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Kooyoee Tukadu Cultural & Language Program

Nevada's American Indian Artistry: A Century of Heritage

Bureau of Land Management & Shoshone Language

Kill the dialect, save the language?

Newfound Pride in Guarani, a Language Long Disdained in Paraguay

Fort Collins, Colorado, Will Create Broadband Utility, 'Committed' to Net Neutrality

New Grand Canyon West ziplines soar 1,000 feet at West Rim

In Alaska, a Deal Is Made for a Controversial Road Inside a Refuge

Community Foundation of Western Nevada Scholarships

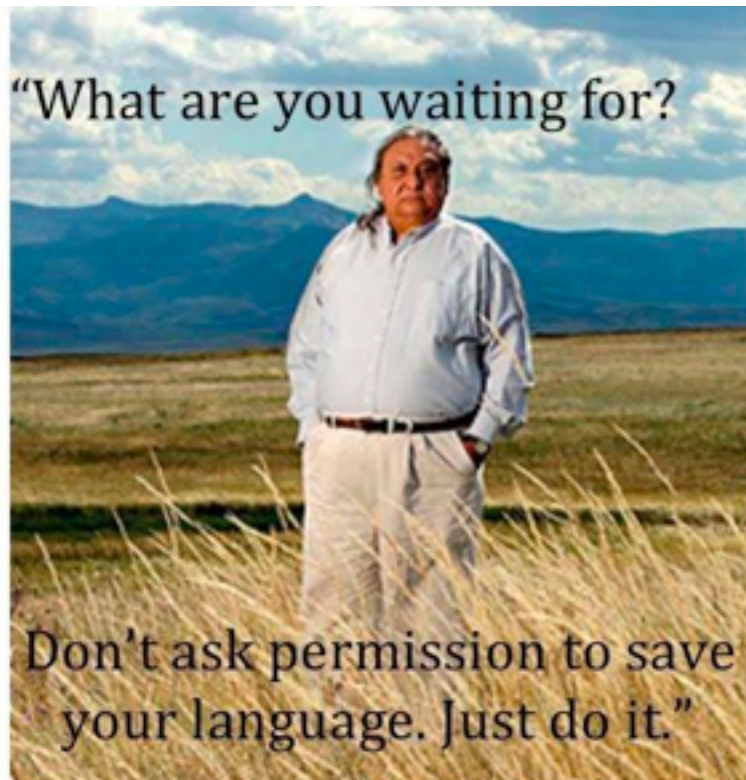
Protect Gold Butte Event

BLM resumes work on update of Southern Nevada resource plan

First, Do No Harm. What It Takes to Manage the Indian Health System

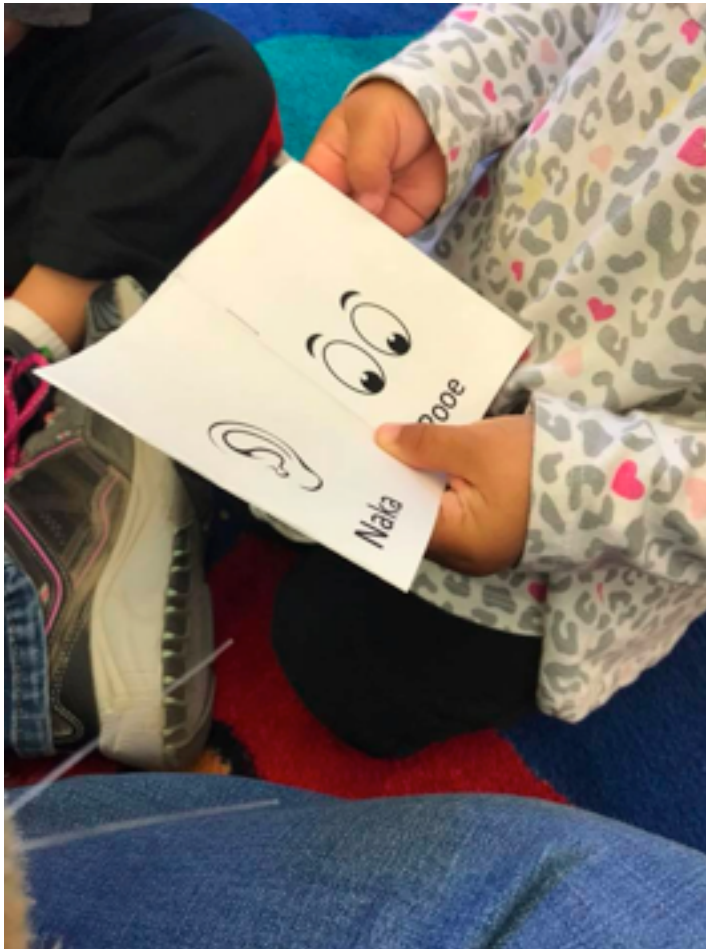
Judge Dismisses Bundy Case With Prejudice

Marvin Dressler and Ted Sallee Oral Histories



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Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's Eldest Elder Flora Green and her family talk tradition and the importance of passing down cultural heritage from generation to ge...
youtube.com

[Bureau of Land Management](#)

The Shoshone language is life and definition to the people that speak it, but how do you teach it if you can't write it? Alfred Jackson is a BLMer, a horseman a... [See More](#)

[Kill the dialect, save the language? – Mvskoke Media](#)

OKMULGEE, Oklahoma — 'Kill the Indian, save the man,' a motto used by the U.S. government during the assimilation era of this country's history.
mvskokemedia.com

[Newfound Pride in Guaraní, a Language Long Disdained in Paraguay](#)

By MYLES MCCORMICK

While the indigenous language is widely spoken across the country, its use is much more common in the streets than the halls of power. Now, officials are pushing to end its second-class status.

[Fort Collins, Colorado, Will Create Broadband Utility, 'Committed' to Net Neutrality](#)

Bill Chappell, NPR

Chappell writes: "The city of Fort Collins, Colo., will build a system to deliver 'high speed next-generation broadband to the entire community,' after its City Council enacted a ballot initiative that voters approved in November. The move comes despite resistance from cable and telecom companies." [READ MORE](#)

Question: How many hours per day on average, do elephants sleep?

2 hours 4 hours 6 hours 8 hours



[Wanda George-Quasula](#) shared [Grand Canyon West's post](#).

So you thought the SKYWALK was scary and exciting at the Hualapai Grand Canyon West..... Well now try the new and <https://www.facebook.com/TheZiplineAtGrandCanyonWest/> exciting ZIPLINE over

the Grand Canyon.

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/travel/arizona/2018/01/05/grand-canyon-west-ziplines/1007643001/>

Grand Canyon West:

Have you heard about the newest attraction at Grand Canyon West?

New Grand Canyon West ziplines soar 1,000 feet at West Rim

Riders fly at nearly 50 mph in a dual-zipline thrill ride. azcentral.com

In Alaska, a Deal Is Made for a Controversial Road Inside a Refuge

By LISA FRIEDMAN

A land swap between the Interior Department and an Alaska tribal corporation will allow a road in a national wildlife refuge.

Community Foundation of Western Nevada is in [Reno, Nevada](#).

In 2017 the Community Foundation awarded nearly \$400,000 in scholarships to 173 students. 2018 online scholarship applications are open. Share with your favorite student! <http://nevadafund.org/receive/>

My role as an organizer – community and cultural – is basically to give people an option. Powerlessness is basically having no option.” -Worth Long

Protect Gold Butte shared their event.

Provide your input on how we should protect and manage the resources in Gold Butte National Monument at 1 of 6 public meetings the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be hosting throughout Southern Nevada. Let's encourage the BLM to #ProtectGoldButte.



JAN10 Gold Butte - Mesquite Resource Management Planning Meeting Wed 5 PM · Mesquite City Council Chambers, 10 E Mesquite Blvd, Mesquite, NV 89027

By Henry Brean Las Vegas Review-Journal

January 6, 2018 - 9:55

In 2008, federal land managers launched the first major revision of their overall management plan for Southern Nevada since 1998.

A decade later, they're still working on it.
Or, more accurately, they're working on it again.

The Bureau of Land Management restarted the planning process last fall, more than a year after State Director John Ruhs called a temporary halt to the work.

Now the agency is seeking public input on what the revised Southern Nevada District Resource Management Plan should include.

Starting Tuesday, the BLM will hold six public meetings throughout the southern part of the state. Bureau officials will be collecting input through Feb. 2 as part of a renewed push to finish the sweeping revision by 2021.

“We are glad that it’s finally getting back underway,” said Nye County Commission Chairman Dan Schinhofen. “We’re also glad they took a hiatus, because there were a lot of issues that needed to be addressed.”

Land-use blueprint

The resource management plan serves as a sort of blueprint that guides specific land-use decisions for 3.1 million acres of federal land in Clark County and the southern tip of Nye County.

Since the plan’s last major update 20 years ago, the region’s population has grown by almost 1 million people.

“It’s in need of a refresh, that’s for sure,” said Gayle Marrs-Smith, field manager for the BLM in Southern Nevada.

The bureau released a first draft of the revised plan in October 2014. Among other things, the approximately 2,200-page document identified more than 25,000 acres for solar energy development and proposed protections for 277,915 acres of sensitive wildlife habitat, cultural and archaeological resources and unique scenic landscapes by expanding or establishing new “Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.”

The draft drew thousands of critical comments and some outright hostility.

Nye County declared the plan “repugnant” in an official resolution, narrowly passed by county commissioners in early 2015, that said “ ‘no’ to the Bureau of Land Management.”

Marrs-Smith said the BLM is not starting over from scratch but rather expanding on its first draft to incorporate some of the issues raised by the public three years ago.

“We want to make our range of alternatives cover everything from soup to nuts,” she said.

Right now, the revisions are focused on five specific topics: renewable energy development zones, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, lands with wilderness characteristics, land suitable for disposal and development and socioeconomic needs in Southern Nevada.

New monuments to consider

A lot has changed just in the three years that have passed since the BLM first trotted out its initial draft.

In late 2016, former President Barack Obama [created Gold Butte National Monument](#) on about 300,000 acres in northeastern Clark County. Then he was replaced by a Republican administration that promptly recommended a boundary reduction and other changes for the BLM-managed site.

No specific changes have been ordered for the monument yet, so Marrs-Smith said the her office is using Obama’s proclamation to write a management plan for Gold Butte as part of the broader planning process for all of Southern Nevada.

To that end, the bureau also is inviting input on the monument during the current comment period.

James Lee Kirk, BLM's planning and environmental coordinator in Las Vegas, heads the team responsible for the big plan update. He said the goal is to finish and release a new draft for public review in 2019, then follow that up in 2020 with a proposed final version of the resource management plan. The final revised plan should be finished and ready to be implemented by 2021, Kirk said.

The public will have several opportunities to comment throughout the process, and the BLM will continue to consult with 23 cooperating agencies with a stake in the plan, Marrs-Smith said.

"We know from experience that our public is very, very passionate about their public lands," she said.

Changes mollify critics

Schinhofen said Nye County officials feel much better about the management planning effort now than they did a few years ago.

"We're happy to work with the southern field office and to get something that will benefit all the people here in Southern Nye County," he said.

Fellow Nye County Commissioner Lorinda Wichman said the long delay in the process is proof that critics of the earlier draft have gotten their points across to the BLM.

But should it really take more than a decade to update a management plan?

Wichman finds that "absolutely astounding," but she said all the extra time has given different voices a chance to join in the planning conversation.

"Maybe that's why democracy works," Wichman said.

Contact Henry Brean at hbrean@reviewjournal.com or 702-383-0350. Follow [@RefriedBrean](https://twitter.com/RefriedBrean) on Twitter.

How to participate

The Bureau of Land Management is seeking public input through Feb. 2 as it prepares to revise its draft update of the Southern Nevada District Resource Management Plan.

Public meetings will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.:

- **Wednesday** in the City Council Chambers in Mesquite.
- **Thursday** at Santa Fe Station, 4949 N. Rancho Drive, in Las Vegas.
- **Jan. 16** at the Pahrump Nugget Hotel and Casino in Pahrump.
- **Jan. 17** at the Heritage Park Senior Facility, 300 S. Racetrack Road, in Henderson.
- **Jan. 18** at the community center in Searchlight.

Comments can be made at any of the meetings or sent by email to sndo_rmp_revision@blm.gov; by fax to 702-515-5023; or by mail to: BLM Southern Nevada District Office, Southern Nevada District RMP Revision, 4701 N. Torrey Pines Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89130

Updated information on the [revised draft Resource Management Plan](https://go.usa.gov/xnBqm) is available online at <https://go.usa.gov/xnBqm>.

[First, Do No Harm. What It Takes to Manage the Indian Health System](#) **[by Mark Trahant / Currents, Health, Opinion / 07 Jan 2018](#)**

Robert Weaver, Quapaw, is President Donald J. Trump's nominee to head the Indian Health Service. Weaver's background is insurance, not health care delivery. (Weaver Group photo)

What qualifications are needed to manage (and possibly reform?) the Indian health system? It's Indian Country's largest employer with more than 15,000 on the payroll and many, many more people who work in health care for tribes, non-profits and other related agencies. The IHS budget is \$6.1 billion. Yet it's also the least funded national health care delivery system, operating in a political atmosphere where critics ask, why can't it do more?

The Wall Street Journal published a story last week that raised questions about [Robert Weaver](#), the Trump Administration's nominee to head the Indian Health Service. [The Journal challenged](#) Weaver's history at St. John's Regional Medical Center in Joplin, Mo., from 1997 to 2006. However it quoted Jennifer Talhelm, an HHS representative, saying "any suggestion Mr. Weaver is unqualified to run IHS is a pure act of character assassination."

Weaver is a member of the [Quapaw Tribe](#) of Oklahoma.

A few facts: Weaver will be [the least educated director](#) of the Indian Health Service ever. If confirmed, Weaver will be [the tenth permanent director](#). [All but one prior](#) to Weaver have been physicians, most with multiple degrees in public health, science, and health administration. One former director, Robert McSwain, was not a medical doctor, but he was a longtime health manager and holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California. On his CV, Weaver lists his education at Missouri Southern State University in International Business with an emphasis in Marketing and Accounting; Minor in Spanish; Minor in Vocal Music & Piano. However the Journal reported that he was seeking a degree and did not graduate.

Weaver's background is insurance. In a [September 2016 profile in Native Oklahoma](#) magazine, Weaver said, "We have Native Americans who are brilliant — geniuses — at gaming, but where are the Native American geniuses at insurance? It's the second-largest cost we pay other than payroll. Yet it just goes to the wayside." He told the magazine that his business saved the Quapaw Tribe more than \$5 million a year.

"I try to be a translator for tribal leaders to understand this convoluted, difficult-to-understand, most of the time full of lies and deception industry, into 'this is what it is. This is what your choices are.' I get it," he told Native Oklahoma.

Perhaps the Indian Health Service should be led by someone with an insurance background. It would surely help if the agency could come up with a better funding model, including a mix of insurance funds (third-party billing in IHS-speak.)

But there are three problems that ought to be clearly addressed through the Senate confirmation process.

First there is the problem of scale. Weaver would jump from managing a \$10 million a year small business — one where he can hire and fire at will — to running a \$6 billion agency where personnel decisions are made by folks higher in the chain of command at the Department of Health and Human Services or even as a favor to a United States Senator. And firing? Just one such action could take up more time than the three years left in this administration. And that's the easy stuff. The agency's operations are complicated by Congress, law, regulation, tribal relations, the Veterans Administration, Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance.

To his credit, Weaver has been outspoken about the underfunding of the Indian health system. (Question: Will he say so again in his confirmation testimony?) [In a paper he wrote a year ago](#), Weaver said: "Healthcare is a treaty right for all Native Americans. The method of delivering healthcare for Native Americans is the Indian Health Service system established through the Federal Government. The Federal Government allocates funds to the IHS system each fiscal year. This allocation has been and continues to be inadequate to meet the healthcare needs of Native Americans. Currently it is underfunded by thirty billion dollars annually."

That figure of \$30 billion would eliminate the funding disparity for Indian health. (The National Congress of American Indians has [published a plan to make](#) that so over a decade.)

The second problem is how to articulate the Indian health story. This is a problem of "duality," two competing ideas. On one hand you have some significant health and management problems such as those identified in the [Great Plains by The Wall Street Journal](#). On the other hand you have a system that is innovative and includes models of excellence (such as clinics in the Pacific Northwest or the Alaska Native Medical Center.) One story is told. The other less so. I am convinced that a fully-funded system will only happen when we tell both stories. The narrative of failure is not an incentive to invest more money.

The third problem is the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid. Weaver wrote that the law works for Native Americans but overall it was a failure. "We now see that it did not provide health insurance for the forty million uninsured Americans identified as the target market in 2008, it is not affordable for those who were pulled into the ACA system, and the out of pocket maximums associated with the plan effectively make access to healthcare unattainable," he wrote. The first part of that sentence is factually incorrect. The uninsured rate dropped from 20.5 percent in 2013 to 12.2 percent in 2016, a 40 percent decline. You can argue about the cost of that insurance, but it's complicated because the ACA required minimum standards for insurance, covering such things as women's health. All of the Republican plans are designed to save money by getting rid of those standards.

Of course in the Trump era there's probably not a candidate for any public office who champions the ACA.

But I also don't see any Medicaid experience in Weaver's background and that is an expertise area that is critical. Some of the medical, treatment, and ethical issues are extraordinarily complex. They will require a solid team to help consider all of the alternatives that have life and death consequences. (So, if confirmed, he'll need a lot of help.) Oklahoma is not a Medicaid expansion state, so there would not be a lot of experience in squeezing every dollar from Medicaid by making more people eligible or rethinking the coding of costs. The public insurance of Medicaid (and Medicare) now total \$1.05 billion of the IHS budget, but it could be a lot more.

Weaver could use his expertise to help tribes improve insurance for tribal members and employees — and that could boost funding for IHS. Private insurance is now only about \$110 million of the agency's revenue.

So what are the qualifications necessary to run the Indian health system? I have a bias. I have met some of the great physicians who ran the agency. I remember Emery Johnson's passion and thoughtfulness about what IHS could be. I'd even argue that IHS has had remarkable leadership since its founding. So the standard, for me, at least, is quite high. There are also two Native women who have run state health agencies — an ideal background for managing the IHS. There is a lot of talent out there.

But the Trump administration likes the idea of shaking up government. And, appointing someone to run the IHS with a very different background, does just that. Perhaps Weaver brings a new way of thinking and managing. Then again we would do well to remember the latin phrase that medical doctors learn early in their training, *Primum non nocere*. It means: First, do no harm.

Mark Trahant is the [Charles R. Johnson Endowed Professor](#) of Journalism at the University of North Dakota. He is an independent journalist and a member of [The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes](#). On [Twitter @TrahanReports](#)

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(Author's Note: I use the phrase, Indian health system (lower case) unless I am specifically talking about the agency. My reason is that the narrative of a government-run health care agency, the Indian Health Service, doesn't reflect what most of what the agency does now. The funding mechanism that supports tribes and non-profit health care agencies is the largest part of the system. MT)

Related Posts

- [Congressional House Chairman Bishop Calls Native American Artifacts “Bull Crap – Not an Antiquity”](#) by [Native News Online Staff](#)
- [“Hard Work Pays Off” in Washington State; Election Returns for Native Candidates](#) by [Mark Trahant](#)
- [Cherokee Nation Urges the United Nations to Implement UNDRIP](#) by [Native News Online Staff](#)

- [For American Indian Professor, Linguistics & Activism Intersect](#) by [Tess Eyrich](#)

Bob Tregilus

Excellent Nova episode. They drilled into the Chicxulub crater which really helped scientists pull together the missing pieces so they could complete the sequence of events that lead to the K-T boundary mass extinction event. For anyone who has visited Meteor crater in Arizona (aka: Barringer crater) there's a cool sequence where they show the Barringer crater and then pullback to reveal the size of the Chicxulub crater for comparison. It's really shocking just how big of an event the Chicxulub crater impact was! As a side note, I was fortunate to attend a Walter Alvarez lecture at TMCC some years ago. Alvarez and his father first suggested that it was a giant impactor that cause the K-T mass extinction event based on a worldwide thin layer of iridium rich rock they identified in 1980. Iridium is rare on earth but rich in asteroids.

A Las Vegas judge dismissed all charges against Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy and three others over a 2014 armed standoff with federal officers, citing “flagrant prosecutorial misconduct” that violated their due process rights. The judge also dismissed the charges “with prejudice,” barring the prosecutors from retrying the case. (Las Vegas Reivew-Journal)

Judge Dismisses Bundy Case With Prejudice After Finding of Extensive Unethical Conduct By Federal Prosecutors by [jonathanturley](#)

Another major case has been thrown out due to prosecutorial abuse by the United States Department of Justice. We have previously discussed cases where federal prosecutors have withheld evidence and filed false or misleading statements to the court. Now, U.S. District Court Judge Gloria Navarro has issued a dismissal with prejudice against the Justice Department in the case against Cliven Bundy and his sons due to what Navarro describes as flagrant and knowing violations of professional ethics and federal law by the Justice Department. In past cases, the Justice Department has shown little commitment to discipline, let alone terminate, anyone for the violations (or the waste of millions of dollars). In this case, however, [Attorney General Jeff Sessions has called for a review of the case](#)
[Read more of this post](#)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/08/us/bundy-ranch-standoff-case-charges-dismissed.html>

<http://www.onlinenevada.org/sites/default/files/>

Marvin Dressler and Ted Sallee Complete Document.pdf

A powerful antidote for victimization is self-determination. A simple manifestation of self-determination is thinking for yourself. --- Marc Ash

Answer: **2 hours (Thanks to Buckaroo News)**

2ND ANNUAL
WOMEN'S
MARCH



JANUARY 20TH, 2018
11:30 AM
FEDERAL BUILDING
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CITY PLAZA

IN HONOR OF OUR MISSING AND MURDERED SISTERS
WE WILL MARCH IN RED RIBBON SKIRTS FOR THE
WOMEN'S MARCH

RED RIBBON SKIRT CLASS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

10AM – 2 PM

RSIC SENIOR CENTER

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Materials will not be provided

Materials list for participant: 2 yards of red material, 3-4 spools of ribbon and 1- 2 yards of elastic banding.

For more information, contact the Language & Culture Program

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