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The Wahweap Hoodoos

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Understanding Indigenous DNA

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Scientists are just starting to understand why wildfire smoke is a big deal for freshwater lakes.

California comedown: how illicit cannabis farms have left a wilderness where 'you're

\$20 minimum wage may be coming for Nevada's home care workers

NWS releases 2024 Arizona Monsoon Outlook. Prognosis: not awesome

Lake Mead's future improves a little. At least for now

Are we asking the right Colorado River questions?



The Wahweap Hoodoos, Escalante-Grand Staircase National Monument, Utah. While these magnificent (and fragile) white rock hoodoos are located in southern Utah, the closest town to them is actually Page, Arizona. United States

Maria Palma, KUNR Public Radio

Annual Paiute Language Bowl on May 24, 2024 in Reno, Nev.

High school students brought their verbal skills to the annual Paiute language bowl competition. KUNR

On May 24, the Washoe County School District (WCSD) hosted the Annual Paiute Language Bowl, where students learning the Paiute language compete to showcase their knowledge and skills.

Students from Wooster, Reed and Spanish Springs high schools joined students from McDermitt Combined School, Yerington High School, and Schurz Elementary School at the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony gym, encouraging each other in preserving the Paiute language.

The opportunity also gives native and non-native students the chance to interact with community members, said Anthony Abbie, a Paiute language teacher at Spanish Springs High School and vice chairman of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

“There's a lot of elders here from our community and different communities and their parents are here to support them. I think it makes them feel generally happy about what they're doing and why they're taking the class to keep the language going and preserve it,” Abbie said.

Classes are offered to all interested WCSD students who want to study the language and culture.

The goals for the program include being able to form complete sentences and conduct everyday conversations in the Paiute language by the end of their second year.

After a close and friendly competition, Yerington High School took first place, followed by Spanish Springs High School.

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### **History Snips June 3-9**

**1581 June 5** An expedition of soldiers and missionaries left Santa Barbara, Mexico, at the order of the viceroy to go to New Spain (southwest USA) to colonize Native American pueblos.

**1874 June 9** US Attorney General rendered a legal opinion that US law gives jurisdiction over the introduction of alcoholic beverages into Native American territory to the Department of War.

**1911 June 5** Two Native Americans, believed to be from Pyramid Lake were arrested for selling trout in Reno. Native American Jack Macini was hit by the Overland Limited, mangled, decapitated and killed.

**1924 June 4** Bills aproved by the House: strip title of reservation land from PL Tribe, turning it over to white squatters; provide land/water rights for Te-Moaks in Ruby Valley and drain another 840 acres of Piute land for benefit of the Newlands project

## Scholarships with July 1 Deadline

|                                                                                                     |          |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| <a href="#">AIA Central Massachusetts Scholarship</a>                                               | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">American Indian Services Scholarship</a>                                                | \$2,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Andy Triplett Memorial Balanced Man Scholarship</a>                                     | \$1,500  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG)</a>                                             | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Bryant Gladney Paramedic Education Scholarship</a>                                      | \$1,500  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">CFESA Cares Scholarship</a>                                                             | \$2,500  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Chickasaw Nation Scholarships</a>                                                       | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Cindy Finley Memorial Scholarship (CFMS) to Support Women in the Packaging Industry</a> | \$5,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">David F. Ludwig Memorial Student Travel Scholarship</a>                                 | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Dr. Charlena M. Seymour Scholarship</a>                                                 | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Dr. Michael E Miller Student Competition Scholarship</a>                                | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Eastern Amputee Golf Association Scholarship</a>                                        | \$4,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Eleanor Davis Pinkham Scholarship</a>                                                   | \$3,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Elmer Carvey Scholarship</a>                                                            | \$1,500  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Harold and Muriel Berkman Marketing Scholarship</a>                                     | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">HCBA Colonel Archer B. Battista Veterans Scholarship</a>                                | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Jacob Smaus SuperHero Scholarship</a>                                                   | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Jon Yi Education Scholarship</a>                                                        | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Law Enforcement Officers' (LEO) Dependents Scholarship</a>                              | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Leading Light Awards and Scholarship</a>                                                | \$5,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Louisiana State University TOPS Awards</a>                                              | \$8,263  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program</a>                                                | \$24,000 | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Needham September 11th Scholarship Fund</a>                                             | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Rockefeller State Wildlife Scholarship</a>                                              | \$12,000 | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Santa Rosa Ninety-Nines Aviation Scholarship</a>                                        | \$4,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">SEAFWA's Law Enforcement Chief's Scholarship</a>                                        | \$1,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Sharon Stephens Brehm Undergraduate Psychology Scholarships</a>                         | \$5,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Sigma Nu Fraternity Pursuit of Excellence Scholarship</a>                               | \$3,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Sigma Nu Illinois Pursuit of Excellence Scholarship</a>                                 | \$3,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">SSVMS Medical Student Scholarship Fund</a>                                              | Varies   | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Stegall Charitable Educational Foundation Scholarship</a>                               | \$2,000  | July 01, 2024 |

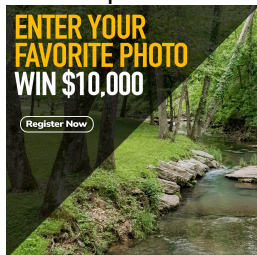
|                                                                     |          |               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| <a href="#">University of Washington Martin Honors Scholarship</a>  | \$36,000 | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program</a>        | \$3,400  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grant Program</a> | \$4,000  | July 01, 2024 |
| <a href="#">Zack Zolin Scholarship Foundation</a>                   | \$2,000  | July 01, 2024 |



**Fire camera network is largest of its kind:** The University of Nevada, Reno, along with two other universities, has integrated their wildfire monitoring networks into ALERTWest, providing enhanced real-time data for wildland firefighters. ([mckenzieverreflectionsnewspaper.com](http://mckenzieverreflectionsnewspaper.com))

**Could your photo be the next America’s Favorite Photo and win \$10,000?**

Enter a photo in the competition at the website: [AmericasFavoritePhotos.com](http://AmericasFavoritePhotos.com)



Fallout follow fail. Mike Johnson’s office on Wednesday scrapped a proposal to extend a compensation program for victims of radiation exposure without expanding it to thousands of Americans across nine states, including parts of Nevada. Via the Missouri Independent:

[U.S. House speaker reverses on radiation compensation bill](#)

**A pioneering office to aid Indian health**

Minnesota’s Office of American Indian Health just made its debut. It’s an example of the innovation needed to close shameful, longstanding health gaps.

[https://replica.startribune.com/infinity/article\\_popover\\_share.aspx?guid=79e9a99c-51ab-42c0-9066-1d7f6e6199bb&share=true](https://replica.startribune.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=79e9a99c-51ab-42c0-9066-1d7f6e6199bb&share=true)

## [Our Roads, Our Safety](#)

[Encourage your students to get creative and show the importance of road safety! Artwork, photos](#)



[and videos accepted.](#)

[www.fmcsa.dot.gov/OurRoadsArtContest](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/OurRoadsArtContest)

[Road Safety Art Contest](#)

[Submit entry by June 7](#)

## **Understanding Indigenous DNA**

Groundbreaking research has identified that levels of genetic diversity among Indigenous Australians may be among the highest in the world.

Read in Australian Geographic: <https://apple.news/Acw4K0JmeS9OiZD61LHfgwA>

## **There's hope for the future of the Great Barrier Reef, and Australia's indigenous peoples hold the key**

Read in BBC Wildlife Magazine: [https://apple.news/Af6kj\\_oyUR2WiSOeJ5QCL8Q](https://apple.news/Af6kj_oyUR2WiSOeJ5QCL8Q)



### [The bison in the Oakland Zoo are here to right a historical wrong](#)

The zoo has been partnering with the Blackfeet Nation in Montana to restore these culturally significant animals to their ancestral home.

[Continue reading...](#)

## **The Bullock Museum: The Story of American Indians in Texas**

<https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/discover/campfire-stories/american-indians>

## Powhatan School

*Powhatan has some interesting curriculum ideas.*



### Market Days: Second Grade Study of Economic Principles

For the past two days the second graders unleashed their creativity and business savvy as they explored the concepts of supply and demand in a real-world mini-economy project...

### **From DINAP: Engage Series – Uniting Apprenticeship Programs and Tribes**

In cooperation with the USDOL's Office of Apprenticeship (OA) and its Division of Indian and Native American Programs (DINAP), the Center of Excellence is hosting this webinar series featuring Safal Partners, a U.S. DOL Funded Industry Intermediary. These lunch hour webinars will consist of registered apprenticeship program sponsors in Washington State presenting their program's details and application process to professionals representing Native American jobseekers.

Tribal college career centers, one-stops, and other workforce offices are invited to this June webinar series to hear how to connect their workforce program participants and students to federally registered apprenticeship opportunities in the State of Washington. Each webinar session will consist of 3 different apprenticeship programs sharing their program's occupations, application dates, application process, expectations, wages, cost, benefits, work/school location(s), and other pertinent details and includes a short Q&A period. This recruiting opportunity is designed to benefit Native American jobseekers and to bridge partnerships between registered apprenticeship programs and tribal organizations.

The three sessions will be held on June 5, 12, and 20, 2024. For more information and to register, [click here](#) and follow the links for the Engage Series.

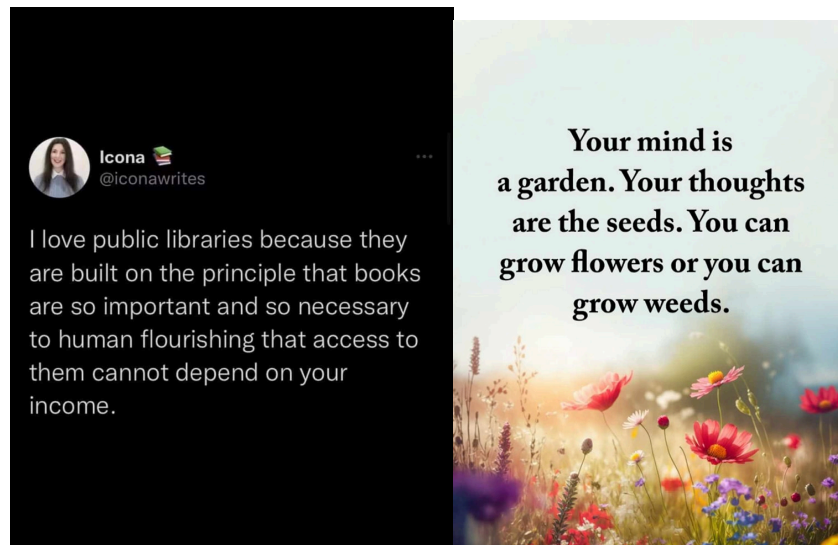
### **Nominate a Rural Innovator**

Through the White House Rural Innovators Initiative, the Biden-Harris Administration is proud to highlight stories of extraordinary rural leaders who are taking action and ensuring their communities thrive for generations to come.

They are inviting nominations from the public for rural innovators who are making a positive impact in their communities. Nominations of individuals of all ages, including

youth leaders, are welcome. Nominated individuals could be engaged in either the public and private sectors, including local, state, **Tribal** and territory governments; non-profits; businesses; philanthropy; or academia.

The nomination form will close on Friday, June 14 at midnight ET. Selected individuals will be recognized as Rural Innovators later this year. [Nominate a Rural Innovator here](#)



### **Inside the turf war between Ohio golf club and Native American tribes**

Ohio History Connection wants to re-open the Octagon Earthworks to the public, but the site is leased to Moundbuilders Country Club who have a golf course on the prehistoric mounds. Read in Daily Mail: <https://apple.news/Ag-B9LKOdSv-Lvdsw6fv80w>

### **Susanne Page, who photographed Hopi and Navajo life, dies at 86**

Collaborating on books with her husband, Jake Page, she crisscrossed arid Arizona mesas and became the rare non-Indian allowed to photograph the Hopi tribe. Read in The Washington Post: <https://apple.news/AxHv19--DTqqC5Q3Ou6GAwA>

### **Tribal Headhunters on Coney Island? Author Revisits Disturbing American Tale**

New book examines troubled history of Filipino tribe brought to America in 1905. [https://www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/article/141027-human-zoo-book-philippines-headhunters-coney-island?rid=C38947501E68571D7AA5496FBC02C266&cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=Daily\\_NL\\_Friday\\_TopStories\\_20240531](https://www.nationalgeographic.com/adventure/article/141027-human-zoo-book-philippines-headhunters-coney-island?rid=C38947501E68571D7AA5496FBC02C266&cmpid=org=ngp::mc=crm-email::src=ngp::cmp=editorial::add=Daily_NL_Friday_TopStories_20240531)

*Are we shaping human beings for the future we want or are we shaing humans for an economic program?*  
—Anon



## **The Thrill of Conservation Victory Interim Executive Director Report, April 2024**

It can take a long time to achieve lasting results for our wild places and rivers. Sometimes even decades.

Which is why this month's **tremendous victories for conservation and recreation** feel so great!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has just announced its final **Public Lands Rule**. The new rule affirms that the mission of the BLM, which manages 247 million acres of public land throughout the US, must include conservation and recreation as equal priorities with economic development activities such as grazing, logging, mining or oil and gas exploration.

This change has been on conservationists' wish lists for multiple administrations and it's an enormous step forward. Now, the BLM will have to consider conservation and recreation alternatives to exploitation for private profit as they consider the highest and best uses of our public lands. While it doesn't guarantee anything, the practical effect of this visionary act by the Biden Administration will be protection of millions of acres of wild lands that really shouldn't be opened to economic development.

And this makes good economic sense! Outdoor recreation was a \$1.3 *trillion* industry in the US last year, and wild lands bring us clean air and water, sequester atmospheric carbon, and sustain the biodiversity that keeps our world habitable.

Here at CalWild, we thank everyone who played a role in this significant change in policy. We're proud of our piece of it, as California's only statewide organization working on protecting wild places on federal public lands. We fought hard for the Public Lands Rule, and here it is at last!

In addition, we understand from our sources that the expansions of two National Monuments for which CalWild has been organizing support are to be announced by the President very shortly. The **Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument** and **San Gabriel Mountains National Monument** will grow by thousands of acres, protecting these magnificent places forever!

After years of working to advocate for these positive strides, we are grateful to all the coalition partners, elected officials and conservation champions, and to President Biden for bringing them into being. Onward to the next achievements!

Yours for the wild, Mark Green, Interim Executive Director

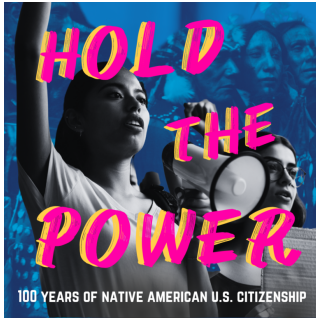
**People you should know:** <https://www.calwild.org/board-and-staff/>

**Map to check out:** <https://umontana.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a415bca07f0a4bee9f0e894b0db5c3b6>



## NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION & REFLECTION TOOLKIT

<https://illuminative.org/nativecitizenship/toolkit/>



### Captions for Native People

Only a century ago, Native peoples, the original inhabitants of these lands, were conferred U.S. citizenship. With this new status, we should have had the same power as other citizens to shape America, but it took another 40 years of relentless struggle for all Native peoples to secure the right to vote.

This hard-won victory allowed our grandparents and great-grandparents to finally have a voice in decisions that directly impact our Tribal homelands and communities. Yet, despite continued attacks on our right to vote, we have elected Native leaders to represent us in Congress, passed legislation to strengthen our communities, and influenced the outcome of a presidential election.

100 years later, we still hold the power to influence decisions to protect our lands and water and uphold our Tribal sovereignty.

Showcase #NativePower by resharing this post and join the conversation as we explore the meaning and impact of the 1924 Indian Citizenship Act.

Visit: <https://illuminative.org/nativecitizenship>

Follow to learn more: @IllumiNative @NativeOrganizersAlliance  
@NativeAmericanRightsFund #HoldThePower #NativeAmericanCitizenship

### Captions for Allies

Only 100 years ago, Native Americans — the original inhabitants of these lands — were conferred U.S. citizenship. With this new status, they should have had the same power as other citizens to shape America, but it took another 40 years of relentless struggle for all Native people to secure the right to vote.

Learn more about the meaning and continued impact of the 1924 Indian Citizenship Act at <http://illuminative.org/nativecitizenship>

Follow @IllumiNative @NativeOrganizersAlliance @NativeAmericanRightsFund  
to learn more. #HoldThePower #NativeAmericanCitizenship #NativePower

## [Calif. wildfire smoke is changing the ecology of Lake Tahoe and other freshwater lakes](#)

SFGate, 5/31/2024. Scientists are just starting to understand why wildfire smoke is a big deal for freshwater lakes.

### **California comedown: how illicit cannabis farms have left a wilderness where ‘you’re lucky to see a lizard’**

“In the shadow of Mount Shasta in northern California, a sea of makeshift greenhouses and plywood huts sprawls between the conifer trees of the high desert. From the air, many of the polytunnels look in bad shape, their plastic covers torn by the wind to reveal what’s inside: hundreds of cannabis plants packed tightly together, their distinctive green leaves easily identifiable against the volcanic soil. This remote area of Siskiyou county is known for its goldrush history, black bears and returning grey wolves, but in the last few years it has also become a hub for California’s parallel market in cannabis production. More than 6,000 hectares (15,000 acres) of illicit cannabis farms cover the Republic-leaning county, which voted not to legalise commercial farming despite the statewide vote for legalisation in November 2016. ... ” [Read more from the Guardian.](#)

### [\\$20 minimum wage may be coming for Nevada’s home care workers](#)

By [Taylor R. Avery](#) / RJ [May 31, 2024 - 8:42 am](#)

Nevada’s 13,000 home care workers could see big increases to minimum wage and reimbursement rates under legislative proposals presented.

### **NWS releases 2024 Arizona Monsoon Outlook. Prognosis: not awesome.**

“To rain, or not to rain: that is the question. Whether ’tis nobler in the mind to suffer the summers and droughts of an outrageous state, or to just pack up and move somewhere less broiling. The start of monsoon is right around the corner. Although the summer rainy season does promise to break some of our bone-dry weather, the National Weather Service (NWS) doesn’t think it will be anything to get excited for. At least it won’t be as bad as last year’s. Monsoon 2023 was the 17th driest monsoon statewide since 1895. With only 0.15 inches of rainfall recorded in Phoenix (an area that gets 2.43 inches of monsoon rain on average), it was brutal in the Valley. No one is going to forget our 31-day streak of high temperatures over 110 degrees Fahrenheit any time soon. Only a few spots across the entire state had above-normal rainfall, according to NWS. ... ” [Read more from Channel 12.](#)

### **Lake Mead’s future improves a little. At least for now**

“Lake Mead’s five-year outlook is slightly better after two wet winters, according to projections released Wednesday by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The five-year projections, released three times a year, account for a vast range of scenarios that could result in different cuts in water use depending on how low reservoirs actually go. However, they come with a wide margin of error, providing little clarity on what’s actually to come. They’re also much more uncertain as

2007 Colorado River interim guidelines are set to expire in 2026 and two groups of Colorado River states squabble over how to address the water scarcity crisis, including how reservoir releases operate. ... ” [Read more from the Las Vegas Review-Journal](#).

### **Are we asking the right Colorado River questions?**

“Before Jack Schmidt wrapped up his comments about the Colorado River in a recent webinar sponsored by the Sierra Club, he had David Brower rolling in his grave. Brower, the leader of the Sierra Club in the 1950s and 1960s, had famously fought efforts to harness the Colorado River, drowning its fabulous canyons in the process. The environmental community in the ‘50s and ‘60s had “simple, clear fights: stop dams, don’t drown spectacular canyons,” he said. Brower and other environmentalists won the argument at Echo Park, in Dinosaur National Monument. They won the argument at Marble Canyon. Those who opposed Glen Canyon lost that battle. “But it was a simple, clear fight,” said Schmidt. ... ” [Read more from Big Pivots](#).



Basin Overview

Today, nearly **40 million people** in the seven Colorado River Basin States—Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming—rely on the Colorado River and its tributaries for some, if not all, of their municipal needs.

These same sources irrigate nearly 4.5 million acres of land in the Colorado River Basin (Basin) and the adjacent areas that receive Colorado River water, generating billions of dollars a year in agricultural and economic benefits. Within the Basin, 29 federally recognized Tribes consider the Colorado River and its tributaries an essential physical, economic, and cultural resource.

The Colorado River and its tributaries provide habitat for a wide range of species, including several that are federally endangered. These rivers flow through seven National Wildlife Refuges and 11 National Park Service units that provide a range of recreational opportunities and add significant benefits to the regional economy. Hydropower facilities in the Basin can supply more than 4,200 megawatts of vitally important electrical power to assist in meeting the power needs of Western States, reducing the use of fossil fuels. In addition, the Colorado River is vital to the country of Mexico.

<https://www.usbr.gov/climate/secure/docs/2021secure/factsheets/Colorado.pdf>