

The High Sierra Responds to a Changing Climate

Climate Change Seminar in Lee Vining, June 15, 2017, 1–5pm



350 MONO Climate Action will present a day of education on high elevation climate issues in the Eastern Sierra on the Thursday of Chautauqua week. Bird enthusiasts are invited to spend an extra day in the area, and attend a series of afternoon talks from experts in climate issues. We hope attendees will be inspired to take action in their own lives and communities to encourage climate progress. Free and open to the public -- please attend!

1 - 1:10 : Intro, welcome, goals, about the group

1:10 - 1:25 : **Dana Glacier: A case study in melting ice**

A review of Caelen's science project, observing changes in the Dana Glacier on Tioga Pass.

Caelen McQuilkin , Student, Lee Vining High School

1:25 - 1:40: **Unusual Cooling: Low Temperatures make Mono Lake a Climate Refuge**

Lee Vining Elementary student **Ellery McQuilkin** studied cold air pools effect on local climate.

1:40 - 2:05: **Lessons Learned at Mono Lake:**

Achieving Climate Progress through Effective Advocacy and Persistence

Martha Davis will share her experiences as Executive Director of the Mono Lake Committee during the critical years leading up to the 1994 State Water Board decision, and as Executive Manager for Policy Development with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency. She will discuss lessons learned from the Mono Lake story, and how persistence and advocacy can effect change against all odds.

2:05 - 2:30: **Mono Lake in the Era of Climate Change**

Geoff McQuilkin, Executive Director of the Mono Lake Committee will discuss critical questions that climate change raises for Mono Lake and its tributary streams.

2:30 - 2:45 Break

2:45 - 3:15 **Climate Refugia for Warming Temperatures: Case Studies**

Dr. Connie Millar, US Forest Service Research Ecologist, will discuss climate refugia, safe havens for species stressed by a changing climate, illustrated with examples from her work on pikas and conifers in the Great Basin mountains.

3:20 - 3:50 **How do more intense and frequent droughts and floods due to climate warming affect aquatic life in High Sierra streams?**

Dr. Dave Herbst, a research biologist from the Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab, will discuss his research on invertebrates in mountain streams and how climate variability is affecting them

3:50 - 4:05 Break

4:05 - 4:45: **Climate Trends in the Sierra Nevada: Implications for alpine lakes**

Dr. Steve Sadro, a limnologist and ecosystem ecologist from UC Davis, will explore the sensitivity of Sierran lakes to climate warming and the impacts of continuing change on their ecosystem function.