

## ***Journal #5162      from sdc      3.23.22***

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***When It Comes to Climate, Western Science Can Learn from Indigenous Communities***

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***Calling Ukraine relatively civilized” involves a racist ranking of europeanness***

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***Conservative lawmakers fast-tracking legislation to allow large-scale mining in the pristine territory.***

***Invitation to submit proposals to the MIT Solve Native Indigenous Communities Fellowship***



## Water does not reach all Americans with equity

By Native Hope with Trisha Burke

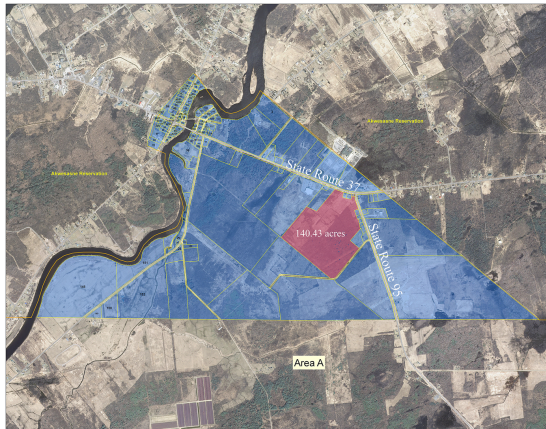
*Mní Wičóni translates to "Water is Life." When called upon to think about something as essential yet basic as **water**, most don't give its existence a second thought. Many people associate this life-sustaining substance with abundance, purity, and permanence.*

Today, on [World Water Day](#), we must remember that there are 2 million Americans without access to safe drinking water and sanitation, many of whom are America's first water protectors.

READ MORE

## [Judge rules New York took Mohawk land illegally in the 1800s](#)

by [David Sommerstein \(News Director\)](#)



*The contested region in Franklin County known as the Hogansburg Triangle, or the Bombay Triangle among non-natives. Photo: St. Regis Mohawk Tribe*

Mar 14, 2022 — A federal judge has ruled that New York illegally took about 2,000 acres of land in St. Lawrence and Franklin counties from Mohawks in the 1800s.

At issue is land known as [the Hogansburg Triangle](#), a part of the territory set aside for Mohawks in the 1796 Treaty of Canandaigua. New York State bought that land from the St. Regis Mohawks in 1824 and 1825. But it didn't get approval from the federal government.

Judge Lawrence Kahn ruled [in a summary judgment](#) Monday that the failure to get federal approval violated the Non-Intercourse Act of 1790, which established a legal relationship

between native nations and the United States government. According to the treaty, states need federal approval to acquire native land.

Related stories:

[Mohawk land claims: Franklin county negotiating with tribe, state](#)

Judge Kahn ruled that the 1796 treaty "did confer recognized title to the St. Regis Indians." However, Kahn did not rule what should happen as a result of his decision. That will be the subject of future negotiations and litigation.

In addition to the Hogansburg Triangle, the ruling also affects one square mile in the town of Massena.

"To say that we are pleased is an understatement," said St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Beverly Cook [in a press release](#). "We stand in the footprints of our parents and grandparents who fought relentlessly to reclaim our land that was illegally taken."

The ruling is another chapter in the long history of the Mohawk land claims, which have been in the courts since the 1980s.



[thestoryexchange.org](http://thestoryexchange.org)

[When It Comes to Climate, Western Science Can Learn from Indigenous Communities](#)  
[Native people who possess traditional ecological knowledge have long understood environmental management.](#)

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### Historical irony

**Edmund Burke/speech supporting the appeasement of the American colonies/March 22d 1775: I do not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people. The natural rights of mankind are indeed sacred things, and if any public measure is proved mischievously to affect them, the objection ought to be fatal to that measure, even if no charter at all could be set up against it. Only a sovereign reason, paramount to all forms of legislation and administration, should dictate;**

*So on March 21 in 2001 the United States Supreme Court heard verbal arguments in Nevada vs. Hicks, in which the State of Nevada claimed immunity from being sued in Paiute/Shoshone Tribal Court.*

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*Statements such as "relatively civilized, relatively European" only fuel xenophobia and racism in countries described as such, because elites aspire to full Europeanness, at all costs. In our effort to combat xenophobia, racism and Islamophobia, we must remember that terms such as "civilized" and "European" are nothing but a colonial fantasy peddled as human rights and justice for all.*

*Yasemin Y. Celikkol, Truthout*

<https://truthout.org/articles/calling-ukraine-relatively-civilized-invokes-a-racist-ranking-of-europeanness/>

Reminder:

### **Elevating Traditional Knowledge in Federal Decision Making**

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) invite you to a **Tribal consultation to discuss the development of Guidance for Federal Agencies on Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK)**. The consultations will take place at the following times:

- **Tribal Consultation 1: Tuesday, April 5, 2022. 3:30-5:30 pm EDT**

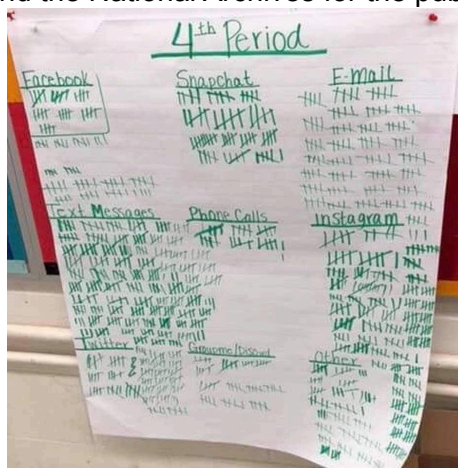
Register in advance for the meeting here: [https://pitc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_KMwXKWx2QFypxyaOgxV2UQ](https://pitc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_KMwXKWx2QFypxyaOgxV2UQ)

- **Tribal Consultation 2: Friday, April 29, 2022. 3:00 – 5:00 pm EDT**

Register in advance for the meeting here: [https://pitc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_NOcHbTPzTZSgmhHr9eUcFA](https://pitc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_NOcHbTPzTZSgmhHr9eUcFA)

### **30-Year Flatline in NARA Budget Threatens Research, Transparency**

Chronic underfunding, combined with successive administrations' disdain for transparency, means that Freedom of Information Act requests are likely to languish for years before being fulfilled. It's long overdue to fund the National Archives for the public good.



A teacher in the U.S. had her students turn their phones on loud, and every time they received a notification they went up and put a tally mark under the correc...



If you missed the Denver PowWow.....





### **Three Years After First Global School Strike, Youth Climate Movement Is Growing**

NICK ENGELFRIED, WAGING NONVIOLENCE

Instead of succumbing to obstacles, young climate activists are adapting and building on their past actions.

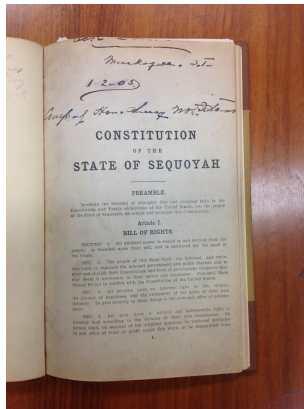
[Read the Article →](#)

The State **The State of What?? U.S. States that Never Made the Cut**  
May 10, 2012 by [Nathan Dorn](#)  
New Jersey was once “the [Two Jerseys](#)” (East and West). [Kentucky started out as Virginia’s backyard](#). [Connecticut](#) once harbored imperial dreams—claiming a [Western Reserve](#) that stretched all the way to the banks of the Mississippi. The [shapes of our States](#) have a complex and unexpected history. It’s easy to forget that history owes a debt to chance: had events turned out differently in ever so slight a measure, we might have carved this country up into very different political units than the ones we have today.

For instance: we might have had a state called [Jefferson](#) nestled between [California](#) and [Oregon](#)—the dream of a determined [secessionist movement](#) that came to a sudden end when the United States' entry into World War II changed the political mood in the region. Had things been different, we might have been able to look northward from [Minnesota](#) toward the [State of Superior](#)—a long-standing aspiration among the inhabitants of [Michigan's Upper Peninsula](#), one which appeared as early as 1858 when locals held a constitutional convention in the [village of Ontonagon](#) (some proposed that the state be called Ontonagon). An [1845 joint resolution](#) by the U.S. Congress permitted as many as four new states to be created within the territory that came into the Union as [Texas](#). That resolution might have led to the birth of the [State of Lincoln](#) (proposed to Congress in 1869) which would have been found between the [Rio Grande](#) and [Texas's Colorado River](#).



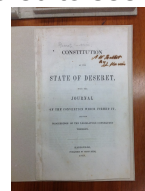
Map of the proposed State of Sequoyah (LCCN: a 24000212) Photo by Donna Sokol  
One of the most unique [states that almost came to be](#) was the [State of Sequoyah](#). The State of Sequoyah, proposed to Congress in 1905, was to have been created out of the [Oklahoma Territory](#) as a State with a strong Native American majority. Covering a territory that corresponds roughly to the eastern half of today's State of Oklahoma, the would-be state included land that had been allotted to Native Americans through a variety of treaties following the passage of the [Indian Removal Act of 1830](#). By the end of the nineteenth century, the tribes had been sovereign over land in Oklahoma for several decades. The political scene, however, was changing. The [Curtis Act of 1898](#), an instrument meant to lead to the assimilation of the Native American population, was about to come into force, effectively abolishing tribal courts and tribal governments in the [Indian Territory of Oklahoma](#). Anticipating the new realities, representatives of the Cherokee and Choctaw Nations, and later the chiefs of the Creek, Chickasaw and Seminole Tribes (taken together, these were known as the [Five Civilized Tribes](#)), gathered in [August and September of 1905](#) to convene a constitutional convention. Their goal: to create a state government that might replace tribal sovereignty with a rough second best—Indian sovereignty through democratic majority. Their efforts yielded a constitution, which included a bill of rights, provisions for the separation of powers among three branches of government, the establishment of counties and their borders, the regulation of trade, and the prohibition of the manufacture of intoxicating spirits among other things. They adopted the name Sequoyah for their state after a suggestion by pamphleteer James A. Norman that the state be named for the [storied inventor of the script](#) used to write the [Cherokee language](#).



Strong political forces, however, were aligned against them. With Congress and the White House controlled by Republicans, a heavily democratic Native American state stood no chance of being admitted to the Union under the terms presented by the Sequoyah Convention. Congress refused to consider the 1905 proposal. A reconfigured proposal including the western half of the territory (and a large Euro-American population) resulted in the birth of the [State of Oklahoma](#) soon afterward in 1907.

Another unique story relates to the [pre-history of Utah](#). After the U.S. signed the [Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo](#) with Mexico in 1848, it became clear to the [Mormon settlers](#) in the West that the new Southwest—which the U.S. had wrested from Mexico as part of the negotiated peace—would soon be divided up into federally controlled territories. The Mormons saw this as an opportunity to take the lead in the political organization of the [new territory](#). In this they wasted no time; by July of 1849, the Mormon community had convened a constitutional convention, drafted and [adopted a constitution](#) and set about petitioning Congress for the statehood of the [State of Deseret](#).

According to the preamble of the State's constitution, the State of Deseret would encompass all the lands of the Great Basin, stretching from the eastern side of the Sierra Nevadas to the Rocky Mountains in the West, running north-south from the drainage divide of the Columbia River to the Gulf of California—an area including all of modern [Utah](#), [Nevada](#), [Arizona](#) and Southern [California](#) as well as parts of [Colorado](#) and [Oregon](#). The preamble proposed that Deseret would be a bulwark of civil order against the anarchy left behind by the withdrawal of Mexican sovereignty and the “failure” of the U.S. Congress to take any measures to guarantee law and order in the region. Legal aspects of the Deseret Constitution are familiar in many details—it was based on the [constitution of the State of Iowa](#). It delineated the separation of powers; it created a militia and provided guidelines for the administration of elections; it also enumerated a list of the civil rights guaranteed to all citizens. Among these was the free exercise of religion to which was added both that no single religion would ever be preferred by the state and that no religious test would ever be administered to seekers of public office.



*Constitution of Deseret of*

1849 (LCCN: 34029383) Photo by Donna Sokol

In practice, however, the state was—for the duration of its existence—the civil arm of the Mormons' western settlement. A group of about 11,000 Mormons had come west in 1847 with

[Brigham Young](#) to seek religious autonomy in the wilderness. The settlement grew rapidly (in the next thirty years these settlers were followed by as many as sixty thousand more devout Mormon immigrants from the East); the church leadership naturally held complete political control over the community. This was not necessarily an advantage for statehood. Prejudice against the new religion was strong and Congress was cool to the idea of a Mormon state, preferring to establish a federal territory where the governor might be hand selected by the President. Additional hostility to Deseret's statehood came from slave states' opposition to the creation of a new free state in the West.

Deseret was the *de facto* civil authority in its borders for two years until the creation of the Utah Territory, when on April 4, 1851 it was dissolved by the General Assembly. But the dream survived initial failure. The Mormons reprised the petition for the statehood of Deseret, unsuccessfully, in 1856, 1862 and 1872.

At the time the first Deseret constitution was created, the community in the West was less than two years old. The Mormons did not yet have a printing press in the region. As a result, the constitution was printed in [Kanesville, Iowa](#) (the historic starting point of the Mormons' trail westward); several copies were dispatched from there to Washington, D.C. A quite rare copy of the Kanesville imprint of the Deseret Constitution, along with a 1905 copy of the Constitution of the State of Sequoyah, can be found in the [Rare Book Collection of the Law Library of Congress](#).

Posted in: [Law Library](#), [Collections](#), [Education](#)

[7 Comments](#) | [Add a Comment »](#)

1. **Anthony Elia**  
[May 10, 2012 at 12:20 pm](#) Great job as always, Nathan!
2. **Rebecca**  
[May 10, 2012 at 5:42 pm](#) I am an avid history reader and enjoy unusual trivia and details that are not readily available. I am also working on my PhD dissertation (and I am definitely more than a senior citizen), so my time is much more limited than it used to be. I have thoroughly enjoyed your site, although I have to discipline myself and use it as a treat-well-earned or I will spend hours. This one, in particular, was enjoyable and informative.  
I am saddened that so many young people do not know our history. I spoke with a very bright young man, aged 16, who is quite well read and a good student. He actually did not know who Abraham Lincoln was. I kid you not.  
Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and sharing. In case you ever doubt it, you are appreciated.
3. **John Phillips**  
[May 13, 2012 at 9:31 pm](#) The Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University has a website <http://okmaps.library.okstate.edu/> that is devoted to a growing collection of digital maps of Oklahoma and Indian Territory. The map of Sequoyah has been a frequently used item within the collection. Many do not know its history and it, with the proposed state of Oklahoma Territory are used many times in presentations to young and old. Visit the site and let us know what you think.
4. **Mat**  
[May 22, 2012 at 5:47 pm](#) Just a quick factual note. One would look northward from Wisconsin at The state of Superior(or today the UP of Michigan). You have as Minnesota



looking northward towards it. The source you cite even notes that it would be Wisconsin to the south. Just pointing out an error you probably didn't catch in editing.

5. **Desmond**

[October 17, 2013 at 1:03 am](#) Fine way of explaining, and pleasant post to take data concerning my presentation focus, which i am going to deliver in school.

6. **Brandon aynes**

[January 6, 2016 at 11:44 am](#) Are there any more detailed references to the 1858 Ontonagon Convention?

7. **Phillip Magness**

[January 18, 2016 at 11:00 pm](#) Interesting article. **Just one correction: the State of Sequoyah would have had 60,000 native Americans out of a population of 600,000. So, while it would have been more influenced by Indian culture and politics than the state of Oklahoma that would have presumably been born out of the western counties, it hardly would have been, as written here, a "strong Native American majority."**

Add a Comment

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Did you know that bees sleep between five and eight hours a day, sometimes in flowers? Also, they like to sleep with other bees and hold each other's feet 🍯



America250 hosted a Community Conversation on *The Hornet's Nest: A Novel of the Revolutionary War* by former President Jimmy Carter on February 24, 2022. The conversation included the complex history of the South during the American Revolution, **Jimmy Carter's perspective on good government, and the experience of enslaved African Americans and Native Americans removed from their homelands.** [Read more.](#)

As we mark the 150th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park - the first National Park in the US - now is the time for a national conversation around the governance of National Parks and public lands.

For the many Tribal Nations who consider Yellowstone and other public lands their ancestral home, their connected histories with the National Park system are dark and complex, often representing the loss of traditional homelands and culture for many Indigenous communities.



Yellowstone National Park

From June 1-3, the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes are hosting an intertribal gathering to honor the Indigenous ways of life practiced in Yellowstone long before 1872 and to explore what tribal relationships with Yellowstone could look like. Native Organizers Alliance is supporting their work in elevating their tribal community's voice in the conservation and management of Yellowstone and public lands.

**Your support will help us continue the push for federal agencies to increase the role and decision-making power of tribes and Indigenous groups in the future conservation and management of national parks starting with Yellowstone!**

Hawwih (Thank you),

Judith LeBlanc (Caddo)

Executive Director



**Now is the time to Indigenize National Parks!**

In 2018, Tammy Carpenter's daughter was found shot to death in a wooded area of Shasta Lake. But police didn't tell her. When she went to the police station, the officer who greeted her asked if she knew that her daughter was on drugs and homeless. "Like all these missing or murdered native women, she doesn't matter," said Carpenter.

**Here's a deeply reported look at California's crisis of missing Indigenous women.**

👉 [National Geographic](#)

**Biotechnology company Amyris has started production** in Reno. Its facility will have the capacity to produce 50 million units of its beauty and wellness products in one shift, according to a company announcement. "Amyris uses synthetic biology to create sustainable ingredients. Using a combination of fermented and sustainably sourced sugarcane, technology and science the company is able to recreate virtually any molecule that exists in nature," company reps said.

**Sisolak announces Office of Federal Assistance director.** Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak this week named Kristen Stout as director of the new Office of Federal Assistance. She will serve as administrator of the Nevada Office of Grant Procurement, Coordination and Management until the office transitions to the Office of Federal Assistance on July 1, 2022. He said Stout has nearly two decades of experience in the public sector at the federal, state and local levels. She begins her new role April 11, 2022.

**Office of small business advocacy announced.** Lt. Gov. Lisa Cano Burkhead this week announced a new office for small business advocacy. The office is a one-stop shop for small businesses to take advantage of state resources. "This will allow small business owners to focus more time on growing their business and creating jobs for their community. Business owners can simply come to our site, fill out a quick form and be connected to a person ready to help," she said.

**Dozens of government agencies in Nevada are violating the state's public records law (opinion0** By ThisIsReno March 14, 2022. <https://thisisreno.com/2022/03/dozens-of-government-agencies-in-nevada-are-violating-the-states-public-recorrecords-law-opinion>

**'A good opportunity for us': Brazil's Bolsonaro uses Ukraine war to justify exploiting Indigenous land**

Conservative lawmakers are now fast-tracking legislation that would allow large-scale mining in the pristine territory.

Read in The Washington Post: <https://apple.news/AdvCPygLpT1iP6BuoZxjlag>

[nativenewsonline.net](https://apple.news/AdvCPygLpT1iP6BuoZxjlag)

[The MIT Solve Indigenous Communities Fellowship is Seeking Applicants](#)

[Native innovators in the United States are invited to submit proposals to the MIT Solve Indigeous Communities Fellowship, an initiative of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology aimed at driving innovation to solve world challenges and benefit Native communities. Winning proposals selected will....](#)



Parts of this tournament may be recorded and aired online as a promotion of the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Casino

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**\$39,000**

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tournament

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1<sup>ST</sup> .. \$15,000 3<sup>RD</sup> .... \$5,000

2<sup>ND</sup> ...\$10,000 4<sup>TH</sup> .... \$2,500

CONSOLATION TOURNEY ..... \$1,500



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**OPEN  
GAMES ONLY**  
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CHECK-IN**

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MONITOR  
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**MAIN TOURNAMENT ENTRANCE FEE**  
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**VENDORS FEE**  
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(OR UNTIL FOOD RUNS OUT)

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**\$5,000 PLUS**

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DUE TO UNDERAGE  
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THE CASINO AREAS,  
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**NO THUMB POINTING IN  
OPEN GAMES OR TOURNEYS**

**ALL GAMES IN EVENT CENTER**  
**BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR**  
**ALL START TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE**

Committee reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone or any team!

**VENDOR CONTACT** Jeanie Louie | Jlouie@cdatribe-nsn.gov | Direct 1-208-568-1121

**DETAILS CONTACT** Joe Matt Sr. | jmatt@cdacasino.com | Direct 1-208-446-8760 or 1-208-769-2600 Ext. 7495



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