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The Land Wants Us Back Too

Nevada Indian Commission Adds Two New Staff Members

GrantStation

Saving for Retirement - NEST (Nevada Employment Savings Trust)

Bi-state efforts to reduce pollution/restore Lake Tahoe's world-famous water clarity remain on track

Fox Rothschild LLP Secures Novel IRS Ruling on Water Rights as 'Real Property'

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Copper Mining in the Lake Superior country

Historic California Hotels Owned by Native Americans

"Copper mining in the Lake Superior country seems to be all the rage just now"

"No Voice" - a true act of heroism



Nevada Indian Commission Adds Two New Staff Members

Carson City, Nev. - Valerie Seukteoma (Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California) and Janet Davis (Pyramid Lake Paiute) have joined the Nevada Indian Commission as its administrative assistant and grants administrator, respectively.

“I look forward to assisting with the important work to be done for Indian Country,” Seukteoma said. “I want to learn, and I want to serve our Tribal communities.”

Seukteoma, has worked for the State of Nevada Division of Welfare as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). She is part of the Stewart Community and previously served on their Tribal Council.

In her role, Seukteoma will oversee the day-to-day operation of the NIC, serving 28 federally recognized Tribal Nations, Bands, and Colonies, plus an additional 62,000 self-identified Urban Indians who have chosen to make the Silver State their second home.

Davis, a retired educator, was a community liaison and afterschool coordinator for 30 years at Natchez Elementary School in Wadsworth, Nev. In 2020, Davis was elected to a two-year term as the Chairwoman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Nation.

In her capacity as a two-year, contract employee, Davis will administer \$20 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to all of Nevada’s Tribes. The Nevada Indian Commission received this capital from the Governor’s Recovery Funds in December of 2022.

“The worldwide global pandemic showed us how underfunded our Tribal governments are,” Davis said. “Distributing this funding is a great opportunity to help our Native American communities build important infrastructure and prepare for future natural disasters.”

Davis currently serves on the National Not Invisible Act Commission, making recommendations to the Department of the Interior and Department of Justice to improve intergovernmental coordination and establish best practices for state-tribal-federal law enforcement to combat the epidemic of missing persons, murder, and trafficking of Native Americans and Alaskan Natives.

The Nevada Indian Commission was created by statute in 1965 to “study matters affecting the social and economic welfare and well-being of American Indians residing in Nevada” and serves as the liaison between Tribal communities, Tribal citizens, and the State.

During the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session, lawmakers and Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo took action to make the NIC a stand-alone state agency beginning in July of 2024. The anticipated new Nevada Department of Native American Affairs will continue the mission of improving the quality of life for the Tribes of the Great Basin and Nevada’s Urban Indians.

GrantStation

The Reimagine Education Awards, an initiative of the Reimagine Education conference, reward innovative approaches that enhance student learning outcomes and employability.

The Overall Awards consist of:

- the Global Education Award; and,
- the Global EdTech Award.

The Global Education Award winner and the Global EdTech Award winner will each be awarded \$25,000 in funding.

Category Awards are also presented in a number of categories, as well as Regional Awards focused on Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Oceania, and the USA and Canada.

Application Procedures

Application guidelines are available on the Reimagine Education website. Applications must be submitted online.

Application Deadlines:

September 3, 2023 (The 2024 deadline will be available in the summer.)

Contact Information simona@qs.com, Simona Bizzozero, communications director

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### **National Opportunities**

#### **[Support Enhances Access to Parks in the U.S., Canada, and Europe](#)**

Hydro Flask's Parks for All program supports nonprofit organizations focused on building, maintaining, restoring, and providing more equitable access to parks.

#### **[Grants Facilitate International Performances by U.S. Artists](#)**

USArtists International, a program of Mid Atlantic Arts, supports in-person and virtual performances by American artists at engagements at international festivals and global presenting arts marketplaces outside of the United States.

#### **[Programs Serving Individuals With Autism Supported](#)**

Autism Speaks' Local Impact Grant program supports community programs throughout the United States that provide people with autism with fulfilling social and educational experiences.

#### **[Music Innovation and STEAM Education Programs Funded](#)**

The Les Paul Foundation inspires innovative and creative thinking by sharing the legacy of Les Paul through support of music education, recording, innovation, and medical research related to hearing.

### **Regional Opportunities**

#### **[Grants Strengthen Climate Adaptation Planning in California](#)**

The California Resilience Challenge is a statewide initiative to support innovative climate

adaptation planning projects that strengthen local resilience to wildfire, drought, flood, and extreme heat events in under-resourced communities in California.

### **Funding Benefits Maine Communities**

The Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation provides support for Maine communities.

### **Legal Aid for Low-Income Illinois Residents Supported**

The Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois makes grants to nonprofit organizations that provide free civil legal aid to low-income Illinois residents.

### **Grants Advance Opportunity in AR, LA, and MS**

The Foundation for the Mid South brings together the public and private sectors and focuses their resources on increasing social and economic opportunity in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

### **Federal Opportunities**

#### **Funds Available for Clean Energy Programs**

The Powering Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) program helps make clean, affordable, and reliable energy accessible to the people of rural America.

#### **Program Supports Trauma-Affected Refugees**

The Office of Refugee Resettlement invites eligible entities to submit competitive grant applications under the new Support for Trauma-Affected Refugees (STAR) Program.

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Biden-Harris Administration Announces Availability of \$115 Million in Grants to Cut Harmful Diesel Engine Emissions

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) [announced](#) the availability of \$115 million in grant funding for projects that cut harmful pollution from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. Under the [Diesel Emissions Reduction Act \(DERA\) grant funding competition](#), EPA anticipates making 4-10 awards in each of EPA's ten regions to eligible applicants.

The following entities are eligible to apply:

1. A regional, state (including the District of Columbia), or local agency, Tribal government (or intertribal consortium) or Alaska Native Village, or port authority, which has jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. School districts, municipalities, metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs), cities, and counties are all generally eligible entities under this assistance agreement program to the extent that they fall within this definition.
2. A nonprofit organization or institution that:
 - represents or provides pollution reduction or educational services to persons or organizations that own or operate diesel fleets; or
 - has, as its principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality.

EPA is seeking cost-effective diesel emission reduction projects that maximize health benefits, reduce diesel exposure for those facing poor air quality, and/or employ community-based

inclusive and collaborative approaches to reduce harmful emissions. The DERA Program delivers on the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative to ensure that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities, creating good-paying jobs and driving inclusive economic growth.

The grant funding opportunity is open until Friday, December 1, 2023. For any questions or for more information on the application, visit the [DERA website](#) or email written questions to: dera@epa.gov.

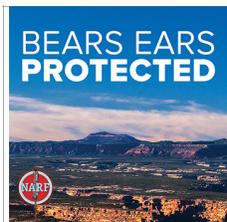
Background

Diesel-powered engines move most of the nation's freight tonnage, and today nearly all highway freight trucks, locomotives, and commercial marine vessels are powered by diesel engines. Smog- and soot-forming diesel exhaust can impair air quality, threatening the health of people in nearby communities. Exposure to this pollution can lead to disruptive and costly asthma attacks, illnesses, lost days of school and work, and emergency room visits. These adverse health effects have been shown to disproportionately impact children, older adults, those with heart or lung conditions, and low-income and minority communities.

DERA enables EPA to offer funding to accelerate the upgrade and turnover of legacy diesel fleets. Funding opportunities for diesel reduction projects are provided through an annual appropriation by Congress to DERA. DERA prioritizes funding projects in areas facing the largest air quality issues. Many of these projects fund cleaner engines that operate in low socio-economic areas whose residents suffer from higher-than-average instances of asthma, heart, and lung diseases.

For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/dera/national>

From NARF

	<h3>Challenges to Bears Ears Vanquished</h3> <p>The U.S. District Court, Utah, dismissed two lawsuits that sought to dismantle the Bears Ears National Monument, which protects sacred and cultural sites.</p> <p>Learn More →</p>
	<h3>Addressing Native Vote Dilution</h3> <p>Despite a growing Native voting-age population, North Dakota's 2021 redistricting plan reduced the number of candidates they can elect.</p> <p>What Happened →</p>

[Saving for retirement is one of the most important things you can do for your future. Yet, 340,000 Nevadans lack the ability to save for retirement through an employer-based retirement plan. But thanks to your legislator, Nevada workers will now be able to save for retirement at work with an automatic payroll deduction meaning they are 20 times more likely to save.](#)

The Nevada Employee Savings Trust (NEST) was signed by Gov. Joe Lombardo and will be a public-private partnership through State Treasurer Zach Conine's office and employers with more than 5 employees.

While Social Security is a critical piece of the retirement puzzle, it alone is insufficient. NEST is a lifesaver for workers without retirement plans and will help ensure that future retirees have the savings needed to meet daily expenses.

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**New California-Nevada report shows efforts to meet Lake Tahoe Clarity Challenge continue to make an impact**

*Amount of fine sediment that made it into the lake reduced by 303 tons in 2022*

**LAKE TAHOE, NV/CA** – Bi-state efforts to reduce pollution and restore Lake Tahoe's world-famous water clarity remain on track, according to an annual [lake performance report](#) released today by the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, part of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA).

The report outlines the program's progress and highlights the commitment of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program partners to help restore Lake Tahoe's water clarity. The report found that the amount of light-scattering fine sediment that made it into the lake was reduced by 303 tons in 2022, or about the weight of a Boeing 747 jet. Nitrogen and phosphorus pollution, which contributes to algae growth, also was reduced by thousands of pounds per year, thanks to collaboration between Nevada and California; support from federal, state and local agencies; and help from private landowners in the Tahoe Basin.

The annual report is part of the bi-state Lake Tahoe TMDL Program. Launched in 2011, the program seeks to restore clarity to a depth of at least 78 feet by the end of 2031. This interim goal is referred to as the Clarity Challenge. In time, the goal is for people to once again be able to see to depths of 97 feet.

While past years have seen some declines in Lake Tahoe's water clarity, the TMDL Program has helped stabilize these levels. In 2022, Lake Tahoe's water clarity was measured at a depth of 72 feet – almost 11 feet deeper than the 2021 recording. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection and the Lahontan Water Board are hopeful that this measurement is a sign that water clarity at the lake will continue to improve and bring the program closer to meeting the Clarity Challenge.

"The progress made toward restoring Lake Tahoe clarity has been and continues to be encouraging," said Jennifer Carr, Administrator of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. "These results could not have been achieved without sizable resource commitments and the hard work of our implementing partners and residents. I commend all who have been involved in helping to protect this extraordinary treasure."

The report noted that significant progress was made by forest management agencies in 2022 to control and prevent pollution impacts from activities to suppress the Caldor Fire. In 2021, the Caldor Fire burned more than 10,000 acres within the Upper Truckee River and Trout Creek watersheds, necessitating over 300 acres of new disturbed area to be created to control spread of the fire.

“I’m pleased to join so many Californians in celebrating this latest report showing the improvement in clarity of Tahoe’s precious water this year. It’s important to know that it took significant work and collaborative partnership to get us here,” said CalEPA Secretary Yana Garcia. “For over a decade the Lahontan Water Board has worked tirelessly with the state of Nevada to implement water quality standards that help preserve, enhance, and stabilize water quality in the lake – a challenging task in light of several climate change-driven factors including the impacts of wildfires like the Caldor Fire. While we celebrate this improvement today, we know we still have much to do to protect this invaluable shared resource and more like it.”

Some key findings from the 2023 Performance Report include:

- Urban partners continue to meet load reduction targets by installing and maintaining innovative controls to reduce polluted stormwater runoff that makes its way to the lake.
- In 2022, significant efforts occurred to remediate fire management activities, such as firebreaks, put in place during the 2021 Caldor Fire to control fire spread.
- Collective implementation actions have helped water clarity stabilize. While lake clarity improved in 2022 to a depth of 72 feet, this value is within the range of what has been observed over the last several decades. Future measurements will give researchers a better idea of whether this improvement represents a positive trend.
- NDEP and the Lahontan Water Board continue to work with partners on program implementation, including coordinating with the scientific community, to assess progress toward achieving established goals. This includes researching how climate change and alterations in lake ecology influence clarity conditions.

To learn more about the TMDL Program and accomplishments to improve Lake Tahoe’s water clarity, view the [Lake Clarity Tracker](#).

**Matthew McDaniel, Public Information Officer, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**

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Fox Rothschild LLP Secures Novel IRS Ruling on Water Rights as ‘Real Property’
<https://norcalrecord.com/stories/646639762-fox-rothschild-llp-secures-novel-irs-ruling-on-water-rights-as-real-property>

Californians could drink highly purified sewage water that is piped directly into drinking water supplies for the first time under proposed rules unveiled by state water officials.

The drought-prone state has turned to recycled water for [more than 60 years \(PDF\)](#) to bolster its scarce supplies, but the current regulations require it to first make a pit stop in a reservoir or an aquifer before it can flow to taps.

The new rules, [mandated by state law \(PDF\)](#), would require extensive treatment and monitoring before wastewater can be piped to taps or mingled with raw water upstream of a drinking water treatment plant.

“Toilet-to-tap” this is not.

Between flush and faucet, a slew of steps are designed to remove chemicals and pathogens that remain in sewage after it has already undergone [traditional primary, secondary and sometimes tertiary treatment \(PDF\)](#).

It is bubbled with ozone, chewed by bacteria, filtered through activated carbon, pushed at high pressures through reverse osmosis membranes multiple times, cleansed with an oxidizer like hydrogen peroxide and beamed with high-intensity UV light. Valuable minerals such as calcium, that were filtered out, are restored. And then, finally, the wastewater is subjected to the regular treatment that all drinking water [currently undergoes](#).

“Quite honestly, it’ll be the cleanest drinking water around,” said Darrin Polhemus, deputy director of the state’s Division of Drinking Water.

The [62 pages of proposed rules \(PDF\)](#), more than [a decade in the making](#), are not triggering much, if any, debate among health or water experts. A panel of engineering and water quality scientists [deemed an earlier version of the regulations protective of public health \(PDF\)](#), although they raised concerns that the treatment process would be energy-intensive.

“I would have no hesitation drinking this water my whole life,” said [Daniel McCurry](#), an assistant professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Southern California.

This water is expected to be more expensive than imported water, but also provide a more renewable and reliable supply for California as climate change continues. Most treated sewage — [about 400 million gallons a day in Los Angeles County alone](#) — is released into rivers, streams and the deep ocean.

he draft rules, [released on July 21st](#), still face a gauntlet of public comment, a hearing and peer review by another panel of experts, before being finalized. The State Water Resources Control Board is required by law to vote on them by the end of December, though they can extend the deadline if necessary. They would likely go into effect next April and it will take many years to reach people’s taps.

Heather Collins, water treatment manager for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, said the regulations will give the district more certainty about how to design a massive, multi-billion dollar water recycling project with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. The district imports water that is provided to 19 million Southern Californians.

The joint effort, called [Pure Water Southern California](#), has [already received \\$80 million](#) from the state. The first phase of the project, which could be completed by 2032, is expected to

produce about 115 million gallons of recycled water a day, enough for 385,000 Southern California households.

Most is planned to go toward recharging local water agencies' groundwater stores, but about 20% could be added to drinking water supplies upstream of Metropolitan's existing treatment plant for imported water.

"We're excited," Collins said. "It helps better inform us on what our project needs to include, so that we can have a climate-resistant supply for our agencies in Southern California."

The new rules come as endless cycles of drought leave California's water [suppliers scrambling for new sources of water](#), like purified sewage. In 2021, Californians used about [732,000 acre feet of recycled water \(PDF\)](#), equivalent to the amount used by roughly 2.6 million households, though much of it goes to non-drinking purposes, like irrigating landscapes, golf courses and crops.

Last year, Gov. Gavin Newsom called for increasing recycled water use in California, [roughly 9% by 2030 \(PDF\)](#) and more than doubling it by 2040.

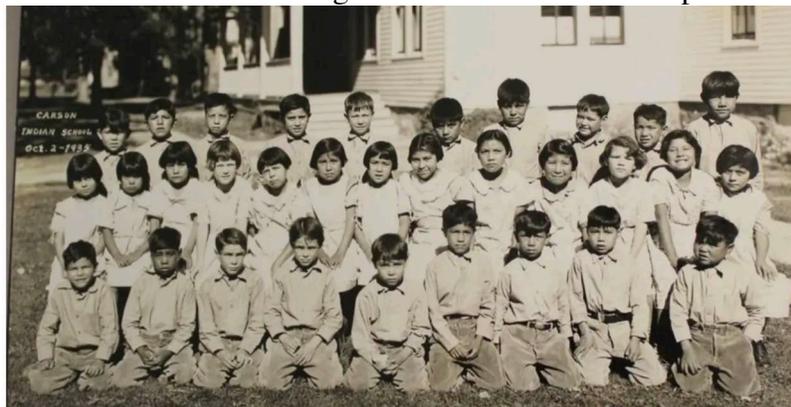
"Water recycling is about finding new water, not just accepting the scarcity mindset — being more resourceful in terms of our approach," Newsom said last [May in front of Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California](#) demonstration plant.

to continue: https://www.kqed.org/science/1983699/from-sewage-to-drinking-glass-californias-plan-to-recycle-water?mc_key=90716439

[Read More](#)

Cheri Emm-Smith

Dee numu posted this photo a while back. This is my dads class. He was taken to Stewart when he was six. He didn't talk too much about it. He said he was never so hungry as when he was there. The kids would steal potatoes and cook them underground. He said he never got to see his mom or siblings for a year until he got to go home. He wasn't allowed to see his brother boxing at Stewart even though he was on the same campus.



Save the Date
Save the Date



IAC Annual Conference December 12 - 14, 2023

Save the Date
Save the Date
Save the Date



indianag.org

General Track

The Request for Proposals for the General Track should fall in the following topic areas:

- Food Systems
- Legal & Policy
- Conservation & Land Management
- Economic & Finance Solutions
- Other Agriculture related topics

IAC plans to highlight land stewardship efforts that lend important modeling and direction to all sectors of agriculture and land management.

Youth Track

The Request for Proposals for the Youth Track should fall in the following topic areas:

- Nutrition
- Schools & Universities
- Professional Development
- Mental Health
- Economic
- Other Agriculture Topics

All presentations need to be accompanied by a hands-on activity, workshop, game, or small breakout session.

[SUBMIT A YOUTH SESSION PROPOSAL](#)

[SUBMIT A GENERAL SESSION PROPOSAL](#)

The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, September 6th at 11:59 pm (PT).

[Historic California Hotels Owned by Native Americans](#)

Here's a look at four properties that are worth considering for your next Golden State getaway.



<https://www.visitcalifornia.com > experience > historic-california-hotels-owned-native-americans>

Extract: “Copper mining in the Lake Superior country seems to be all the rage just now,” wrote the Detroit [Democratic Free Press](#) in 1845. “From Boston, New York, Pittsburgh and Cleveland, and many other eastern cities, there are constant arrivals ... all making a grand dash at the newly discovered copper region.”

This “grand dash” resulted in a [flourishing industry](#) that endured into the early 20th century. The Keweenaw Peninsula “had the richest mines, the deepest mines, the most technologically innovative and the most profitable mines here,” says [Timothy J. Scarlett](#), an industrial archaeologist at Michigan Technological University in Houghton. The area was “well known around the country.”

By the time white miners arrived in the region, its Indigenous inhabitants had already been [mining copper](#) for millennia. “The last glaciers receded about 9,000 years ago,” says Scarlett. “Almost as soon as they melted, people [began arriving](#).”

According to Scarlett, recent scholarship suggests the area’s prehistoric residents excavated copper from shallow pits (Central itself was built on one such ancient site) and [practiced metallurgy](#), essentially using fire to heat copper and then shaping it with handheld tools. “People used the landscape seasonally, much like [tourists] who rent summer cabins here today,” he says. “They came up in the summer to hunt, grow things and harvest some copper.”

The Indigenous [Ojibwe](#) people maintained control of the mineral-rich territory until 1854, when they ceded the western half of the Upper Peninsula to the United States government under the [Treaty of La Pointe](#). Shortly after, [Central](#), the midsize mine that lent the Methodist church its name, opened and prospered for four decades. Work began in 1855 under the auspices of the newly formed Central Mining Company. According to the [Keweenaw County Historical Society](#), miners extracted 83,836 pounds of copper in Central’s first year in operation, turning a profit faster than any other mine on the Keweenaw Peninsula to date.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/once-a-year-this-19th-century-michigan-ghost-town-comes-to-life-180982695/?spMailingID=48591912&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2521478442&spReportId=MjUyMTQ3ODQ0MgS2>

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**Delaney Apple**

After a devastating prairie fire that laid waste to a whole Lakota encampment in the dead of night, all the fires had gone out and the people slowly and cautiously moved back to the camp. There was a scream of agony and everybody came running, for in the middle of the teepee’s there was one that burned to the ground and there in the middle was the smoldering, petrified ashes was the figure of a woman, an old woman covered in a thick blanket. One warrior approached her and touched her, she slowly fell over and the blanket she was covered in broke open and inside were 5 babies all were alive, she was recognized as the elderly lady known as ‘no voice’ she had been born without speech and was a nanny to the new mom’s of the village. She could have run to save herself and maybe 2 of the babies, they could have made it to safety but she had refused to abandon her babies. When the blaze had arrived and the heat had singed her small body, the grandmother remained steadfast. She had been willing to die so those under the cover of her blanket would live and the little ones were saved by hope