

Journal #5390 from sdc 2.6.23

Aurora Borealis

Mississippi Water Heist in the Planning

Capital City Arts Initiative's exhibit "Selected Works: Maya of Guatemala and Western Landscapes"

Federal Judge rules against BLM in Bayer-Monsanto open pit mining in SE Idaho

The movement to re-indigenize our national parks is gaining momentum

How Boondjil Noorook Discovered Captain Cook

Linking protected areas from Yellowstone to the Ykon shows value of conserving large landscapes

Native Wikipedians fight against the erasure of Indigenous history

Rock Art

Expanding Internet to the 4million who don't have access

California water

Dry Southwest proposes re-routint Mississippi water

Roger Williams, Rhode Island Founder

Scholarships with March 1 deadlines



[Alaska Magazine](#)

This stunning display of aurora borealis was captured by William Frohne during his adventures through Alaska. [@williamfrohne](#) !

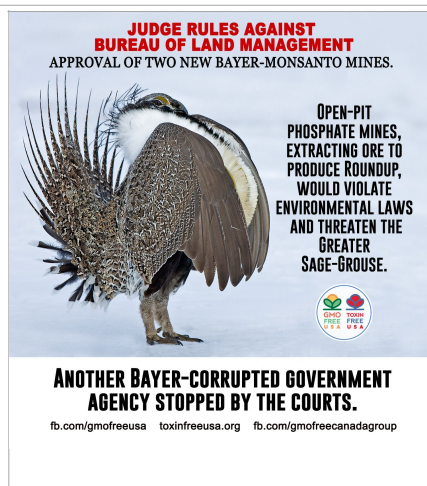
Hope y'all got to see there opening segment of "Murder in Big Horn"; there will be three more segments.

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## **Mississippi River water heist in planning stages | Reno Memo**

We drink your milkshake! We drink it up!

**READ MORE**



### **Bayer-Monsanto Phosphate Mine Imperils Sage-Grouse Habitat, Says Judge**

Great News: A federal judge ruled against the Bureau of Land Management's approval of Bayer-Monsanto's new open-pit mines in southeastern Idaho. The Caldwell Canyon Mine would provide ore that would be processed into the herbicide glyphosate, a key ingredient in Bayer's Roundup weedkiller. The mine violates federal environmental laws by skimming over potential environmental impacts, including harm to the endangered Greater Sage-Grouse. There are also concerns the approvals will prolong the life of a processing plant with a history of contaminating groundwater with heavy metals.

[Read more...](#)



**Jonathan Edward Durham**   
@thisoneOverhere

Mostly I go to the library for books, but also sometimes I just go to exist in a space that's organized, peaceful, comfortable, welcoming, and run by somebody who actually seems to know what they're doing, because that energy is straight-up medicinal

## The movement to re-indigenize our national parks is gaining momentum.

Last month, the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians signed a new co-stewardship agreement with Joshua Tree National Park, to collaborate on managing the Tribe's ancestral homelands and important cultural sites like the Oasis of Mara.

The Tribal Chairman said: ***"This is the first step in acknowledging and agreeing that we'll work together as a government-to-government relationship with Joshua Tree National Park and the tribe."***<sup>1</sup>

These agreements are an important way to correct historical wrongs, placing decision-making power back in the hands of Tribal Nations who have ancestral and traditional connections to national park lands since time immemorial.

Chuck Sams, the first Native National Park Service Director, has been pushing for more co-stewardship agreements. We're gathering petition signatures to show we're behind him and to demonstrate broad public support for even more action.

**[Please sign to tell new National Park Service Director Chuck Sams: Many national parks were created by violently removing Native peoples from our homelands. To make amends for past and present injustices, we must re-indigenize national parks. Since many national parks and monuments were created by violently forcing Indigenous peoples off of our ancestral homelands, it's time to make amends for these egregious injustices.](#)**

As part of the growing movement to re-indigenize our national parks, we're calling for actions including:

- *Co-governing with Indigenous peoples, including joint decision-making and incorporating traditional Indigenous knowledge in park management and conservation.*
- *Partnering and collaborating with Indigenous peoples to plan what information to share with visitors about each park's true history and about tribes' current connections to the parks. This should incorporate Indigenous stories and worldviews, and coordination should include how to present this information, which should be featured prominently and permanently in visitor centers, signage around parks, and more. This may include presenting information in Native languages, or renaming parts of parks.*
- *Honoring treaty promises by ensuring that Indigenous peoples with cultural and historical connections to the parks can access parks and use park resources.*
- *Compensating Indigenous people for their wisdom, time, and energy in collaborating on park plans and management. Relationships with tribes connected to parks should be mutually beneficial, with compensation for Indigenous knowledge-holders. Another possibility could include sending portions of park revenue to tribal governments with ties to the parks.*
- *Returning sacred places within the parks to relevant Native communities.*
- *Launching a larger national conversation about recognizing national parks as ancestral Indigenous lands -- beyond visibility at individual parks, and beyond NPS staff. This*

*could involve more media appearances, writing op-eds, celebrity partnerships, and more, with the aim of shifting culture.*

We need to show National Park Service Director Chuck Sams that there's broad public support for this work. Can you join over 20,000 people in [signing this petition](#) to thank him for his leadership so far and call for even more action to re-indigenize the national parks?

**[Sign if you agree: Let's re-indigenize national parks!](#)**

Hawwih (thank you),  
Judith Le Blanc (Caddo), Executive Director, Native Organizers Alliance Action Fund  
[info@nativeorganizing.org](mailto:info@nativeorganizing.org)

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[Joshua Tree National Park, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians will co-steward park](#)

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**[Sovereign Union](#)**

### **HOW BOONDJIL NOOROOK DISCOVERED CAPTAIN COOK**

Early one morning, a young fella named Boonjil Noorook was out spearing seals to get some ngulli [meat] for his family when he heard a big noise out in the ocean. Boom, boom, boom. Before long he spotted something strange, what looked like a big canoe with white wings on it coming in towards the coast.

Well, that was the Endeavour with Lieutenant Cook, later known as Captain Cook. This is when the Endeavour was coming from New Zealand and they were heading straight for Gunai country, the south-eastern parts of Australia, and doing the soundings with the ship's cannon. Boom, Boom, Boom.

Boonjil Noorook spotted them out there and it looked like trouble. He went back to his elders and told them about it, what he'd seen. They said to him, "Send a smoke signal and a song and forewarn all the people up along the coast." The south-westerlies were blowing fairly strong and the Endeavour was turning up along the east coast.

So, this is a story about Boonjil Noorook discovering Cook.

Boonjil Noorook sent off the smoke signals to communicate with all the different mobs up along the coast. Our people were communicating and sharing information with our family and friends, our neighbours, our alliance groups, to forewarn them about something out there that looked like danger.

Since the first sighting of the Endeavour coming, there were messages sent to other peoples. It was a form of resistance, of looking after our country, forewarning the people that it could be danger: "Keep an eye on them people out there, whoever that is out there."

Each group would relay their own song and story within the smoke they sent. It was a form of awareness and therefore resistance to what was coming, especially up around Gulaga, what Cook called Mount Dromedary, the place near Wallaga Lake.

As the ship went up further along the east coast, these become fires. In Joseph Banks' journals and in Cook's journals they both write about the sighting of land and various landmarks and where the locations were, and where they sighted these smoke signals and fires.

I'm told that when they went out around Barunguba (Montague Island), the mob sent smoke signals. But then when the Endeavour came back, the mob lit big fires. From there, that's when you see a series of fires up along the coast. That message also got relayed, "You keep away from here. This is not welcoming smoke here." And in fact, Cook even wrote that in his journals. So he got the message, he got the feeling. The people are resisting them coming on shore.

### **TWO LAWS**

When they got to Kamay Country, what they call Botany Bay now, and the Gweagal people were on the shore, well, Cook and his men started firing shots. They were under orders not to do that, so they broke the law in that sense. They broke their own law and their orders from their king. And they

broke our law.

It's important for people to realise there are two points of view here. Two laws were at play, and there still are. We never ceded any sovereignty and there's been no agreement. And there still hasn't been a treaty. So we are looking at ways of resolving some of these situations. We're always looking for solutions because we need to be better looked after and treated better on our own country.

"We need to have our own debrief and then make informed decisions. There's a bit of consensus then, and that's a tribal way."

I remember reading about and hearing a lot of stories from our elders, who talked about the connection with the different clan countries up along the coast, and even inland from the start of the Snowy River, and how they'd come down the Snowy to Cape Conran.

Now there might be a whale that's beached itself, so they'd call on the different peoples to come. They did not just use smoke signals for Captain Cook out there, but also to say "come and cook the feed, there's a beached whale, come and share the food". Then there'd be the bogong moth season when we travelled up and met together again.

There weren't these hard perimeters like they want for Native Title that cause so much tension and grief in our communities today.

There were alliances formed with the different tribal groups around the east coast part and over the mountains right up to country on the Murray River.

#### NATIVE TITLE

But there were also stories about how we didn't get on so well with the west side of Gunai Country. It was over swan egging rights and it was a seasonal thing. For instance, down Yiruk – at Wilson's Prom – well, that's a shared place for food at seasonal times. You see When that food resource season's finished, well, season's finished, time to go home. So people did, but then there were some people who came back, stealing the last couple of eggs. That caused fights.

When it kept happening there was a fight, then payback – a hard sort of fighting. And at a point in time, then we became enemies. But before that we were in alliance, some sort of agreement, you see.

And so when Native Title started asking us, "Where's your boundaries, where's the line that cut you off from that one?" I thought, well, from my awareness, there's no single, hard line. Now with the eastern part of the country, we had great alliances, and it's even in the language that it's Gwan-Dhang, which is rough throat speech, mixed speech, and a dialect of Maak-Dhang, the overall language continuum.

Now the language is mixed because there's a lot of trade. There's a lot of interaction between the groups from that area. Even the dialect indicates that.

But it seems like Native Title was designed to separate and divide again, to weaken. You weaken the alliances, then people are standing alone.

#### YOO-RROOK

I think what the people need before the [Yoo-rrook Justice] Commission comes to Bung Yarnda (Lake Tyers) is the opportunity to speak among ourselves. What do we want? When do we want it? What have we got? We can ask one another this. Because we've been blinded by the white all the time. You see? And they're in our faces. It's in our faces.

It might take a couple of visits before we talk. We need to have our own debrief and then make informed decisions after that. There's a bit of consensus happening then, and that's a tribal way. We need an opportunity to speak within ourselves, to establish ourselves, so we are talking in the same direction. Because we've had an informed discussion with our elders, with our peoples who will talk in these meetings, but also won't talk up properly in these meetings. You see? So we need to organise ourselves in our structures.

- by By Wayne Thorpe (23 January 2022 (Previously published in 'The Age' )

***"Each person mst live their life as a model for others." - Rosa Parks***



Capital City Arts Initiative's exhibition features Michael Plyler's 'Selected Works: Maya of Guatemala and Western Landscapes'



*by Sharon Rosse*

**The Capital City Arts Initiative's exhibition, "Selected Works: Maya of Guatemala and Western Landscapes", presents Michael Plyler's photographs that document his years working in Guatemala and celebrating landscapes of the Intermountain West.**



**Ancient Mystery**

**A vintage 1885 photograph documenting the discovery of a 15 ft high Maya statue hidden deep within the remote jungles of Honduras.**



The Conversation

[Linking protected areas from Yellowstone to the Yukon shows the value of conserving large landscapes, not just isolated parks and preserves](#)

Fresh grizzly bear tracks in Yellowstone National Park. Jacob W. Frank, NPS/Flickr As human development spreads ever farther around the world, very few large ecosystems remain relatively intact and uninterrupted by highways, cities or other human-constructed obstacles. One of the largest exceptions is the Yellowstone to Yukon region, or Y2Y, which stretches more than 2,000 miles (3,200 kilometers) northwest from Wyoming into Canada's Yukon territory. For the past 30 years conservationists have wo

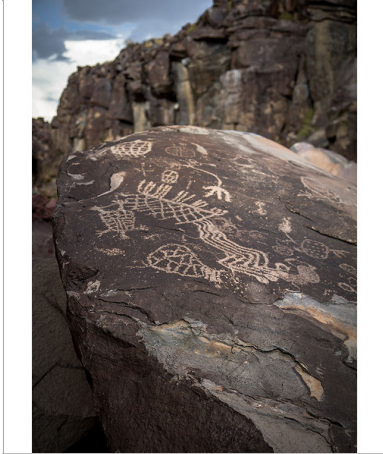
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Native Wikipedians Fight Back against Erasure of Indigenous History

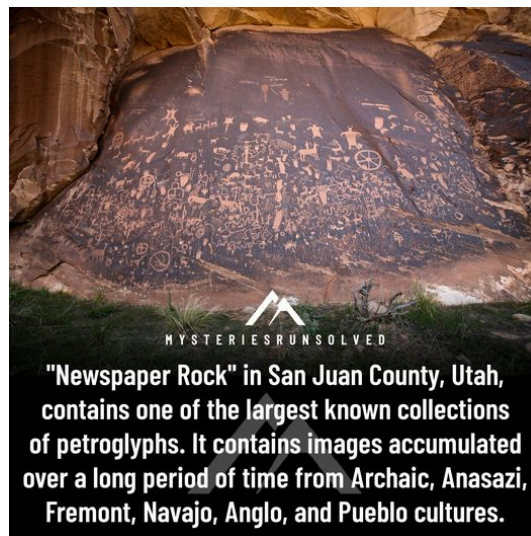
by Kyle Keeler

While the internet is often seen as a hotbed of revisionism and "political correctness," Wikipedia editors who seek the inclusion of indigenous perspectives on American history often are stymied by resistant editors and the platform's rules, which discount the reliability of new, critical scholarship.

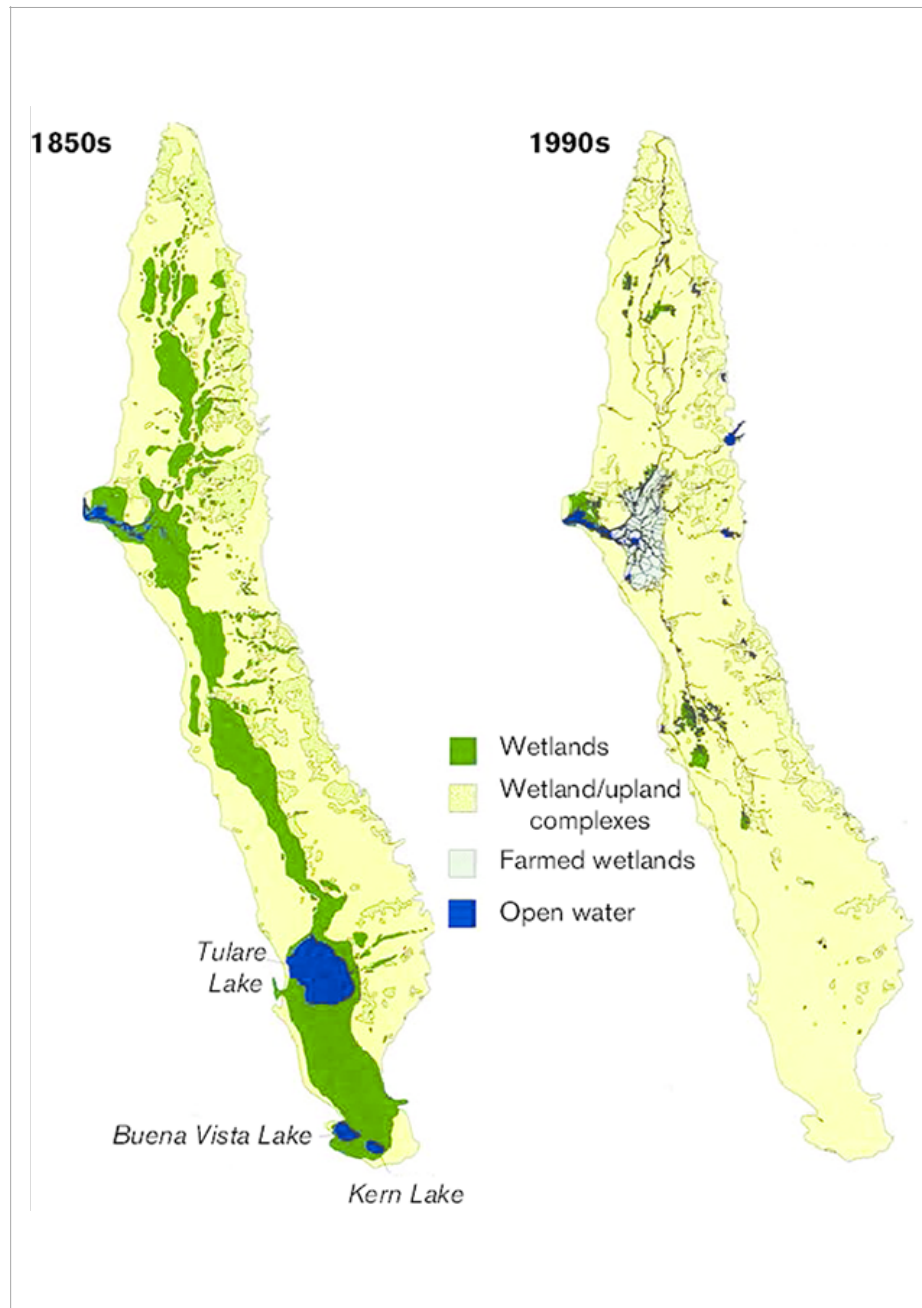


Petroglyphs in California's Coso Range. (Joshua Hawley)

- A rich concentration of Native American rock art. A mountain tree that was more than 1,600 years old at the close of the Bronze Age. And a pair of boulders rubbed smooth by back-scratching Columbian mammoths. **Here's a virtual trip to nine surprisingly ancient marvels across California.** 🖱️ [Atlas Obscura](#)



On this week's [California Sun Podcast](#), host Jeff Schechtman chats with John Gedmark, an aerospace engineer and chief executive of Astranis, based in San Francisco. Astranis is making satellites designed to deliver broadband internet to the 4 billion people on Earth who are not connected. Gedmark described the mission as akin to unlocking access to the sum total of humankind's knowledge. "We see it up there as one of the great challenges of our time," he said.



The Central Valley's wetlands have all but vanished. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Fly above California's Central Valley and a vast earth-toned checkerboard [spreads out](#) below. The fertile plain — as big as Tennessee and bathed in sunlight 300 days a year — yields a third of the produce grown in the United States. In his book "Coast of Dreams," the historian Kevin Starr described the birth of the irrigated culture as "an imposition of will." He wrote, "Across a century, great public works, ferocious machines, and the back-breaking labor of millions now forgotten had brought into being a place that nature never intended."



Blue dots depict dams across California. (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

A century and a half later, California draws roughly half of the water out of the state's environment. Of that, some 80% goes to agriculture.

There are 1,526 dams across the state, [including hundreds](#) along the western slopes of the Sierra, where a circulatory system of rivers fans out across the valley below. In the past, when the water ran wild, about 6,250 square miles of wetlands filled the Central Valley. That figure is now less than 350. Cut off from its tributaries, Tulare Lake vanished. A century of groundwater pumping has caused parts of the valley to drop 30 feet. The whole region seems shrouded by dust and heat.

Dry Southwest proposes re-routing Mississippi River water

Pumping Mississippi River water west: solution or dream?

[READ MORE](#)

Roger Williams, Rhode Island Founder

<https://www.loc.gov/item/today-in-history/february-05>

<u>Scholarships with March 1 Deadline</u>	
<u>Illinois AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Memorial Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Illinois AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Worchid Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Science Without Borders Challenge</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>James R. Corson Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Andrew Q. Peschard Memorial Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Arnold W. Fritz Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>AWC Springfield Educational Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Berto Diaz Engineering Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Big Game Conservation Association Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Binhi At Ani Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Darius Quimby Memorial Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Dr. Jade Malay High Achievers Award</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Eric Dostie Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>GRCF ATHENA Eileen DeVries Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Iowa Engineering Society Central Iowa Chapter Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Iowa Funeral Directors Association Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>ISNA Dr. Abdulmunim A. Shakir Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Jack G. Dodds Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Jane C. Waldbaum Archaeological Field School Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>National Technical Honor Society Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Nebraska High School Senior Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Rocky Mountain Coal Mining Technical School Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>State Trooper Joshua Orbeck Memorial Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>TACTYC Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>Tall Clubs International Student Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>The David And Dovetta Wilson Scholarship Fund</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>The Mary Lou Marks Smith Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>The Save Abandoned Babies Foundation Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>A. F. Zimmerman Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>WAEF Scholarships</u>	\$ 03/01/2023
<u>New York Farm Bureau AG Youth Scholarship</u>	\$ 03/01/2023