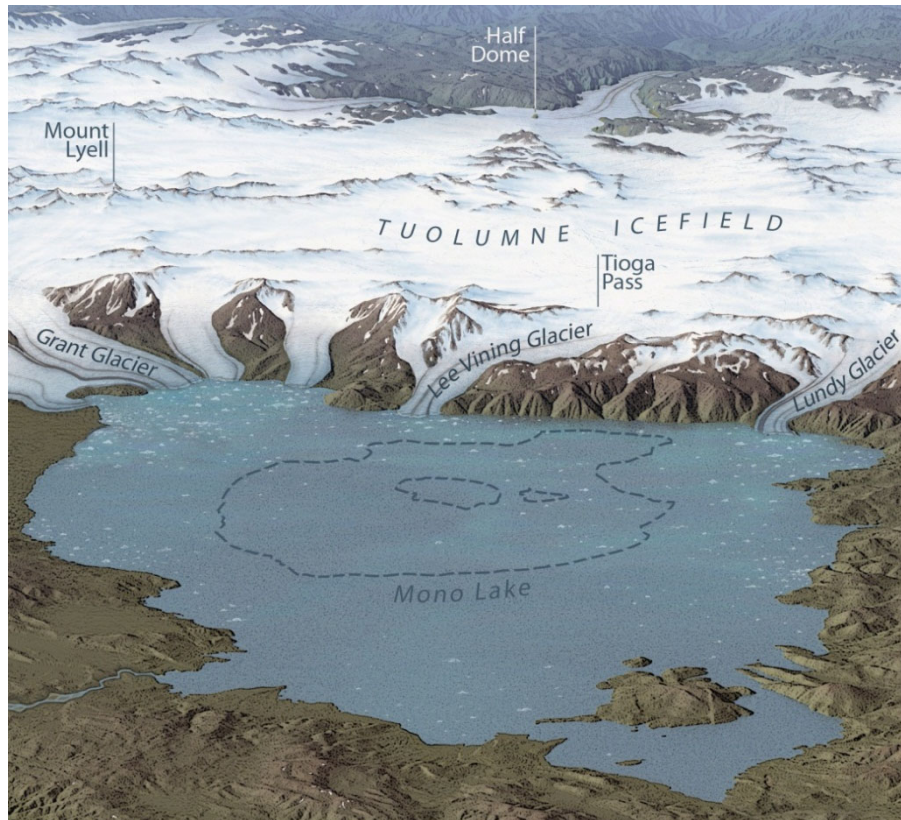


# Geology of the Mono Basin: Land of Fire & Ice



*The Mono Basin as it might have looked circa 120,000 years ago. Illustration by Eric Knight.*

## September 24–26, 2021 • Greg Stock

\$182 per person / \$167 for Mono Lake Committee members  
enrollment limited to 10 participants

From volcanic craters to glacial moraines, earthquake faults to tufa towers, the Mono Basin displays some of the most unique, spectacular, and accessible geology anywhere in the world. This seminar, consisting mostly of field visits to the premier sites, will present in understandable fashion the geologic stories of the Mono Basin. The seminar will visit and explain such scenic wonders as Mono Lake, the Mono Craters, Black Point, Lee Vining Canyon, and Tioga Pass. If you've ever wanted to know more about the geologic forces that formed the diverse landscapes of the Mono Basin, this trip is for you.

Greg Stock is the first-ever Yosemite National Park geologist. He has a BS in geology from Humboldt State University and a PhD in earth sciences from UC Santa Cruz. A near-lifelong resident of the Sierra Nevada, Greg has studied and interpreted the geology of the Sierra Nevada for more than 20 years. He has authored or co-authored over 100 papers and abstracts on Sierra Nevada geology, and is co-author of the book *Geology Underfoot in Yosemite National Park*. Greg is excited to share his knowledge of, and passion for, the outstanding geology of the Mono Basin!

**ITINERARY** (The itinerary for this seminar will be flexible in order to respond to local conditions and class participant interest.)

**Friday, September 24, 6:30pm:** Meet at the Solar Pavilion in Hess Park on Mattly Avenue. We'll introduce ourselves and then enjoy a short preview to our weekend seminar during an outdoor talk after course materials are provided. Bring a camp chair if you have one and dress for the cool evening. The precise locations we'll visit on Saturday and Sunday will depend upon the year's snowpack and the current weather.

**Saturday, September 25, 8:00am:** We will meet at the Mono Lake Committee and caravan to stops at Tioga Pass, Bennettville, Ellery Lake, and Lee Vining Canyon. We will finish the day about 5:00pm.

**Sunday, September 26, 8:00am:** We will meet at the Mono Lake Committee and caravan to stops at Panum Crater, South Tufa, the Aeolian Buttes, Old Marina, Black Point, and possibly others, finishing the day by about 4:00pm.

### **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, all seminars will be limited to ten participants and will take place entirely outside. Participants will caravan to each field location rather than carpool. All participants, including those who have been vaccinated, are expected to wear masks and socially distance for the duration of the seminar. Additionally, participants will need to complete a health screening before arriving in the Mono Basin and again at the start of the seminar. Keeping participants, instructors, and our staff safe is our highest priority.

### **EXERTION, ALTITUDE, & DEHYDRATION CAUTIONS**

Although this seminar will not require strenuous hiking, nearly every stop will involve at least some walking, and the longest hike may be in excess of 2 miles (round trip). Participants should be in reasonably good physical shape. Remember to bring (and drink!) lots of water because your body loses more water at the higher altitudes of the Mono Basin. Experts recommend that you begin drinking extra water as you drive to higher elevation in order to prevent dehydration and headaches. Also, the sun is capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat. Conversely, rain is always a possibility, especially at the higher altitudes, so also come prepared with raingear.

### **TO BRING**

- a face mask (no buffs as masks)
- hand sanitizer
- hand lens
- notebook and pen/pencil
- camera
- binoculars (optional)
- trekking poles (optional)
- appropriate field clothing: hat, sunglasses, warm layers, raingear
- day pack including plenty of water, sunscreen, insect repellent, etc.
- packed lunch and snacks for each day

## RECOMMENDED READING

- Glazner, Allen, and Greg Stock, *Geology Underfoot in Yosemite National Park*, Mountain Press, 2010.
- Hill, Carol, *Geology of the Sierra Nevada, Revised Edition*, California Natural History Guides Series No. 80, University of California Press, Berkeley, 2006.
- Tierney, Timothy, *Geology of the Mono Basin*, Mono Lake Committee Field Guide Series, Kutsavi Press, 1995.



**Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars**

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