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the Snow**



[The Great Dismantling of America's National Parks Is Under Way](#)

Jonathan B. Jarvis and Destry Jarvis, Guardian UK

Excerpt: "Under this administration, nothing is sacred as we watch the nation's crown jewels being recut for the rings of robber barons." [READ MORE](#)

Extract from Andrew Johnson State of the Union 1867 - 3 December 1867

The comprehensive report of the Secretary of the Interior furnishes interesting information in reference to the important branches of the public service connected with his Department. The menacing attitude of some of the warlike bands of Indians inhabiting the district of country between the Arkansas and Platte rivers and portions of Dakota Territory required the presence of a large military force in that region. Instigated by real or imaginary grievances, the Indians occasionally committed acts of barbarous violence upon emigrants and our frontier settlements; but a general Indian war has been providentially averted. The commissioners under the act of 20th July, 1867, were invested with full power to adjust existing difficulties, negotiate treaties with the disaffected bands, and select for them reservations remote from the traveled routes between the Mississippi and the Pacific. They entered without delay upon the execution of their trust, but have not yet made any official report of their proceedings. It is of vital importance that our distant Territories should be exempt from Indian outbreaks, and that the construction of the Pacific Railroad, an object of national importance, should not be interrupted by hostile tribes. These objects, as well as the material interests and the moral and intellectual improvement of the Indians, can be most effectually secured by concentrating them upon portions of country set apart for their exclusive use and located at points remote from our highways and encroaching white settlements.

Managing for Abundance: How Ranchers are Stewarding the Land for Increased Biological Outcomes

Saturday, February 1, 10:15–11:45 am, Lamoille Room, Elko Conference Center
FREE, NO PASS REQUIRED

For hundreds of years, ranchers across the West have been stewards of the land. Science has confirmed that proper livestock management can enhance ecosystem function, building resiliency into the landscape, rural communities, and economies. This talk will connect the dots between ecosystem function and livestock movements, healthy soil and human nutrition and celebrate the great stewards of our western landscapes. Looking at new, innovative ways that producers and land managers are building soil, habitat, and improving water resources. Presented by Spencer Smith, owner and operator of the Jefferson Center for Holistic Management, and an accredited Savory Field Professional.

Presented in collaboration with the Northeastern Nevada Stewardship Group

[Skulls, jaw bones found in storage boxes at Clark County Museum](#)

While volunteers combed through storage boxes last month at the Clark County Museum, one discovered a box with human remains.

[Hurdle cleared for Eagle Mountain Casino to go from reservation to Porterville](#)

By Visalia Times Delta, 1/9/2020

Another hurdle was cleared in the effort to relocate Eagle Mountain Casino from the Tule River Reservation to Porterville. "Arduous" is the word several used to describe the process that led up to the Tulare County Board of Supervisors unanimously approving an agreement Tuesday with the Tule River Indian Tribe and Tule River Tribe Gaming Authority. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) outlines the ways the tribe and county agree to lessen the effects the project will have on the surrounding area.



[Sequoyah's contribution to the Cherokee people also gave birth to Native American journalism.](#)

Learn About Nevada Humanities 2020 Grants

Let us help you with your work.

Nevada Humanities will hold a series of **information grant meetings** for anyone interested in learning more about applying for 2020 project grant funding. Nevada Humanities offers grants of up to \$5,000 to nonprofit organizations and government entities to fund public and educational programs in the humanities.

The deadline to apply for a Nevada Humanities grant is March 10, 2020.

January 15, 2020, 11 am or 3 pm

Nevada Humanities, 1017 South First Street, #190, **Las Vegas**

January 16, 2020, 3 pm

Nevada State College, Rogers Student Center, 3rd Floor, Room RSC 370, 1300 Nevada State Drive, **Henderson**

January 22, 2020, 3 pm

KNPB Conference Room, 1670 North Virginia Street, **Reno**

January 31, 2020, 10 am

Elko County Library, 720 South Court Street, **Elko**



2,000 pounds of trash collected at Lake Tahoe sledding area

STATELINE, Nev. (AP) - Volunteers joined state and federal officials to collect nearly 2,000 pounds of trash from a popular sledding area at Lake Tahoe last week in what has become an annual New Year's cleanup. The Tahoe Daily Tribune reports Take Care Tahoe gathered the debris from Spooner Summit J... mynews4.com|By KRNV News 4

EPA Tools and Resources Webinar: EnviroAtlas Update

Wednesday, January 15, 2020, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM EST

[Register and join the webinar.](#)

EPA will host a webinar on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, from 3:00 pm to 4:00 EST on EnviroAtlas. EnviroAtlas is a data-rich, web-based decision support tool that combines maps, analysis tools, downloadable data, and informational resources. It is used by states, tribes, communities, and individuals to help inform policy and planning decisions that impact the places where we live, learn, work and play. EnviroAtlas contains two primary tools: An Interactive Map, which provides access to 450+ environment-related maps and the Eco-Health Relationship Browser, which displays evidence from hundreds of scientific publications on the linkages between ecosystems, the services they provide, and human health.

This webinar will give an overview of EnviroAtlas focusing on its recent updates and will include a short demo previewing what will be available soon. The webinar will also include examples of how the EnviroAtlas has been used by communities to advance local initiatives in bolstering ecosystem services.

The data is available for multiple extents for the U.S. and were created to help inform decisions, research, and education. EnviroAtlas has been used in a range of research and planning projects, including community Health Impact Assessments, green infrastructure projects, restoration planning, brownfield redevelopment, contaminant transport, and others. EnviroAtlas resources are also being used in K-12 and university classrooms and the provided EnviroAtlas educational curriculum can help guide educators on potential uses.

For more information, please visit: [Register and join the webinar.](#)

[Magid: Leaving Las Vegas with a glimpse of the future](#)



[Akta Lakota Museum - Hohukazunta - Rib sled](#)

A winter favorite for boys and girls. The hohukazunta is traditionally made of buffalo bone ribs. Half of the sled is made up of ribs fro... [See More](#)

News from HUD

White House Council Request for Information – Comment deadline extended to January 31, 2020

HUD Secretary Ben Carson chairs the **White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing** which has been tasked with soliciting feedback from State, local and tribal government officials to identify regulations and administrative practices that artificially raise the costs of housing development and identify practices and strategies that remove burdensome regulations.

HUD published a [Request for Information](#) (RFI) in the Federal Register on November 22, 2019. The RFI provides additional details on the type of feedback requested. We are reaching out to you to encourage you to submit your important feedback by January 21, 2020 (**NOTE: Extended**

to January 31, 2020). Electronic comments can be submitted here: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment?D=HUD-2019-0092-0001>.

Additional details on the White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing can be found here:

- <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-establishing-white-house-council-eliminating-regulatory-barriers-affordable-housing/>

ONAP Job Announcement - Loan Guarantee Specialist – Washington, DC – Posting Period: 01/03/20-01/16/20

As a Loan Guarantee Specialist, you will:

- Review lender and Tribal loan packages for compliance with Indian loan guarantee program requirements.
- Evaluate loan files for compliance with sound underwriting decisions, prudent loan origination/ servicing practices and compliance with loan guarantee program requirements.
- Plans and conducts on-site reviews of financial institutions participating in the Section 184 Loan Guarantee program.
- Formulate guidelines and provide technical advice, guidance, and interpretation of complex policies and procedures regarding the Indian loan guarantee programs

Application Details:

20-HUD-445-P(DEU)

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/555598200>

20-HUD-444(MP)

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/555598100>

BIA Tribal Resilience Program Funding Opportunity - Application Deadline March 2, 2020:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Tribal Resilience Program (Program). The Program will provide funding for tribal activities that support tribal adaptation and resilience planning, ocean and coastal management planning, and relocation, managed retreat, or protect-in-place planning and design activities for coastal and riverine communities. The Program aims to support Tribal Nations that need adaptation planning support and decision-making information to prepare for extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare.

The solicitation is for federally-recognized tribes and tribal organizations* (as defined by 25 U.S.C. Section 5304(1)). Other entities may participate as sub-grantees. The solicitation is available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), named [BIA-TRP-2020-0001](https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/555598100) and is also directly linked [here](#) on the BIA Tribal Resilience Program site.

Please see the [BIA Tribal Resilience Program site](#) for more information (fillable cover pages, fillable application forms for Categories 3, 5, and 6, FAQs, helpful regional contacts, summaries of previous awards, etc.). There are seven total award categories as follows:

Adaptation Planning (Categories 1-3)

Category 1. Trainings and Workshops (maximum: \$150,000)

Category 2. Adaptation Planning (maximum: \$150,000)

Category 3. Travel Support for Adaptation Planning (maximum: \$15,000)

Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (Categories 4-5)

Category 4. Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (maximum: \$150,000)

Category 5. Travel Support - Ocean & Coastal (maximum: \$15,000)

Capacity Building (Category 6)

Category 6. Capacity Building for Scoping Efforts to Support future Category 2 Proposal Development (maximum: \$65,000)

Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Planning (Category 7)

Category 7. Planning for Relocation, Managed Retreat, or Protect-in-Place Activities for Coastal and Riverine Communities (maximum: \$150,000)

Additional details, including evaluation criteria, are described in the Notice of Funding (i.e., Request for Proposals or Solicitation).

Proposal Deadline: **Monday, March 2, 2020, by 5:00 p.m. Alaska Time / 9 p.m.**

Eastern Time. Send completed proposals to resilience.funding@bia.gov or by hard copy to:

Ms. Jo Ann Metcalfe, Attention: Tribal Resilience Program
Grant Officer, Central Office Acquisitions

Bureau of Indian Affairs

12220 Sunrise Valley Dr.

Reston, VA 20191

** Pertinent language from 25 U.S.C. Section 5304(1) is as follows:
“(1) “tribal organization” means the recognized governing body of any Indian tribe; any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities: Provided, That in any case where a contract is let or grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract or grant.”*

The Zunzuncito is the smallest bird in the world. It is also called fly bird, elf or bee bird.



Upcoming Dinner Hosting Opportunities

Cyber Security Officials from Various Countries Seek Dinner Hospitality

A delegation of eight technology and cyber security officials from Croatia, Cyprus, France, Italy, Norway, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Taiwan are looking for a diplomacy dinner Sunday, January 12, or Monday, January 13

Indonesian Political Leaders

A delegation of six young political leaders from Indonesia are looking for a diplomacy dinner on January 29 or 30.

Energy Official from Japan

A single visitor from Japan on the topic of Energy Policy is looking for a diplomacy dinner on February 2, 3 or 4.

Afghan Election Leaders

A delegation of six election officials from Afghanistan are looking for a diplomacy dinner on February 6.

Contact Carina Black at cblack@unr.edu if you are interested in hosting!

<https://theconversationus.cmail20.com/t/r-l-jhltldkt-uyjdlufkj-i/>>

A [schoolteacher in the midst of receiving a full pe'a, the traditional Samoan tattoo generally worn by males. Christopher Lynn](#)

Untangling tattoos= influence on immune response =

<<https://theconversationus.cmail20.com/t/r-l-jhltldkt-uyjdlufkj-d/>>

Christopher D. Lynn, University of Alabama

An anthropologist works in American Samoa, taking advantage of the island's longstanding tattoo culture to tease out the effects tattoos have on the body's immune function.=

https://theconversation.com/untangling-tattoos-influence-on-immune-response-121852?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20December%2029%202019%20-%201497414237&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20December%2029%202019%20-%201497414237+Version+A+CID_7024dc6e63964b332b9c269a471a573a&utm_source=campaign_monitor_us



Douglas Coupland said, "TV and the Internet are good because they keep stupid people from spending too much time out in public."

Native American myth details a brave warrior, a grisly beast, and a legendary lake.



Lake Tahoe from Cave Rock, circa 1906, ©Pillsbury Picture Co. Ong illustration ©Kippy S. Spilker

BY ERIC CACHINERO

“No one ever heard or saw anything of such poor mortals as were drowned in these waters, for their bodies were carried to the Ong’s nest and no morsel ever escaped him. Sometimes he would fly about the shores in quest of some child or woman or hunter, yet he was a great coward and was never known to attack anyone in camp,

or when two or more were together. No arrow could pierce its feathers, nor could the strongest spear do more than glance from the scales on its face and legs, yet its coward’s heart made him afraid for its toes had no claws, and its mouth no beak.”

These words were written by author Nonette V. McGlashan in an article titled “The Legend of Lake Tahoe,” that was published in “Sunset Magazine” on Nov. 3, 1905. They tell of a Native American legend about a terrible creature that used to haunt the waters of what would become Lake Tahoe. The Washoe Tribe (sometimes spelled Washo) lived in constant fear of the creature, who was notorious for picking off those unlucky enough to be traveling alone, and dragging them to its watery nest at the bottom of the lake.

The Ong, as it became known, was said to have wings as long as the tallest pine tree, colossal webbed feet, and was covered in both feathers and scales. Legend maintains that the creature also had a human-like face.

Though cowardly as the beast may have been at times, the Ong didn’t just drag people away for fun.

It consumed them.

*Washoe Indians, circa 1866, ©Lawrence & Houseworth
(pic didn’t transfer)*

LAKE LEGEND

Washoe mythology immortalizes what is perhaps the most important day the tribe ever had regarding The Ong, as well as details how the famous Lake Tahoe was named.

The Washoe Tribe was embarking on its final hunt of the season late one fall, before the lake would become entombed in snow for the winter. The chief's daughter Nona had turned 16 years old, and was said to be the most beautiful girl anyone in the tribe had ever laid eyes upon—and it was time for the chief to select a young warrior for her to marry. The toughest braves in the tribe were all determined to win her hand in marriage, and they sought to prove themselves on this final hunt.

One young man, who was never known for being particularly daring, strong, or brave, traveled to a solitary spot on the lake's shore on the morning of the hunt to pray to the Great Spirit—the name the Washoe people gave to their creator. He prayed for guidance and asked how he could win Nona's hand, though his calls went unanswered. That is until in the distance, in the middle of the lake, he saw The Ong's gruesome body begin to bubble up from the lake.

The beast shot up into the sky, seeking out its prey for the day. The young man began to flail his arms, as to attract the attention of The Ong, and it worked. The creature swooped down and grabbed the young man by his ankles, and leapt high into the sky above the lake. Onlookers gasped as their fellow tribesman was clutched in the beast's webbed feet, being dragged higher and higher, horrified as they witnessed his inevitable death. The Ong often dragged its prey into the sky, and released it to fall into the lake, allowing water currents to carry the victim into the beast's nest.

But the young man had something else in mind.

As he was clutched in The Ong's massive webbed feet, he took out a buckskin rope, and firmly attached himself to the creature's feet. Once above the lake, the beast, try though he might, couldn't release the young man into the lake, and instead tried biting him with its razor teeth. Each time the beast opened its horrible jaws, the young man threw toxic arrows down its throat.

The Ong flailed about, unable to release the young man, as it suffered increasingly from the onslaught of arrows that pierced its insides. The beast plunged into the center of the lake as the entire tribe, which gathered on the lake's shore, watched the chaos. The young man almost drowned as the beast flailed about, trying its hardest to snap the rope that was attached to its feet. As the sun set, the spectacular battle raged on, until right before it became too dark to see, The Ong flew into the sky, and off into the distance.

FATEFUL FLIGHT

Night fell, and the rest of the tribe gathered around fires and told stories of their bravery, accepting that The Ong had claimed another victim—though they wondered why The Ong had acted so strangely. Because the battle had taken place so far off shore, none of the tribe could see the rope tied around the beast's feet, or the arrows the young man had tossed down its throat.

The chief pondered his decision, wondering who was the bravest bachelor in the tribe. However, his daughter Nona was heartbroken that the young man she had secretly admired had been killed. She snuck away from the camp and paddled a canoe into the lake. Her plan was to rescue the young man, or if she was unable to locate him, join him in death.

Once in the middle of the lake, she cried the young man's name.

"Tahoe! My darling Tahoe!"

*Washoe Indians, circa 1866,
©Lawrence & Houseworth*

Back at camp, the chief announced he had made a decision, though when he called for his daughter, it was discovered she was missing. Mass panic ensued as the tribe searched for his daughter, though no one could find her.

At daybreak, the tribe gazed across the lake, only to see the horrible Ong, lifeless and floating on the lake next to an empty canoe. In addition, they beheld a miraculous sight. Tahoe and Nona stood embracing one another on one of the lifeless monster's wings, using the other as a sail to bring them back to shore. As they reached the shore, the tribe unanimously agreed that Tahoe was the bravest of them all, and the chief granted Nona permission to become Tahoe's wife.

Furthermore, the tribe agreed that the lake should forever carry the name of this hero of heroes, thus Lake Tahoe was born.

THE LEGEND LIVES

Though the legend of The Ong does have a happy ending, the legend still lives on in modern times. While the beast is gone, its nest still rests at the bottom of Lake Tahoe. Contemporary legend maintains that this is the reason why those who drowned in the lake tend to never rise to the surface, awaiting the day when The Ong may return yet again.

Mescalero High school Samsung STEM competition winners [Ruidoso News.](#)

Mescalero Apache High School was named New Mexico's winner of the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest.

Celebrating its 10th year, the nationwide competition challenges students in grades sixth-12th to creatively use STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) skills to address real-world issues in their communities.

The school was among the nation's 100 State Winners (representing all 50 states) and will receive 15,000 dollars in technology for its achievement. In addition, the school will receive a Samsung video kit to create and submit a three-minute video that showcases their project development and how it addresses the issue.

"The students worked for about two months on the project, and it will be an on-going project. They are trying to find a way to preserve their native language with the use of robotics," said director Nate Raynor.