

Journal #5908 from sdc 1.30.25

Looking down from the crest of the Ruby Mountains

White House rescinds federal aid funding freeze

How to build a national effort to secure America's disappearing groundwater

Lake Powell: Water flows to drop 24% below normal say forecasters

Executive orders on climate and environment could hurt Arizona's economy, experts fear

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Prez offering buyouts to all federal employees

Head Start and Medicaid providers hit glitches as Trump freezes federal money

Defense secretary pulls Trump critic Gen. Milley's security clearance and protective detail

Trump fires two Democratic commissioners that enforces civil rights workplace laws

Sean Duffy is confirmed by the Senate to lead the Transportation Department

X partners with Visa on payment service in an effort to become an 'everything app'

The river that my tribe calls home in the Pacific Northwest was sick

Executive Order on Delta smelt ignores the law, science and water equity

Disrupted disaster aid prompts fears of delayed recovery 'for years'

Anne Castle steps down as the federal representative to the Upper Colorado River Commission

History Bits

American Association of Museums (AAM) 2025 Convention - what to expect

President Ulysses Grant's First State of the Union Address

President ordering U.S. schools to stop teaching material dealing with race or risk losing fed money

Aryana Collier-Christy

Jeanette Hooper



Looking down from the crest of the Ruby Mountains, the valley floor is barren of snow on Jan. 18, 2025. (Courtesy Remy Goglio)

White House rescinds federal aid funding freeze

Trump's budget office rescinded the order, less than two days after it sparked widespread confusion and legal challenges across the country.

[READ STORY](#)

[https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-pause-federal-grants-aid-f9948b9996c0ca971f0065fac85737ce?](https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-pause-federal-grants-aid-f9948b9996c0ca971f0065fac85737ce?user_email=e073fe83cf6e594f0fa68c85167471226da0e93d55247b60e6f1153aa19d8ac8)

[user_email=e073fe83cf6e594f0fa68c85167471226da0e93d55247b60e6f1153aa19d8ac8](https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-pause-federal-grants-aid-f9948b9996c0ca971f0065fac85737ce?user_email=e073fe83cf6e594f0fa68c85167471226da0e93d55247b60e6f1153aa19d8ac8) ~~~~~

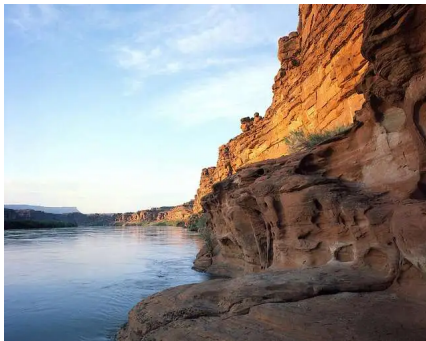
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**ow to build a national effort to secure America's disappearing groundwater**

“In early 2024, the President’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology’s (PCAST) requested input on how to address the country’s groundwater challenges. For EDF’s Climate Resilient Water Systems team, which has been working on this issue for over a decade, this provided an opportunity to reflect on what strategies have been effective and where we think future efforts should be focused. We submitted written recommendations to the President’s Council and accepted a subsequent invitation from the committee to participate in an in-person workshop to flesh out possible strategies. Groundwater is one of our most vital resources, underpinning a secure food supply, providing drinking water for nearly half of the U.S. population, sustaining ecosystems like wetlands and streams, and supporting rural economies. ...” [Read more from the Environmental Defense Fund.](#)

### Lake Powell: Water flows to drop 24% below normal say forecasters

“Federal forecasts reveal that water flows into Lake Powell are expected to be only 76 percent of the seasonal norm this year, a drop from the 81 percent prediction made earlier this month. The Colorado Basin River Forecast Center attributes the decline to poor precipitation above the reservoir, which fell to 69 percent of normal from January 1–15. Snowpack conditions, crucial for runoff, are uneven across the region, with below-normal levels in southern Utah, Colorado and Arizona. *Newsweek* contacted the Forecast Center via email for further comment. ...” [Read more from Newsweek.](#)

### Trump's orders on climate and environment could hurt Arizona's economy, experts fear



“President Donald Trump began his second term with bold actions opposing the transition away from fossil fuels for the preservation of a livable climate. Most of these came as executive orders signed Monday night, hours after he was inaugurated. At

the end of his first week back, the precise implications of how and when these orders may be felt across the nation and in Arizona remain largely unclear. Broadly speaking, though, scientists, lawyers and policy experts told The Arizona Republic that Trump’s intentions to reverse climate progress and boost oil production are likely to hurt Arizona’s and the United State’s economy while further destabilizing atmospheric weather patterns that increase the likelihood of expensive storms, fires and infrastructure damage. ...” [Read more from Arizona Central](#).

### **Inside an Apache Rite of Passage Into Womanhood (click on pic)**



### **[Street Law](#)**

Street Law, Inc. is a global, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization. For 50 years, we have developed innovative programs and leveraged education for empowerment and justice in all 50 U.S. states and in 45 countries.

### **Ancient Artifacts Deliberation (Middle School)**

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- **Last updated:** May 23, 2024    **Grade level:** Middle School (6-8)
- **Resource type:** [Contested Issues](#), [Deliberation](#)    Issue Area(s): [International](#)

This middle-school-level deliberation activity asks the following question: **Should ancient artifacts be returned to their countries of origin?**

It includes a lesson guide, deliberation reading, glossary, visual, quotations, and recommended resources. It also includes handouts that guide students through the deliberation process from planning to reflection.

Deliberation teaches people how to discuss controversial issues by carefully considering multiple perspectives and searching for consensus. In preparation for deliberations, all participants read common, balanced background information on the issue. During the discourse, they offer arguments for each position on a contested public issue, first drawing from the text and then bringing in their own experiences.

- Read a detailed description of the [Deliberation method](#).
- Our [Deliberation Demonstration Video and Resource Bundle](#) includes several resources to help you successfully conduct deliberations in your classroom.

## Harjo Praises Dylan

Joy Harjo, the Tulsa-born Native American poet, makes the case that voices like Dylan's are needed now as much as ever. "At this moment in history, we are witness to unprecedented and illegal moves to destroy democracy to erase equality and undermine human rights based on false premises of sexism, racism, culturalism for greed," she said at the opening ceremony of the center.

<https://theokeagle.com/2022/06/27/new-center-showcases-bob-dylan-as-civil-rights-advocate/>

### Trump is offering buyouts to all federal employees

The Trump administration announced Tuesday that it is offering buyouts to all federal employees who opt to leave their jobs by next week — an unprecedented move to shrink the U.S. government at breakneck speed. [Read more.](#)

- A memo from the Office of Personnel Management, the government's human resources agency, also said it would begin subjecting all federal employees to "enhanced standards of suitability and conduct" and warned of future downsizing. The email sent to millions of employees said those who voluntarily leave their posts by Feb. 6 will receive about eight months of salary.
- Katie Miller, who serves on an advisory board to the Department of Government Efficiency, a special Trump administration department headed by Tesla CEO Elon Musk and tasked with shrinking the size of government, posted on X, "This email is being sent to more than TWO MILLION federal employees."
- American Federation of Government Employees union President Everett Kelley said it should not be viewed as voluntary buyouts, but pressuring workers not considered loyal to the new administration to vacate their jobs.

- [Head Start and Medicaid providers hit glitches as Trump freezes federal money](#)

[Defense secretary pulls Trump critic Gen. Milley's security clearance and protective detail](#)

[Trump fires two Democratic commissioners of agency that enforces civil rights workplace laws](#)

[Sean Duffy is confirmed by the Senate to lead the Transportation Department](#)

[Elon Musk's X partners with Visa on payment service in an effort to become an 'everything app'](#)

(If clicking on headline doesn't work, put headline in a search engine)

This Native coalition fought to save their river's fish for 20 years—and won

**The river that my tribe calls home in the Pacific Northwest was sick**, and our salmon were dying. We set out to save them both.

Read in National Geographic: <https://apple.news/Apm4Td08bRm6PASf8zs3uoQ>

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Trump's Executive Order on Delta smelt ignores the law, science and water equity

“President Donald Trump characterized his recent executive order to override U.S. Endangered Species Act protections and “route more water” from the embattled Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta to Southern California as a matter of prioritizing people over a tiny and worthless fish – the endangered Delta Smelt, according to a press release from the California Water Impact Network (C-WIN). “But nothing could be farther from the truth,” C-WIN stated. “Trump’s order will punish a broad array of stakeholders and devastate the largest and richest estuary in the western continental United States – all for the benefit of a few powerful agribusiness enterprises in the Central Valley.” ... ” [Read more from Dan Bacher at the Daily Kos.](#)

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Disrupted disaster aid prompts fears of delayed recovery ‘for years’

“The federal government Tuesday shut down the online system it uses to distribute billions in disaster aid after President Donald Trump ordered agencies to freeze the flow of public money, alarming officials who are struggling to respond to catastrophes. The Federal Emergency Management Agency cut off access to the online portal, which funnels roughly \$30 billion a year to states for disaster expenses ranging from debris cleanup to infrastructure repairs, following Trump’s expansive order to halt federal funding as the White House scrutinizes spending programs, Todd DeVoe, emergency coordinator for Inglewood, California, told POLITICO’s E&E News. “We may see recovery delayed for years,” said DeVoe, who is second vice president of the International Association of Emergency Managers in the United States. “The grant portal where we do all grant work is inaccessible.” ... ” [Read more from E&E News.](#)

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**Anne Castle steps down as the federal representative to the Upper Colorado River**

**Commission**“Dear (addressee redacted): As requested, I am submitting my resignation as U.S. Commissioner and Chair of the Upper Colorado River Commission, effective January 27, 2025. I was honored to be appointed by President Biden to this position and serving on the Commission has been a privilege. I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity to contribute to the vital work of managing and protecting the Colorado River. This is an existential time for the river. We are on the brink of putting in place an operating regime that will govern our lives and our economies for decades. We are currently trying to manage an immense river system with tools and structures that were not designed for the conditions we face today. ... ” [Continue reading at the Inkstain blog.](#)

*Ed note: some news is breaking so fast and convoluted that it may be “old” by the next day. My purpose here is to record what is happening and often, who/what publication is reporting not to be an instant news breaking entity.*

**Was reminded that I am remiss with History factoids:**

- 1825 Jan 27** Congress approves Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma), clearing the way for the forced relocation of the Eastern Indians on the “Trail of Tears’.
- 1838 Jan 30** Seminole **Chief Osceola** died in jail.
- 1848 Feb 2** The U. S. War of Aggression forced Mexico to cede a third of its territory, including Nevada to the U.S.
- 1876 Jan 31** The deadline fo Native Americans who were off their reservations to return or a “military force would be sent to compel them” (by order of BIA Commissioner Edward Smith) passed at midnight.
- 1879 Feb 1** The *Nevada State Journal* contrasted “the British-Canadian authorities with the US War Depatment in management of Indian race....”We are driving the NW Indians from reservations (secured by treaty) at the point of the bayonet; Canadian Government treat red men as wards.”
- 1883 Jan 30** The Elko Free Press stated Indian Agent John Mayhugh reported 300 Shoshone on “his” reservation (DV) all in excellent health, happy, contented, with plenty to eat, good shelter and warm clothing, but members reorting trouble brewing amon the Bannocks.
- 1887 Jan 31** The Nevada Indian Commission (Jewell Adams, S.L. Lee and Henry Yerington) sent the BIA a copy of measure enacted by the Nevada Legislature.
- 1910 Jan 29** Eastern business people declared their intention to acquire 200, 000 acres of land in the Pahrump Valley under the Desert Land Act of 1894.
- 1938 Jan 26** Moapa lands were reduced.
- 1954 Jan 30** Birthday of Modoc novelist, Michael Dorris, founder of Dartmouth’s Native American studies progam and husband to Louise Erdich.
- 1954 Jan 27** Congressman Cliff Young (R-NV) introduces HR7552, the Indian Termination Act
- 1970 Feb 1** The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe dedicated new buildings at Wadsworth and Nixon.
- 1972 Jan 27** The 8th Annual ITCN Convention was held in Fallon, Raymond Yowell presiding.



**AAM 2025 THEME & LOCATION**  
**1201 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90015**

**Los Angeles Convention Center**  
**FAQ [PREVIEW THE PROGRAM](#)**

## **Museums & Trust**

AAM 2025 will focus on the theme, Museums & Trust. Museums have long inspired high levels of public trust, surpassing news outlets, government organizations, researchers and scientists, corporations, and social media platforms. This consistent finding underscores our institutions' unique position in society as stewards of knowledge, culture, science, and history—areas where credibility and reliability are paramount.

In an era marked by mistrust and misinformation, museums have a rare ability to counterbalance the proliferation of false narratives and polarized perspectives. Using our trusted position, we can cultivate a more healthy, empathetic, and informed society. But to do so, we must maintain our credibility proactively, embracing thoughtful, transparent, and collaborative practices that will defend against influences like bias, resource challenges, abuse of power, and social injustice.

## **WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT AAM 2025?**

### **Connect with Your Peers**

Each year, the conference is designed to help attendees feel reinvigorated and more deeply connected to our field. At AAM 2025 you won't find a shortage of opportunities to expand your network and connect with peers over challenges, successes, new ideas, and inspiration.

### **Session Tracks for All**

AAM 2025 programming will be divided into four tracks that explore the theme of Museums & Trust: Purpose, Practice, Process, and Programs. Each session will offer something for everyone, leaving you inspired and challenged to amplify the impact you can have. Attendees say that this conference is one of the best professional development experiences of their lives.

## **An Incredible MuseumExpo**

AAM is again partnering this year with the Museum Store Association to host an incredible combined expo hall. Find the most innovative services, products, and solutions in the museum field. With 350 exhibitors, you are bound to find the right partner for your museum's current challenges and opportunities.

## **Hands-on Workshops & Learning Labs**

Take full advantage of this conference for your professional development and deepen your practice through hands-on workshops and learning labs that offer foundational and practical techniques that you can apply to your own context and community. These sessions will focus on the "how-to" and provide attendees with tangible tools and outcomes you can bring back home

## **REGISTER NOW**

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## **President Ulysses Grant's First State of the Union Address**

December 6, 1869

Extract:

"From the foundation of the Government to the present the management of the original inhabitants of this continent--the Indians--has been a subject of embarrassment and expense, and has been attended with continuous robberies, murders, and wars. From my own experience upon the frontiers and in Indian countries, I do not hold either legislation or the conduct of the whites who come most in contact with the Indian blameless for these hostilities. The past, however, can not be undone, and the question must be met as we now find it. I have attempted a new policy toward these wards of the nation (they can not be regarded in any other light than as wards), with fair results so far as tried, and which I hope will be attended ultimately with great success. The Society of Friends is well known as having succeeded in living in peace with the Indians in the early settlement of Pennsylvania, while their white neighbors of other sects in other sections were constantly embroiled. They are also known for their opposition to all strife, violence, and war, and are generally noted for their strict integrity and fair dealings. These considerations induced me to give the management of a few reservations of Indians to them and to throw the burden of the selection of agents upon the society itself. The result has proven most satisfactory. It will be found more fully set forth in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. For superintendents and Indian agents not on the reservations, officers of the Army were selected. The reasons for this are numerous. Where Indian agents are sent, there, or near there, troops must be sent also. The agent and the commander of troops are independent of each other, and are subject to orders from different Departments of the Government. The army officer holds a position for life; the agent, one at the will of the President. The former is personally interested in living in harmony with the Indian and in establishing a permanent peace, to the end that some portion of his life may be spent within the limits of civilized society; the latter has no such personal interest. Another reason is an economic one; and still another, the hold which the Government has upon a life officer to secure a faithful discharge of duties in carrying out a given policy.

The building of railroads, and the access thereby given to all the agricultural and mineral regions of the country, is rapidly bringing civilized



settlements into contact with all the tribes of Indians. No matter what ought to be the relations between such settlements and the aborigines, the fact is they do not harmonize well, and one or the other has to give way in the end. A system which looks to the extinction of a race is too horrible for a nation to adopt without entailing upon itself the wrath of all Christendom and engendering in the citizen a disregard for human life and the rights of others, dangerous to society. I see no substitute for such a system, except in placing all the Indians on large reservations, as rapidly as it can be done, and giving them absolute protection there. As soon as they are fitted for it they should be induced to take their lands in severalty and to set up Territorial governments for their own protection. For full details on this subject I call your special attention to the reports of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the year ending June 30, 1869, to be \$80,644,042, of which \$23,882,310 was disbursed in the payment of debts contracted during the war, and is not chargeable to current army expenses. His estimate of \$34,531,031 for the expenses of the Army for the next fiscal year is as low as it is believed can be relied on. The estimates of bureau officers have been carefully scrutinized, and reduced wherever it has been deemed practicable. If, however, the condition of the country should be such by the beginning of the next fiscal year as to admit of a greater concentration of troops, the appropriation asked for will not be expended.”

Reform in the management of Indian affairs has received the special attention of the Administration from its inauguration to the present day. The experiment of making it a missionary work was tried with a few agencies given to the denomination of Friends, and has been found to work most advantageously. All agencies and superintendencies not so disposed of were given to officers of the Army. The act of Congress reducing the Army renders army officers ineligible for civil positions. Indian agencies being civil offices, I determined to give all the agencies to such religious denominations as had heretofore established missionaries among the Indians, and perhaps to some other denominations who would undertake the work on the same terms--i.e., as a missionary work. The societies selected are allowed to name their own agents, subject to the approval of the Executive, and are expected to watch over them and aid them as missionaries, to Christianize and civilize the Indian, and to train him in the arts of peace. The Government watches over the official acts of these agents, and requires of them as strict an accountability as if they were appointed in any other manner. I entertain the confident hope that the policy now pursued will in a few years bring all the Indians upon reservations, where they will live in houses, and have schoolhouses and churches, and will be pursuing peaceful and self-sustaining avocations, and where they may be visited by the law-abiding white man with the same impunity that he now visits the civilized white settlements. I call your special attention to **the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for full information on this subject.**

During the last fiscal year 8,095,413 acres of public land were disposed of. Of this quantity 3,698,910.05 acres were taken under the homestead law and 2,159,515.81 acres sold for cash. The remainder was located with military warrants, college or Indian scrip, or applied in satisfaction of grants to railroads or for other public uses. The entries under the homestead law during the last year covered 961,545 acres more than those during the preceding year. Surveys have been vigorously prosecuted to the full extent of the means applicable to the purpose. The

quantity of land in market will amply supply the present demand. The claim of the settler under the homestead or the preemption laws is not, however, limited to lands subject to sale at private entry. Any unappropriated surveyed public land may, to a limited amount, be acquired under the former laws if the party entitled to enter under them will comply with the requirements they prescribe in regard to the residence and cultivation. The actual settler's preference right of purchase is even broader, and extends to lands which were unsurveyed at the time of his settlement. His right was formerly confined within much narrower limits, and at one period of our history was conferred only by special statutes. They were enacted from time to time to legalize what was then regarded as an unauthorized intrusion upon the national domain. The opinion that the public lands should be regarded chiefly as a source of revenue is no longer maintained. The rapid settlement and successful cultivation of them are now justly considered of more importance to our well-being than is the fund which the sale of them would produce. The remarkable growth and prosperity of our new States and Territories attest the wisdom of the legislation which invites the tiller of the soil to secure a permanent home on terms within the reach of all. The pioneer who incurs the dangers and privations of a frontier life, and thus aids in laying the foundation of new commonwealths, renders a signal service to his country, and is entitled to its special favor and protection. These laws secure that object and largely promote the general welfare. They should therefore be cherished as a permanent feature of our land system."

## **Trump's orders take aim at critical race theory and antisemitism on college campuses**

President Donald Trump is ordering U.S. schools to stop teaching what he views as "critical race theory" and other material dealing with race and sexuality, or risk losing their federal money. [Read more.](#)

### **Why this matters:**

- A separate plan announced Wednesday calls for aggressive action to fight antisemitism on college campuses, promising to prosecute offenders and revoke visas for international students found to be " Hamas sympathizers."
- The measures seek to fulfill some of the Republican president's core campaign promises around education, though it's unclear how much power he has to enact the proposals.
- The measure taps into a wave of conservative anger aimed at classroom lessons that some see as too liberal. A growing number of Republican states have adopted laws or rules barring the teaching of critical race theory or "divisive concepts" in public schools and universities. Opponents say the rules impose vague restrictions on teachers and create a chilling effect on discussions about history and other subjects.

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

*Aryana Collier-Christy*

*September 23, 2000 - January 19, 2025*



**Saturday February 8, 2025**

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JEANETTE ROSE HOOPER  
LOSH



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JANUARY 21, 2025

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SERVICE: FEBRUARY 8, 2025 - 10:00 TO 11:00  
SMITH FAMILY FUNERAL HOME  
505 CEMETERY ROAD FALLON, NV

BURIAL: FEBRUARY 8, 2025 AT 2 PM  
YOMBA SHOSHONE TRIBE CEMETERY  
REESE RIVER VALLEY, NEVADA  
DINNER TO FOLLOW AT YST GYM