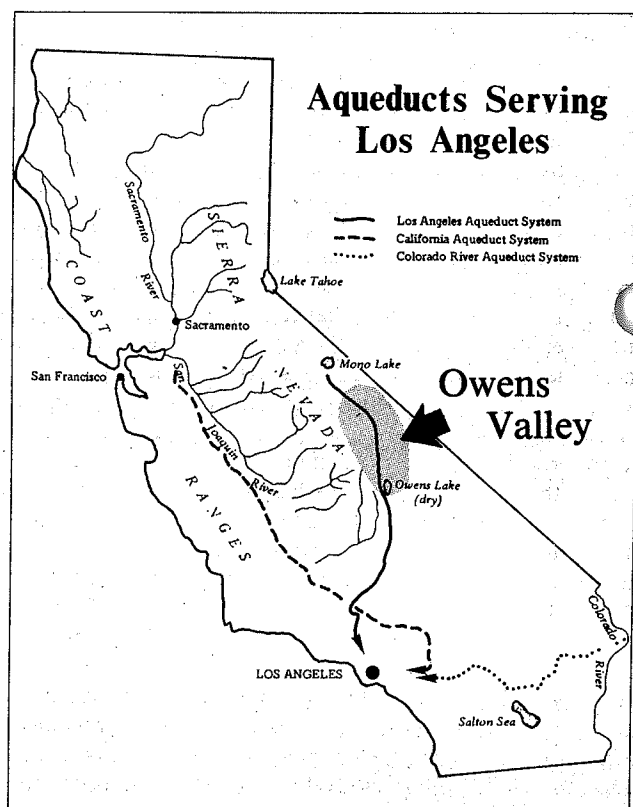
The Owens Valley occupies a deep, narrow trough 100 miles in length lying between the precipitous Sierra Nevada and the Inyo-White Range. From the valley's level floor (3,400 to 4,100 feet), one looks up 6,000 to 10,000 feet to the summits of the peaks above.

The lofty Sierra Nevada wrings most of the moisture from Pacific storms, leaving the Owens Valley in a rain shadow. Barely five inches of average annual rainfall occur on most of the valley floor. Extremes of weather and a paucity of rainfall, combined with heavy, alkaline soils in some areas, would hardly seem to encourage a diverse and abundant flora. Historically, however, the Owens Valley supported woodlands, marshes, meadows and a luxuriant cover of grasses and shrubs, all of which require water.

The answer to this paradox lies in the runoff from the well-watered Sierra Nevada. With the spring snow melt, numerous streams cascade down the steep eastern escarpment, flowing over broad alluvial fans that stretch down to the valley floor. Water percolates through the uncompacted alluvium and into underground aquifers and groundwater basins. Along the base of the fans, where the downward percolating water is obstructed by clay-pans deposited in ice-age Lake Owens, free-flowing artesian wells and springs supply marshes, sloughs, meadows and other moist habitats. Over most of the valley floor, the water table ranges from the surface to less than 15 feet in depth, i.e., within the root zone of grasses and shrubs. In the early 1900s, the water table was less than four feet deep over 46 percent of the valley floor. But that was before DWP built its aqueducts, sunk its wells and revved up its pumps.

"There it is, take it!" roared William Mulholland at the opening of the Los Angeles Aqueduct in 1913. The head of the Los Angeles waterworks was witnessing the completion of a 240-mile-long aqueduct that would tap the Owens River and eventually Owens Valley's ground water and the streams feeding Mono Lake.

The men who backed and built the aqueduct cared nothing for the Owens Valley or the people who lived there. In their



The Owens Valley begins 60 miles south of Mono Lake, and stretches another 100 miles along the eastern base of the Sierra Nevada. Streams and ground water that once fed the Owens River and Owens Lake are now diverted or pumped into the Los Angeles aqueduct.

eyes, the aqueduct served "the greatest good for the greatest number," and justified not only the destruction of lakes, vegetation and wildlife, but the subjugation of farmers, ranchers and towns. During the 1920s, the unquenchable growth of Los Angeles led to a bitter, sometimes violent and devious struggle over water rights. Los Angeles purchased nearly all the private land in the Owens Valley, including the towns of Bishop, Big Pine, Independence, Lone Pine and Laws, to secure the water. Whole communities were displaced and the economy suffered a near-fatal blow.



CONTROL PUMPING

Cover of leaflet distributed by the League of Women Voters in support of the Inyo County ground water ordinance, which passed overwhelmingly in 1980.

In 1963, DWP began construction of a second aqueduct for, as they put it, "further utilization of the ground-water resources of the Owens Valley by increased pumping" and "salvage of the water in Mono Basin being lost into the saline water of Mono Lake." In the Owens Valley ground-water pumping increased approximately 15 times to an average of 100,000 acre-feet per year after 1970.

With the completion of the original Los Angeles aqueduct, the Owens River was diverted about 15 miles below Big Pine. South of this point, tributary streams and springs were also diverted. As a result, the 40 miles of Owens River between the aqueduct intake and Owens Lake became a dry bed. Only remnants are left of the woodlands, marshes and meadows that once lined its banks. By 1928, deprived of water, Owens Lake had turned into a broad expanse of glaring white alkali. Looking across its parched bed, clouds of dust rising from its surface, one finds it hard to imagine steamboats plying its waters or millions of birds feasting along its shores.

Until the 1970s, however, the high water table and numerous springs preserved some of the native vegetation and wildlife on the Owens Valley floor. Then, with the completion of a second aqueduct and the increase in ground-water pumping, the environment began to further deteriorate.

DWP had assured Owens Valley residents that the second aqueduct would tap only "surplus" water. Ground-water pumping would average about 64,000 acre-feet of water per year. But once the aqueduct was completed, DWP announced its intention of pumping an average of 130,000 acre-feet per year and up to 272,000 acre-feet in dry years. Water considered surplus by the DWP was the Owens Valley's lifeblood.

DWP viewed every spring and moist place as a "waste of water" which should be flowing to Los Angeles. Every grass, shrub and tree was a useless phreatophyte wasting city water. Powerful pumps poured rivers of water into the aqueduct, lowering the water table and causing springs, seeps and artesian wells to dry up.

Since 1970, over 24,000 acres of Owens Valley vegetation have been harmed by the pumping. On 10 percent of this land, less than 20 percent of the original cover remains alive. Aerial photographs show vast areas of dead shrubs and barren land in the vicinity of the well fields.

Dismayed by dessicated springs, dying vegetation and a gradual increase in the frequency and intensity of dust storms, the people of Owens Valley went to court, charging DWP with failing to prepare an environmental impact statement. The

court ordered DWP to prepare an EIR, and imposed an average limit of about 108,000 acre-feet per year on DWP's pumping operations. The destruction of vegetation and wetland habitats has continued under this pumping limit, but it is obvious that the higher pumping rates sought by DWP would have wrought even more severe damage. Independent hydrologists have determined that pumping should be limited to 70,000 acre-feet per year to prevent further loss of vegetation.

DWP's EIR proved a travesty. The court, ruling in 1977, declared the EIR legally inadequate and chastized DWP's misrepresentation of the effects of pumping as "serious," "wishful" and "egregious." In 1981, a second EIR was likewise judged inadequate by the court. DWP seems unwilling to acknowledge the devastating impacts of its water-gathering operations.

In 1980, Inyo County prepared an ordinance to prevent the overdraft of Owens Valley's ground-water basins and placed it on the ballot. Despite DWP's efforts to defeat it, the ordinance passed by a 3-1 margin. In 1983, however, a Superior Court judge declared the ordinance unconstitutional, and issued an injunction against its implementation. Inyo County believes this decision could be overturned on appeal.

The dispute took a new turn this spring, when the Inyo County board of Supervisors approved a five-year agreement with DWP. The agreement purports to settle the issue "by conducting certain ground-water and vegetation studies and through the joint development and adoption of a long-term cooperative ground-water management plan for the Owens Valley." It also claims to "avoid or mitigate" the adverse environmental effects of the pumping. During the next five years, while studies are being conducted, Inyo and DWP will negotiate a yearly pumping and mitigation program and litigation will be suspended.

While the agreement sounds good on the surface, it has one major loophole: if Inyo and DWP cannot agree, DWP will still be able to pump at rates that are known to damage valley vegetation. For this reason, numerous Owens Valley residents still adamantly oppose the agreement in favor of continuing the fight through the courts.

Owens Valley residents seek, not to shut down the aqueduct, but to limit ground-water pumping to levels consistent with environmental protection. For more information, please contact: OWENS VALLEY COMMITTEE, P.O. Box 513, Big Pine, CA 93513.



Aerial view of the Owens Valley on a windy day, the Sierra Nevada on the left. The white cloud that fills the valley is dust blown off the Owens Lake bed and other dessicated portions of the valley floor.

VISITATION VS. WILDERNESS AT MONO

Feedback from our Readers

The article on promoting visitation vs. preserving wilderness in our summer newsletter elicited a wealth of thoughtful, perceptive and even poetic letters, of which the following are representative.

Managing the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve

David Carle, State Park Ranger
Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve
P.O. Box 99, Lee Vining, CA 93541

I was very interested and pleased to see your article on "visitation vs. wilderness" in the last Mono Lake newsletter. The kinds of concerns and questions raised are very important in managing the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve.

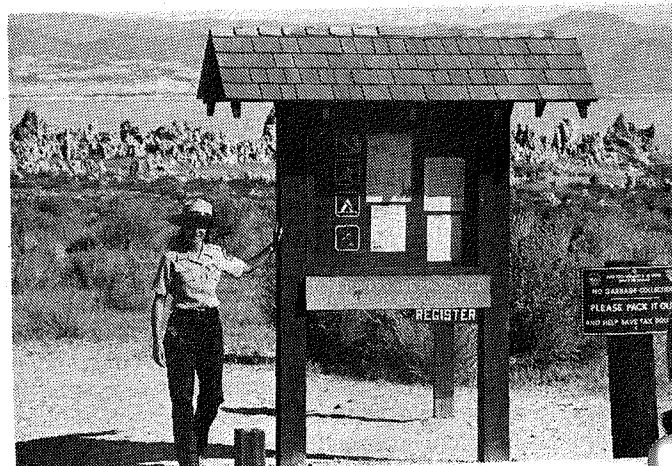
Toward the end of the article the questions are asked, "Should other parts of the lake be developed like South Tufa?" and "Does an increasing stream of visitors have to eliminate Mono Lake's wilderness qualities?" I would like to give a response from the point of view mandated by the state laws which apply to the reserve.

The Public Resources Code (5019.65) says, in part, "The purpose of a state reserve is to preserve its native ecological associations, unique faunal and floral characteristics, geological features and scenic qualities *in a condition of undisturbed integrity*. Resource manipulation shall be restricted to the minimum required to negate the deleterious influence of man. Improvements undertaken shall be for the purpose of making the areas available . . . for public enjoyment and education in a manner *consistent with the preservation of their natural features*" (my italics).

When the reserve was created two and a half years ago, we recognized the need for controls on the heavy visitation already occurring at the South Tufa area. Moderate visitation also occurs at two other locations on the west shore. These three areas, South Tufa, Old Marina, and the shore below the Mono County Park, have received the most "development"—parking lots, trails, signs and exhibit shelters. The parking lots, trails and signs help stop resource damage; the exhibit shelters located in the lots take advantage of the concentration of people to educate. Our plans call for **no other** areas around the lake to be "developed" in this way.

Fortunately only about three miles of the total 45 miles of Mono Lake shoreline are heavily visited. For those who are willing to hike or drive the less-traveled roads, Mono still offers solitude and self-discovery. Our interpretation of the law is that things must remain this way.

So to answer your two questions: No, other parts of the lake should not be developed like South Tufa. And, if we do our job, no, increasing visitation does not have to eliminate Mono's special qualities.



In the next year we plan to complete a resource inventory and planning document. Important goals are to define carrying capacities, and develop ways to monitor resource impacts.

I hope some of this information helps those who are concerned. Please publish our address, so those who wish can communicate with us directly.

Visitors Are Crucial to Saving the Lake.

Michael Magliari

The debate between visitation and wilderness goes right to the heart of the Mono Lake Committee's reason for being. In an ideal situation, the best way to preserve Mono Lake and its surroundings would be to establish a national wilderness area around its shores. Unfortunately, as we all know, Mono Lake's situation is far from ideal. It is locked in a desperate struggle for its very existence with one of the most powerful political interests in the state of California. This being the case, the only way to save Mono Lake is to build for it the largest political constituency that we possibly can. This in turn can be accomplished only by introducing to Mono Lake (and its plight) the largest number of visitors possible. We must never lose sight of the fact that the only way to eventually raise the water level of Mono Lake is to first raise the political profile of Mono Lake. This means that the Mono Lake Committee really has no choice but to continue promoting tourist visitation.

At this date, no one can say for sure when and where Mono Lake's ultimate fate will be decided. However, I think it would be a grave mistake to assume that the current lawsuit will produce the final word on Mono Lake, even if it goes all the way to the United State Supreme Court. At some point, no doubt, the issue will return to the legislative arena where Mono Lake remains at a tremendous disadvantage. In the meantime, the Mono Lake Committee must do all it can to prepare for renewed struggles in both Washington and Sacramento.

The committee needs to recruit more active members, and the best way is to increase visitation to the lake and to the committee's visitor center in Lee Vining. Each visitor to Mono Lake must be viewed as a potential Monophile—someone to be added to the mailing list who will donate money, write and phone his legislators, and make all those other small individual efforts that will eventually save the lake. At Mono Lake, visitation and preservation must go hand-in-hand.

As for the Tufa State Reserve, I was extremely pleased by what I saw during my visit. State park rangers David and Janet Carle have done an excellent job. A very nice balance has been struck between tourist promotion and the preservation of the tufa and other natural resources along Mono's shores. The reserve facilities, including gravel roads, parking lots, trails and interpretive signs (those are outstanding, by the way), are all temporary structures and make only the slightest intrusion upon the area's natural landscape.

I saw only two areas for improvement at the reserve. First, it is urgent that steps be taken quickly to provide greater protection for the extremely fragile and delicate sand tufa formations at Navy Beach. Second, of course, is the need to reach a satisfactory resolution to the problem of sheep grazing within the reserve.

No More Development!

Jeffrey J. Wyneken and Constance I. Millar

No more development at Mono Lake! We need to protect the lake, not exploit it by erecting campgrounds and visitor centers or by paving more roads and parking lots. What have we long fought for it not the conservation of a unique ecosystem and the preservation of a rare scenic area? Only by limiting the influence of man can we preserve these attributes. Just as we have carefully examined the impact of man's water demands on the lake, so must we thoroughly examine the possible effects that recreational development would have on the Mono we wish to protect.

Much of Mono's attraction lies in those elements that tie her to the Great Basin—the setting of boundless range and barren mountains; the sense of expansive loneliness and forgottenness; the silence broken only by lapping waves, bird shrieks, and curls of wind that were flung across miles of sage or down cold canyons. What will camper caravans, shoreline attractions and the din of cars and crowds do to all this?

With Mono Lake left undeveloped we can do all her visitors a favor. What would be gained by constructing high-speed roads, lakeside parking lots and oversized, paved walkways? One argument may be that the physically handicapped are thus able to visit Mono's shores. Our tours through America's national parks lead us to conclude that adherence to such a policy of accessibility is America's concession to laziness. It is those who voluntarily handicap themselves by under-exercise

whom we are pandering to. There are few among those who struggle out of their RVs the few steps to designated points of interest who would not benefit by a longer walk along Mono's gentle shores. The current state of Mono's development does not hinder access to those who desire it.

Recreational development in America is synonymous not only with an unnecessarily elaborate definition of "accessibility," but also an over-burdened attitude toward interpretation. When nature trails designate the exact spot, angle and hour for picture-taking, when "points of interest" are so explicitly designated as to imply that they are exhaustive, when scientific explanations on nature trails are so inadequate as to defy logic, then where is the sense of adventure, exploration, inquisitiveness and discovery that wilderness should foster? At present, Mono Lake is still in a condition where we can all exercise these basic human urges. Let's keep it that way.

On the issue of preserving Mono's shores from the trampling crowds, the areas already developed should be fortified to prevent damage to the fragile shoreline. The Mono Lake Information Center provides excellent educational resources to visitors; its location should remain in Lee Vining. Without improvement of existing dirt roads, we predict that more remote shores of the lake will be spared from overuse.

Through the heroic efforts of the Mono Lake Committee, Mono Lake has attracted thousands of dedicated friends. We don't need to defile the lake to attract more attention to the conservation cause. The last decade has shown that those who support Mono Lake love the lake as it is.

Present Facilities Meet Needs of Visitors and Lake

Tom Moses

I was planning a vacation to Yosemite, and at the very last minute changed my travel plans to permit a drive past Mono Lake. Although I was very familiar with the controversy, I had never actually seen the lake.

I was glad that I changed my plans, for I was "blown away" by the beauty of the Mono Lake region. The lake seemed to stretch to the far Nevada mountains like a shallow sea. Storm clouds reflected on the lake's rippled surface. Gulls flew overhead, their cries sounding loudly in the stillness.

I visited the Mono Lake Tufa State Reserve, and was very lucky to have been guided through the bizarre tufa stands by a knowledgeable and caring volunteer who passed on not only some valuable information, but also some of his enthusiasm for the lake and concern for its protection. I did not think my appreciation for the lake or its wilderness potential was disturbed by the limited interpretive development along the shoreline. Indeed, I feel exactly the opposite.

I would be opposed to any greater development unless such planning is carefully done. The present conditions, while somewhat primitive, seem appropriate for the needs of both visitors and lake. For the first-time visitor, some guidance is needed, but full-blown development would be overkill.

Placing the tufa areas totally off-limits would unduly deprive visitors of a unique experience, especially as education is exactly what is needed in order for the fight to save the lake to succeed. As for me, my visit to Mono Lake convinced me of the justice of the fight to save it from further destruction. I became a member of the committee because of it!

Russell's Benchmark Rediscovered!

David Gaines

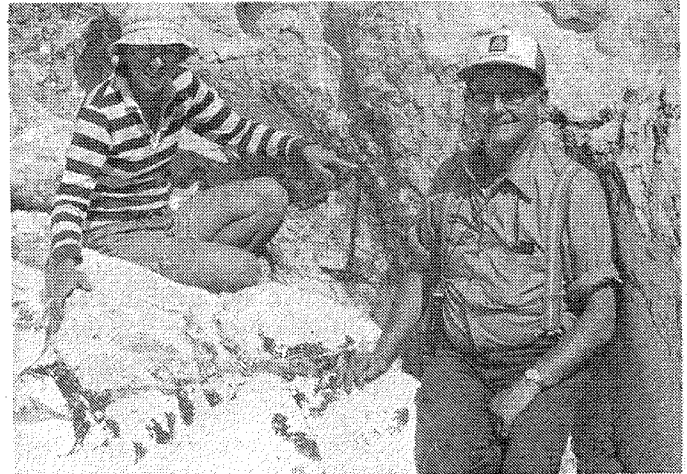
In 1883, the geologist Israel Cook Russell incised an inverted "T" on the shore of Negit Island to mark the level of Mono Lake. Over the past six years, I have spent countless hours climbing and peering about Negit's jagged lava for that mark, but always in vain.

This summer, with the help of Don Banta, I rediscovered Russell's benchmark. Well, at least I found it. The credit for discovery goes to Don, who located the mark 25 years ago in the company of the hydrologist S.T. Harding. Undoubtedly others have seen it since.

Nevertheless, to peer around a massive chunk of lava and spy that mark was thrilling. Not that it is anything special—just an unimposing "T" crudely etched into the rock with a weather-beaten washer screwed into its base.

To appreciate this artifact, one must, I suppose, be familiar with Russell's writings. To this day his "Quaternary History of the Mono Valley" remains the classic on Mono Lake. He saw grandeur where others saw desolation, and forged a style equal to that vision. His writing blends science with prose so vivid and powerful that early settlers paid to reprint his book as enticement to tourists. Somehow, looking at that benchmark, I could see myself exploring with Russell over a century ago.

The benchmark has scientific significance as well. It marks the 1883 elevation of Mono Lake at 6,410 feet. This has helped establish that Mono's level remained



Sally Gaines points out Russell's benchmark on Negit Island. To her right is Don Banta, who rediscovered the mark 25 years ago.

above 6,400 feet during the 19th century, and did not drop below that mark until the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power began diverting Mono's tributary streams. If Russell could return today, he would find the lake 30 feet lower.

Russell's classic book has been reprinted in a reasonable priced, paperback edition available from MLC; see the book section of the Mono Lake Catalog.

MLC News and Activities

MLC at International Conference

This August board member Tim Such represented the Mono Lake Committee at an international conference at Lake Biwa, Japan, on the conservation and management of lake environments. Hosted by the Japanese prefectural government, the conference focused on the theme, "toward a more harmonious interrelationship between man and lakes." Mono Lake's plight received considerable attention. We will have a full report in our winter newsletter.

10K Run

Almost 200 runners ranging in age from 12 to 69 survived a blustery autumn day to complete the second *Long Live Mono Lake 10K Run* on Mono's north shore Sept. 30. Despite the wind, race director Dennis Yamnitsky's tireless energy and high spirits made the event a joyous celebration. Everyone had a great time while raising approximately \$1,500 toward saving the lake.

The Mono Lake Committee is deeply grateful to Dennis and the many sponsors and donors whose generous gifts helped make the run a success.

Good-byes

Our flock of interns worked hard all summer to keep the Mono Lake Information Center in Lee Vining open 12 hours a day seven days a week. With the welcome help of volunteers Sara Jewett, George Larrimore and Anita Bennett, interns Emily Harris, Sally Miller, Jim Parker, Daria Walsh and John Whorff did a remarkable job of staffing the desk, answering questions, presenting slide shows, stocking the shelves, selling merchandise, keeping the flowers watered and, of course, winning new friends for Mono Lake. They also led about 150 field trips, organized the research library, designated interpretive displays for Black Point and Panum Crater, and initiated slide programs at Forest Service campgrounds, resorts and in Yosemite National Park. Their contribution to the Mono Lake effort cannot be overstated, and we hope to see them all back next year.

Another Membership Appeal

We have sent out 45,000 membership appeals, and the returns are encouraging: hundreds of new MLC members, and more coming in. If you received an appeal, we trust you will pass the information on to a friend. The cost of purging lists of MLC'ers is prohibitively high.

Hooray, Bike-a-thoners!

To the intrepid participants in the 1984 bike-a-thon, we owe success of this vital fund- and awareness-raising event.

Reed Bartlett, Bill Baughn, Mike Beefheart, Mike Bingham, Dan Burdick, Art Campbell, Rob Clark, Brian Couch, Eric Couch, Aaron Cox, Michael Dressler, Richard Foley, Martin Fouts, Kim Freitas, Marie Braeber, Tim Gray, Dan Gutierrez, Navid Haghdan, Brian Hammer, David Hayes, Bret Hill, Sara Hirtle, Dave Jensen, Patty Kline, Julie Klingman, Barbara Kniffen, Michael Longacre, Bruce Lundquist, Jill McIntire, Bill Mendoza, Louisa Murphy, Stephen Osgood, Casey Patterson, Dave Perry, Tatia Perry, Darren Sandquist, John Schaefer, Vicki Silvas-Young, Bonnie Jo Spacek, Tim Spacek, Larry Spillane, Ana Toro, George Tredick, Norma Vedder, David Wimpfheimer, Roland Wissler . . . plus SAG drivers Connie Bradley, Pat Kelly, Toodie Perry, Richard Soasch and Gail McDonald Tune, and helpers Connie Bradley, Lisa Horowitz, Joanne Fleischer, Joe Linton, Jim Stehn, Norton Stewart, Herb Weeks, Jane Gillam, Brandy and Candy Perry, and Father Christopher Kelley.

Bike-a-thon Business Sponsors and Donors

LEE VINING AND JUNE LAKE

Abbey's Trash Service, Alpine Village Motel, Lee Vining Chevron, Gateway Motel, Grant Lake Marina, Greenleaf Springs, June Lake General Store, June Lake Motel, June Lake Pines Cottage, June Lake Properties Inc., King's Inn, Lakeview Best Western Motel, Murphey's Motel, Nicely's restaurant, Rainbow Ridge, Schat's Bakery, Shelly's Sierra Inn, Silver Lake Texaco

MAMMOTH LAKES

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Accolades

As usual numerous people helped us out during a busy summer, and we apologize to everyone we forgot to mention in this column or elsewhere in this newsletter.

Phil and Dorothy Corsentino donated a beautiful canoe to David and Sally Gaines to replace the one that was stolen last year. This canoe will be used to introduce people to Mono Lake's aquatic wonders.

Jan Dunn of O'Kelly and Dunn Catering in Mammoth Lakes helped us prepare a memorable feast for the bike-a-thoners. To top it off, a scrumptious cake decorated with sugary tufa towers was donated by the K and M Bakery in Walker. Bob and Kerry Jellison helped us prepare and cater the meal.

We would not have been able to staff a booth at the Mammoth Labor Day Arts and Crafts Festival without the volunteer assistance of Mort and Edith Gaines and Mike Dunn. The booth raised almost \$1,000 in pledges for the bike-a-thon from Mammoth Lakes businesses.

Morgan Sinclair graciously donated photographic equipment that will enable us to produce half-tones for our publications. Riley and Ann Gilkey, Natalie Krasanoff, and David Allen Terey donated used books that we were able to sell to raise funds for the lake.

10K Run Sponsors and Donors

Ansel Adams Gallery, Yosemite

Booky Joint, Mammoth Lakes

Calistoga Water

Gateway Market, Mammoth Lakes

Gillespie Distributing (Late Beer)

Giovanni's Pizzeria, Mammoth Lakes

Joe's Market, Bishop

Lewis Kemper

Lakeview Motel, Lee Vining

Bill Neill

Jeff Nixon

Ricky Bob's Taco Bar, Mammoth Lakes

Rod and Cindy Kennec (plaques)

Safeway, Bishop

Schat's Bakery, June and Mammoth lakes

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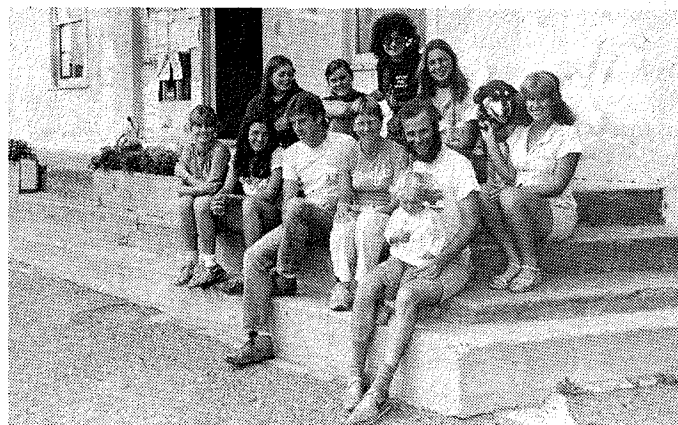
Santa Ynez

Schramsberg

Stevenot

Sutter Home

Z.D. Winery



Our stalwart Lee Vining crew on the steps of the Mono Lake Information Center. Top row, left to right, are interpretive coordinator Katie Quinlan, intern Daria Walsh, information coordinator Ilene Mandelbaum, intern Emily Harris, dog Beauty and office manager Debbie Jewett. Bottom row, left to right, are volunteer Sarah Jewett, interns Sally Miller and John Whorff, mail clerk Sally Gaines, editor David Gaines, and Vireo. Missing was intern Jim Parker, who was off leading a field trip. The bike-a-thoners reach Deadman Summit, the highest point on the 350-mile trip. From here it's all downhill to Mono Lake.

Mono Lake Committee Financial Statement

1 June 1983 - 31 May 1984

The MLC brought in about \$356,000 in the last fiscal year ending May 1983, with about \$136,000 from merchandise sale and the remaining \$220,000 from memberships, donations and special fund-raising events. We spent about \$20,000 less than we raised, our largest expenditures being merchandise for resale (20 percent) and payroll (31 percent).

If you have questions, comments, complaints or suggestions, please let us know. We are constantly striving to augment income and reduce expenditures while increasing our effectiveness on Mono Lake's behalf.

INCOME

Donations and Memberships	\$147,550.15	42%
Retail and Wholesale Sales	135,577.71	38%
Fund-raising Events	68,372.25	19%
Interest and Miscellaneous	4,116.14	1%
TOTAL	\$355,616.25	

EXPENSES

Payroll	\$109,493.61	33%
Resale Merchandise Cost	72,696.04	22%
Fund-raising Costs	37,199.66	11%
Rent	18,001.89	5%
Printing and Photo	11,474.92	3%
Postage and Freight	11,343.42	3%
Utility and Telephone	10,985.61	3%
Payroll Taxes	10,800.91	3%
UCLA Conference	10,266.23	3%
Travel	9,113.66	3%
Sales Tax	8,162.59	2%
Legal and Accounting Services	6,544.72	2%
Insurance	6,431.51	2%
Supplies	5,612.61	2%
Repairs and Maintenance	2,397.01	1%
Lobbying	1,638.45	1%
Advertising	1,501.95	1%
Bank Charges	1,125.63	+
Miscellaneous	1,125.63	+
TOTAL	\$335,988.20	

Mono Lake Fun(d) Raisers

AN EVENING WITH JOHN MUIR: A Portrayal by Lee Stetson

A Benefit for Mono Lake, Nov. 12, Berkeley

Lee Stetson, professional actor/director, whose "Conversation With a Tramp" has received high critical acclaim, will present his portrayal of John Muir in the high-lofted, redwood-lined sanctuary of St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, at 8 p.m., Nov. 12. All who have seen his performances in Yosemite or on other stages have been deeply moved by his inspired soliloquy of John Muir's writings. It is a *must* for all admirers of John Muir and the wilderness!

The requested donation is \$5 for ticket orders received before Nov. 1 and \$6 after that if tickets are still available. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to "Tramp," c/o M. Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708. Please call (415) 526-2360 if you have any questions. Make checks payable to the Mono Lake Committee.

Ano Nuevo and Elephant Seals

Watch for details of benefit bus trips to Ano Nuevo to see the elephant seals. The trips will depart from Berkeley in January and February. These trips are a benefit for the Mono Lake Committee. Announcements will appear in San Francisco Bay Area Audubon and Sierra Club newsletters. Or call Mildred Bennett at (415) 526-1260 after November.

Halloween Party in Sacramento

Attention, all Sacramento Valley monophiles! The third annual Environmental Halloween Costume Party will be held Saturday, Oct. 27, at Alpine West, and you are invited to attend dressed in your most outrageous attire. The party includes dancing to live music and a contest for the best costume. Door prizes will be given away. Beer, wine and soft libations will be sold. Admission is \$5 at the door. Alpine West is located upstairs in The Building, 10th and R, Sacramento.

Proceeds from this benefit will support the efforts of the Mono Lake Committee, Friends of the River, League of Coastal Protection and the Planning and Conservation League. Come have fun while supporting Mono Lake and the environment! See you there Oct. 27!!

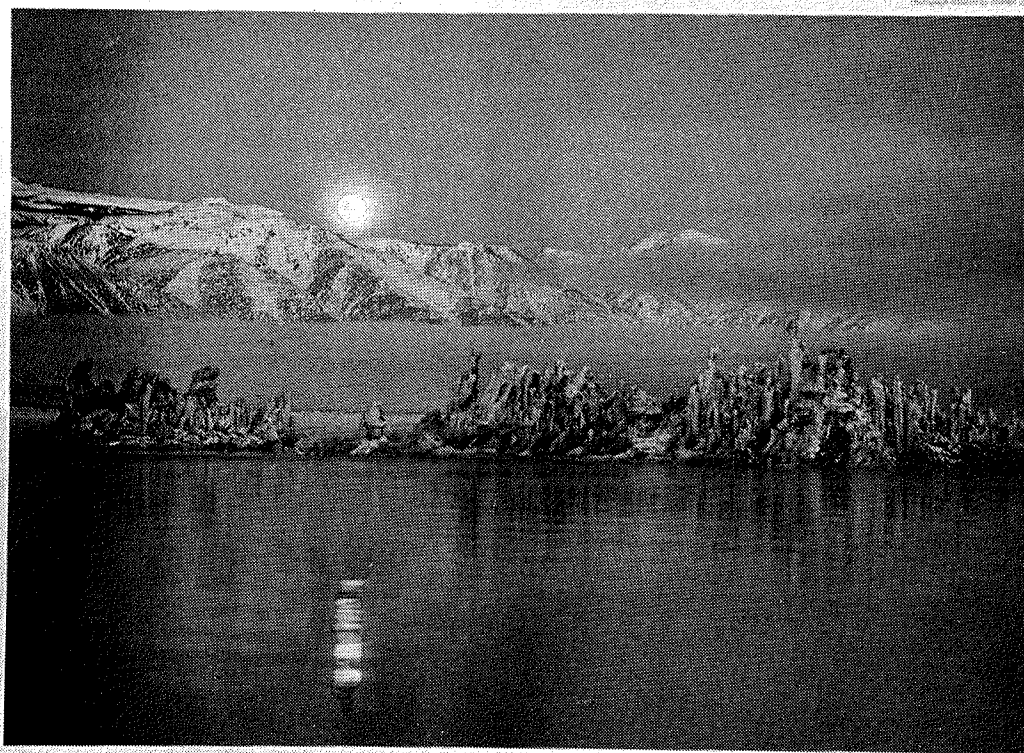
ALASKA '85: LAST CALL!

If you haven't received a brochure on this exciting cruise fund-raiser to help save Mono Lake, please send a self-addressed 4-by-9½-inch envelope to: Alaska '85, c/o M. Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708. A deposit of \$350 before Dec. 1 will hold your space at the lowest possible cost (\$1967-\$2589, depending on cabin location). A generous portion of the fare is a tax-deductible donation to help save Mono Lake. After Dec. 1, the fare will be considerably higher. The fare includes all meals and entertainment on board, June 14-26, 1985. Shore excursions, if desired, will be available at additional cost. Should you have to cancel, the full amount will be refunded if notification is given by April 1, and lesser amounts after that time. So, if you are in doubt, reserve now and hope you can go at the best possible price!!

Mono Lake Catalogue

T-Shirts, Posters, Calendar, Books and More!

All proceeds benefit the Save Mono Lake Campaign.



MONO LAKE

OUR NEW MONO LAKE COLOR POSTER! The most stunning, evocative Mono Lake photograph we have ever seen, beautifully reproduced on heavy 100-lb. cover stock. This 16-by-20-inch poster captures the grandeur of a winter morn, snow-clad Sierra and spires of tufa reflected in the lake's placid water. On the back is Gray Brechin's moving essay, *Elegy for a Dying Lake*. The photograph was donated by Anselm Spring, and all proceeds benefit the Mono Lake Committee.

\$4.95



MONO LAKE IT'S WORTH SAVING T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS. High-quality shirts silkscreened with Rebecca Shearin's evocative and colorful design. Sizes S, M, L, XL.

Short-sleeved kids' in blue or cream	\$7.00
Short-sleeved men's in blue or cream	\$8.00
Women's French-cut in blue or ivory	\$8.50
Baseball jersey with red, yellow, powder blue, navy, pink or burgundy sleeves	\$9.00
Long-sleeved in lilac, powder blue or beige	\$11.00
Sweatshirt in lilac, turquoise or jade	\$15.00



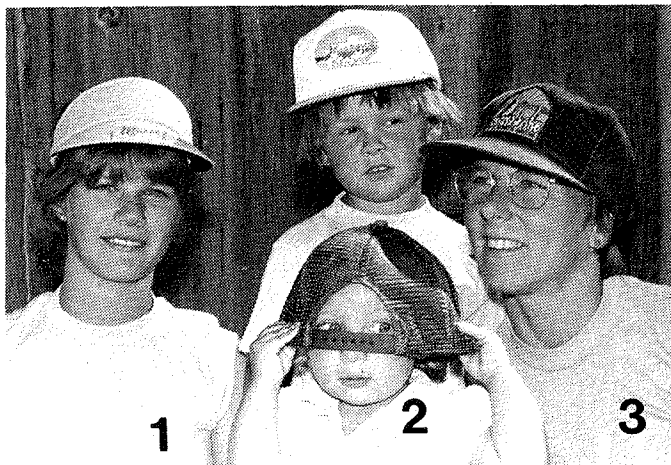
TODDLER T-SHIRTS. *Another Baby for Mono Lake* design by Rebecca Shearin.

(1) Lap shoulder, 12- or 24-month size, yellow, white, pink or blue	\$4.50
(2) Baseball jersey, toddler 1-2 or 3-4 size, pink or blue sleeves	\$6.00



MONO LAKE MUSCLE SHIRTS, MUSCLE SHIMMELS AND TOPO T-SHIRTS.

- (1) Muscle shirts in white, jade, turquoise, powder blue, fuchsia or pink. Unisex styling, S, M, L, XL (white only) \$9.00
- (2) Muscle shimmel (midi-length). Colors and sizes as (1). \$8.50
- (3) Topo T-shirt. 100% cotton. Cream or blue. 9.95



MONO LAKE VISORS AND CAPS. Adorn your pate with attractive, quality Mono Lake headgear. Sizes are adjustable, and fit everyone we know.

- (1) Visors are emblazoned with the words *Mono Lake*. White, yellow, light blue, dark blue or red. \$4.25
- (2) Mesh caps are silkscreened with Rebecca Shearin's evocative design. Red, light blue, dark blue, brown, purple, green and black. \$5.00
- (3) Corduroy caps are 100% cotton, pinwale corduroy adorned with our 5-color Mono Lake patch. Lilac, pink, turquoise, cream, dark blue, medium blue, brown, gray or black. \$8.00



MONO LAKE BANDANNAS. Gull design and the words *Mono Lake* emblazoned in blue on colorful bandannas. White, khaki, yellow, blue, pink or red. **\$3.50**



DELUXE MONO LAKE DECAL. Six vibrant colors capture the magic of a Mono Lake sunrise on a 4-inch, translucent decal. Designed by Rebecca Shearin. **\$4.00**



MONO LAKE MUGS. Handmade blue and white porcelain mugs. **\$6.00**



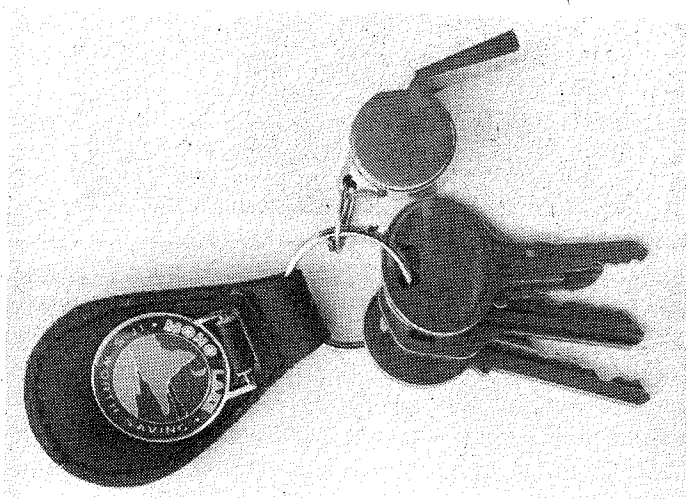
MONO LAKE DAY PACKS. High-quality with Mono Lake patch, by Buttermilk Mtn. Works of Bishop. Royal blue, navy blue, red, brown and silver.

Children's size \$18.00

Adults \$22.00

MONO LAKE PATCH. Striking 5-color design by Rebecca Shearin. 3 inches across. **\$3.50**

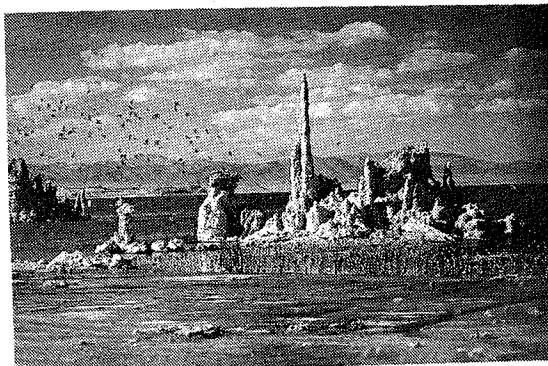
GULLIVER SEAGULL. A cuddly reminder of the birds we're fighting to save. We've never seen a more adorable stuffed animal. Ideal for children of all ages—adults, too! **\$6.00**



MONO LAKE KEY CHAINS. High-quality leather with our metal Mono Lake pin. **\$3.00**

MONO LAKE PIN. High quality metal pins, one-inch diameter, engraved with a haunting nocturnal scene in blues, silver and white. Designed by Rebecca Shearin. **\$2.00**

MONO LAKE



TIM SNYDER POSTER. A striking 15-by-22-inch color reproduction of shore birds swooping among tufa spires.

\$3.95

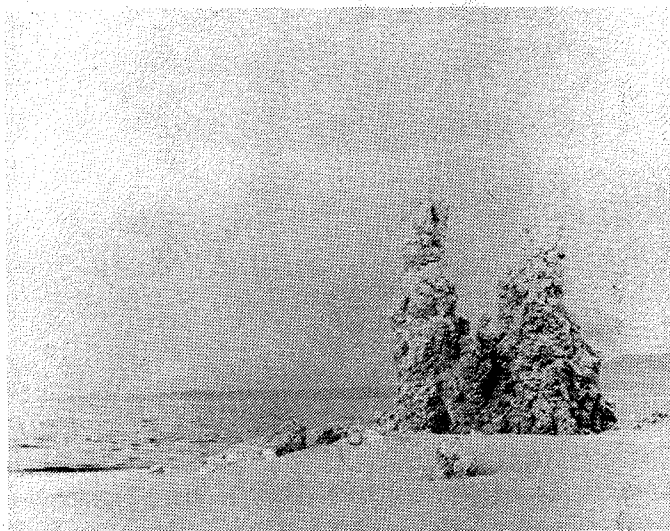


AT MONO LAKE

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 10

BRETT WESTON POSTER. Classic 1961 photograph of north shore tufa. This state-of-the-art, laser scan duotone reproduction is printed on 100-lb., varnished cover stock. Black and white, 18 by 24 inches. *\$10.00*

\$10.00



STEPHEN JOHNSON
MONO LAKE

STEPHEN JOHNSON POSTER. A stunning 22-by-34-inch color poster that vividly captures the subtle pastel shadings of a south shore evening. State-of-the-art reproduction on 100-lb. cover stock. *\$16.00*

\$16.00

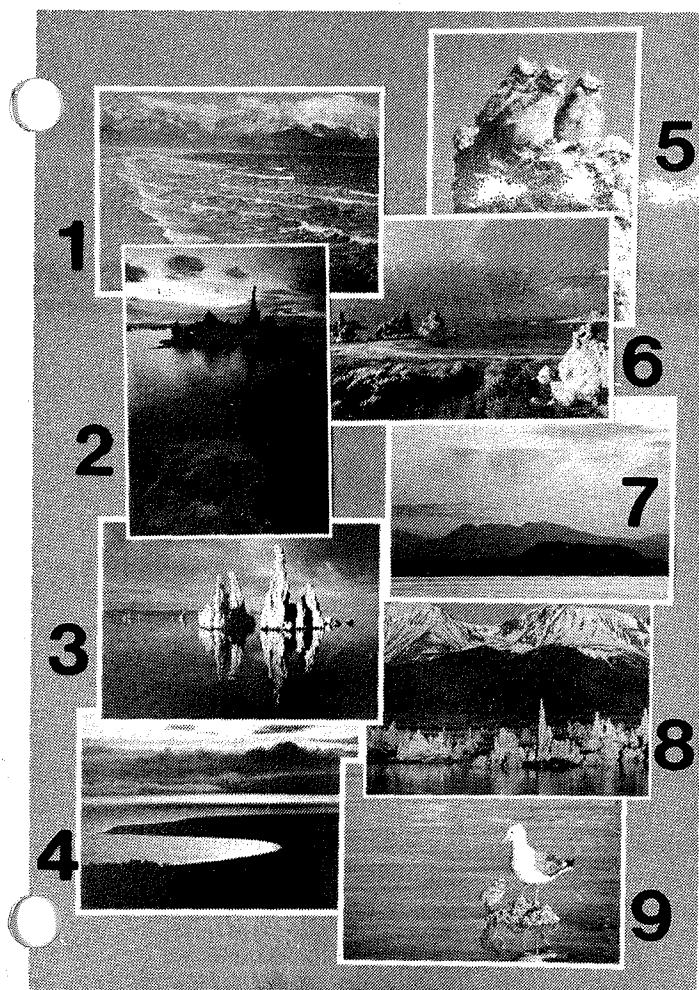


Mono Lake and Yosemite
 looking west from 95,000 feet

[illegible]

AERIAL POSTER. Looking west from 55,000 feet toward Yosemite National Park, the Coast Ranges and the Pacific Ocean. Mono's ice-age shorelines, the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, Half Dome, Monterey Bay and most everything in between are clearly visible. Commentary discusses volcanoes, peaks and other geological features. Black and white, 19 by 25 inches. *\$1.95*

\$1.95



DELUXE MONO LAKE POSTCARDS. Ideal Christmas cards! Nine spectacular photographs beautifully reproduced on 5-by-7-inch postcards. A brief text explains Mono's plight. (1) *Beach*, (2) *Tufa Sunset*, (3) *Tufa Reflections*, (4) *Shoreline Sunrise*, (5) *Owls on Tufa*, (6) *Tufa and Gulls*, (7) *Negit Island Sunrise*, (8) *Tufa and Sierra*, and (9) *Gull and Chick*.

Set of 9 - \$4.00
or \$.50 each

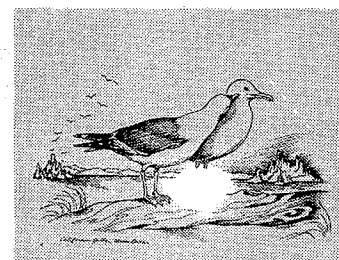
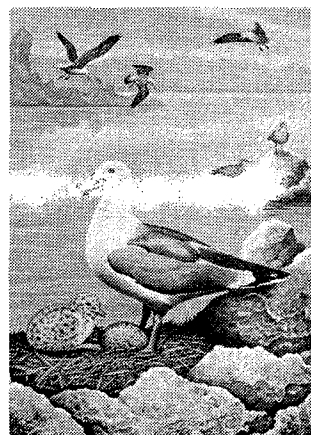
WATER-SAVER SHOWER HEADS. Finest quality chrome-plated brass shower fixtures mix air and water for truly luxuriant showers. Cuts water consumption by up to 75% and pays for itself in lower water-heating bills. Easy to install.

Standard-\$9.00

Deluxe (with turn-off)-\$13.00

WATER CONSERVATION KITS. Conventional flush toilets use 5-8 gallons when 2-3 gallons is sufficient. What can we do about this waste? Use toilet dams. Our conservation kits include two brass toilet dams guaranteed for five years, as well as a shower head water saver and toilet leak detection tablets. A family of four will save about 20,000 gallons a year!

\$3.50



MONO LAKE CARDS

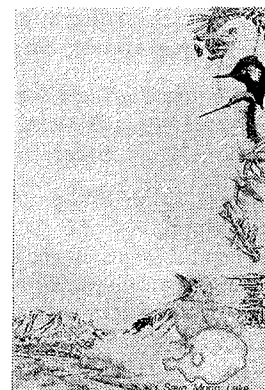
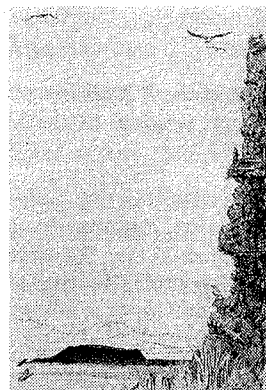
Great Christmas or greeting cards!

(1) *Gull and chick.* Color reproduction of Stan de Treville's wonderful painting on heavy, 5-by-7-inch cards. Text on back explains Mono's plight. Envelopes included.

\$.75 each or 10 for \$7.00

(2) *Two gulls.* Pen-and-ink drawing of preening gulls on heavy, buff-colored, 4¼-by-5½-inch cards. The drawing was donated by Charlotte Cooper. Envelopes included.

6 for \$3.00



MONO LAKE STATIONERY. Two outstanding pen-and-ink designs donated by Keith Hansen. Each package contains 50 5½-by-8½-inch sheets without envelopes.

(1) *Tufa tower and Negit Island.* On white or beige paper.

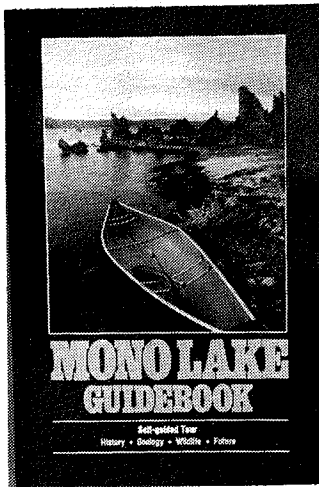
(2) *Save Mono Lake.* On white or beige paper. \$3.00

MONO LAKE SLIDE PROGRAM. Our 80-slide program vividly conveys the beauty and importance of Mono Lake and the water conservation alternative to its destruction. A cassette tape commentary and script accompany the slides. We loan the program to groups and schools without charge, but ask that a \$35 refundable deposit be sent with each request. The show can also be purchased for \$50, discounted to \$40 for nonprofit groups and schools (California residents please add 6% sales tax). Allow three weeks for delivery.

MONO LAKE SLIDES. Set of 24 color transparencies selected from the Mono Lake slide program. Includes tufa, craters, aerals, brine shrimp, birds, etc.

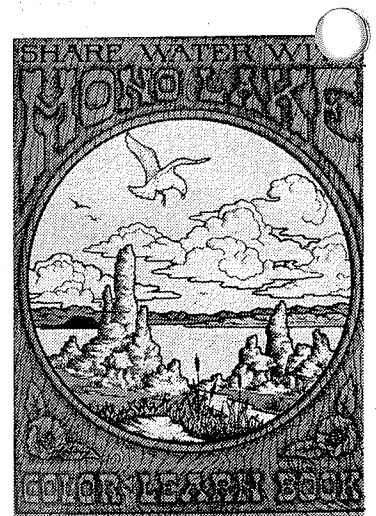
\$10.00

BOOKS



MONO LAKE GUIDEBOOK. From tufa to volcanoes, brine shrimp to gulls, aqueducts to water conservation, this lively, authoritative guidebook delves into Mono's geology, wildlife and history, and the alternatives to its destruction. Sixty-eight photographs and numerous drawings, figures and tables complement 113 pages of text. By David Gaines and the Mono Lake Committee. **\$4.95**

MONO LAKE COLOR-AND-LEARN BOOK. An ecological story and coloring book for children of all ages. A waylaid water droplet tells the story of Mono Lake's plight. Beautiful drawings and spirited text. "An outstanding accomplishment" . . . Huey P. Johnson, former California Secretary for Resources. By Rebecca Shearin, Michael Ross, David Gaines and the Mono Lake Committee. **\$1.95**



MONO LAKE

An Ecological Study of Mono Lake, ed. by David Winkler. Technical but fascinating information on geology, hydrology and biology. Includes update. 190 pp., paper. **\$9.50**

A Trip to Bodie Bluff and the Dead Sea of the West (Mono Lake) in 1863, by J. Ross Browne. Vivid early account of the Mono Lake region. 72 pp., paper. **\$3.95**

The Mono Lake 'Public Trust' Decision of the California Supreme Court, Feb. 17, 1983. An eloquent, inspiring document destined to become a classic of environmental law. Reprinted by the Mono Lake Committee. **\$3.00 Donation Appreciated**

LOS ANGELES AQUEDUCT AND WATER POLITICS

The Water Seekers, by Remi A. Nadeau. Drama and intrigue objectively told. Best general account. 278 pp., paper. **\$9.95**

Water and Power, by William L. Kahrl. The definitive account of L.A.'s water imperialism, detailed and vividly written. 583 pp. paper. **\$10.95**

Vision or Villainy—Origins of the Los Angeles-Owens Valley Water Controversy, by Abraham A. Hoffman. A scholarly, lucid analysis that traces the aqueduct from its construction to the "water wars" of the 1920s. 308 pp., hardbound. **\$18.50**

HISTORY

The Lost Cement Mine, by J.W.A. Wright. Tales of legendary gold discovered and lost in the Eastern Sierra of Mono County. First published in the *San Francisco Daily Evening Post* in 1879. 120 pp., paper. **\$7.95**

Meadow in the Sky, by Elizabeth Stone O'Neill. Excellent, lucid new history of Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite. 162 pp., paper. **\$6.95**

AT MONO LAKE CATALOGUE. Highest quality reproductions of 16 color and 49 black-and-white photographs from the *At Mono Lake* exhibition, including work by Ansel Adams, Brett Weston, Phillip Hyde and many other artists. Edited by Stephen Johnson and published by Friends of the Earth Foundation with the financial assistance of the Mortimer Fleishhacker Foundation and Zellerbach Family Fund. Paper; 8½ by 10½ inches. A stunning production! **\$12.**

History of the Sierra Nevada, by Francis P. Farquhar. Lively and scholarly. 175 pp., paper. **\$7.95**

Roughing It, by Mark Twain. Includes near-fatal adventures at Mono Lake. 626 pp., paper. **\$8.95**

Up and Down California in 1860-1864, by William H. Brewer. Classic Californiana, including visit to Mono Lake (he sampled brine fly soup). 538 pp., paper. **\$10.95**

The Story of Inyo, by W.A. Chalfant. Bishop newspaperman tells local history from Owens Valley perspective. Reprint of 1925 edition. 430 pp., paper. **\$12.50**

Gold, Guns and Ghost Towns, by W.A. Chalfant. Eyewitness account of the mining booms. 175 pp., paper. **\$7.95**

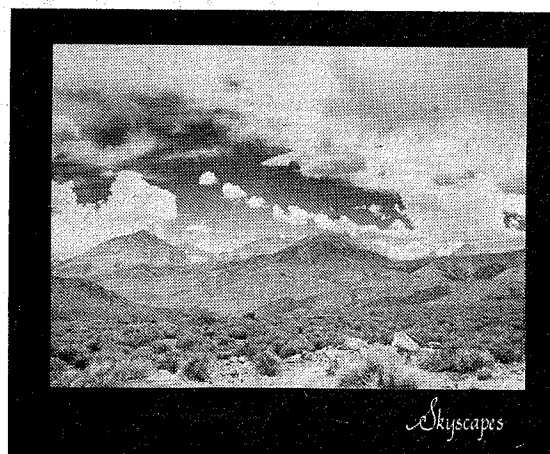
The Story of Early Mono County, by Ella M. Cain. Stories from the ol' days by someone who was there. Illustrated with historical photographs. 166 pp., paper. **\$7.50**

The Story of Bodie, by Ella M. Cain. Firsthand accounts of life in the West's wildest boom town. 196 pp., paper. **\$6.95**

Old Mammoth, by Adele Reed, edited by Genny Smith. Superb collection of historical photographs complemented reminiscences from the ol' days. Beautifully produced. 193 pp., paper. **\$14.50**

Doctor Nellie, by Dr. Helen Macknight Doyle. Classic autobiography by one of California's first woman physicians. "Dr. Nellie" practiced medicine in the Eastern Sierra from 1895 to 1917. 364 pp., paper. **\$9.95**

Skyscapes from the Hand of Pah-nah-wah, by Enid A. Larson. Black-and-white photographs of cloud patterns east of the Sierra Nevada, printed on heavy, 100-lb. glossy paper. This is an exceptionally beautiful, poetic book that invites the reader to "look upward into the ethereal world of wonderment." A limited edition privately printed, available while supplies last. 45 pp., 40 photographs, 9-by-12 inches, paper. \$16.00



GEOLOGY

Above Yosemite, by Robert Cameron, with text by Harold Gilliam. Breathtaking aerial photographs of the Yosemite region reproduced in striking color in an 11-by-14-inch coffee table book. Includes stunning views of Mono Lake. Gilliam's text is lucid and perceptive. A bargain at the price! 144 pp., hardbound. \$19.95

Roadside Geology of the Eastern Sierra Region, by the Geologic Society of the Oregon Country. Includes Yosemite, Mono Lake, Devil's Postpile, White Mountains and more. 42 pp., paper. \$3.50

Earthquakes and Young Volcanoes Along the Eastern Sierra Nevada, by C. Dean Rinehart and Ward C. Smith. Well-illustrated, up-to-date account by USGS geologists. 62 pp., paper. \$5.95

GREAT BASIN

Present and Extinct Lakes of Nevada, by Israel C. Russell. Reprint of 1885 classic by the Great Basin's greatest geologist. 36 pp., paper. \$2.25

The Land of Little Rain, by Mary Austin. First published in 1903, this little classic is unsurpassed. 171 pp., paper. \$4.95

A Trace of Desert Waters—The Great Basin Story, by Samuel G. Houghton. A lucid, well researched account of history and geology. 287 pp., hardbound. \$17.75

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Mammals of the Mono Lake-Tioga Pass Region, by John H. Harris. Intimate, authoritative accounts of every species. 55 pp., paper. \$3.95

Trees of the Great Basin, by Ronald M. Lanner. A highly readable natural history that focuses on interrelationships between trees, birds and animals. With 51 color photographs and numerous drawings. 215 pp., paper. \$12.50

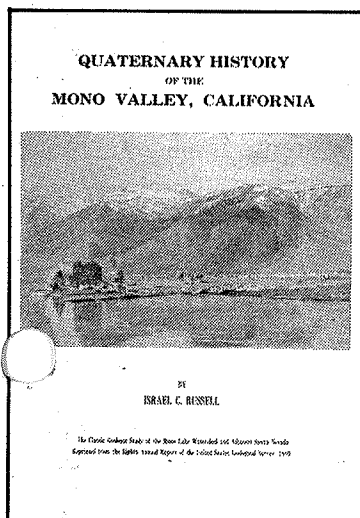
The Pinyon Pine, by Ronald M. Lanner. A lucid natural history that relates the pinyon to animals and humans. Includes a section on pinenut cookery. 208 pp., paper. \$8.50

Discovering Sierra Trees, by Stephen F. Arno. Wonderful woodcut illustrations. 89 pp., paper. \$2.95

Discovering Sierra Reptiles and Amphibians, by Harold E. Basey. Outstanding accounts with fine color photographs. 50 pp., paper. \$2.50

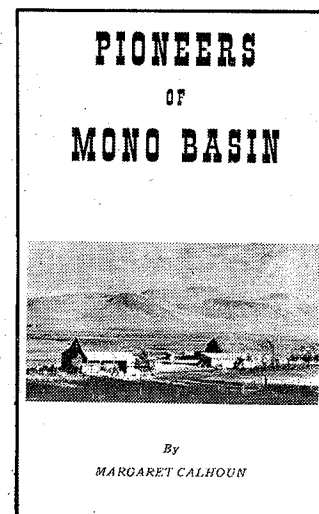
Field Checklist of the Birds of Mono Basin, by Terry Hart and David Gaines. Includes all 259 species with bar graphs. 15 pp., paper. \$1.50

TWO MONO CLASSICS AVAILABLE AGAIN!



Quaternary History of the Mono Valley, California, by Israel C. Russell. Essential reading for all monophiles! First published in 1888 by the U.S. Geological Survey, this remains the outstanding study of Mono's geography and geology. Russell excelled as writer and scientist, portraying the landscape in vivid, insightful prose that has never been equalled. This reprint includes all the original engravings and topographic maps. 192 pp., paper. \$9.95

Pioneers of the Mono Basin, by Margaret Calhoun. An outstanding, intimate, first-hand history of Mono's early settlers. Margaret Calhoun was raised on a farm near the lake's north shore at the turn of the century. She conveys the joys and tribulations of pioneer life in a style that is personal and moving. The book includes 49 historical photographs, numerous poems and a wealth of fascinating information, such as old-timer recipes for sagebrush tea and hog's head cheese! First published in 1968 and long out of print, this is one of the best local histories ever written. 172 pp., paper. \$6.95



Gift Memberships

Sales from this catalogue support the Mono Lake Committee, a 6,000-member, nonprofit citizen group. Your purchase, donation or membership will help save Mono Lake, one of America's priceless natural resources.

Won't you join us? Or, if already a member, give a friend a gift membership? We will send your friend an attractive card acknowledging your gift.

All MLC members receive our quarterly newsletter and timely action alerts, which keep them informed of what's happening and how they can help.



SAVE MONO SEALS. Spread the word! Use these eye-catching blue-on-white, self-affixing seals on letters and envelopes. Actual diameter, 1½ inches. Designed by Charlotte Cooper.
Roll of 50-\$2.50

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as a **Mono Lake Committee member :**

- ☐ \$15 Regular Member ☐ \$100 Patron
☐ \$25 Sponsor ☐ \$500 Monophile
☐ \$50 Supporting Member ☐ \$1000 Monomaniac
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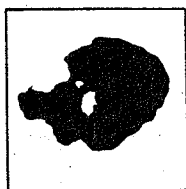
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Make checks payable to *The Mono Lake Committee* (not tax-deductible) and send to: P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541.

For information or to order by phone, call (619) 647-6386.



**The
Mono Lake
Committee**

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