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Eagle Piano

We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For

Tree mortality surveys are out: What they mean for Lake Tahoe

Tribes help boost Lake Mead water supply, hope for lame duck passage of \$5B fed water act

Supreme Court railway case could have widespread impacts on U.S. environmental laws

"To survive, you must tell stories."

HUD/IHS Joint Tribal Consultation Webinar Scheduled for December 16

Student teachers work for free. Meet the education majors fighting to change that

Construction uncovers a 1,375-year-old pyramid

Nagas Show Case

Supreme Court sounds ready to curb environmental impact reviews

An Ice Age Infant's Bones Reveal Early Americans Ate Woolly Mammoths as a Protein Staple

Trump announces new picks for OMP and DOJ

Tribal and environmental groups slam Sites Reservoir project as Governor promotes it

Dam removal revitalizes salmon in win for native tribes

Colorado River Indian Tribes signs 'Letter of Intent' for study of reservoir

Nevada Women's Fund Scholarship Application is January 6

If you are finding it difficult to find something for the person that has everything.....

Delta Conveyance Project Hearings

Justice Department Announces Tribal Consultations to Consider Legislative Proposals

Demanding Climate Change be Addressed

UNR researchers 3D print 'Lego-like' modular bricks for Army bridges

Newly Described Fossil From Wyoming Sheds Light on When Frogs and Toads Lost Their Teeth



What a Beautiful Piano!!!!



Protecting sacred places is protecting culture. Sacred places hold the knowledge of oral traditions, spirituality, and religion. They can help maintain and grow traditional languages. Protecting these sacred places is key in protecting traditional knowledge, culture, traditions, and spirituality. We ask you to be part of the change to help protect sacred places for today and for generations to come.

Tree mortality surveys are out: What they mean for Lake Tahoe

“Each year aerial observers for the USDA Forest Service ride in small fixed-wing aircraft 1,000 feet above California forests. Their focus isn’t on the views or the horizon, but rather downward. Their trained eyes are looking for the yellow or red-brown of dried or discolored foliage. It’s their job to observe, survey and report conifer and hardwood mortality, defoliation, and other damage. In addition to noting the mortality and forest damage locations, they also note several other factors, including the damage type, affected forest area percentage and severity, impacted tree species, as well as the probable damage-causing agent. “The idea is to map all dead trees once and once only,” Jeffrey Moore, the Forest Service’s aerial survey program manager says. ...” [Read more from the Sierra Sun.](#)

Tribes help boost Lake Mead water supply, hope for lame duck passage of \$5B federal water act

“Since 2021, a handful of Colorado River Basin tribes have significantly boosted water supply in Lake Mead through voluntary contributions, helping stabilize a crucial reservoir that 25 million people rely on. The consequences of a two-decade drought in the west and a shrinking river have given tribes leverage in negotiations over how the river’s water is managed, and persuaded the federal government to pay tribes to conserve water while funding millions in additional infrastructure. More conservation arrangements with tribes were reached last week, after tribes met with the Bureau of Reclamation during the annual Colorado River Water Users Association conference to extend water-saving agreements that will conserve another 43,000 acre feet of water in Lake Mead, or enough water to serve about 14,000 households for a year. ...” [Read more from the Nevada Current.](#)

A Supreme Court case about a railway could have widespread impacts on U.S. environmental laws

“A legal fight over an 88-mile proposed railway in Utah has set the stage for the U.S. Supreme Court to decide how federal agencies evaluate the environmental impacts of projects requiring their approval, a decision with the potential to drastically shift how projects are permitted across the nation. The Supreme Court is set to hear oral arguments in the case, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County, on Tuesday, Dec. 10. It’s the latest development following a U.S. Court of Appeals decision last year that overturned a federal agency’s approval of the railway after a lawsuit from environmental groups and a Colorado county along the project’s path. The appeals court found that the review failed to evaluate the downstream impacts of the project. ...” [Read more from Inside Climate News.](#)

(Edited) "To survive, you must tell stories."

These profound words from Umberto Eco, one of the most celebrated authors and thinkers of our time, capture the enduring power of storytelling to shape humanity. As a novelist, philosopher, and semiotician, Eco saw narratives as essential tools for interpreting life, preserving culture, and building connections across time and space.

Through works like *The Name of the Rose*, *Foucault's Pendulum*, and *The Prague Cemetery*, Eco explored how stories shape our beliefs and behaviors. His insightful essays further dissected modern media and culture, offering sharp critiques of how information is consumed and manipulated. Eco's legacy reminds us that storytelling is not just entertainment—it's essential for making sense of our world, preserving knowledge, and imagining new possibilities.

As Eco believed, storytelling is not only a tool for survival but a way to make a lasting impact. Let his wisdom inspire you to tell your own stories and share in the collective power of narrative.
<https://publicationconsultants.com/newsletter/>

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### **HUD/IHS Joint Tribal Consultation Webinar Scheduled for December 16, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. ET**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Indian Health Service (IHS) will host a virtual Tribal Consultation session on how to better address housing-related water and infrastructure needs within Tribal communities on Monday, [December 16](#), 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern.

**Registration:** Please register to attend the virtual consultation [here](#), so that we can ensure you receive any advance consultation materials.

**Join the Virtual Consultation Listening Session Using Webex Link:** <https://intellor.webex.com/intellor/j.php?MTID=m656156ed93e02e1d7543d1777fe916b9>

**Join the Virtual Consultation Listening Session by Telephone:** The dial-in telephone number is (202) 735-3323. Use meeting access code number [6478445#].

**Written Comments:** The deadline for submitting comments on the HUD/IHS Housing-related Infrastructure for Tribal Communities Tribal Consultation has been extended from Saturday, November 9, 2024, until Wednesday, January 8, 2025.

Please email your comments and recommendations to [consultation@hud.gov](mailto:consultation@hud.gov) and [consultation@ihs.gov](mailto:consultation@ihs.gov). Use the SUBJECT LINE: HUD/IHS Housing-related Infrastructure for Tribal Communities. For background information, please review the joint [Dear Tribal Leader letter](#).

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Student teachers work for free. Meet the education majors fighting to change that (nevadasagebrush.com) — Education majors at the University of Nevada, Reno, including Miles Shanor, are advocating for paid student teaching to address teacher shortages and burnout. They face financial challenges as unpaid teaching is required for their degrees, and they are lobbying for legislative changes.

Congress often doesn't easily agree on policy, but one item that has broad support on both sides of the aisle is outdoor recreation. That's why the House passed the EXPLORE Act, a bipartisan package that would boost outdoor recreation nationwide.

But as Congress prepares to head home for the holidays, the EXPLORE Act has been left on the table in the Senate. We can't afford to lose this important piece of legislation!

Tell the Senate to pass the EXPLORE Act ASAP!

The significance of the EXPLORE Act can't be overstated. It would extend the free park pass program for fourth graders, expand recreational opportunities for veterans and active-duty service members, allow Tribal Nations to apply directly for federal conservation funding, make permanent a federal program that improves green space in nature-deprived communities and much more!

[Outdoor recreation is a \\$1.2 trillion industry](#) that supports millions of jobs. The EXPLORE Act will ensure that everyone, including youth, families and veterans, can benefit from the great outdoors. Let's make outdoor recreation more accessible and help power our local economies!

Tell Senators to pass the EXPLORE Act before their holiday break. Send an email now!

Thank you for your advocacy and support.

Sincerely,

The Wilderness Society Action Fund

Construction uncovers a 1,375-year-old pyramid along the site of a future highway in central Mexico; structure dates to the pre-Hispanic Metztitlán kingdom ([More](#))

Supreme Court sounds ready to curb environmental impact reviews

The Supreme Court appeared open during oral arguments Tuesday to limiting the scope of environmental review from federal agencies, in a case about a dispute over the approval of an 88-mile stretch of railroad line in Utah. [Read more...](#)

An Ice Age Infant's Bones Reveal Early Americans Ate Woolly Mammoths as a Protein Staple



An Indigenous Naga tribal sings during the Hornbill Festival at Kisama, in the northeastern Indian state of Nagaland. (AP Photo/Anupam Nath)

Nagas showcase traditional culture at Hornbill Festival In India's northeast
The men were dressed like warriors as they stabbed their spears in the air, reenacting a form of tribal warfare their ancestors used in battles. Many others, wearing tribal costumes, sang and danced, keeping alive customs that have passed down through generations. These were among the scenes at the [10-day Hornbill Festival in Kohima](#), the capital of India's remote Nagaland state. Named after the Indian hornbill, a large forest bird, the festival is Nagaland's biggest tourist draw and seeks to showcase the rich tradition and cultural heritage of the state's Indigenous tribes.

The Hill

[Trump announces new picks for roles at OMB and DOJ](#)

President-elect Trump announced new picks for roles at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Department of Justice (DOJ) on Monday. The president-elect said in posts on Truth Social that his pick for OMB general counsel is Mark Paoletta, and his choice for assistant attorney general of the DOJ's Civil Rights Division is Harmeet Dhillon. Paoletta...

Tribal and environmental groups slam Sites Reservoir project as Governor promotes it

“Governor Gavin Newsom continued his “California Jobs First” tour today with a press event at a farm in Colusa in the Sacramento Valley where he promoted his Administration’s efforts to build Sites Reservoir, a water project strongly opposed by a broad coalition of Tribes, environmental justice groups and fishing organizations. ... The Governor’s stop today was just miles away from where construction of the controversial Sites Reservoir is planned. The Governor’s Office claimed that Sites Reservoir “is critical to California’s Water Supply Strategy and meeting California’s goal of expanding above and below ground water storage capacity by 4 million acre feet. “ Late last year, the Governor certified the project for so-called “streamlining, saving the project from years of litigation delays.” ... In response to Newsom’s praise for Sites, opponents of the reservoir note that Sacramento River water is “already over-allocated by five times its availability and that the reservoir will add to climate change emissions.” They say the Tribal, water supply quality, and environmental impacts would be “devastating” as Central

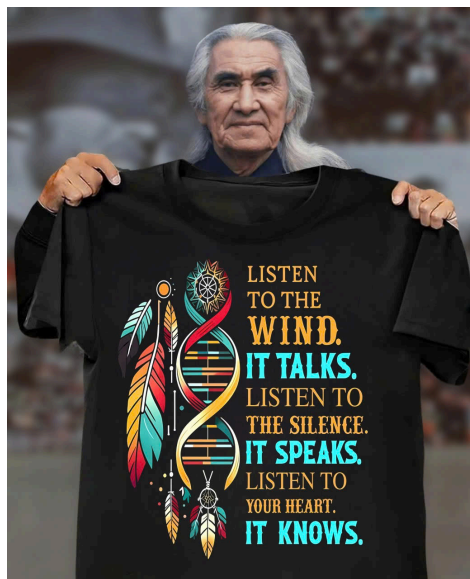
Valley salmon and Delta fish populations move closer and closer to extinction. ... ” [Read more from the Daily Kos.](#)

Dam removal revitalizes salmon in win for native tribes

“If you read *One Flew Over The Cuckoo’s Nest* years ago, you may recall how Chief Bromden’s psychosis originated with the loss of his people’s fishing habitat due to the construction of a monstrous dam. Ken Kesey brought the loss of annual fish runs of the Columbia River, estimated at 15 to 20 million salmon, to our attention. They had supported an essential human industry long pre-dating the arrival of Columbus in the Western Hemisphere. Pacific tribes ever since have fought for dam removal projects across the US. It’s not just native people who argue for dam removal. The US Fish and Wildlife Service explains that dams slow the natural flow of water and warm it, promoting the spread of deadly algae and parasites. Dams, they say, have been harming salmon and sturgeon since their installation, and people are frustrated to see these culturally and economically important species hurt when it is within our ability to protect them. ... ” [Read more from Clean Technica.](#)

Colorado River Indian Tribes signs ‘Letter of Intent’ for study of reservoir

“The Colorado River Indian Tribes have announced the signing of a Letter of Intent with the Bureau of Reclamation in which BOR would fund a \$5 million study of a re-regulating reservoir on the CRIT reservation. The letter was signed Dec. 4 in Las Vegas by CRIT Chairwoman Amelia Flores. In a press release, the Tribes said refurbishing and upgrading this reservoir could save as much as 35,000 gallons of water annually. In addition, they could put 5,000 more acres of farmland into production and make better use of their Colorado River water allocation. CRIT is Arizona’s largest and most senior Colorado River water rights holder, with an allocation of over 700,000 acre feet per year for its lands in Arizona and California. These are first priority water rights, meaning they will be the last to face cutbacks. ... ” [Read more from the Parker Pioneer.](#)





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN

OCTOBER 15, 2024 - JANUARY 6, 2025



Requirements

- Enrolled in a northern Nevada school unless degree is not offered in Northern Nevada.
- Resident of northern Nevada with a valid Nevada ID with an address outside of Clark County.
- GPA of 3.0 or higher, verified by most recent transcript.



Scholarship Awards

Awards will be announced in April and funds will be distributed in July with proof of Fall 2025 enrollment. Awardees will pick up checks in person mid-July and are asked to attend the NWF scholarship reception to meet their scholarship donors in Reno in late September.



Corporate & Donor Directed Scholarships

NWF scholarship donors range from individuals and families to local and multi-national corporations. Each donor selects the criteria for their scholarship and are matched to recipients each year by Nevada Women's Fund.



What Makes NWF Scholarships Unique?

NWF scholarships are paid directly to the woman, not to the educational institution. This allows recipients to use their scholarship to cover living expenses such as childcare, transportation, and rent costs as well as education related expenses.

CONTACT US

775-786-2335

info@nevadawomensfund.org

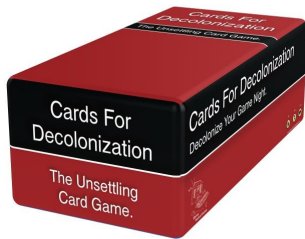
nevadawomensfund.org/what-we-do

Scan here to apply:



If you are finding it difficult to find something for the person that has everything.....

- [Purchase Here](https://www.tribalnationsmaps.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html) https://www.tribalnationsmaps.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html
- Cards For Decolonization



Cards For Decolonization

\$70.00

\$63.00

Cards For Decolonization, formerly known as Cards Against Colonialism, is a satire and humor based game created by and for native people. Cards for decolonization contains cards about stereotypes, social issues, and cultural icons unique to Indian country. There are some mature themes in Cards for Decolonization, so if your uncle who used to be on council is playing, maybe consider removing the “nepotism” and “embezzling tribal chairmen” cards.

The game comes with 100 red question cards and 380 white response cards. We also include a handful of blank cards to write your own jokes. Great for writing in that one time your nephew snagged his cousin.

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT: Public hearing for appeal of DWR’s consistency determination for geotechnical activities scheduled for December 19
Eighteen local agencies, conservation groups and Tribes have filed appeals.

Justice Department Announces Tribal Consultations to Consider Legislative Proposals to Preserve Tribal Sovereignty and Address the Balance of Jurisdiction in Indian Country

For Immediate Release Office of Public Affairs

The Justice Department announced today it will hold Tribal consultations around its consideration of legislative proposals to address the balance of jurisdiction in Indian country that was upended by the Supreme Court’s 2022 decision in *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta*.

Indian country is a legal term that generally describes Tribal reservations, lands, communities, and allotments that fall under the jurisdiction of the United States.

Until two years ago, there was a long-held understanding, shared by the federal government and Tribes, that a law passed by Congress, the General Crimes Act, limited a state's authority to prosecute some crimes committed in Indian country, namely those crimes committed by non-Indian defendants against Indian victims. Those crimes could be prosecuted only by federal or Tribal authorities. In *Castro-Huerta*, the Supreme Court rejected that understanding.

Instead, the Supreme Court ruled that the General Crimes Act does not limit a state's inherent jurisdiction to prosecute non-Indian defendants who commit crimes against Indian victims in Indian country. In other words, based on the Supreme Court's decision, the federal government, states, and Tribes now have concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute these types of crimes throughout the United States.

Because the Supreme Court's decision was based on the language in a statute, Congress, exercising its constitutional plenary power over Indian affairs, could pass legislation restoring the previous balance of jurisdiction in Indian country.

"The Department of Justice is committed to working with Native communities to advance our shared goal of Tribal safety while respecting and uplifting Tribal sovereignty," said Attorney General Merrick B. Garland. "These upcoming consultations are consistent with the Department's longstanding practice of working collaboratively with our Tribal partners to promote safe communities throughout Indian country."

The Justice Department and the Department of the Interior (DOI) held joint listening sessions on Sept. 26-27, 2022, to discuss with Tribal representatives the implications of the *Castro-Huerta* decision and the impact on Tribal communities. More than 500 Tribal leaders and other Tribal representatives participated in these discussions. Several clear themes emerged, including a view from Tribes that the *Castro-Huerta* decision diminished Tribal sovereignty, injected confusion into a complex legal and operational landscape, and presented long-term implications for state interference in Tribal affairs. A common view emerged that legislation and clarifying federal guidance were in order.

Several Tribes also reported that *Castro-Huerta* has negatively impacted their cross-deputization, cross-jurisdictional, and other cooperative law enforcement agreements with states, which prior to *Castro-Huerta* were an important part of successful law enforcement and criminal justice schemes on many reservations.

Based on those listening sessions, other feedback, and experience over the past two years, the Justice Department is now considering whether to support a legislative proposal to restore the previous balance of jurisdiction in Indian country and, if so, what form that legislation should take. Two draft proposals are presented for Tribal review and consideration.

Both proposals make clear that states lack jurisdiction over crimes within Indian country committed by or against Indians, unless expressly authorized by federal statute. Both proposals also state that unless otherwise authorized by federal statute, states must, before exercising such

jurisdiction, (1) ensure compliance with the procedures for obtaining Tribal consent of the impacted Indian Tribe, and (2) where applicable, comply with a procedure to amend the state constitution or laws

The Department is releasing a framing paper, which will be available on the Department's Tribal Justice and Safety [website](#) and includes additional background and the two legislative proposals. The Justice Department plans to hold consultations in January 2025.

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**The University of Nevada, Las Vegas invites applications for Assistant Professor, Fundamentals Coordinator, UNLV Art Department**

The UNLV Department of Art invites applications for a tenure-track faculty member at the rank of Assistant Professor to serve as the Coordinator of Fundamentals. The primary duties of this 9-month appointment include Teaching, Research/Creative Activity, and Service. The successful candidate will work with current faculty to advance structural changes and refresh the curriculum of courses related to fundamentals of design and drawing. The Fundamentals area at UNLV includes a sequence of classes required of all Studio Arts, Graphic Design and Media, and Art History majors.

The ideal candidate will have at least three years of post-graduate teaching experience in higher education, background in curriculum development, and a commitment to the importance of first-year studies. This role requires supervision of part-time instructors and graduate assistants as well as facility management, maintaining rigorous academic standards, and ensuring courses are properly resourced. Candidates that demonstrate innovative approaches to teaching diverse student populations are encouraged to apply. [Link to the Higher Education job posting here.](#)

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[NV advocates demand Congress address climate change](#)



December 12, 2024 - Alex Gonzalez, Public News Service (NV)



Lake Mead's water level is up by 16 feet after two years of voluntary conservation by California water users, according to the Colorado River Board of California. (Adobe Stock)

Nevada climate advocates say the impacts of climate change are [only getting worse](#) in the Silver State. They're now demanding Congress make it a priority and address what they call a dire situation.

Rep. Dina Titus, D-Las Vegas, introduced the Extreme Weather and Heat Response Modernization [Act](#) earlier this year and said it will provide the Federal Emergency Management Agency the "flexibility" to expand mitigation measures against extreme heat, which includes cooling centers. The legislation has made it out of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee with bipartisan support. Titus said if it doesn't pass this term, she vows it'll be one of the first pieces of legislation she will introduce in the upcoming session. Titus says extreme heat and drought go hand in hand.

"The Colorado River contributes greatly to our economy; [\\$104 trillion](#) is the annual economic activity that comes from things that relate to the Colorado River," Titus said. "It sustains 16 million jobs throughout the seven states that are part of the Colorado River Basin," she explained.

Titus contends that keeping the river and Lake Mead sound will be a positive for tourism, jobs and agriculture in Nevada and throughout the Western U.S. This week the U.S. House passed the Water Resources Development [Act](#) which Titus says includes provisions that will help sustain water resources in Nevada. The bill faced little opposition and now heads to the Senate, before being sent to the president.

Roberto Renteria, a member of the nonprofit Make the Road Nevada, said this year the Silver State endured increased extreme weather events such as record-breaking wildfires and relentless heat waves, making it difficult for folks to endure.

"These are not climactic events, they are urgent calls for action. The wildfires have burned more than 58,000 acres in our state, putting at risk our communities, wildlife and economic vitality," he said.

Renteria added the extreme heat simply cannot be ignored and contends the public health crisis disproportionately impacts those who work outside as well as those with low socio-economic status.

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**U of Nevada researchers 3D print 'Lego-like' modular bricks for Army bridges**  
([constructiondive.com](https://www.constructiondive.com)) — Researchers at the University of Nevada in Reno are developing 3D-printed modular bricks for the U.S. Army. This innovative project aims to create easily assembled structures in combat zones, enhancing military engineering capabilities.

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Newly Described Fossil From Wyoming Sheds Light on When Frogs and Toads Lost Their Teeth

A fragment of upper jaw fossil from the Early Cretaceous is among the oldest examples of a toothless amphibian in the fossil record <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/blogs/national-museum-of-natural-history/2024/12/12/open-wide-newly-described-fossil-from-wyoming-sheds-light-on-when-frogs-and-toads-lost-their-teeth/?spMailingID=50517474&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2824992237&spReportId=MjgyNDk5MjIzNwS>