

Journal #2549

from sdc

3.16.12

The Trees Are All Right

Navajo water project working to secure its path

Environmental groups sue to stop development on Salton Sea shore

Johnny Depp plays Tonto

Pass the Books. Hold the Oil.

Museums and Mobile IV Online Conference

Social Media Changes Everything for Records Management Professionals

Amazing results from poll on Yucca/the Nevada Energy Park

Essay Contest for University of Nevada, TMCC and Washoe County High School Students

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Pres. Council on Jobs and Competitiveness Launches STAY WITH IT Student Engineering Initiative

Feds say Wyo. tribe's bald eagle permit a first

Karuk Tribe currently has an opening for a Natural Resources Biologist

Slapping Medicine Man, a 1491s film

Religious talkshow host says Indians have to become Christians to be citizens

Another view of the Colorado River:

The Trees Are All Right

By **TIMOTHY EGAN**

March 8, 2012, 8:30 pm

[Timothy Egan](#) on American politics and life, as seen from the West.

In most of the American West, the trees are not the right height, which may frighten Mitt Romney, and some of them are so old as to challenge the biblical view of creation that Rick Santorum wants taught in schools.

The tallest trees in the world, the coast redwoods of northern California, grow to 378 feet — more than half the size of Seattle's Space Needle. The oldest trees in the world, bristlecone pines that cling to hard ground in Nevada's Great Basin, can live for up to 5,000 years.

The saguaro cactus, with its droopy, anthropomorphic limbs, is the signature tree of the Southwest, though some say it is not technically a tree. And the western red cedar, armored in bark that Indians made into waterproof clothing, is a symbol of the Northwest.

This arbor tutorial is prompted by the slack-jawed ignorance of the last Republicans standing in the bad-idea-fest that is their party primary. Every week, it seems, the conveyor belt of craziness serves up another archaic idea from the people who want to represent a party that claims at least 40 percent of the electorate.

Romney, of course, famously said he liked the trees of Michigan because they were “just the right height” — a bizarre and harmless pander. But last month, in a campaign swing that was overlooked by the national press, Romney told a gathering in Nevada that he wasn't much of a fan of the trees on public land — at least that was the impression he left.

He said, “I don’t know what the purpose is” of the great American public land legacy — a domain that includes 190 million acres of national forests, 52 million acres of national parks, and more than 500 million acres of open range, wildlife refuges and other turf under management of the Interior Department.

Romney has never been much of an outdoor guy, and strikes me as the kind of person who would wear wingtips on a hike. Once, asked to give a sense of his outdoor cred, Romney said, “I’ve always been a rodent and rabbit hunter — small varmints, if you will.”

Had he ever taken something other than a BB gun beyond the bunny range, Romney would know that American hunters consider themselves privileged to have so much unfenced country that is theirs as a birthright of citizenship. A clueless rich man, Romney can afford the private ranches of Texas, where one-percenters chase exotic animals without breaking a sweat.

The rest of us need our public land. The West is defined by new, fast-growing cities surrounded by the mountains, mesas, forests, sandstone spires and various shared settings. There is no other place in the world where urban and wild coexist over such a huge area. If you are poor, you can feel rich just minutes from the city, in your estate that is a national forest. If you ski in the high Sierra, or raft a runaway river in Utah, you are most likely doing it on land whose only deed of title is held by all citizens.

“Unless there’s a valid, legitimate and compelling public purpose, I don’t know why the government owns so much of this land,” said Romney.

Using Romney’s calculation — in which these lands can only be viewed as a commodity — the public domain more than pays for itself. Federal lands in Nevada, for example, provide about \$1 billion in economic impact and support 13,311 jobs — and that doesn’t include the Forest Service. A poll by Colorado College found that 93 percent of the state’s voters agree that national parks, forests and wildlife areas “are an essential part of Colorado’s economy.”

Not to be outdone, Rick Santorum has channeled his inner robber baron while in the West. Speaking in Boise last month, he promised to sell our land to the private sector. The last time somebody seriously proposed that — James Watt, the secretary of the interior under President Reagan — he got a bipartisan round of boos from all corners of the West.

“The federal government doesn’t care about this land,” Santorum said. “They don’t live here, they don’t care about it. We don’t care about it in Washington. It’s flyover country for most of the bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.”

It’s clearly flyover country to Santorum. But try telling the many federal forest and park rangers, the smokejumpers and fish biologists, the backcountry avalanche experts and the game wardens, all of whom live in Western towns — and keep the economy in those places humming — that they “don’t live here.”

The New York Times Gifford Pinchot, first Chief of the United States Forest Service, in Pennsylvania in 1933.

Santorum makes national forests sound like crack houses. Some of them, after long neglect, do look a bit ratty. But the best are American cathedrals. Santorum probably doesn't know that a former governor of his home state, Gifford Pinchot, was the founder of the modern Forest Service. Pinchot was a rich man who spent his life advocating for places where "the little man," in his parlance, would be king.

We can thank a hunter, a lover of nature and a man who was always thinking about the kind of country his great-grandchildren would inherit — the fire-breathing Republican Teddy Roosevelt — for most of the nation's public land. But today, no Republican would dare stand with T.R.

So it goes in this retrograde campaign. Is there any long-held, much-cherished American principle that Republicans and their media outlets will not renounce? Is there any bad idea from the 19th century — or earlier — they will not resurrect?

Romney has shown that he knows the lyrics to "America the Beautiful." Too bad he doesn't know anything about the land itself — a gift of better minds than his, one that ensures that some things are equal in this democracy.

Navajo water project working to secure its path

Felicia Fonseca, Sacramento Bee

Jimmy Detsoi touted a proposal that he thought would get unanimous support from people in a small Navajo community where raising livestock is synonymous with culture and tradition, the advent of the massive federal Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project.

Environmental groups sue to stop development on Salton Sea shore

City News Service, MyDesert.com

Two environmental groups filed suit today against Riverside County, seeking to halt a roughly 5,000-acre development along the northwest shore of the Salton Sea that critics argue will lead to ecological damage, increased pollution and traffic congestion.

Peter Mountain/Disney

Johnny Depp plays Tonto opposite Armie Hammer as the masked avenger in "The Lone Ranger," directed by Gore Verbinski and produced by Jerry Bruckheimer. It's filming now in New Mexico for a May 2013 release.

Who is that masked man?

[Armie Hammer](#), best known for playing both Winklevoss twins in "The Social Network," is saddled up as the titular Western vigilante in the first photo released from next year's "Lone Ranger" movie.

[Producer Jerry Bruckheimer](#) tweeted out the sneak peek on Thursday.

Even more striking though is the man behind the makeup as the Lone Ranger's sidekick, Tonto. [Johnny Depp](#), who has said in past interviews that he is part Cherokee, plays the Native American hero.

Aside from the incredible winged headdress, Depp told Entertainment Weekly moviegoers can expect a less cartoonish Tonto than the one made famous in the early '50s television series.

"I remember watching it as a kid, with [Jay Silverheels](#) and [Clayton Moore](#), and going: 'Why is the f—ing Lone Ranger telling Tonto what to do?'" Depp told the magazine last year. "I liked Tonto, even at that tender age, and knew Tonto was getting the unpleasant end of the stick here. That's stuck with me. And when the idea came up (for the movie), I started thinking about Tonto and what could be done in my own small way try to . . . reinvent the relationship."

"Lone Ranger" is currently shooting in New Mexico, reuniting director [Gore Verbinski](#) with Depp, his "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Rango" star.

The Disney film will reach theaters on May 31, 2013.

esacks@nydailynews.com

For GREAT photo: <http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/movies/johnny-depp-eager-reinvent-tonto-role-lone-ranger-movie-armie-hammer-article-1.1035719>

Pass the Books. Hold the Oil.

By **THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN**

March 10, 2012

EVERY so often someone asks me: "What's your favorite country, other than your own?"

I've always had the same answer: Taiwan. "Taiwan? Why Taiwan?" people ask.

Very simple: Because Taiwan is a barren rock in a typhoon-laden sea with no natural resources to live off of — it even has to import sand and gravel from China for construction — yet it has the fourth-largest financial reserves in the world. Because rather than digging in the ground and mining whatever comes up, Taiwan has mined its 23 million people, their talent, energy and intelligence — men and women. I always tell my friends in Taiwan: "You're the luckiest people in the world. How did you get so lucky? You have no [oil](#), no iron ore, no forests, no diamonds, no gold, just a few small deposits of coal and natural gas — and because of that you developed the habits and culture of honing your people's skills, which turns out to be the most valuable and only truly renewable resource in the world today. *How did you get so lucky?*"

That, at least, was my gut instinct. But now we have proof.

A team from the [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development](#), or O.E.C.D., has just come out with a fascinating little study mapping the correlation between performance on the Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, exam — which every two years tests math, science and reading comprehension skills of 15-year-olds in 65 countries — and the total earnings on natural resources as a percentage of G.D.P. for each participating country. In short, how well do your high school kids do on math compared with how much oil you pump or how many diamonds you dig?

The results indicated that there was a “a significant negative relationship between the money countries extract from national resources and the knowledge and skills of their high school population,” said Andreas Schleicher, who oversees the PISA exams for the O.E.C.D. “This is a global pattern that holds across 65 countries that took part in the latest PISA assessment.” Oil and PISA don’t mix. (See the data map at: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/43/9/49881940.pdf>.)

As the Bible notes, added Schleicher, “Moses arduously led the Jews for 40 years through the desert — just to bring them to the only country in the Middle East that had no oil. But Moses may have gotten it right, after all. Today, Israel has one of the most innovative economies, and its population enjoys a standard of living most of the oil-rich countries in the region are not able to offer.”

So hold the oil, and pass the books. According to Schleicher, in the latest PISA results, students in Singapore, Finland, South Korea, Hong Kong and Japan stand out as having high PISA scores and few natural resources, while Qatar and Kazakhstan stand out as having the highest oil rents and the lowest PISA scores. (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Algeria, Bahrain, Iran and Syria stood out the same way in a similar 2007 Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study, or Timss, test, while, interestingly, students from Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey — also Middle East states with few natural resources — scored better.) Also lagging in recent PISA scores, though, were students in many of the resource-rich countries of Latin America, like Brazil, Mexico and Argentina. Africa was not tested. Canada, Australia and Norway, also countries with high levels of natural resources, still score well on PISA, in large part, argues Schleicher, because all three countries have established deliberate policies of saving and investing these resource rents, and not just consuming them.

Add it all up and the numbers say that if you really want to know how a country is going to do in the 21st century, don’t count its oil reserves or gold mines, count its highly effective teachers, involved parents and committed students. “Today’s learning outcomes at school,” says Schleicher, “are a powerful predictor for the wealth and social outcomes that countries will reap in the long run.”

Economists have long known about “Dutch disease,” which happens when a country becomes so dependent on exporting natural resources that its currency soars in value and, as a result, its domestic manufacturing gets crushed as cheap imports flood in and exports become too expensive. What the PISA team is revealing is a related disease: societies that get addicted to their natural resources seem to develop parents and young people who lose some of the instincts, habits and incentives for doing homework and honing skills.

By, contrast, says Schleicher, “in countries with little in the way of natural resources — Finland, Singapore or Japan — education has strong outcomes and a high status, at least in part because the public at large has understood that the country must live by its knowledge and skills and that these depend on the quality of education. ... Every parent and child in these countries knows that skills will decide the life chances of the child and nothing else is going to rescue them, so they build a whole culture and education system around it.”

Or as my Indian-American friend K. R. Sridhar, the founder of the Silicon Valley fuel-cell company Bloom Energy, likes to say, “When you don’t have resources, you become resourceful.”

That’s why the foreign countries with the most companies listed on the Nasdaq are Israel, China/ Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, South Korea and Singapore — none of which can live off natural resources.

But there is an important message for the industrialized world in this study, too. In these difficult economic times, it is tempting to buttress our own standards of living today by incurring even greater financial liabilities for the future. To be sure, there is a role for stimulus in a prolonged recession, but “the only sustainable way is to grow our way out by giving more people the knowledge and skills to compete, collaborate and connect in a way that drives our countries forward,” argues Schleicher.

In sum, says Schleicher, “knowledge and skills have become the global currency of 21st-century economies, but there is no central bank that prints this currency. Everyone has to decide on their own how much they will print.” Sure, it’s great to have oil, gas and diamonds; they can buy jobs. But they’ll weaken your society in the long run unless they’re used to build schools and a culture of lifelong learning. “The thing that will keep you moving forward,” says Schleicher, is always “what you bring to the table yourself.”

The **Museums and Mobile IV Online Conference** – the global online professional networking and learning event for museum professionals will take place on **May 9, 2012**, and is now open for registration. The conference producers - LearningTimes and Pocket-Proof - also announced the **2012 Museums & Mobile Survey** results are available for review and discussion. Now in its third year, the Survey is a collaborative inquiry into the international museum community’s evolving perspectives, use and ambitions for mobile technology tools.

The [Museums & Mobile IV Online Conference](#) program includes an outstanding lineup of engaging and interactive case studies looking at design and delivery of various mobile tools and experiences. Sessions include how mobile tools help reach younger audiences, what tablets offer different museum audiences, and how to guide the planning and development of an institution’s mobile web site. Participants will interact with a stellar international lineup of museum professionals from a range of cultural institutions including:

The National Gallery (UK)/MOMA/National Gallery of Canada/Smithsonian Institution
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum/National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
National Maritime Museum (UK)

The exciting program also includes two pre-conference workshops - a mobile design master class and a deep look at the hot open source project: TAP.

"We are eager to support the international museum community with sessions that showcase best practices on the use of handheld guides / mobile interpretation," states Executive Producer Jonathan Finkelstein, “ We designed the Museum & Mobile IV Online Conference so that

attendees can build stronger professional connections and walk away with direct practical knowledge they can put to use immediately at their cultural institution.”

The [2012 Museums & Mobile Survey](#) captures the community’s collective experiences and understandings of the trends in this fast-evolving field. This year the survey looked closely at how museums are handling the cost and delivery of various hardware/software solutions to their patrons, and what mobile solutions best support institution size.

"The Museums & Mobile survey continues to be an important tool for museums to use in understanding the dynamic changes happening around mobile content experiences,” reports Executive Producer, Loic Tallon, “It is a must read for anyone planning mobile projects in museums."

For more information or to register for the 2012 Museums & Mobile IV Online Conference visit: <http://www.museums-mobile.org>. Click [here](#) to review the 2012 Museums & Mobile survey results.

Warm regards, The Museums & Mobile Team

Social Media Changes Everything for Records Management Professionals

Save the date of [April 30 for the guest lecture](#), “Access to Public Records: Tensions between the Right-to-Know and the Protection of Privacy and the Role of Records Management in addressing these Issues.” Trevor Lewis, records analyst and local records program coordinator at the Vermont State Archives and Records, will present live from Vermont.

NEW! If you’re considering earning a graduate degree focused on leadership opportunities in information governance and corporate archives, you can now complete the fully online [Master of Archives and Records Administration](#) program at your own pace versus moving through the program as a cohort, and you can begin your studies in the Fall or Spring semester. The application deadline for admission in Fall 2012 is April 1.

If you already hold a master’s degree, the [Post-Master’s Certificate in Library and Information Science](#) program features a **Digital Archives and Records Management** career pathway. The certificate program is designed for professionals who presently work in the field and want to update their skills to stay current with emerging trends. Prospective certificate students can choose to start the fully online certificate program in the Fall or Spring semester.

The San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science offers two fully online master’s degrees, a fully online certificate program, and a doctoral program: Master of Archives and Records Administration (MARA), Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS), Post-Master’s Certificate in Library and Information Science, and the San Jose Gateway PhD Program. Let the learning begin: <http://slisweb.sjsu.edu>

San Jose State University School of Library and Information Science
One Washington Square, San Jose, California 95192-0029

Fr: Twcobb@aol.com

Date: Mar 12, 2012

Subject: Fwd: **Amazing results from poll on Yucca/the Nevada Energy Park**

Attachments: [NEPPoll.pdf](#) [PressRelease3-12.pdf](#)

Colleagues,

A recent statewide poll conducted by the respected Public Opinion Strategies firm demonstrated that Nevadans across the state favor keeping the Yucca nuclear repository open and creating a research park for the study of reprocessing.

The poll showed 62% of Nevadans supporting this change in position, with only 34% against. Surprisingly, support for the Energy/Research Park concept was *stronger the closer one is to Yucca*, with Clark County residents in stronger support than those up north! This should help dispel some of the misinformation that pervades the media in this state and what we have been instructed to believe by state agencies in charge of the nuclear spent fuel disposition issue.

Support for the change in the state's position was across the board, with 70% of labor unions in favor as well as 68% of those in teacher unions.

I have attached the poll results and a press release from the group that asked for the poll, "Nevadans for Carbon Free Energy". Will be interesting now to see if the demonstrated change in public opinion can encourage our elected officials to be more responsive to the public will.

As with any survey, one must consider the source and methodology. sdc

ASUN and NNIC Present an Essay Contest for University of Nevada, TMCC and Washoe County High School Students

The Northern Nevada International Center and the ASUN of the University of Nevada, Reno will be giving away a total of three scholarships worth \$250 to the winner of an essay contest in regards to Michael Klare's presentation on "The Geopolitics of Oil." There will be three categories, one for University students, one for TMCC students and a third for students in Washoe County. The winner in each category will receive \$250.

The winning essay will be the one that best recognizes the political, social and environmental costs of our current energy system, and offers the most innovative proposal to changing the current energy paradigm. Topics should be chosen within the realm and feel free to be creative with their essays. Klare will discuss this topic at the event, and the students' essays should coincide with this theme.

Only one entry per person and the essay is not to extend more than three pages. All entries must be the original work of the person claiming to write the essay. All entries must be typed; double-spaced including the name, address, and home telephone number on a separate sheet that indicates the student's category (UNR/TMCC/high school student). Entries will not be returned.

All essays need to be e-mailed by 5pm on March 23, 2012 to nnic@unr.edu. The winners will be announced at the "Everything is Global Summit" on April 18 at 5:30 pm.

Debra Harry via Danika Billie Littlechild

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

www2.ohchr.org

Eightieth session

13 February– 9 March 2012

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cerd/docs/CERD.C.CAN.CO.19-20.pdf>

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Communications

March 14, 2012

President’s Council on Jobs and Competitiveness Launches STAY WITH IT Student Engineering Initiative

WASHINGTON, D.C.,– Today, the President’s Council on Jobs and Competitiveness, in partnership with Intel, MTV, Google and Facebook, is launching STAY WITH IT, an initiative to increase the number of engineering graduates from U.S. universities and colleges through a unique community created to motivate and inspire the engineers of tomorrow.

“President Obama has repeatedly stressed the need to fill the engineering gap and he has made it one of the highest priorities of his Council on Jobs and Competitiveness. Today marks a major milestone in that effort.” said Charles Bolden, Administrator of NASA. “At NASA, our needs for workers across aerospace in the coming decades will be great. STAY WITH IT is an unprecedented public private partnership to address a skills crisis that will shape our nation’s future.”

“The inventions and creativity of our nation’s engineers will be a key driver of the American economy and pivotal in securing our role as the world’s leading innovator,” said Jobs Council member and Intel President and CEO Paul Otellini. “For this reason, we must find ways to continue inspiring young engineers, and increase the pipeline of talent to American businesses. STAY WITH IT is designed to show students their potential and support them through a rigorous educational journey.

Currently only 14% of all U.S. undergraduates are studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics and, after the first year, 40% of those enrolled in these disciplines switch majors. The annual number of engineering graduates has virtually stagnated at around 120,000.

Through STAY WITH IT, students will gain opportunities to learn about internships, financial support and summer bridge programs for entering freshmen. In addition, as part of STAY WITH IT, more than 65 companies have agreed to double their internships this year. Together, they are offering more than 7,000 opportunities for hands-on, technical job experience, representing a \$70m commitment. Colleges and Universities around the country will be hosting viewing parties, including California State University at Sacramento, Cornell University, Duke University, New York Institute of Technology - Manhattan Campus and Old Westbury Campuses, North Carolina State University, Santa Clara University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Florida, University of Hawaii, University of Kentucky, University of Maryland, University of Nevada, Reno and Virginia Tech.

Media are invited to attend in-person on the campus of Georgia Tech or watch the livestream at <http://www.facebook.com/Engineering>, click Tech Talk Live, at 3 pm EST today.

Feds say Wyo. tribe's bald eagle permit a first

By BEN NEARY | Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — A federal permit allowing the Northern Arapaho Tribe in Wyoming to kill up to two bald eagles for religious purposes is the first of its kind ever issued to an American Indian tribe, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service official said Wednesday.

The federal agency granted a permit last week allowing the Northern Arapaho to kill or capture and then release up to two bald eagles this year. The tribe filed a federal lawsuit in Cheyenne last fall over the agency's earlier failure to grant a bald eagle permit after the tribe applied for one nearly three years ago.

The permit was granted in response to the tribe's application, not the lawsuit that is still pending, Matt Hogan, assistant regional director for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver, told The Associated Press in a statement Wednesday.

"Issuance of the permit was in accordance with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act which allows for take of bald or golden eagles for the 'religious purposes of Indian tribes' if it is compatible with the preservation of eagle populations," Hogan wrote.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that killing one or two bald eagles would be consistent with the standard of preserving eagle populations, Hogan stated.

The national bird was removed from the federal list of threatened species in 2007, following its reclassification in 1995 from endangered to threatened. The birds remain protected under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

"We will consider any permit applications from tribes in the same way we considered the request from the Northern Arapaho; however, at this time we do not have other pending permit applications," Hogan wrote.

The agency has issued previous permits to allowing individual American Indians and tribes, including the Hopi in Arizona, to kill golden eagles.

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho Tribe, said Wednesday he sees the government's decision to issue the bald eagle permits as, "an important development in the protection of tribal sovereignty and religious freedoms."

Attempts to reach tribal officials were unsuccessful Tuesday and Wednesday. Baldwin said the tribe may issue a statement Thursday.

Baldwin said earlier this week that the tribe's decision to sue to secure the permit was closely related to the federal government's prosecution of a tribal member who killed a bald eagle on the Wind River Indian Reservation without a permit in 2005 for use in his tribe's Sun Dance.

Baldwin said the Northern Arapaho Tribe was determined in filing its lawsuit that other young men not be prosecuted in the future for practicing their traditional religious ceremonies.

Federal law prohibits non-Indians from killing or possessing any part of bald eagles. The government keeps eagle feathers and body parts in a federal repository in Colorado that tribal members may apply for to use in religious ceremonies.

According to a status report that federal lawyers filed in Johnson's court this week, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe said it objected to killing bald eagles on the reservation that the two tribes share because the Shoshone believed that killing eagles was contrary to joint laws the tribes share. An attempt to reach an Eastern Shoshone official for comment on Wednesday was unsuccessful.

The Northern Arapaho's federal permit limits the tribe to killing up to two bald eagles, without eggs or nestlings, outside the reservation boundaries. Hogan stated that permission from the State of Wyoming wouldn't be required, but said that the permit would require consent of the owner of the land where the birds are killed or captured.

The **Karuk Tribe currently has an opening for a Natural Resources Biologist** position based in Orleans, California. The deadline for submitting an application is Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 5pm.

Please pass this information along to anyone who may be interested and post as appropriate. Thank you. Sara R. Spence, THRP, Human Resources Manager, Karuk Tribe

Slapping Medicine Man, a 1491s film www.youtube.com

A super traditional Indigenous Medicine Man (Noah Ellis) slaps around comedian Tito Ybarra, Dallas Goldtooth and Ryan Red Corn Concept by Tito Ybarra. Filmed...

Anon: What a jerk! Christianity has only been around for 2000 years, where as our way of life has been since the beginning of time and before then!

[Religious talkshow host says Indians have to become Christians to be citizens](http://www.examiner.com)
www.examiner.com

(Feb. 8, 2011) Bryan Fischer, Director of Issues Analysis for the conservative Christian American Family Association (AFA), and host of its radio program,

Another view of the Colorado River:

http://spiritmag.com/features/article/let_the_river_move_you/