

Journal #5864 from sdc 11.29.24

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Tom Buschatzke: Keeping Arizona’s faucets functioning

<https://mavensnotebook.com/archives/> Indian water rights yeilds 50 document

Western Slope asked for climate dollars for crucial water rights; T wants to roll back funding

Solid Waste Grant Management Webinar

Did You know that Nevada is the 11th most biodiverse state in the U.S.?

Water in the west - What does it mean to do the greatest good for the greatest number?

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A meadow in the Tahoe National Forest was drying up with sagebrush. Now it’s a lush wetland

Commentary: Stopping Cadiz is good for people, the environment and our water future

The mysterious California castaway

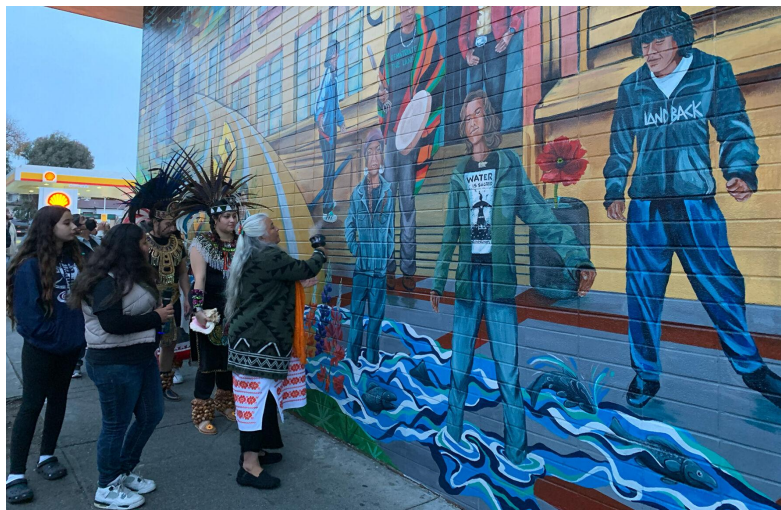
The Great Basin Insitute posted a job for Ecological Monitoring Crew Lead ‘Anumeric’ People: What Happens When a Language Has No Words for Numbers? ...

Peter Gleick: I’m a climate scientist and an optimist. I refuse to give up hope

The Potential for Stormwater Capture and Use to Contribute to a Water Resilient Future

Students witness history: Field trips highlights historic return of Klamath salmon

Job oportunity at United Airlines



BUSD celebrates mural recognizing Ohlone people

Speakers described the mural as a commitment to solidarity with indigenous people “locally and globally.”
Berkeley Unified | Courtesy

https://www.dailycal.org/news/city/local-schools/busd-celebrates-mural-recognizing-ohlone-people/article_5c80f40e-a7e6-11ef-ad8b-9fd3ab189939.html

“A California tribe says coho salmon are suffering due to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s management of dams along Northern California’s Trinity River. The Yurok Tribe accuses the bureau of violating the Endangered Species Act by restricting water flow in the winter, which damages salmon nests, and releasing higher flows of cold water in the spring, which lowers water temperatures and stunts the growth of young salmon.” [Read the legal brief via Courthouse News.](#)

‘Milestone for Lake Tahoe’: Major cleanup effort complete

“Several miles of century-old lead-lined telephone cables laid along the bottom of Lake Tahoe, feared by many locals to have leached toxic chemicals into the water, have been removed. News of the removal came Thursday afternoon from the League to Save Lake Tahoe, a nonprofit conservation group that helped coordinate the effort in partnership with telecommunications giant AT&T, which is believed to have owned the cables in question. AT&T confirmed to the Chronicle via email that the cables had been removed. “This is a major milestone for Lake Tahoe,” said League to Save Lake Tahoe Chief Strategy Officer Jesse Patterson, in an announcement. ... ” [Read more from the San Francisco Chronicle.](#)

First flying electric ferry in the USA to debut on Lake Tahoe

“The first flying electric ferry in the USA will make its debut on Lake Tahoe on the California-Nevada border after Swedish technology company Candela partnered with Tahoe-based FlyTahoe. The hydrofoil ferry will carry passengers, bikes and ski equipment on a 30-minute north-south connection route across the freshwater lake. The ferry will cut travel times in half compared to the daily 20,000 car trips along the same route, as well as reducing carbon dioxide emissions in the area. The Lake Tahoe ferry will be a Candela P-12, following the launch of the first vessel of this type in Stockholm, Sweden, in October 2024. The vessel’s computer-controlled hydrofoil wings lift its hull above water – giving the impression of flight. This design reduces energy consumption by 80 per cent compared to conventional vessels due to the reduction in water friction. ... ” [Read more from Cruise and Ferry.](#)

Audubon’s Jennifer Pitt testifies before Congress on Colorado River habitats

“The following is the oral testimony of Jennifer Pitt, Audubon’s Colorado River Program Director before a House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries: Audubon supports H.R. 9515, the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2024. The Program constructs habitats along the Colorado River below Hoover Dam, and that habitat is essential not only for the 27 species the program targets, but also for many of the 400 species of birds that rely on the Lower Colorado River, including Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Sandhill Cranes, and Yuma Ridgway’s Rails. ... ” [Read the full post at Audubon.](#)

Arizona needs forward-thinking legislators on land and water use

Thomas Wiewandt, field ecologist and educational media producer, writes, “Laws that govern the use of land and water in Arizona have not kept up with changing times. And some of the new proposals that have surfaced in our state’s legislature are ill-conceived and short-sighted. Rising water and energy costs will force the decline of *traditional* agriculture in the desert Southwest. But transferring groundwater rights from farmlands to real estate developers is not a sustainable

option. Desert living requires desert thinking. Sharing farmland with solar energy production has proven practical and profitable in Europe, Asia, and Australia—variously named agrisolar, agrivoltaics, and solar sharing. Shade from solar panels reduces evaporative water loss from plants and soil. On hot days, shaded ground also helps to pull heat away from solar panels, producing energy more efficiently. During summer storms, a solar canopy can shelter crops from heavy wind and hail. Farm workers and livestock, too, can benefit from shaded fields. And if a crop fails, farmers can still sell solar energy for a profit. ... ” [Read more from Arizona Public Media](#).

New rules go into effect to allow development in groundwater depleted metro areas

“A [proposal to allow development in metro Phoenix](#) despite low [groundwater](#) supplies was voted into effect Friday by a state rulemaking agency. Groundwater is protected in urban areas which are part of “active management areas.” Last year, Democratic Gov. Katie Hobbs limited certain kinds of development in areas like Buckeye and Queen Creek because models show basin levels are low and certificates that prove 100 years of assured water supply would fall short based on new data. The new rules approved by the Governor’s Regulatory Review Council on Friday allow building if developers use new water sources and offset groundwater pumping. ... ” [Read more from KJZZ](#).

SEE ALSO: [Audio: The Buzz: Arizona’s 100-year water supply rule](#), from Arizona Public Media

Arizona farmers oppose water regulations as land sinks beneath them

“As the land beneath them sinks and cracks due to excessive groundwater pumping, ranchers in southern Arizona still overwhelmingly oppose state-mandated water use restrictions. In a public meeting Friday, ranchers from Willcox, Pearce and other communities in the Willcox Basin, which spans nearly 2,000 square miles in Cochise and Graham Counties, fervently rejected state efforts to regulate pumping by designating the basin as an active water management area, or an AMA. “The AMA will not change groundwater [overdraft](#),” resident and wine grower Chad Preston told six members of the Arizona Department of Water Resources facilitating the meeting. “It will only stifle growth.” The overdraft and reduced water levels have resulted in sinking land and large cracks in the earth known as fissures. Wells have gone dry across the area, forcing homeowners and ranchers to spend tens of thousands digging new wells or deepening the ones they have. ... ” [Read more from Courthouse News Service](#).

Tom Buschatzke: Keeping Arizona’s faucets functioning

“For nearly 10 years, Tom Buschatzke has been the arbiter of Arizona’s water supply as director of the Department of Water Resources. In a career spanning decades and beginning with an internship at the very department he now heads, Buschatzke said there’s never been a dull day. The questions and answers have been edited lightly for style and clarity. What initially got you interested in water and water policy? When I was an undergraduate student, I decided to become a geology major because I liked the opportunity to potentially work outdoors, especially when you’re younger in that field. I went to undergraduate school in upstate New York, where there were lots of rivers, streams, etc. So the three pathways with that degree were probably mining, oil or water. And I just got more interested in water, but more from a technical standpoint. ... ” [Read more from Arizona Public Media](#).

The Western Slope just asked for federal climate dollars to buy crucial water rights. Trump wants to roll back the funding

“A \$99 million plan to buy and permanently preserve some of the oldest water rights in Colorado is inching closer to securing all of its funding. But President-elect Donald Trump’s promise to gut climate spending could throw a wrench in the deal, despite its bipartisan support. The Colorado River District, which advocates on behalf of Western Slope water users, submitted a funding application today to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation under a program for drought mitigation. The district is seeking \$40 million from the federal agency to help purchase water rights from Xcel Energy, the state’s largest utility. Xcel Energy owns and operates the aging Shoshone Hydroelectric Generating Plant, nestled on the Colorado River near Glenwood Canyon. The river water that cascades through the plant generates electricity and then continues downstream, where it’s been used for decades for agriculture, drinking water, recreation and a federal fish habitat restoration project. ... ” [Read more from Colorado Public Radio.](#)

“I think the folks at the Department of Interior are going to be burning the midnight oil,” Lockman said.

<https://www.cpr.org/2024/11/22/colorado-water-rights-funding-drought-mitigation-under-trump-administration-threat/>

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**Earth’s largest cities are sinking into the ocean. Here’s what that means**

“In the cities of Navotas and Malabon in the densely populated area of northern Metropolitan Manila in the Philippines, flooding has become common. So much so, in fact, that the country’s distinctive jeepney vehicles (elaborately decorated buses) are now made from stainless steel to prevent corrosion by seawater. The streets have been repeatedly elevated too, to the point that some are now higher than people’s doors. “They keep on putting the roads higher and higher, but I don’t know how they can sustain that,” says Dr Mahar Lagmay, executive director of the University of the Philippines Resilience Institute. The struggle to keep above water isn’t just a result of the sea levels going up; if anything, it has more to do with the ground level going down. ... ” [Read more from BBC Science Focus.](#)

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<https://mavensnotebook.com/archives/>
Indian water rights yeilds 50 document

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**The Western Slope just asked for federal climate dollars to buy crucial water rights. Trump wants to roll back the funding**

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THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

***USDA Rural Development***  
***Solid Waste Management Grant***  
***Webinar***

Join USDA Rural Development to learn more about the Solid Waste Management Grant, available for application until December 31st. Staff will be present to discuss available grant information, eligibility, grant information, and answer questions.

Date: Dec. 5th, 2024

Time: 9:00am to 9:30am

For any questions, please contact Teja Dusanapudi at [teja.dusanapudi@usda.gov](mailto:teja.dusanapudi@usda.gov).

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.*

**Did you know that Nevada is the 11th most biodiverse state in the U.S., home to more than 300 species found nowhere else?** Mauricia Baca, state director of the Nevada Field Office for The Nature Conservancy, joined me on *Access City Council* to discuss efforts to protect Nevada’s precious environment and beautiful landscapes. Learn about their critical work and listen in on this fascinating conversation. <https://mountainandprairie.com/mauricia-baca/>

**THROUGHLINE: Water in the west**

**What does it mean to do the greatest good for the greatest number?** When the [Los Angeles Aqueduct](#) opened in 1913, it rerouted the Owens River from its natural path through an Eastern California valley hundreds of miles south to LA, enabling a dusty town to grow into a global city. But of course, there was a price. Today on the show: Greed, glory, and obsession; what the water made possible, and at what cost.

[https://open.spotify.com/episode/2kRS5Oo1hCWglif59z4Z5q?go=1&sp\\_cid=c12b034a24dc59643e764cb1c7018da0&nd=1&dlsi=30cf2f76aff24f94](https://open.spotify.com/episode/2kRS5Oo1hCWglif59z4Z5q?go=1&sp_cid=c12b034a24dc59643e764cb1c7018da0&nd=1&dlsi=30cf2f76aff24f94)

***This site will take you to a whole day of possibilities! sdc***

**Lytton Rancheria of California leads tribal investment in Cadiz Groundwater Banking Project**

“Cadiz, Inc. (NASDAQ: CDZI) (the “Company” or “Cadiz”) announced today that the Company and the Lytton Rancheria of California (“Lytton”) have signed a Letter of Intent for Lytton to invest up to \$50 million in the Company’s groundwater banking project in the Mojave Desert (“Mojave Groundwater Bank”). Lytton’s investment would be the first major investment by a Native American Tribe in large-scale water infrastructure off tribal lands in U.S. history. With 2.5 million acre-feet of new water supply and an estimated 30 million acre-feet of water in

storage today, the Mojave Groundwater Bank will be the largest new groundwater bank in the Southwest.

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**A meadow in the Tahoe National Forest was drying up with sagebrush. Now it's a lush wetland.**

“A key piece in the Sierra Nevada, north of Truckee, has flipped from private to public land. On Tuesday, the Trust for Public Land announced the completed transfer of 569 acres in Sardine Meadow to the Tahoe National Forest. The transfer permanently protects a vital part of the Truckee River watershed and comes after a large conservation effort to heal the meadow following decades of logging, overgrazing and railroad construction dating back to the late 1800s. Sardine Meadow is north of Stampede Reservoir, outside Truckee. It's the largest meadow in the Davies Creek watershed, which feeds into the Truckee River and supplies water downstream to the Reno area. ... ” [Read more from SF Gate.](#)

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**Commentary: Stopping Cadiz is good for people, the environment and our water future**

Ron Escobar, director of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office for the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, writes, “When the California Desert Protection Act was signed into law 30 years ago, the United States pledged to protect the fragile desert lands in the traditional territory of Chemehuevi Native Americans, establishing places now known as Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve. It was a turning point for the nation toward a more respectful relationship with the land, aligning with the Chemehuevi people who have stewarded this region since the beginning of time. Preserving these lands has helped preserve our origins, history, songs, religious ceremonies, ancient sites and trails. When we protect land, it is not only for the benefit of wildlife or the natural environment, but for our well-being. For the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, where I serve as director of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, precious resources of the desert like water are a part of what ties our people physically and spiritually to the land. ... ” [Read more from the Desert Sun.](#)

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**BIZARRO:** By Wayno and Piraro



## THE MYSTERIOUS CALIFORNIA CASTAWAY



HOLLI HARMON, HOLLIHARMON.COM

**Otter hunters** arriving at a remote California island found her, alone for 18 years, speaking a language they could not understand.

The striking Native American woman, depicted above, fascinated a nation and became the center of an award-winning novel that has endured for generations. **Who was she?**

**READ MORE**

**Related:** [Explore 13,000 years of human history on this remote California island](#)

**Also:** [Meet the ruthless king who united the Kingdom of Hawai'i](#)

- The Great Basin Institute posted a job for **Ecological Monitoring Technician (Reno, NV)** in Reno, NV. Apply at [Conservation Job Board](#).
- The Great Basin Insitute posted a job for **Ecological Monitoring Crew Lead (Reno, NV)** in Reno, NV. Apply at [Conservation Job Board](#).

## ‘Anumeric’ People: What Happens When a Language Has No Words for Numbers?

From the Amazon to Nicaragua, there are humans who never learn numbers. What can these anumeric cultures teach us about ourselves?



*A Pirahã family. Photo by Caleb Everett, CC BY-SA.*

<https://getpocket.com/explore/item/anumeric-people-what-happens-when-a-language-has-no-words-for-numbers>

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...Peter Gleick: I’m a climate scientist and an optimist. I refuse to give up hope

Peter Gleick writes, “I’m a climate and water scientist. For more than 40 years, I’ve worked on trying to understand and communicate the complex climate threats facing the planet. In general, I’ve always been an optimist: I believe that we can solve these challenges. But I also have to acknowledge both my growing worry that I’m wrong, and the remaining steep obstacles in our path now made steeper by the recent U.S. election and the persistent failures of the world’s nations to commit to actions to adequately tackle the problem. The scientific facts of climate change and the role that humans play in driving those changes are irrefutable and have been understood and tested for literally decades—some of the earliest warnings about the adverse effects of burning fossil fuels on the climate and the planet were actually made more than 150 years ago. ... ” [Read more from Time Magazine.](#)

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### **Diversifying Colorado’s Water Portfolio: The Potential for Stormwater Capture and Use to Contribute to a Water Resilient Future**

“The 2023 Colorado Water Plan estimates that by 2050 there will be a municipal and industrial water supply gap of between 250,000 and 750,000 acre-feet per year. “Diversifying Colorado’s Water Portfolio: The Potential for Stormwater Capture and Use to Contribute to a Water Resilient Future” seeks to advance understanding of the extent to which rainwater harvesting and stormwater capture in urban areas can help fill this gap. This project achieves this goal by 1) synthesizing Colorado water law as they relate to rainwater harvesting and stormwater capture and use, 2) quantifying the volumetric potential of rainwater harvesting and stormwater capture in urban areas across each of Colorado’s eight river basins and the Denver metropolitan area, 3) identifying benefits associated with stormwater capture and use, 4) highlighting examples of urban stormwater capture and use projects in Colorado, 5) engaging and facilitating input from a diverse Expert Review Panel, and 6) providing recommendations and next steps. ... ” [Read more from Pacific Institute.](#)



### **Students witness history: Field trips highlights historic return of Klamath salmon**

“Months after the historic removal of four hydroelectric dams along the Klamath River, the region is witnessing remarkable ecological recovery and renewed community engagement, creating opportunities to use the river as a living classroom. Last week Humboldt and Siskiyou County schools embarked on their third year of dam removal field trips, where students observed salmon spawning where the Klamath dams once stood. Last spring these students watched the beginning of the dam removal process. “It has been an emotional and exciting time to not only witness the dam removal but also to provide the community and youth the opportunity to see what can be accomplished with hard work and dedication,” shared Star Gibbens, SCS Youth Coordinator and local parent. “Watching the kids’ faces change from sadness at the dam site in previous years to excitement as they watched salmon spawn above the former dam sites will forever be a fond memory.” ... ” [Read more from the Daily Kos.](#)

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### **Job opportunity at United Airlines**

[https://careers.united.com/us/en/job/RNO00000157/Ramp-Service-Employee-Part-Time?user\\_email=e073fe83cf6e594f0fa68c85167471226da0e93d55247b60e6f1153aa19d8ac8](https://careers.united.com/us/en/job/RNO00000157/Ramp-Service-Employee-Part-Time?user_email=e073fe83cf6e594f0fa68c85167471226da0e93d55247b60e6f1153aa19d8ac8)

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A rare and spectacular “pictorial catechism” for use on mission to the native American peoples of the northern Plains

### **Trump names pick for NIH director**

**<https://rollcall.com/2024/11/26/trump-names-pick-for-nih-director/>**

Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he has chosen international trade attorney Jamieson Greer to be his U.S. trade representative and Kevin Hassett as director of the White House National Economic Council. [Read more.](#)

- The president-elect also announced a number of other key personnel choices, including Vince Haley, who led Trump’s speechwriting department in his first term, as director of the Domestic Policy Council. While Trump has in several cases nominated outsiders to key posts, these picks reflect a recognition that his reputation will likely hinge on restoring public confidence in the economy.

- [\*\*Feds outline ‘necessary steps’ for Colorado River agreement by 2026 but no recommendation yet\*\*](#)

*From NATHPO*

### **A NOTE ON RECENT FEDERAL ELECTION RESULTS**

Since our founding, NATHPO has worked tirelessly to advocate on behalf of Tribes, their THPOs, and the communities they serve by promoting Tribal sovereignty and helping Tribes protect their sacred places and preserve their cultural resources. The necessity of our mission and work has only increased since we opened our doors in 1998. To that end, NATHPO will continue our work on behalf of the THPO community. We will build on the successes we've experienced, continue to communicate with you about our work and advocacy, and highlight when there is a need or opportunity for you to lend your voice to those efforts.

Please continue to elevate places where NATHPO's voice may be useful or necessary, and let us know if there are ways in which we can support and advocate on behalf of you as THPOs in the days, months, and years ahead. This is YOUR organization, and our commitment to honor and protect ancestors, people, descendants, land, and water is unwavering.

### **UPCOMING COMMENT DEADLINES**

**STOP Act Rulemaking, Tribal & NHO Consultations:** The Department of the Interior (DOI) is proposing new regulations under section 10 of the Safeguard Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act (STOP Act) of 2021. DOI held virtual consultation sessions for Tribal Nations on November 18, 2024, and November 19, 2024, and is holding them for Native Hawaiian Organizations on November 25, 2024, and November 26, 2024. You can find information on the proposed regulations, as well as the consultation sessions, [HERE](#). DOI is accepting comments until December 24. NATHPO will be submitting its own comment, a copy of which is attached to this email, and will be posted on our website [HERE](#) when finalized.

*NATHPO regularly submits comment letters to federal agencies advocating on behalf of Tribal communities and their THPOs. You can find several of our most recent letters [HERE](#), and if you know of an upcoming deadline and want NATHPO to consider submitting comment, please contact Melissa Madrigal at [melissa@nathpo.org](mailto:melissa@nathpo.org).*

### **NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AND THANKSGIVING**

Every month is Native American Heritage Month here at NATHPO, where our mission is to support the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers who work every day to protect the sacred places and preserve the cultural resources so vital to perpetuating their people's heritage.

We've spent this month continuing to lift up the THPOs and others in Indigenous communities around the country engaged in this work, and we encourage all of you to help us. If you have an example of someone working to preserve Indigenous heritage and culture, tag us in the post or send the information and/or a link to [Media@Nathpo.org](mailto:Media@Nathpo.org). We'll try to highlight as many as we can.

To learn more about NATHPO and THPOs, check out our [website](#), and if you don't already, please give us a follow on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!

### **NEW NAGPRA REPORT RELEASED**

On September 23, 2024, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Review Committee approved its annual report to Congress for fiscal year 2024. A copy of that report is attached to this email.

## **WHAT NATHPO'S BEEN DOING**

NATHPO has been active throughout November. here are just some examples

**Protecting Native Places Grants** -Applications closed for our 2024 Protecting Native Places Grants on November 8. We will be announcing the grantees in December. NATHPO Members THPOs can use these grants to support their work protecting sacred places and preserving cultural resources, and we're proud to continue providing these in partnership with the Wilburforce Foundation, The Wilderness Society and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

**New Staff Members** - Effective November 1, Indigenization Director Stacy Laravie (Ponca) and Finance Director Amy Garcia [have joined our team](#) as full-time staff members.

**NM Archaeological Council meeting** - THPOs At Work: NATHPO Repatriation Advisor Dr. Timothy McKeown attended the recent New Mexico Archaeological Council annual meeting, [which included a panel featuring THPOs from the region](#).

**ACHP Business Meeting** - Last week, THPO for the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians and NATHPO Board Chair Lakota Hobia (Citizen Potawatomi Nation) participated in [her first ACHP business meeting](#). In advance of the meeting, NATHPO Executive Director Dr. Valerie Grussing and Lakota [met with lawmakers and attended a reception in the Capitol](#).

**Religious Freedom Panel** - Last week, Valerie [participated in the American Indian Religious Freedom Summit on Capitol Hill](#), organized by the Native American Church. In the panel “Realizing the Promise of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act,” Valerie spoke about her own ancestors’ role in seeking religious freedom with the colonization of our country, and how this basic human right should apply to everyone. She also addressed the lack of protections in the current legal framework, for places and practices important to Tribes, a critical failing since indigenous identity and “religion” are literally grounded in the land. It is incumbent upon us all to work together for lasting transformational change, equity, and healing.

**World Heritage USA 2024 Symposium** - Last week, Valerie also attended the World Heritage USA 2024 Symposium and Conference, [participating in a panel](#) called, “Assuring that Indigenous Knowledge Fits into the United Nations’ Strategic Development Goals.”

## **NATHPO Community Calendar & Job Board & Grant Opportunities**

Stay current on important happenings using our new [Calendar of Events](#), and post your own to share! And let us know if you have a job posting you would like to share and we'll post it on our [Community Job Board](#). AND don't forget to browse our listing of relevant [Grant Opportunities](#).

*Thank you for all you do to protect culturally important places that perpetuate Native identity, resilience, and cultural endurance, and to empower Tribal preservation leaders.*

Valerie J. Grussing, PhD, NATHPO Executive Director, [valerie@nathpo.org](mailto:valerie@nathpo.org) | 202-628-8476