

Twilight Birding & Owling



Great Horned Owl

Nora Livingston

June 2, 2019 • Nora Livingston

\$90 per person / \$80 for Mono Lake Committee members
enrollment limited to 9 participants

Evening in the Mono Basin is spectacular—clouds light up with vivid orange and pink shades, the fading light turns the landscape an inky blue, and unique wildlife emerges. Spend the twilight hours with a naturalist while the sun sets. First we will look for songbirds as the light fades, we will search for twilight specialists like Wilson’s Snipe and Common Nighthawk, and we will scan the trees for owls and scour the back roads for Common Poorwills.

This seminar will involve easy hiking at about 7,000 feet elevation. We will hike 1–2 miles over the course of the evening, mostly on level terrain.

Nora Livingston is the Mono Lake Committee’s Lead Naturalist Guide. She has spent ten years birding the region and is an expert on Mono Basin birding locations. Before moving to Lee Vining permanently, she bounced around California for eight years as a field biologist, studying birds on the Channel Islands, the Farallon Islands, and in the Eastern Sierra.

ITINERARY

Sunday, June 2 at 7:00pm: Meet at the Mono Lake Committee Information Center & Bookstore in Lee Vining. After brief introductions, we will carpool to our first birding location. Possible locations include Lee Vining Canyon, Mono Lake County Park, DeChambeau Ponds and Ranch, and a few lesser-known patches. The itinerary may vary with bird activity, weather, or the instructor’s whims. This class will end around 10:00pm.

Altitude and Dehydration Cautions: 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 rather fierce at high elevations, capable of burning even on cool and cloudy days, so be sure to protect yourself thoroughly using sunscreen, sunglasses, and hat.

TO BRING

- binoculars and/or spotting scope
- headlamp with extra batteries
- field guide(s)
- sturdy footwear
- appropriate field clothing: warm layers, rain jacket, hat
- day pack including plenty of water, insect repellent, etc.
- snacks and plenty of drinking water



Mono Lake Committee Field Seminars

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