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Sage grouse protection plans under review by Biden administration

Spotty data and media bias delay justice for missing and murdered Indigenous people

Drought: Sate Water Project will deliver no water to most communities in 2022

Hawaii under blizzard warning as 12 inches of snow and winds up to 100 mph expected

It's December and it hasn't snowed in Denver yet. That's never been recorded (CNN)

How a Native American tribe on Long Island is losing its land to rising seas

Experts: Eye Exams Help Determine COVID Mortality Risk

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Comanche Chief Quanah Parker

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Commissioners approve new district maps

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Protect Thacker Pass

Bureau of Reclamation Awards \$9.9 Million to 31 Tribes for Drought Response

Scientists declared these animals extinct in 2021

Colin "Taco" Thomas



Planet Earth

November 30 at 6:50 AM

Infrared shot of Tree. Salt Lake City, Utah

Photographer by Samuel Lethier Photography
THE NEVADA INDEPENDENT.COM

Sisolak offers support to tribal leaders amid federal boarding school investigation - The Nevada Independent

"It is on behalf of the state that I want to make an apology. This policy was abhorrent and we need to make amends now," Gov. Steve Sisolak said following a meeting with tribal leaders.

Nevada's governor apologizes for the state's past role in Indigenous schools
<https://www.npr.org/2021/12/04/1061491812/nevada-indigenous-indian-native-schools-governor-apologizes>

A **study from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** found that the Sierra snowpack, a vital water source for drinking and irrigation, could vanish in as soon as 25 years. Given current warming trends, the researchers projected that by the late 2040s half of the area historically covered by snow will likely have little or no snow for five straight years. By 2050, the snowless period could last 10 years. The consequences for California, the authors wrote, would be “potentially catastrophic.” [S.F. Chronicle](#) | [SFist](#)

[Sage-grouse protection plans under review by Biden administration](#)

Nov 26, 2021 09:15 am

[Read more »](#)

[Spotty data and media bias delay justice for missing and murdered Indigenous people](#)

Grassroots Native-led efforts, particularly over the past five or six years, are starting to bring national attention to the issues of crime and violence that affect Indigenous people.

[Read on »](#)

[Drought: State Water Project will deliver no water to most communities in 2022](#)



Hawaii under blizzard warning as 12 inches of snow and winds up to 100 mph expected

From Friday (12.3) until Sunday, the Big Island of Hawaii is under a blizzard warning. A foot of snow and winds up to 100 mph are expected.

Read in USA TODAY: <https://apple.news/Agg1S9lkpS2OUYri-iPqYzQ>

[It's December and it hasn't snowed in Denver yet. That's never been recorded \(CNN\)](#)

How a Native American tribe on Long Island is losing its land to rising seas

The Shinnecock tribe is fighting to save what's left of its land as climate change prompts sea levels to rise and erode the shoreline in Long Island, New York.

Read in CNBC: <https://apple.news/AvYKoACPmRleW8dwex9f2lg>

Experts: Eye Exams Help Determine COVID Mortality Risk

CARSON CITY, Nev. -- Eye exams can help determine your risk of dying from COVID, according to experts, because optometrists are often the first medical professionals to notice symptoms of diabetes.

A 2020 study in the [Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology](#) found people with diabetes are more than four times more likely to succumb to COVID than non-diabetics.

Dr. Scott Edmonds, optometrist and chief eye care officer at UnitedHealthcare, said getting treatment for diabetes will improve the odds against COVID.

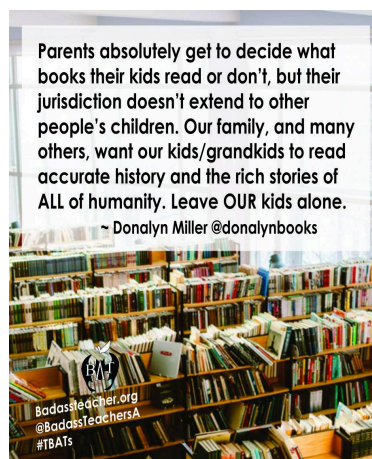
"A well-controlled diabetic will fare better in the face of COVID infection than someone who is an uncontrolled diabetic," Edmonds explained. "And often that difference between controlled and uncontrolled is seen in the eye exam, as opposed to other tests."

Optometrists will suspect diabetes if a person is obese, or has a family history of diabetes, and if a younger person's prescription changes suddenly, if the patient starts to develop cataracts before age 60, or if small hemorrhages are visible under a microscope.

Edmonds noted if a patient is diagnosed as diabetic or pre-diabetic, the optometrist can recommend they take preventive measures against COVID.

"Then we can have that person take more precautions," Edmonds advised. "Being more careful with their masks, maybe talk them into getting a vaccine if they weren't otherwise inclined because now they're at higher risk."

He added so-called "long-haul" COVID can cause neurological changes that result in double vision, blur and eye strain, especially when someone is sitting in front of a computer screen.



In 1818, the world's northernmost Inuit were contacted by Europeans. Unaware of the existence of other humans, they had succeeded in something no one else had managed 🤔



[google.com](https://www.google.com)

The Inuit people had developed distinct cultures.

Around the eleventh century, the Thule people (the ancestors of all modern Inuit) spread across the North American Arctic, developing their tools and trade from meteorites and meeting with other Inuit.

Change came in the 17th century, when climate change cooled the northwest areas of Greenland, cutting off the Inughuit descendants of the Thule people.

During this time of isolation, the Inughuit came to develop their own culture, language and fashion. As the generations passed, they also lost the knowledge of how to build kayaks, which altogether restricted any chance of travel to other regions.



[meisterdrucke.at](https://www.meisterdrucke.at)

The Inughuit were so isolated they would be dubbed the "Arctic Highlanders" by the Scottish man who discovered them.

By the early nineteenth century, so much time had passed that the Inughuit were no longer aware that other humans still existed, so when Europeans arrived in 1818, it came as a great shock.

The expedition was led by Scottish Royal Navy officer, John Ross, who dubbed the Inughuit the "Arctic Highlanders".

They discovered a unique population.

As a [non-agricultural society](#), the Inughuit are believed to have been one of the few such societies to live without armed feuds or warfare.

Even after contact had been made, they were able to maintain their peaceful way of living, but life for the Inughuit would never be the same again.



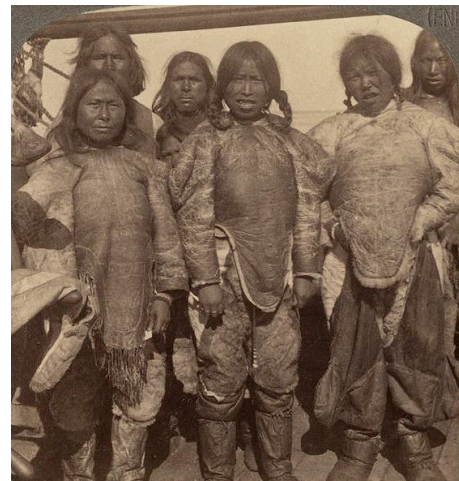
sciencephoto.com

John Ross was an Arctic explorer.

The discovery of the Inughuit was a topic of great intrigue, with people from the Baffin Inuit making a concerted effort at contact during the mid-nineteenth century.

During these long visits, they introduced the Inughuit to the skills of boat-building and developing hunting tools.

In return, the Inughuit taught the Baffin Inuit the advanced sled technology they had perfected over the years.



Inughuit women, c.1910.

American and European explorers also attempted to make more contact, however this wasn't entirely positive, with a previously unnecessary dependence on trade goods swiftly building, as well as the introduction of illnesses to which the Inughuit had no immunity.

Around this time, Christian missionaries also began arriving with the aim of evangelizing.

By 1968, the Inughuit's way of life was rapidly changing.

Despite their decision to stay absent from the nation-building process sweeping the Inuit populations of western and southern Greenland, the Cold War era would change life even more for the Inughuit, with the United States' building of Thule Air Base displacing the Inughuit's chief settlement.

With many Inughuit forced to move 116 kilometres north, their cultural and social life fractured even more.

Today, the Inughuit – who remain the world's northernmost people – make up just 1% of Greenland's population.

❄️ The story of Minik Wallace ❄️



[wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minik_Wallace)

In 1897, explorer Robert Peary took six of the newly discovered Inuit people to New York City. Minik Wallace – as he would come to be named – was one of the party.

Peary promised Minik, his father Qisuk and the four others that they would be able to return to Greenland after their trip.

Soon after their arrival, they were taken to the American Museum of Natural History to be studied. Not only had the museum made **no plans** for their care, they had also made no plans for their return home.



[pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)

Minik's life was to change beyond imagination.

The study was a tragedy.

Minik's father soon contracted tuberculosis. Three adults and one child died, with one young member allowed to return to Greenland.

After pleading for his father to be given a proper burial, Minik was kept in New York City where he was adopted by the museum's chief curator, William Wallace.



turnstiletoours.com

Far from being taken to see another country, the chosen Inughuit people were taken to be studied.

But Qisuk's body wasn't buried at all. For Minik's benefit, an empty coffin was filled with stones. His father's body had in fact been preserved for study, with his de-fleshed body displayed in the museum.

When Minik discovered the betrayal, he fought hard to return to his homeland. Peary would eventually make the arrangements.



pixels.com Minik Wallace, 1890-1918.

By the time he returned years later, he had forgotten Inuktun – his native language – as well as much of his culture and skills.

The Inughuit welcomed him back, teaching him the skills he needed for adulthood, but he continued to find it difficult to fit back in to his old life.

In 1916, Minik returned to the United States. Two years later he died during the 1918 flu pandemic.

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**R**eaders comment:  
*I noticed an article on Sequoah. After my teaching of who he was and why it's important, all I got was a student blurting out she wanted to name her baby Sequoah! It took a few minutes to get the class discussion back on track as other students pondered whether the name should be D'quoah, etc.  
Teaching 8th and 9th grades was always interesting.*  
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Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative

Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

Great opportunity for you to imbed someone in your community and TRAIN them. Also excellent opp for tribal writers to share their bylines!

Albert Relivo

Comanche Chief Quanah Parker

"Born about 1845, Comanche leader Quanah Parker lived two vastly different lives: the first as a warrior among the Plains Indians of Texas, and the second as a pragmatic leader who sought a place for his people in a rapidly changing America.

Parker's birth was a direct result of the conflict between Native Americans and white settlers. His mother, Cynthia Parker, was captured by the Comanche as a child and later married his father, Chief Peta Nocona.

In 1860, after Parker's father was killed by Texas Rangers, young Quanah moved west, where he joined the Quahada Comanche. Parker proved an able leader, fighting with the Quahada against the spread of white settlement.

But in 1875, following the U.S. Army's relentless Red River campaign, Parker and the Quahada ultimately surrendered and moved to reservation lands in Oklahoma.

In his new life, Parker quickly established himself as a successful rancher and investor. The government officials he had once fought soon recognized him as the leader of the remaining Comanche tribes.

Parker encouraged Indian youth to learn the ways of white culture, yet he never assimilated entirely. He remained a member of the Native American Church, and had a total of seven wives. The respect Parker earned is evident in the Panhandle town of Quanah. There, by the Hardeman County Courthouse, stands a monument to the town's namesake: Quanah Parker, chief of the Comanche."

<https://www.nativeamerican-no1.com/>



***When a man wantonly destroys one of the works of man we call him Vandal. When he wantonly destroys one of the works of God we call him Sportsman.
-Joseph Wood Krutch, writer and naturalist (25 Nov 1893-1970)***

Shane Ridley-Stevens

Hey all my relations, way back in my young days I served among the Heiltsuk people along with Elder Sam Flyinghorse and Elder Tony Dalton. I am so grateful for my experience on the island, Bella Bella. So many memories I will cherish throughout the remainder of my life. A'ho.



Omri Vlesing

The Great Canoe

Sixty three feet long, 2200 pounds, made from western red cedar, it was received at the American Museum of Natural History, in 1883. The War Canoe's origin is thought to be either Heiltsuk (Nuxalk), or Haida. #amnharchives

Autumn Harry

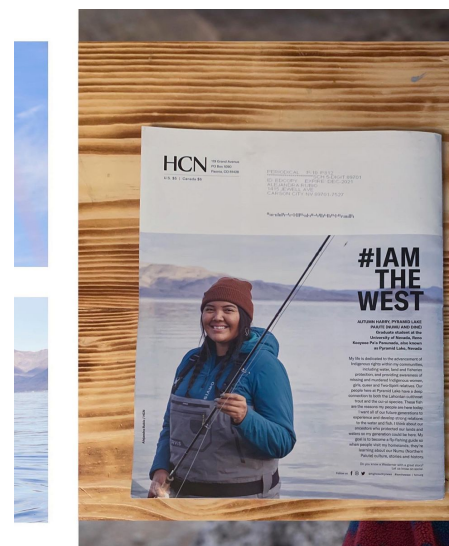
Pyramid Lake Paiute (Numu and Diné)

Graduate Student at the University of Nevada, Reno

Kooyooe Pa'a Panunadu, also known as Pyramid Lake, Nevada

My life is dedicated to the advancement of Indigenous rights within my communities, including water, land and fisheries protection, and providing awareness of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, Queer and Two-Spirit relatives. Our people here at Pyramid Lake have a deep connection to both the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout and the Cui-ui species. These fish are the reasons my people are here today. I want all of our future generations to experience and develop strong relations to the water and fish. I think about our ancestors who protected our lands and waters so my generation could be here. My goal is to become a fly-fishing guide so when people visit my homelands, they're learning about our Numu (Northern Paiute) culture, stories and history.

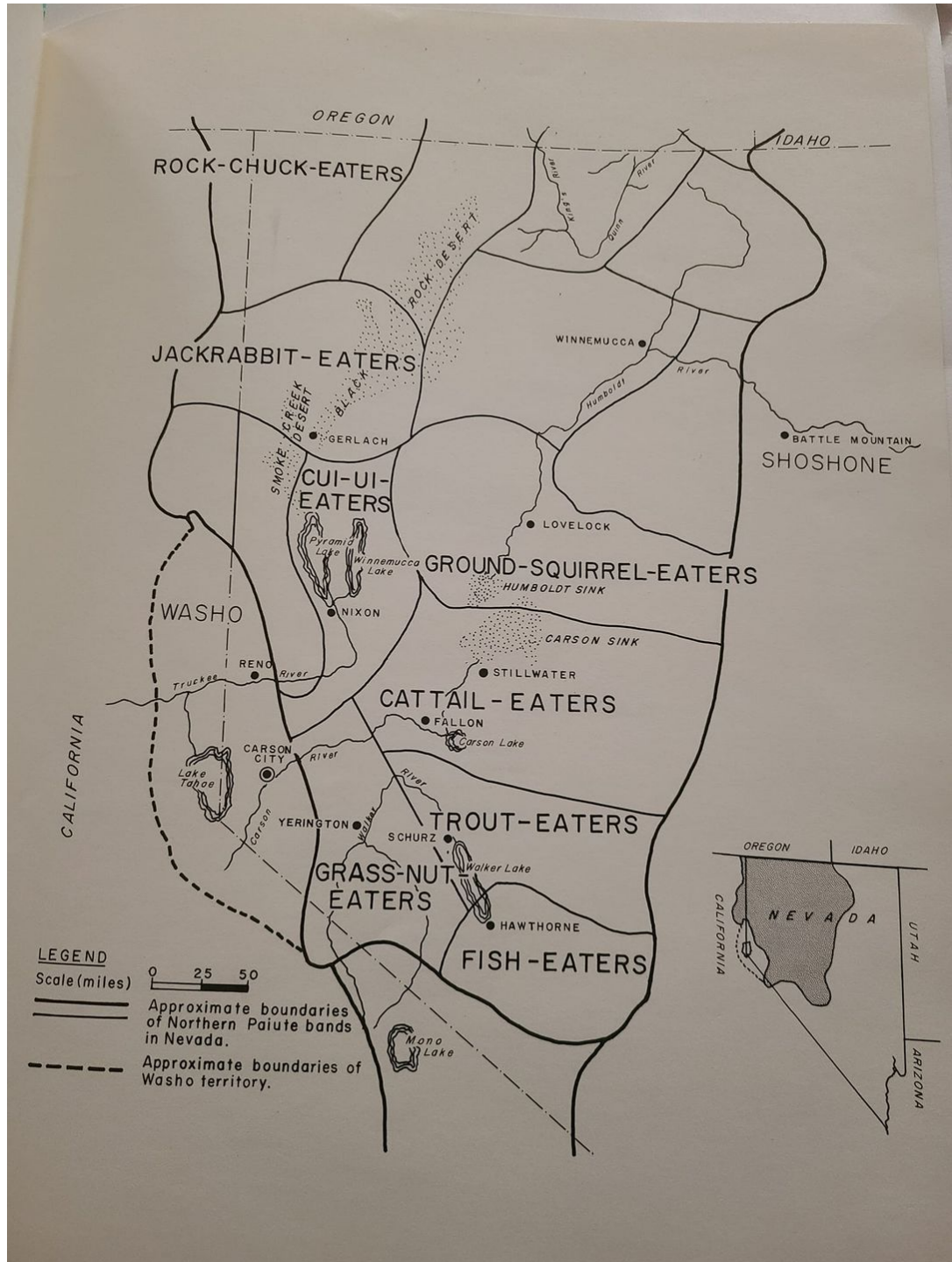
#iamthewest



[Commissioners approve new district maps](#)

Washoe County's Board of County Commissioners on Wednesday approved adoption of a redistricting map that unites Sun Valley into one district and keeps Tribal communities together.

[Read on »](#)



Protect Thacker Pass

Sagebrush steppe is home to countless species. Here is an article about the many varieties of sagebrush and the species who depend on these plants.

"Scientists have documented everything from mule deer to sage-grouse using sagebrush. Indeed, some species like sage-grouse and pygmy rabbits are entirely dependent on sagebrush for their survival.

...

As sagebrush habitats continue to be altered, it becomes increasingly important to correctly identify sagebrush species to allow an understanding of consequences of climatic and human disturbances and restoration practices such as reseeded. Moreover, identification of palatable sagebrush species is critical for conserving animals like sage-grouse, pygmy rabbits, and mule deer that are selective toward sagebrush species and the chemistry of those species."

Thacker Pass is sagebrush steppe habitat. We have seen rabbits, pronghorn, mule deer, sage-grouse, eagles, hawks, meadow larks, lizards, ants, wildflowers, and many others who live there, and call Thacker Pass home. We must protect their home!

[#LoyaltyToLandAndLife](#) [#ProtectThackerPass](#)



[Tribes file new federal lawsuit in Thacker Pass dispute](#)

Dec 03, 2021 11:19 am

[Read more »](#)

[Bureau of Reclamation Awards \\$9.9 Million to 31 Tribes for Drought Response Water Projects – California Tribes Receive Over \\$1.5 Million](#)

Sierra Sun Times, 11/29/2021

WASHINGTON - The Bureau of Reclamation has announced that 31 tribes in 12 states will receive \$9.9 million through the Native American Affairs Technical Assistance to Tribes Program. "Water 2021 was one of the most hydrologically challenging years to date. As the year unfolded, Reclamation recognized the need to reprogram \$100 million dollars to directly deal with the drought and to build resiliency into the future. This funding is a part of that reprogramming and will help facilitate partnerships with Tribes and Tribal organizations as they address severe and continued drought conditions affecting their critical water resources," said Bureau of Reclamation Deputy Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton. "Reclamation is committed to partnering with Indian Tribes and Tribal nations on these important water resources issues."

Scientists declared these animals extinct in 2021 Future losses are preventable.

Read in Mashable: <https://apple.news/AdjLFgpv7S0q3l3zRDbRT6A>

Why some Indigenous people say land acknowledgements are a hollow gesture

It's becoming increasingly common to hear statements that the land one is standing on once belonged to Indigenous people. But while land acknowledgments are a start, they can be hollow if not done right, some scholars say. Read in CNN: <https://apple.news/AQ8vx2a93T1mfQXedizG8Kw>

Norm Cavanaugh

May **Colin “Taco” Thomas** have a peaceful journey to the Spirit World. He was truly a blessing to our people, soft spoken young man and always was positive about improving things in this

life. My condolences to his family and friends

