

**Journal #5240 from sdc 7.13.22**

*Mammatus clouds*

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[Near Sioux Falls, SD.....Mammatus clouds](#)

[KLFY Meteorologist Trevor Sonnier](#) ·

This was in Sioux Falls South Dakota! The green sky is caused by large hail stones within the storm refracting back green light to the observer. The only time I've ever seen the sky even remotely close to this color was during my time in Jackson, MS. As I was driving, looking north into a severe thunderstorm, the sky had a obvious green color. My passenger thought it was the pollen being kicked up, but I knew we had to get off the road quickly! That storm ended up producing one of the largest hail storms north Jackson had seen in decades.



## White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council (WHEJAC) Public Meeting: August 3-4, 2022

The [White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council \(WHEJAC\)](#) will hold a public meeting **August 3-4, 2022** from approximately 3:00 - 7:30 PM E.T. each day. This free meeting is open to all members of the public. Individual registration is **REQUIRED** and is available through the scheduled end time of the meeting day.

**Register for the WHEJAC public meeting here:**

[https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_tSqWnkGcQ\\_eK4IH1HlpchQ](https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_tSqWnkGcQ_eK4IH1HlpchQ)

The WHEJAC is interested in receiving public comments specific to the development of an annual public performance scorecard and the types of indicators or data that would be useful in a scorecard. This scorecard will provide a method for evaluation and accountability to assess the Federal Government's progress in addressing current and historic environmental injustice. Every effort will be made to hear from as many registered public commenters during the time specified on the agenda.

Registration to speak during the public comment period closes at 11:59 p.m. (ET), July 27, 2022. The WHEJAC will hear from as many registered public commenters as possible during the time specified on the agenda.

Submitting written comments for the record are strongly encouraged. Written comments can be submitted through August 18, 2022. To participate in the meeting via written comment, the public can submit their written comments in the following ways:

- Using the webform at <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/forms/white-house-environmental-justice-advisory-council-whejac-public-comment>
- Entering comments in the **EPA-HQ-OA-2022-0050** at <http://www.regulations.gov>
- Sending comments via email to [whejac@epa.gov](mailto:whejac@epa.gov), for comments with additional materials.

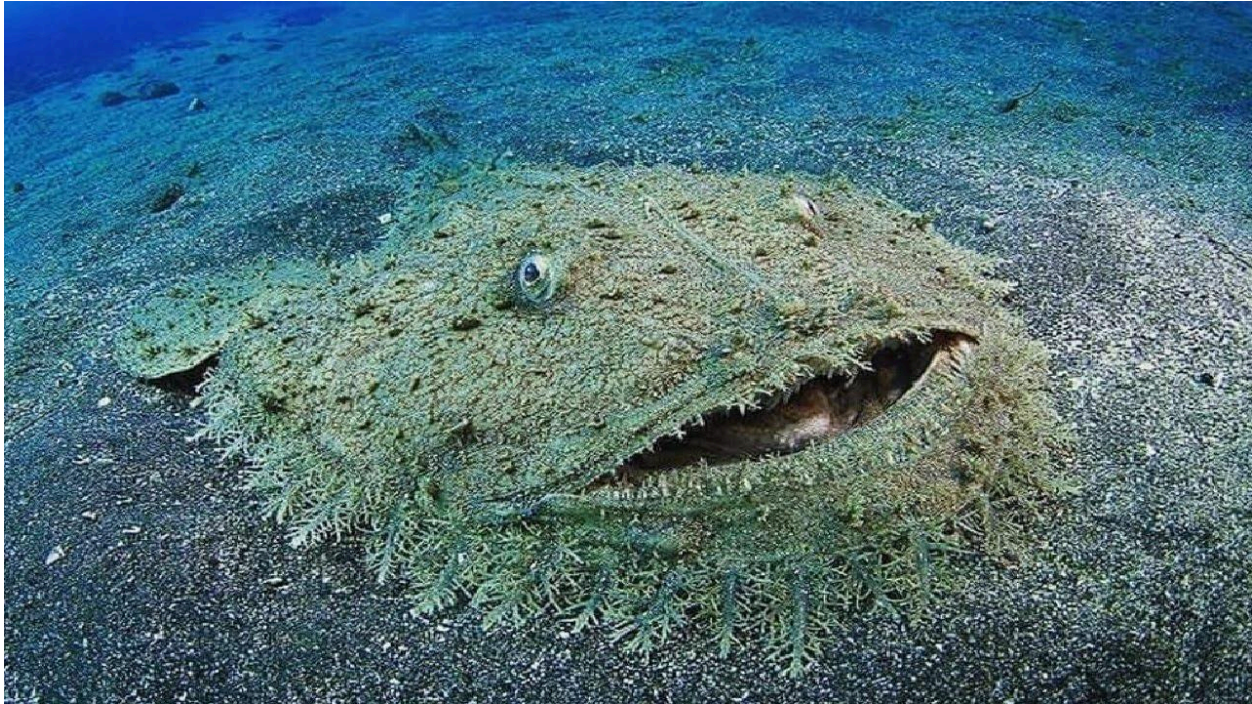
The meeting agenda and other meeting support materials including the public comments will be posted in the public docket **EPA-HQ-OA-2022-0050** as they become available at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

To learn more about the WHEJAC and the public meeting, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/white-house-environmental-justice-advisory-council>.

For questions about this event, please contact Victoria Robinson at [whejac@epa.gov](mailto:whejac@epa.gov) or by phone 202.564.6349.

For up-to-date information about Environmental Justice funding opportunities, events, and webinars, subscribe to EPA's Environmental Justice listserv by sending a blank email to: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Follow us on Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](https://twitter.com/EPAEnvJustice)

Para recibir información actualizada sobre oportunidades de financiamiento de Justicia Ambiental, eventos y seminarios web, suscríbese al listserve de Justicia Ambiental de la EPA enviando un mensaje en blanco de correo electrónico a: [join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov](mailto:join-epa-ej@lists.epa.gov). Síguenos en Twitter: [@EPAEnvJustice](https://twitter.com/EPAEnvJustice).



[CosmosUp](#)

The tasselled wobbegong is a species of carpet shark in the family Orectolobidae and the only member of its genus. It inhabits shallow coral reefs off northern Australia, New Guinea, and adjacent islands. Reaching 1.8 m in length, this species has a broad and flattened body and head [via reddit@makaros622](#)

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**Yosemite fire: Why giant sequoia trees are surviving now when others died in recent fires**

Years of controlled burns have thinned flammable material in Mariposa Grove, paying off during Washburn Fire, experts say

[https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/07/12/yosemite-fire-why-giant-sequoia-trees-are-surviving-now-when-others-died-in-recent-fires/?campaign=sjmnbreakingnews&utm\\_email=85834408B47115A944CE9435C9&g2i\\_eui=U6Qop7ZXyTLDlr5KZLtlUcZHPEyHFuJ%2f&g2i\\_source=newsletter&active=no&lctg=85834408B47115A944CE9435C9&utm\\_source=listrak&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=https%3a%2f%2fwww.mercurynews.com%2f2022%2f07%2f12%2fyosemite-fire-why-giant-sequoia-trees-are-surviving-now-when-others-died-in-recent-fires%2f&utm\\_campaign=bang-sjmn-nl-breaking-news-alerts-nl&utm\\_content=alert](https://www.mercurynews.com/2022/07/12/yosemite-fire-why-giant-sequoia-trees-are-surviving-now-when-others-died-in-recent-fires/?campaign=sjmnbreakingnews&utm_email=85834408B47115A944CE9435C9&g2i_eui=U6Qop7ZXyTLDlr5KZLtlUcZHPEyHFuJ%2f&g2i_source=newsletter&active=no&lctg=85834408B47115A944CE9435C9&utm_source=listrak&utm_medium=email&utm_term=https%3a%2f%2fwww.mercurynews.com%2f2022%2f07%2f12%2fyosemite-fire-why-giant-sequoia-trees-are-surviving-now-when-others-died-in-recent-fires%2f&utm_campaign=bang-sjmn-nl-breaking-news-alerts-nl&utm_content=alert)

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**Eight Superfoods That Could Future-Proof Our Diet**

[https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/eight-superfoods-that-could-future-proof-our-diet-180980394/?utm\\_source=smithsoniandaily&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=20220712-daily-responsive&spMailingID=47094794&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2281228430&spReportId=MjI4MTIyODQzMAS2](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/eight-superfoods-that-could-future-proof-our-diet-180980394/?utm_source=smithsoniandaily&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220712-daily-responsive&spMailingID=47094794&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2281228430&spReportId=MjI4MTIyODQzMAS2)

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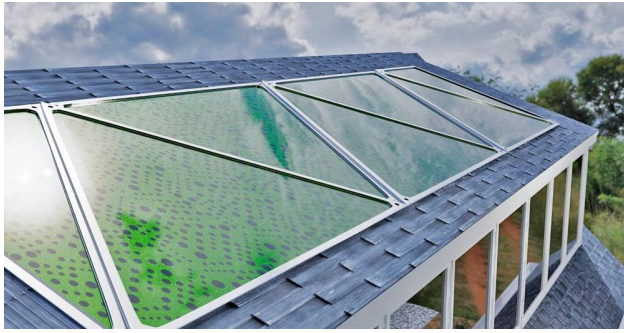
[Venezuela Indigenous Leader's Killing Terrifies Defenders of Amazon Lands](#)

[Mie Hoejris Dahl, Guardian UK](#)

[Dahl writes: "Virgilio Trujillo Arana knew that he was risking his life by defending the Amazon lands on which his Indigenous Uwottuja community had lived for centuries."](#)

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[Algae biopanel windows make power, oxygen and biomass, and suck up CO2](#)  
[Beautifully designed, energy-generating bio-panels that suck up carbon dioxide and pump out biomass for use as fuel or fertilizer – that's the idea behind Mexican startup Greenfluidics and its nanotech-enhanced microalgae bioreactor building panels.](#)

**Teresa Dixon**

LaNada Warjack a long time ago you ask Thomas To come speak at the Health Fair Conference in Sacramento California. Before he went he came to Susanville and spoke to our community.

What a humble revered man he was. He spoke of the map given to him by his Elders. By chance I seen his picture in the Sacramento Bee. Where he gave permission to print this map and his picture. I cut out the article and this picture. In my journey in life he shared his story of the Creator and what the map told him. Blessings to you LaNada and thank you for asking Thomas Banyacya to share with California

**Treat Earth with respect, Indian says**  
 By Falzah Alim  
 Bee Staff Writer

Thomas Banyacya looked every bit the part he was about to play.

His graying hair was tied back with a deep red band in the traditional Hopi Indian plait. His black velveteen jacket softened his sun-etched face, his voice was calm yet impassioned.

Banyacya, a traditional elder of the Hopi tribe, was speaking to his people. And they listened with respect.

"The Earth is a living being," Banyacya said. "We must take care of it. In our religion, we do not believe in tearing up the Earth to take out what is inside her, for we consider the Earth to be the source of all life."

Banyacya's message was delivered at the closing luncheon of the state's first Indian health fair, which concluded Friday at the Hilton Hotel. It was sponsored by the California area office of the Indian Health Service.

Nearly a dozen Indians discussed the health issues and challenges facing the Native American population. The theme voiced in many of the talks was to return to the holistic approach to life originally practiced in their ancient cultures.

Banyacya told the audience of being invited to a gathering held in 1948 at a "sacred center." Village leaders from various tribes met for four days to impart ancient prophecy and warnings. Banyacya recalled how he and three other Indians at the gathering were selected by the Hopi chiefs to warn people of the Earth about the "fire" of nuclear warfare.

He spoke of a 2,000-year-old prophecy that foretold of the two world wars, electricity, skyscrapers, air and space travel and the atomic bomb.

Banyacya is an international traveler and claims to be the sole remaining translator of the Hopi stone tablets of the future that were unveiled at the 1948 meeting.

Banyacya decried materialism and the invention of "things without spiritual considerations" and urged the audience of about 200 Native Americans to "return to your own people and learn their language, ceremonies and traditional way of life."

The focal point of Banyacya's talk Friday was his criticism of the U.S. government's relocation of 14,000 Navajos living in the Four Corners area of Arizona, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico.

Included in that area, Banyacya said, is the "sacred center" that is not to be "disturbed by anyone." He said the commandments of his religion and culture are based on taking care of the Earth, and Hopi Indians hold that specific area as sacred through constant prayer, meditation and reverence.

Banyacya believes the federal government manufactured the so-called Navajo-Hopi land dispute and enacted the Hopi-Navajo Land Settlement Act in 1974 to get the people off the land to make way for uranium, ore and coal mining industries.

To take the uranium for use in the weapons industry is to anger the Earth and the spirits and set it on a course for destruction, Banyacya said. And to defile the sacred center is to destroy the only sanctuary remaining.

"It is the last attempt by the government to take the Hopi land and suppress our traditional culture," he said.

**Thomas Banyacya, with 1890 map of part of the Hopi territory, said "the Earth is a living being."**

*Beal/Owen Brewer*

## Meet the Woman Restoring Native American Peaches to the Southwest

Searching for the precious trees has become Reagan Wytsalucy's calling.

by [Amiee Maxwell](#) July 28, 2021



These small peaches once flourished widely over the Southwest. Courtesy of Reagan Wytsalucy In This Story

### [Utah](#)

Reagan Wytsalucy grew up in Gallup, New Mexico, just outside the Navajo Nation reservation. Despite her Native heritage, she grew up “very absorbed into westernized culture,” she says. Her father owned several McDonald's franchises on the reservation, and she never learned to speak the language. It wasn't until she started to study plant sciences in college that her father told her about the peaches that once thrived on the reservation where he grew up.

Centuries ago, the Navajo people tended flourishing peach orchards across the Four Corners area, where the states of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado meet. But in 1863, the U.S. government ordered the Navajo in Four Corners to leave their homelands.

When the Navajo refused to leave, General James H. Carleton ordered Colonel Christopher “Kit” Carson to slaughter their livestock, massacre any resisters, and burn their crops, notably their thousands of peach trees. One American troop, under the command of Captain John Thompson, claimed to have destroyed more than 3,000 peach trees. Thompson himself reported how his men, in a single day, cut down what he called 500 “of the best peach trees I have ever seen in the country, every one of them bearing fruit.”



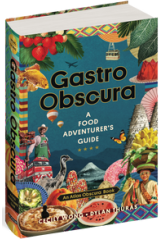
Peaches have grown in the Four Corners area for generations. Courtesy of Reagan Wytsalucy The destruction nearly spelled the end of centuries of cultivation. In fact, Native Americans across the Southwest once grew vast peach orchards, some stretching all the way into the Grand Canyon. Scholars believe that the Pueblo communities in the Southwest were the first to receive peach seeds from the Spanish in the Rio Grande Valley. Appreciation for the fruit was

widespread, and the plants passed from tribe to tribe, in many cases far in advance of any contact with European settlers.

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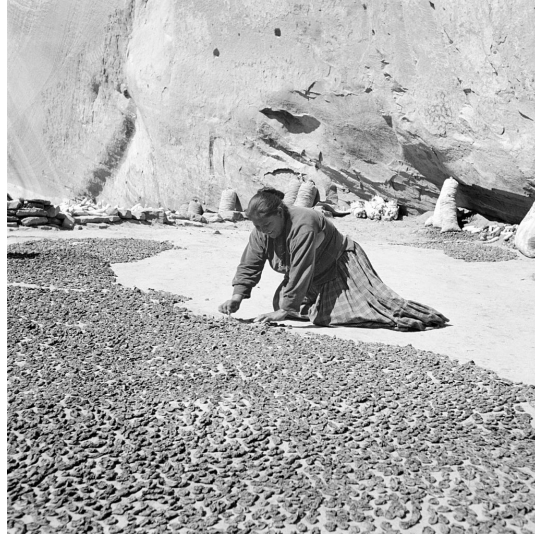
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Faced with the destruction of their orchards and starvation on the horizon, many Navajo surrendered during the winter of 1863 and were forced to march in the “Long Walk.” This trek, of nearly 400 miles through the harsh desert in frigid winter weather, ended at Bosque Redondo, an internment camp on a bleak, wind-swept prairie in eastern\* New Mexico. There they were meant to live and eventually assimilate into American culture. But due to poor water, rampant disease, and insufficient agricultural conditions, Bosque Redondo was deemed a failure by the U.S. Government in 1868. Thus, many Navajo made the brutal trek back home.

Not all Navajos went on the Long Walk. One particular holdout, Chief Hoskininni, secreted himself and others in one of the most remote corners of the Southwest. Not only did he successfully evade capture, he also played a pivotal role in helping re-establish the local Navajo community. According to Wytsalucy, Hoskininni gave farmland and animals to each family when they returned so they could rebuild their lives. Wytsalucy herself is a descendant of Hoskininni. According to family lore, part of the reason he was able to survive was because of the fruit trees hidden deep within the canyons.

Wytsalucy’s journey to discover what was left of these orchards began in college. When she told her father about how she didn’t know what to study, he encouraged her to research local, fast-disappearing traditional foods, which for the Navajo include their precious peaches.



*A Navajo woman in the 1930s supervises a vast flat of drying peaches in Canyon del Muerto, Arizona. H. Armstrong Roberts/Getty Images*

As a graduate student in 2016, Wytsalucy set out into the Navajo reservation with her father and two Utah State University horticulture professors. The goal was to track down, record, and collect seeds from the ancestral peach trees in the area, based on her father's memories of where he saw them growing as a child.

The most common peaches grown by Native Americans in the Southwest were white-fleshed, free-stone, and notable for their small size. Unlike traditional orchards, trees were not pruned and irrigation practices were limited. One Hopi elder told her that pruning the trees was traditionally frowned upon. "Those seeds, just like the corn plant, are revered as our children," she recalls them saying. In the old days, peaches were eaten fresh or boiled, and when harvests were bountiful, they were dried in the sun and stored in masonry bins or stone cavities.

It took three years for Wytsalucy to receive her first peach seeds, handed to her by an 85-year-old woman in Canyon de Chelly, a lush collection of gorges in northeastern Arizona in the Navajo Nation. Encouraged by that first success, Wytsalucy kept knocking on doors all over the Four Corners area. Eventually, she tracked down eight more orchards.



*Most of the trees Wytsalucy has found grow small peaches, about the size of an apricot. Hilary Shughart*

Genetic analyses show that these peaches are significantly different from modern cultivars. According to Wytsalucy, that persisted despite the U.S. government's efforts to provide new peach trees to Native people in the late 19th century. Instead, many of the elders kept the seeds from the government and the traditional peaches separate from each other—they didn't want them to mix.



Many of the peaches Wytsalucy tracked down in the Four Corners area are currently growing wild, without any human interference. They're smaller than modern cultivars, about the size of a large apricot. The skins are mostly green with a slight red tint. As for how they taste, says Wytsalucy, "they have a tart peel and are very sweet inside," and "a muskmelon flavor." Nutritional analyses show that they are higher in calories and have more calcium, fiber, carbohydrates, and total fat than standard peaches.

Wytsalucy's work with the peaches has gone well beyond just preserving seeds and planting trees at research sites across Utah. She's also working to record stories and traditions of peach-growing from elders across the Navajo, Hopi, and Zuni tribes. Much of this knowledge is in danger of being lost as elderly members of these communities pass away.



*So far, Wytsalucy has located nearly 10 orchards on the Navajo Nation reservation.  
Courtesy of Reagan Wytsalucy*

Many elders told her that the old orchards were managed with little supplemental irrigation. Only young trees were watered. Farmers planted their orchards on mesa shelves and in canyons, where the runoff from mesa tops would flood and irrigate them during summer monsoons. Climate change has added a new urgency to Wytsalucy's project. Nowadays, extreme drought in the Southwest will likely hasten the loss of these trees, although preliminary research has shown the Navajo peach trees are more drought tolerant than commercial varieties.

Wytsalucy's father is also using his childhood memories to help restore Native foodways. Like many Navajo children of the 1960s and 1970s, Wytsalucy's father, Roy Talker, was taken away from home by the Indian Student Placement Program. Only eight years old, Talker was placed with a family in Snowflake, Arizona. Wytsalucy believes that the enduring trauma her father experienced from being caught between two cultures is one of the reasons why she herself was never taught how to speak the Navajo language.

He did well for himself and for his family by becoming a businessman, but Wytsalucy says her father has some regrets about bringing fast food to the reservation. Today, Native Americans have some of the highest rates of diabetes in the county, and fresh produce is often more expensive and harder to come by in rural communities.

Wytsalucy also says that her research has had the unintended side effect of bringing her closer to her father, especially as he shares his memories about growing up on the reservation. "It's been a really great experience for our family," she says, "and it helped tie me back into who I am as Navajo."





*Capitol Reef National Park in Utah has one of the largest orchards in the national park system.*  
[4nitsirk/CC BY-SA 2.0](#)

After graduating with her Master’s Degree in Plant Science in 2019, Wytalucy took an Assistant Professor position with the Utah State University Extension in southeastern Utah and got right to work on restoring old peach varieties. Currently, Wytalucy is working with community gardens throughout the Four Corners region to produce peach seeds for Native communities and provide resources for individuals wanting to grow them. She’s also collaborating with Canyon de Chelly National Monument and Capitol Reef National Park to preserve Native peaches, as a way to honor the parks’ rich Indigenous histories.

She’s also researching their unique genetic traits with her advisor, Utah State University professor and Extension fruit specialist Brent Black. Black is especially interested in whether or not they could be used as a rootstock and grafted with modern cultivars. “That way, they could potentially provide drought-tolerant characteristics in more conventional peach production systems in arid climates,” says Black.

For Wytalucy, though, the project remains a deeply personal testament to how, despite the U.S. government’s efforts to eradicate both the Navajo people and their peaches from the Four Corners area, both remain deeply rooted in the region today. Now, all that’s left is for those roots to spread. “My hope is that these trees will be able to be returned to the homeland in an abundant form,” says Wytalucy. “And that they will become a bountiful food resource in our communities again.”

*\* Correction: This story originally stated that Bosque Redondo was in western New Mexico. It was in eastern New Mexico.*

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Destination Guide

*The following is an extremely interesting document. Even if you are not from the area, it is a good model to use for putting forth your data. Have fun! sdc*

## 2022 Community Progress Report Launched!

**2022 COMMUNITY PROGRESS REPORT**

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WYOMING COUNTY SENIORS DATA DEMOGRAPHICS

0 - 921  
921 - 2,459  
2,459 - 4,052  
4,052 - 5,872  
5,872 - 7,999

3,082

Population Over Age 65 (C)

Data Source: American Community

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## Humans Have Always Been Wrong About Humans

BY VIRGINIA HEFFERNAN

*The Dawn of Everything* fundamentally shifted my view of ... everything. I had to meet one of the minds behind its world-tilting revelations.



**Utah's Great Salt Lake Is Drying Out**



[Lars Leber Photography](http://LarsLeberPhotography.com)

Garden of the Gods, Colorado with Lightning.