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***Mono Lake in Watercolor:*
Paintings by Nancy Overholtz**

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For Immediate Release

A new gallery exhibit has gone up at the Mono Lake Committee Information Center and Bookstore in Lee Vining: *Mono Lake in Watercolor*, by local artist Nancy Overholtz. The original watercolors and archival inkjet prints on display include wildlife from the Eastern Sierra, ranging from bear cubs and large mountain cats to songbirds and migratory waterfowl. Overholtz captures elusive Sierra wildlife in stunning and accurate detail; looking at her paintings is not only an aesthetic experience, but also an ecological one. Her vivid landscape scenes of May Lake, Leavitt Meadows, and Mono Lake in various moods transport the viewer to those places for a short visit. *Mono Lake in Watercolor* will be showing through June of 2006.

Nancy's love of art and her fascination with animals began as a young girl. "As far back in my childhood as I can remember, animals delighted me. Any

creature, from a stray dog to the frogs that lived in the pond near my home, was a constant source of wonder.” Nancy focused on oils, pastels, and pen and ink during her early work; while studying art at Palomar College in San Marcos she became intrigued by watercolors. Nancy has studied with artist Lee Addison, has taken classes at Vista Adult Education, and has participated in workshops with watercolor artists Tomotsu Fujiwara and Jeffrey Scott.

The beauty and majesty of nature inspires Nancy’s paintings, and she began painting wildlife after moving to the Eastern Sierra. She spends as much time as possible outdoors—watching and photographing birds and animals, hiking, and cross-country skiing in the mountains near her home. Nancy says, “I feel very fortunate to live in a place that is still wild.” Nancy’s husband Ron is a fellow artist who specializes in woodturning, and together they live in Bishop, California.

Because of her love for all animals, Nancy is a member of many wildlife conservation organizations, such as Eastern Sierra Wildlife Care, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Nature Conservancy. She contributes a portion of the profits from the sales of her paintings to these and more organizations. Nancy hopes that her work “will instill in others an appreciation and concern for wild animals and their vanishing habitat.” She is a member of the Wildlife Artists Association and the Inyo Council for the Arts, and her work is displayed, often

with Ron's woodturnings, at a number of galleries throughout California and Nevada.

All of Nancy's matted and framed watercolors on display at the Mono Lake Committee are for sale right off the wall, with prices ranging from \$50.00 to \$350.00. In addition, unframed matted prints are also available for most of the art in the gallery. Prints range in price from \$20.00 to \$40.00 and come in various sizes. Now is the perfect time to visit Lee Vining and stop into the show to find Christmas presents for family and friends! If you don't get a chance this winter, *Mono Lake in Watercolor* will be showing until summer 2006.

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Photo #1 caption: "Big Horn Ram" Original watercolor by Nancy Overholtz.
Photo #2 caption: "May Lake" Original watercolor by Nancy Overholtz.

The text of this press release may be downloaded from
www.monolake.org/press

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The Mono Lake Committee is a nonprofit citizens' group dedicated to protecting and restoring the Mono Basin ecosystem, educating the public about Mono Lake and the impacts on the environment of excessive water use, and promoting cooperative solutions that protect Mono Lake and meet real water needs without transferring environmental problems to other areas.