



## Agricultural Commissioner's Office

**USDA Designates 42 Counties in California as Primary Natural Disaster Areas With Assistance to Producers in Surrounding States** -WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 2014 — The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated 42 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to damages and losses caused by a drought that occurred from Jan. 1, 2014 and continues.

Go to the website by clicking this link: [Drought Update](#)

Those counties are:

Alameda	Kern	Monterey	Sierra	
Alpine	Kings	Orange	Siskiyou	
Amador	Lassen	Plumas	Sonoma	
Butte	Los Angeles		San Benito	Stanislaus
Calaveras	Madera		San Bernardino	Tehama
Colusa	Marin		San Joaquin	Trinity
Contra Costa	Mariposa		San Luis Obispo	Tulare
El Dorado	Mendocino		Santa Barbara	Tuolumne
Fresno	Merced		Santa Clara	Ventura
Glenn	Modoc		Shasta	Yolo
Inyo	Mono			

CONTACT: Nate Reade, (760) 873-7860

## Animal Control

**Animal Control hosts Girl Scouts!** – On Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>, Animal Control hosted the girl scout troop number 5 from Mammoth at the Whitmore animal shelter. They seemed to have a good time. Animal Control Officer Will “Lefty” Clayton and Animal Shelter Attendant Sage gave a little speech about animal control and shelter work.

CONTACT: Angelle Nolan, (760) 932-5582



## County Administrator's Office

**Mono County launches new Woodstove replacement Effort** – Thanks to restricted grant funds from the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District, on which sit Supervisors Hunt, Johnston and Stump (alternate), Mono County residents will be able to apply for money to replace polluting old wood stoves. The program administrator is Lisa Isaacs. If you know someone who needs an up to code wood stove, **have them Contact Lisa!**

CONTACT: Lisa Isaacs, (760) 914-0388



**Bob Musil Appointed Clerk-Recorder** – The Board on Tuesday appointed current Assessor Bob Musil to be the next Clerk-recorder-Registrar. The specific start date is still in the works but we will be working with both the Clerk’s staff and the Assessor’s staff to ensure a timely and effective transition.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**Chairman Larry Johnston and Supervisor Byng Hunt meet in quarterly Town/County Liaison Committee** – Tony Dublino and I attended the quarterly meeting between the Town representatives and the two members of the Liaison Committee. Chairman Johnston was filling in for Supervisor Stump who had a family engagement.

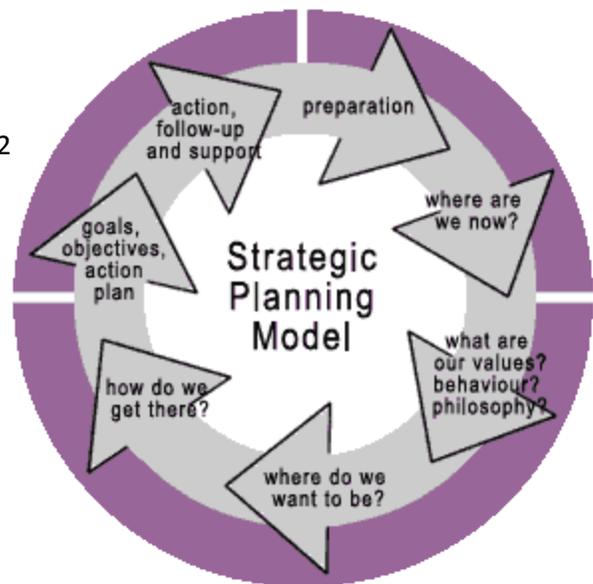
Topics discussed included ongoing public works projects in both the Town and the County; solid waste and the need to move forward with a serious discussion of an issue that can no longer wait as well as shared service ideas such as pooling HR services.

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510

**The Strategic Plan moving forward!** – Thank you to the 12 who attended the Ambassador Prep session at Sierra Center. Dylan Curtis and Erin Van Kampen did a great job prepping.

The feedback received will be incorporated and sent out into the ambassadors for their outreach to Departments. These ambassador visits will be your opportunity to add in thoughts to the draft plan. Stay Tuned!

CONTACT: Jim Leddy, (707) 529-4510



## **Economic Development**

Here are a few updates from the Mono County Economic Development Department:

### **CDBG Business Loans**

The Economic Development Business Loan Program provides low interest government loans to eligible small businesses currently located in Mono County or to entrepreneurs looking to relocate or develop businesses within county limits for the purpose of creating or retaining jobs for low-income individuals. On Sept. 24-26, we have set time aside to meet 1:1 with small businesses in Mono County who are interested in learning more about accessing low-interest, long-term loan options. Please let us know if you are interested in these programs. Email us to set up an appointment on September 24, 25 or 26: Jeff Simpson - [jsimpson@mono.ca.gov](mailto:jsimpson@mono.ca.gov) or Alicia Vennos – [avennos@mono.ca.gov](mailto:avennos@mono.ca.gov).

---

## California Competes Tax Credit

The California Competes Tax Credit is an income tax credit available to businesses that want to locate in California or stay and grow in the state. Tax credit agreements will be negotiated by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development and approved by the California Competes Tax Credit Committee. Each fiscal year, 25% of the available credits are reserved for small businesses. Applications are accepted online and there is no fee to apply.

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Instructions: [www.business.ca.gov/calcompetes.aspx](http://www.business.ca.gov/calcompetes.aspx)

Apply here: [www.calcompetes.ca.gov](http://www.calcompetes.ca.gov)

Contact California Competes

Email: [Calcompetes@gov.ca.gov](mailto:Calcompetes@gov.ca.gov)

Phone: 916-322-0694

---

## Fall Color Reports

Fall Color Season is just around the corner and we need your help! Send us your fall color reports with photos and we'll post them on our blog here: <http://www.monocounty.org/fall-colors> and our Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/VisitEasternSierra>. The top submissions each week will be forwarded to our partner, [www.californiafallcolor.com](http://www.californiafallcolor.com), which is tracked by television stations and major media throughout California. Please send your photos to us by email at [jsimpson@mono.ca.gov](mailto:jsimpson@mono.ca.gov) or [avenos@mono.ca.gov](mailto:avenos@mono.ca.gov)

---

## Visit California Request for Content: What's New in California Winter

Visit California is looking for a roundup of new developments happening in your area this winter season. Please note that the submission must feature something brand new or newly unveiled and the copy must be a story idea geared towards media. Submissions should fall in the winter season; however, any large-scale new happenings beyond spring 2014 are acceptable as well. For this print issue, we do not highlight events; advertising specials, deals or packages; general updates; or content that does not promote travel/exploring California.

Examples of topics that would be included :

- The opening of a new hotel or restaurant
- A hotel recently spending \$3 million renovating all their rooms
- A ski resort offering new lifts and ski trails
- The creation of a new app that showcases a region

- New rides at a theme park

If your offering is not an example mentioned above, it may still be featured. These are examples of criteria that will work only. This winter issue will be accompanied by a press release that will highlight What's New in California leading with the latest California ski resort experience developments, any unique packages and unique events. While we will not include packages and events in our newsletter, it may be highlighted in the release.

To be considered for inclusion, please submit your offering online via our online submission tool by **Friday, September 26**. Instructions on how to submit are below.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT:**

To submit go to: [industry.visitcalifornia.com](http://industry.visitcalifornia.com)

- Hover over "Grow Your Business" and click on "Submit Content" (Screen grab is attached for clarity)
- Sign in (if you don't have an account, signing up is easy – just register)
- Click the orange "Submit Content" button
- Select "Media Relations" and click next
- Select "Submit new Media Relations content" and click next
- Select "What's New" and choose the drop down item of "What's New Winter 2014/15"

• Fill out form with appropriate content and contact information; the subject will be your title

*\*Note: Content should never be a press release; all submissions should be concise story ideas/editorial pieces.*

- Include images appropriate to the submission topic

*\*Note: All images/videos **MUST** be submitted here; include credit information in special instructions*

- Read and agree to the terms and conditions and click next
- Select Content Categories that apply to your submission
- Review submission content and confirm everything is correct
- Submit content

If you have any questions, please let me know.

---

## **Yosemite Sustainability Conference**

Yosemite Gateway Partners and the National Park Service are hosting the first Yosemite Sustainability Conference in Yosemite National Park from December 8 through December 10, 2014. The conference is a three day learning and networking forum dedicated to helping local and state businesses, government agencies, and non-profit organizations transition to

economic, environmental, and social sustainability through best practices. Click here for details on the conference: <http://www.yosemitegatewaypartners.org/yosemite-sustainability-conference/>

---

## **CSUB SBDC Growth Venture Course – Starts Today!**

California State University, Bakersfield is offering a Fasttrac Growth Venture course to grow your business! This 10 week course is perfect for entrepreneurs who have experience running their own businesses. Small businesses may register for the course by clicking here:

<http://www.csub.edu/sbdc/services/classes/index.html>

---

## **FREE Webinar TODAY on Traditional and Social Media Marketing**

Understanding both Traditional Marketing and Social Media Marketing is very beneficial to your growing business. Join Maureen Buscher-Dang, traditional marketing guru and Carlin Jones, Social Media Expert, while they discuss how to use both of these marketing tactics to maximize business growth and customer development. September 17, 2014 at 12:05 – 1pm. Go to [www.gotowebinar.com](http://www.gotowebinar.com) and enter webinar code: 151-559-827 or click here for more information: <http://www.csub.edu/sbdc/services/webinar/index.html>

---

## **FREE Small Business Tax Workshop by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)**

A Small Business Tax Workshop presented by IRS Enrolled Agent Brenda Duran will take place this Thursday September 18, 2014 from 9am to 12pm in the Sacramento County DHA Business Information Center at 4990 Stockton Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95820.

Topics to be discussed:

- What you need to know about federal taxes and your new business
- How to set up and run your business
- How to file and pay your taxes
- The essentials of running your home-based business
- Learn about Federal Unemployment Taxes, and more!

Please register at [dha-stockton-blvd-bic@sacounty.net](mailto:dha-stockton-blvd-bic@sacounty.net) or call (916) 875-3280

---

CONTACT: Jeff Simpson, (760) 924-4634

---

## Information Technology

**Eastern Sierra Connect Regional Broadband Consortia (ESCRBC) Online Presence grant program** - This week ESCRBC announced the recipients of the 2014 round of their Online Presence Grant Program which contributes over \$6,500 toward the development of a web presence for local businesses. In this round, two Mono County businesses, **Green Fox Events and Guest Services** and **Clean Sweep Limited** will be each awarded \$1,300 for the purpose of developing an eCommerce site for their business. The sites will be developed by local designers Katy Grans Drake and PupFish Design, respectively.

In addition to the two Mono County businesses, five Inyo-based businesses were selected:

- **Bishop Pack Outfitters** : Basic Online Presence - \$700
- **Great Basin Bakery** : eCommerce Site - \$1300
- **Earth to Sky Calculus** : eCommerce Site - \$1300
- **Glacier Botanical** : Basic Online Presence - \$700
- **The Sound Shoppe and RadioShack Dealer** : Basic Online Presence - \$700

The Online Presence Grant Program is part of ESCRBC's Economic Development Initiative and is designed to:

- Kick-start the online presence for several small local businesses by paying for a portion of their development costs
- Demonstrate the value of an online presence to local businesses and their customers
- Increase revenue and business sustainability
- Develop a case study document with metrics indicating the impact the websites had on the businesses
- Support local web professionals by bringing work to them

This is the second round of grant funding that has been offered through this program (the first cycle was in 2012). In the last round, ESCRBC helped six local businesses and used their stories as case studies (available at <http://escrbconsortium.org/online-presence-case-studies>). It was remarkable to see that some of these businesses saw as much as a 50% increase in their revenue in just the first year of being online.

CONTACT: Nate Greenberg, (760) 924-1819

## Public Health

**Flu Season is here!!** -- The Health Department has spent the past 2 months gearing up for our annual flu vaccination season, which occurs with close collaboration with the California Department of Public Health. We are once again offering clinics to every community and to all schools in Mono County. This year, for the first time we are offering a drive through flu clinic in Lee Vining as an emergency preparedness practice! This week, the nurses and support staff received training on all the details and logistics regarding the flu vaccination season.



Mono County is once again offering FREE flu vaccines to all County employees! In addition to good hand washing, the flu vaccine is the best way to prevent getting sick with the flu. The flu can cause: fever, headache, extreme tiredness, and body aches; and in some individuals severe respiratory problems resulting in hospitalization. See the attached schedule for clinic dates and times or please call us to schedule an appointment: 760.924.1830 or 760.932.5580.

Flier of all clinics is attached!

CONTACT: Hillary Bayliss, (760) 924-1835

## **Social Services**

### **June Lake Fire – Mono County Emergency Shelter Operations Successful**

Social Services responded to a call from the Mono County Sherriff's Office at 5:30 pm on September 16<sup>th</sup> to open an Emergency Shelter at the June Lake Community Center due to the June Lake wildland fire. The fire displaced local residents and campers staying at the Reversed Creek Campground. The shelter opened soon after the dispatch call and provided support for about 30 people who utilized the shelter (a mix of local residents and travelers) that came in and out of the shelter for information and food. The shelter residents were in good spirits and provided positive support for each other. Several took advantage of the community center front porch to watch the impressive work being done by fire

responders.



On the morning of Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> the Sherriff's department escorted the shelter residents that were evacuated from the Heidelberg Inn Resort to retrieve their belongings so that they could travel out of the June Lake area. The American Red Cross provided lodging at the Lake Front Cabins for the remaining shelter occupants who

were June Lake area residents. Social Services received clearance to close down the shelter from the Sherriff's department at 4:30 that afternoon. The shelter officially closed September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:20 after finding lodging for the three remaining residents. On Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> the American Red Cross provided one additional nights lodging for two local residents because the power had not yet been restored to their home.



A big thank you to the 7 volunteers that helped to operate the shelter, and to the many other locals and travelers that assisted by donating food, discounting lodging, and checking in on the wellness of the shelter staff and residents.

Mono County Social Services and the American Red Cross would like to give a special thank you the following:

- Shelter Managers and Volunteers: Renee Christ, Karin Pleasant, Barbara Miller, Becky Buccowich, Vikki Bauer, Debbie Yade, and Cathy Young.
- Food donations: The Tiger Bar, Petra's Bistro, Jim and Delain DeChaine

Also, we would like to acknowledge the Mono County Paramedics, Mono County Sherriff's Department, and the California Highway Patrol, for their able and efficient assistance (and anyone else we may have missed).

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760)924-1763

**Moises Takes a Spill; Volunteers and Staff Step Up to the (Senior) Plate** - Antelope Valley Senior Center Cook, Moises Cornejo, took a spill on his motorcycle last week attempting to avoid hitting a deer on Hwy 395. While Moises is at home mending his broken wing, service for our Seniors marches on. Senior Center staff Pat Espinosa

and Sandi Rustan, have switched out their Birkenstocks for running shoes, and are burning rubber to keep things going. Megan Foster of Social Services is filling in where needed, and coming up with creative solutions to fill the gaps.

Staff joined forces with area CERT members to keep things running. We couldn't do it without the following volunteers who are helping to keep going our Meals on Wheels deliveries:

- Ned and Diane Welsh
- Nissa Chichester and Roxy Rich

### Thank you!

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, 760-924-1763

**Eligibility Staff Rock the Review!** - During the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>, the California Department of Social Services conducted a CalFresh Management Evaluation Desk review in Mono County. The major areas examined during this review were Payment Accuracy and Assessment of Corrective Action, Program Access, and Timeliness of Application Processing. The State of California reviewer commented that Eligibility Staff are doing a "wonderful job," particularly in their client case narratives.



The Timeliness of Applications performance standard was above 90%, and **exceeded the national rate!** Quite an accomplishment, especially given on-going difficulties encountered with implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Thank you Francie Avitia, Program Manager; Jack Anderson, Eligibility Supervisor; Eligibility Workers Patty Harris, Armando Alvarez, Kaylan Johnson, Yvon Rangel-Guzman, Jay Sloane, Alyssa Damico; and front office staff Patty Morales and Alex Cannon. Go team!!

Contact: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763



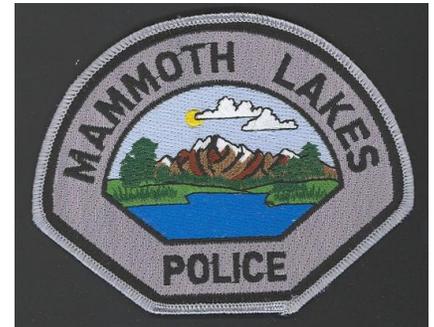
**Child Safety Event on September 20<sup>th</sup>** - Is your child's car seat installed correctly? Come to our free Car Seat Check-Up and find out! Your answer when you leave will be "YES" and that could save your child's life in an auto crash.

**Why YOU should attend:**

- ✓ Your child's car seat will be inspected by a trained technician.
- ✓ You may receive a free car seat replacement while supplies last.
- ✓ You will receive information about new child car seat laws.

WHEN: Saturday, September 20, 2014  
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM  
WHERE: Mammoth Lakes Police Department  
568 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes

CONTACT: Kathy Peterson, (760) 924-1763



**Wild iris to hold Domestic Violence Awareness and prevention Seminar** – Thank you to Susi Bains and Kathy Peterson for sharing this vital upcoming event information. The flier is attached to the Board Update and this issue needs our focus as far too often we hear about violence in our communities.

Please share this with everyone:

*"Good Afternoon!*

*As most of you know, domestic violence has been at the forefront of national conversations this past week. It is important to recognize that all of the public conversation and media attention reflect the years of hard work by all domestic violence agencies, including Wild Iris. Good or bad, the media attention has provided Wild Iris a unique opportunity to lead a public conversation and help to educate the community about domestic violence.*

*In October, we will be hosting a free 2-hour "DV 101" educational seminar. The seminar is designed to be an informational introduction to the dynamics of domestic violence, and will cover a number of topics including, the Cycle of Violence, Common Myths about Domestic Violence, the Effect of Domestic Violence on Children, Red Flags of an Abusive Relationship, a discussion on the common question, "Why Doesn't She Just Leave?," a review of national and local statistics and much more. Most importantly, we hope that it will generate more conversation, and a better understanding that domestic violence is not a "private matter."*

Classes are free of charge, and will be held on Tuesday October 7, in Mammoth Lakes from 3:00 pm –5:00 pm, and Thursday October 9, in Bishop, from 2:30 pm-4:30pm. Light refreshments will be served. For more information and to register for this event, please visit [www.wild-iris.org](http://www.wild-iris.org) or call 760-934-2491. Space is limited, so please register ASAP on our website @ wild-iris.org.

Please feel free to pass the attached flyer along to anyone you feel may be interested in attending - I hope to see everyone there!

Susi Bains

Director of Programs

Wild Iris

P.O. Box 2858/625 Old Mammoth Rd. #201

Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

760-934-2491 (Mammoth)

760-873-6601 (Bishop)

760-934-1568 f

[www.wild-iris.org](http://www.wild-iris.org)

CONTACT: Susi Bains, 760-934-2491

## Sheriff's Office

1. Everyone should be aware of the June Lake Fire. I will not mention the status as multiple updates have been going out over the past several days. We had to call in various deputies as well as having our PIO work diligently for hours each evening putting out press information, working together with USFS PIO and keeping up with and replying on our Facebook page to inquires and comments.
2. Speaking of our Facebook page, it was the main source we used to distribute information regarding the June Lake Fire. Over a 24hr period we reached over 65,000 people. Each 'post' averaged between 2,000 and 15,000 views. Jennifer Hansen did a fantastic job with continued updates each day, and did this while away at a training conference.
3. Jennifer Hansen was again asked by CSSA to be a presenter at next year's CSSA Executive Assistance / PIO Conference. This shows how she is well versed in her knowledge, abilities and expertise in the field.
4. We conducted court screener interviews this week to possibly hire additional staffing. We will also be moving forward with hiring (1) court screener after the medical portion of her background is completed and passed.
5. The 2013/2014 Grand Jury report was made public by the Mammoth Superior Court Staff. We will be responding to it in the near future as the Penal Code requires.
6. Staff attended the Region VI meeting in Bishop this week. It was well attended by multiple County Sheriff staff and State cooperators. This is one way of continued interaction with adjacent county sheriff's which ultimately can assist us in mutual aid when needed.

CONTACT: Sheriff Ralph Obenberger, (760) 932-7549