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Lenticular Clouds on Mt. Shast

NHM Series for a World in Crisis - Waadookawa Adamikwag (Those who help beaver)

Resisting the Global Land Grab

The first zero-emission, hydrogen-powered passenger train in the US is called FLIRT H₂

Grabbing Public Land in the name of Public Housing

UCLA's Fowler Museum returns 20 cultural objects to Australia's Warumungu community

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Fallon Girls

The Grand Sierra Resort is showing off new renderings of its \$1 billion project

Old Arrowheads

Indigenous Olympian Spotlight: Paris 2024 - Apollo Hess is a Blackfoot swimmer

The Indigenous Fly-In (IFI) Program application deadline has been extended to July 31!

Judith Lowry



[Mount Shasta Lenticular Clouds](#)

mavink.com

The next installment in our “Natural History for a World in Crisis” series highlights the vital work of **Waadookawaad Amikwag (Those Who Help Beaver)**, a volunteer-led group that combines Indigenous Knowledge and Western science to advocate on behalf of waterways, wetlands, and manoomin (wild rice) along the Line 3 pipeline corridor in Minnesota.

Exploring a host of under-reported aquifer leaks and other irreversible damage already caused by the recent pipeline expansion, members of the group will **share strategies and lessons learned** from their efforts to hold government agencies and the oil industry accountable to the treaties that govern the land.



[RSVP now: join a free virtual event with members of Waadookawaad Amigwag in conversation with critical geographer Kai Bosworth, on Thursday, August 1 at 7pm EDT / 4pm PDT.](#)

Read on to learn more about the group’s important and innovative work, and for **[highlights and video](#) from last week’s event, “Resisting the Global Land Grab.”**

For the future,

The Natural History Museum

Unfortunately, the rest of their memo (speakers, etc) would not transfer, except for next brief.

Video & Highlights: Resisting the Global Land Grab

What is “green colonialism” and what does it have to do with today’s widely touted “nature-based solutions” to the climate crisis?

Last Thursday, we hosted Honor the Earth’s **Krystal Two Bulls (Oglala Lakota/Cheyenne)**, Nigerian environmental justice activist and poet **Nnimmo Bassey**, and scholar-activist **Ashley Dawson** for an urgent conversation on the politics of the global green transition. Asking how histories of colonialism, apartheid and uneven development have set the terms for today’s “solutions” to ecological crisis, this roundtable explored the many ways in which the powerful are taking the global climate and biodiversity crisis as an opportunity to expand their reach.

But for our panelists and the more than 350 people who tuned in for the live event, this was more than an occasion to learn how green colonialism is impacting communities around the world. **It was also a platform to ask how we can support each other in our collective struggles for a better world**—a world that decisively breaks from the cycle of extraction and colonial dispossession that has driven our vital ecosystems to the brink.



To conclude the event, Nnimmo Bassey offered a tribute to the horizon that guides us even in the darkest days, reading the poem “Horizon” from his recent poetry collection *I See the Invisible*:

The horizon is never unsettled.
Constant as the Northern star,
She dances on the edges of our eyes,
No one could ignore her.
The horizon is loudly clear.
Even on misty days, she is there,
Weighs on our imagination
She is the eternal lighthouse.

[Check out our blog for the full video recording and highlights from last week’s event!](#)

The Natural History Museum leverages the power of history, museums, monuments, and movements to change narratives, build alliances, educate the public and drive civic engagement in support of community-led movements for climate and environmental justice.



The first zero-emission, hydrogen-powered passenger train in the US, called FLIRT H₂, will begin service later this year in southern California, the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority announced this week.

The record-holding train will serve as a commuter train on the Arrow line of the Metrolink train. But don't expect to take it cross-country, or even from one end of the state to the other. The train will travel a 9.6-mile route between San Bernardino and Redlands, California.

Community Awareness Event
“Sex Trafficking In Nevada”

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Have you ever wondered if sex trafficking exists in your neighborhood? It does! You are invited to hear from local experts in law enforcement and advocacy to become aware and have an opportunity to ask questions about what sex trafficking looks like where you live.

Tuesday, July 30, 2024
6:00PM

Carson City School District Board Room
 1402 West King Street, Carson City, NV 89703



More Info
 Michelle Entz
 775-283-7640
 mentz@carson.org

Grabbing public land in the name of housing

Have politicians finally found a way to take public land out of the public's hands?

BY JONATHAN THOMPSON

High Country News

In the late 1970s, a group of Western Republican congressmen launched the League for the Advancement of States' Equal Rights, the legislative arm of the Sagebrush Rebellion. LASER, as they called it, was an industry-backed reaction to increased environmental protections on federal land. The group's solution: Simply convey those federal lands to the states in which they were located, at which point they could be sold off to the highest bidder.

LASER and the Sagebrush Rebellion were hardly the first — or last — attempts to abolish federal land. Similar efforts first emerged in the late 1800s and early 1900s, and the Rebellion's ideological descendants have rekindled the campaign several times in the last four decades. It has failed each time, for the simple reason that most Americans don't want to hand their land over to counties, oil and gas companies, real estate developers or livestock operations. Apparently, they would much rather the public lands **remained** in the public's hands.

But now, the entire nation is facing a housing affordability crisis — one that happens to be most severe in Western states with lots of public land. And so, modern-day Sagebrush Rebels are being joined by other Republicans and even some Western Democrats in yet another push to transfer public lands to private hands, only this time they are marketing it not as an anti-federal land-management fight, but as a way to solve the housing crisis.

The Republican Party's **platform**, adopted and endorsed by former President Donald Trump earlier this month, offers this proposal (with weird capitalization and all): "To help new home buyers, Republicans will ... open limited portions of Federal Lands to allow for new home construction ... and cut unnecessary Regulations that raise housing costs."

Platforms are by their nature short on details, so to get a little more insight into what they might intend, we can look to legislation proposed by Sen. Mike Lee, a Utah Republican. Under his Helping Open Underutilized Space to Ensure Shelter — or **HOUSES Act** — state and local governments would be able to nominate tracts of "underutilized" (meaning not actively being drilled or grazed to death) public land for purchase. That land could then be sold to developers and, presumably, everyone would live happily ever after.

The bill — which has not yet made it very far — would require that at least 85% of the land be used for residential development, open/green space or "community amenities" such as schools, churches, fire stations or grocery stores. And the parcels would have to be developed with at least four residences per acre, apparently to satisfy Lee's idea of density, even though that still falls well within the parameters of sprawl — the Las Vegas metro area has about 6.7 homes per acre, for example. Notably, there is no affordability mandate of any sort, meaning that a developer could cover the former public land with cookie-cutter McMansions and sell them at market rate for a fat profit, which is no help to the average working-class family.

Nevada Gov. Joe Lombardo, R, has proposed a similar approach. In a March letter, he called on the Bureau of Land Management to convey 50,000 acres of public land to Clark County, home of Las Vegas, to "double the land available for development, which is currently slated to run out by 2032" and "provide for the potential construction of up to 335,000 new homes."

On average, Las Vegas-area households each consume about 130,000 gallons of water per year, meaning those 300,000-plus new homes collectively would slurp up about 43.5 billion gallons annually. Lombardo may not be aware that the Colorado River is shrinking, or that his state has already maxed out its allocation.

The Las Vegas area has already received about 30,000 acres of public land for housing and other uses under the **Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act** (SNPLMA), a 1998 law that allowed the BLM to sell federal land around Las Vegas. Later, a provision was **added** allowing the BLM to sell land to local governments and public-housing authorities at below-market value to be used exclusively for affordable housing, and earlier this year the Biden administration streamlined that process — though so far, it has only disposed of about 30 acres for this purpose. Another 26,807 acres remain to be conveyed, auctioned or sold under the law.

Sen. Jacky Rosen, a Nevada Democrat, is trying to more or less **duplicate the SNPLMA in the Reno area**. Her bill would make nearly 16,000 acres of federal land available to be sold at fair market value, with no requirement that the housing be affordable — though some of the land — a mere 30 acres — would be made available at below-market value for affordable development.

All these initiatives are fueled by the notion that housing markets rigidly obey the laws of supply and demand. Increase the supply of land and of housing, the theory goes, and the inventory will soon surpass demand, bringing prices down. It's a nice theory that would make sense if a home was a simple commodity, like a bushel of wheat or a pound of copper. But houses are not simple commodities, especially in the West.

While the laws of supply and demand do play a role in housing prices, this does not account for the unique dynamics of housing markets in amenities communities, or for the vagaries of human behavior, especially of those fortunate enough to have disposable cash. Nor does it account for the second-, third- and fourth-home owners, or for billion-dollar investment firms looking to profit from housing scarcity. In these places, the lack of inventory is certainly a factor in high home prices, but it's only a minor one. The big driver is wealth inequality, which manifests as some folks' willingness and ability to spend gobs of money to buy their own little — or gigantic — piece of Jackson, Aspen, Moab, Durango — or even Denver or Reno — versus everyone else's inability to do the same. The problem, then, is not a lack of housing, but rather a lack of *affordable* housing.

Trump, Lee, Lombardo and other proponents of these efforts believe that removing public land from federal oversight and putting it into private hands will allow the invisible hand of the free market to take care of the crisis. But making housing affordable will actually require *more* government involvement, funding and regulation, not less.

The land-sale proposals could go a long way toward achieving the stated objective by simply adding a clause saying the land in question could be used *only* for affordable housing, and that the proceeds of the land sales would go to help pay for it. Yet they refuse to do that, which

suggests that their campaigns are driven less by the desire to solve the housing crisis than by the even stronger desire to line industry's pockets, just as land-transfer movements have always endeavored to do. Selling public land to developers without any restrictions will only result more market-rate sprawl, something neither the working class nor the planet nor the region's limited water supplies can afford.

Earlier this month, I was initially dismayed to learn that the BLM was looking to sell off 20 acres in the greater Las Vegas area for more housing. Then I noted that the agency would sell the land, at well below market value, to the Clark County Department of Social Services, which would only be allowed to use it to for housing that would be affordable to those making less than 80% of the region's median income. Plus, the plot of land is not located on the edge of the city, where more development would further expand the sprawling suburban ooze; rather, it's actually a public inholding of sorts, surrounded on all sides by existing housing developments. If we are going to transfer public lands, this is the way it should be done. Otherwise, it's just the Sagebrush Rebellion all over again, and we've already sat through more than enough sequels.

Sarina Nez

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ABC7

An event was held Wednesday where museum representatives returned the items to members of the Warumungu community in the Northern Territory, Australia, where the items originated.



NEW AT 9:30AM

FOWLER MUSEUM RETURNS AUSTRALIAN ARTIFACTS



abc7.com

[UCLA's Fowler Museum returns 20 cultural objects to Australia's Warumungu community](#)

- **Nevada Mining head: 'Lithium Loop' set for major expansion:**
The expansion of Nevada's 'Lithium Loop' is set to boost the local economy, with significant federal investment in lithium mining and processing. Reno plays a crucial role, from the Tesla Gigafactory to the University of Nevada's tech hub. (nbnw.com)



Elveda Martinez

College Interns for 2024. This year our Water Resources Department only had 2 interns. Jeremy Smith just graduated from Perdue University with his bachelors degree. He will be attending UCLA Law School starting in August. Will OwWing will be back to the University of Oregon to finish his senior year in Business Administration. They have been busy...Will chaperoned high school students to the Unity Conference in Portland. Both participated and assisted with the local Culture Camp, they reviewed Navy documents and attended a meeting with Andrea Martinez, Tribal Chairman, they participated in the Family Fun event, reviewed water settlement documents, land documents regarding the Navy settlement and more. Will also attended the Pinenut meeting that was held in Sparks. This program is funded by the BIA Youth Initiative grant with a focus in natural resources. Will will be presenting at the upcoming SW Regional Native American Fish and Wildlife Conference in August.

I am so proud of these young men.



Lois Jim, J'net Allen, Leona Hicks, Sweetie Dyer
Bottom row: Linda Bliss Jackson, Joan Downs, Jennifer Hicks John, Darlene Hooper

The Grand Sierra Resort is showing off new renderings of its \$1 billion project.

The expansion, announced in October, will include a 10,000-seat state-of-the-art indoor sports arena, along with a parking garage, aqua golf, an ice rink, fan zone, and more.

One of the major changes people will notice is change in location of the arena. Originally it was planned to be on the southwest side of the resort but now they have decided to move it on the opposite side.

"The new renderings are exciting," said Christopher Abraham, Chief Marketing Officer for GSR. "We actually moved the arena to the northern side of the property. It makes more sense, it's closer to our new parking garage, and there's more room for everybody to move there. It's extremely important for us to make sure it flows really well with the existing property."

The arena will be the new home for the Nevada men's basketball team, along with concerts, conventions, and other major events.

Abraham says that the new ice rink will be the main location for hockey, but they do not have a team in mind yet.

As far as construction plans go, he says right now they are focusing on the arena and parking garage first, then aqua golf, ice rink, workforce housing, then wrap up everything up with the new 800-room hotel tower.

Abraham tells us the entire project will take about 10 years and so far, everything is going to plan.

"We have wonderful architects, Schinzer Architects, they're great to work with," he said. "University of Nevada has been fantastic to work with. So, we're making a lot of progress on the design elements of the arena, not only the exterior, but lovely interior spaces, VIP clubs."

Abraham says they still have a lot of approvals to get through that will take about six months. They hope to be breaking ground in the spring of next year and hope to be finished with the arena, parking garage, and possibly the aqua golf too, in spring of 2027.

An Elder told us Your children are loaned to you, if you do not treat them right the creator will take them back. She said never to pick a man over your child, your child is ALWAYS first. Furthermore, your home is not yours, it belongs to your children. It is a nest for them to be protected and nurtured so that they may grow...Words that all women should remember.

Donna Cossette

I like to make my arrowheads out of old thick Coke bottles, bottoms of old Mason jars and colored glass. Obsidian gorgeous special projects.

Welcome Native Spirit Culture

Native Americans and Australian Aboriginals both made arrowheads and spearheads out of Insulators. The telegraph companies got fed up with the knappers stealing their glass insulators that they would leave free ones piled up by the poles so they wouldn't have to repair the section taken down by the knappers.

Bird points made from them likewise exist but are fewer in number.

This style insulator, nicknamed "signal", is one of the most diversely colored styles produced by Hemingray from the 1880s to the 1940s . Colors exist in practically the entire spectrum! The example shown here is blue/green and you can see the point made by Ishi, at the museum is the same color Ishi, the last of the Yahi would Knapp anything he would find, often scavenging glass bottles from the University he worked at.

So invaluable was his lessons that his knapping style bore his name to the tool that's used by Flint nappers today, the Ishi stick .

You can see here is one of the few photos of Ishi knapping and this one might be when he led a university expedition back to his native Yahi homeland in Northern California.

He would create points and give them away to children and anyone who visited him from 1911 until his death in 1916. The last authentic Ishi point sold at auction for a cool \$27,000.00. The First Nations Oneida born actor Graham Greene played him in the TV movie "the last of his tribe "



[Downie Wenjack Fund](#)

[Indigenous Olympian Spotlight: Paris 2024](#)

Apollo Hess is a Blackfoot swimmer, who won 5 medals at the 2022 U Sports Championships, and was named to the Paris 2024 Olympic team after placing second in the men's 100m breaststroke at the 2024 Olympic Swimming Trials. He is the first member of the Kainai Nation to compete at the Olympics.



[Dartmouth Admissions](#)

The Indigenous Fly-In (IFI) Program application deadline has been extended to July 31!


The program is open to all rising high school seniors currently living and attending a high school in the U.S., regardless of citizenship status. We encourage students who identify as Indigenous themselves, or have demonstrated an interest in the Indigenous community and/or Dartmouth's Native American and Indigenous Studies Department to apply. Dartmouth will cover travel expenses, housing, and meals for students who are selected for the program.

The Indigenous Fly-In Program is designed for students passionate about Native communities to explore our campus and learn about the college admissions process. During the program, students will explore campus, interact with our Native community and learn about the student experience, while also participating in admissions and financial aid workshops. Learn more and



apply using the link below.

In loving memory of
Judith Lowery
May 9th, 1957 - July 16th, 2024



Viewing
Ross, Burke & Knobel Mortuary | July 24th 5pm - 7pm
2155 Kietzke Ln Reno, NV 89502

Funeral Service
Ross, Burke & Knobel Mortuary | July 25th 10am
2155 Kietzke Ln Reno, NV 89502
Burial to follow service at Nixon Cemetery.
Please join the family for a traditional dinner, at
the Nixon gym, after the burial.
Food donations appreciated.

Sorry for late posting