

***Journal #5829      from sdc      10.10.24***

*Skies over Iceland*

*California Native Vote Project's 2024 Voter Guide*

*Library of Congress resource search - sometimes it takes a couple of terms*

*Nevada's Climate Innovation Plan*

*Mandate For Leadership - Project 2025 PDF Document*

*Say it isn't so. The proportion of Americans who read books*

*Burning Man to purchase Ormat's geothermal leases near Black Rock conservation area*

*Does the BLM solar plan trade Nevada's resources for desert sprawl?*



Not phontoshopped.....skies over Iceland

## California Native Vote Project's 2024 Voter Guide

I'm so excited to share a new resource for making our votes count more powerfully for our Native community.

This upcoming election is crucial for the future of Native communities across California, with key issues like climate change, systemic incarceration, and Native health at stake.

Election Day is November 5, and early voting began this week. **In this election cycle, there are critical measures that directly impact the well-being and future of Native communities:**

- **YES:** Prop 4 protects our waters, forests, and ocean by responding to climate change,
- **YES:** Prop 5, which will make it easier for local governments to fund affordable housing,
- **YES:** Prop 6 works to end slave labor in California state prisons, and
- **NO:** Defeating Prop 36 is critical to deescalating the systemic incarceration of mostly Native and BIPOC communities.

With so much on the line for Native communities in our state and beyond, making a plan to vote is a crucial way to ensure that our collective voice shapes the policies that matter to us. [Save or print the 2024 Voter Guide today and share it with your community](#) - we can stand together to make a difference for California's Native communities!

In Community,

Chrissie Castro

*Co-founder and Executive Director*

### ***Native Vote = Native Power***

***From climate protection to community healthcare, native voices must be heard in the 2024 election. With so much on the line, we developed the California Native Vote Project's 2024 voter guide. It's packed with information on California's ballot propositions and the steps to make sure your vote is counted - Don't head to the polls without it! Want to email a copy to yourself before you vote? Just fill out the form on this page and we'll make sure you have a copy in your inbox to look back on.*** [\*\*\*Download your copy now by clicking here!\*\*\*](#)

***Cannot say I agree with all recommendations. sdc (you have read text of bills)***

## Library of Congress resource search - sometimes it takes a couple of terms

### Washo (term #1)

- [Available Online 3,602](#)
- [All Items 3,713](#)
- [Newspaper 3,250](#)
- [Periodical 201](#)
- [Book/Printed Material 160](#)
- [Web Page 53](#)
- [Photo, Print, Drawing 7](#)
- [Manuscript/Mixed Material 5](#)
- [Film, Video 1](#)
- [PDF 3,581](#)
- [Image 3,547](#)
- [Online Text 3,535](#)
- [Web Page 10](#)
- [Video 1](#)
- [2000 to 2025 9](#)
- [1900 to 1999 2,228](#)
- [1800 to 1899 1,312](#)
- [1700 to 1799 2](#)
- [1600 to 1699 1](#)
- [1500 to 1599 4](#)
- [United States 3,309](#)
- [Washington 581](#)
- [District of Columbia 442](#)
- [New York 411](#)
- [Nevada 407](#)
- [New York City 405](#)
- [New York County 402](#)
- [Washington D.C. 401](#)
- [Montana 282](#)
- [Utah 145](#)
- [More Locations](#)
- [Serial and Government Publications Division 3,250](#)
- [Chronicling America 3,248](#)
- [The Sun \(New York \[N.Y.\]\) 1833 to 1916 306](#)
- [Evening Star \(Washington, D.C.\) 1854 to 1972 170](#)
- [Business Reference Services 155](#)
- [Dun & Bradstreet Reference Book Collection 155](#)
- [Library of Congress Online Catalog 124](#)

- [General Collections 111](#)
- [The Washington Times \(Washington \[D.C.\]\) 1902 to 1939 105](#)
- [Selected Digitized Books 102](#)
- [Library of Congress, Washington, DC 501](#)
- [University of Nevada Las Vegas University Libraries 399](#)
- [The New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundation 327](#)
- [Montana Historical Society; Helena, MT 282](#)
- [Dun and Bradstreet 155](#)
- [Mercantile Agency \(New York, N.Y.\) 155](#)
- [R.G. Dun & Company 155](#)
- [Washington State Library; Olympia, WA 150](#)
- [University of Utah, Marriott Library 144](#)
- [Library of Virginia; Richmond, VA 115](#)
- [More Contributors](#)
- [United States 3,450](#)
- [Newspapers 3,067](#)
- [Washington 581](#)
- [District of Columbia 442](#)
- [New York 408](#)
- [Nevada 407](#)
- [New York \(State\) 407](#)
- [New York \(N.Y.\) 406](#)
- [New York County 402](#)
- [New York County \(N.Y.\) 402](#)
- [More Subjects](#)
- [English 3,541](#)
- [German 8](#)
- [Polish 6](#)
- [Finnish 2](#)
- [French 2](#)
- [Norwegian 2](#)
- [Serbian 2](#)
- [Spanish 2](#)
- [Danish 1](#)
- [Dutch 1](#)
- [More Languages](#)
- [Available Online 3,600](#)
- [Available at the Library of Congress Campus 2](#)

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## **Washoe Indian (term #2)**

- [Available Online 39,673](#)
- [All Items 39,746](#)

- [Newspaper 38,431](#)
  - [Book/Printed Material 816](#)
  - [Periodical 380](#)
  - [Web Page 186](#)
  - [Legislation 42](#)
  - [Manuscript/Mixed Material 12](#)
  - [Photo, Print, Drawing 8](#)
  - [Film, Video 1](#)
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- [PDF 39,637](#)
  - [Image 39,446](#)
  - [Online Text 39,438](#)
  - [Web Page 52](#)
  - [Video 1](#)
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- [2000 to 2025 35](#)
  - [1900 to 1999 19,436](#)
  - [1800 to 1899 20,036](#)
  - [1700 to 1799 1](#)
  - [1600 to 1699 1](#)
  - [1500 to 1599 2](#)
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- [United States 38,669](#)
  - [Nevada 23,585](#)
  - [Carson City 7,077](#)
  - [Ormsby 7,077](#)
  - [Montana 3,431](#)
  - [California 3,106](#)
  - [Humboldt 2,668](#)
  - [Winnemucca 2,558](#)
  - [Gold Hill 2,516](#)
  - [Storey 2,515](#)
  - [More Locations](#)
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- [Serial and Government Publications Division 38,427](#)
  - [Chronicling America 38,421](#)
  - [Carson City Daily Appeal \(Carson City, Nev.\) 1907 to 1930 3,212](#)
  - [Morning Appeal \(Carson City, Nev.\) 1877 to 1906 2,882](#)
  - [Gold Hill Daily News \(Gold Hill, N.T. \[Nev.\]\) 1863 to 1882 2,515](#)
  - [The Silver State \(Unionville, Nev.\) 1870 to 1903 1,680](#)
  - [Eureka Daily Sentinel \(Eureka, Nev.\) 1871 to 1887 1,095](#)
  - [Daily Independent \(Elko, Nev.\) 188?-1915 1,033](#)
  - [Lyon County Times \(Silver City, Nev.\) 1874 to 1907 794](#)
  - [Daily National Democrat \(Marysville, Calif.\) 1858 to 1861 736](#)
  - [More Part of s University of Nevada Las Vegas University Libraries 23,052](#)

- [Montana Historical Society; Helena, MT 3,428](#)
  - [University of California, Riverside; Riverside, CA 3,018](#)
  - [Library of Congress, Washington, DC 1,079](#)
  - [Idaho State Historical Society 1,029](#)
  - [University of Utah, Marriott Library 680](#)
  - [Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records; Phoenix, AZ 535](#)
  - [Minnesota Historical Society; Saint Paul, MN 295](#)
  - [Ohio History Connection, Columbus, OH 276](#)
  - [Maine State Library 260](#)
  - [More Contributors](#)
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- [United States 38,885](#)
  - [Newspapers 34,729](#)
  - [Nevada 23,609](#)
  - [Carson City 7,077](#)
  - [Carson City \(Nev.\) 7,077](#)
  - [Ormsby 7,077](#)
  - [Montana 3,431](#)
  - [California 3,075](#)
  - [Humboldt 2,668](#)
  - [Winnemucca 2,558](#)
  - [More Subjects](#)
- 
- [English 39,481](#)
  - [Spanish 52](#)
  - [German 43](#)
  - [French 32](#)
  - [Hawaiian 20](#)
  - [Croatian 3](#)
  - [Norwegian 3](#)
  - [Czech 2](#)
  - [Slovenian 2](#)
  - [Choctaw 1](#)
  - [More Languages](#)
- 
- [Available Online 39,672](#)
  - [Available at the Library of Congress Campus 1](#)

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*If that isn't enough to read, here's some more for the weekend:*

## NEVADA'S CLIMATE INNOVATION PLAN

<https://climate.nv.gov/>

AND

[https://archive.org > details > project-2025-mandate-for-leadership-full\\_202309-manifesto](https://archive.org/details/project-2025-mandate-for-leadership-full_202309-manifesto)

[Mandate For Leadership - Project 2025 PDF Document](#)

[Kay Lockhart:](#) *Say it isn't so.....* its lowest level ever recorded. The American Time Use Survey — which studies a representative sample of 26,000 Americans — found that between 2004 and 2017 the proportion of men reading for pleasure had fallen by 40 percent, while for women, it was down by 29 percent. The opinion-poll company Gallup found that the proportion of Americans who never read a book in any given year tripled between 1978 and 2014. Some 57 percent of Americans now do not read a single book in a typical year. (This data is old. Keep buying books and keep reading books!)

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### [Burning Man to purchase Ormat's geothermal leases near Black Rock conservation area](#)

The Burning Man Project and Ormat Technologies have struck a deal that will advance renewable energy at the Black Rock Desert.

[Read on »](#)



*“Looking at the history of our nation, I find that our real strength has been based on individual commitment to collective goals. Americans have consistently taken personal responsibility for improving their conditions and communities. Local decision-making has been a crucial part of our development as a free nation. This decentralization is largely responsible for the diversity and creativity of the responses we have provided to challenges facing our nation in the past.*

*This type of energy and commitment offers a positive sign in terms of our ability to meet future challenges. I am concerned, however, that we have come to demand more and more from government and less and less from ourselves. A continuation of this trend can only lead to further frustration and disenchantment as individuals feel progressively more helpless to guide their own destinies. We need to return to a way of thinking which begins with the question, “What can I do within my community or my family to make life a little better?” To shun such commitment is to abandon control of our future.”*

*Senator Nancy Landon Kassebaum  
1980*

*“Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country.”*

*John F. Kennedy  
January 20, 1961*



*View picture very carefully*



*Old Spanish Trail mural by David Brockhurst in Barstow, California. (Library of Congress)*

**Indy Environment:** Does the BLM's solar plan trade Nevada's resources for desert sprawl?

*Good morning, and welcome to the Indy Environment newsletter. I'm Amy Alonzo, the environment reporter for The Indy.*

*Here at The Indy, we're still doing the in-depth, investigative and accountability-focused journalism you're used to, but we're also trying to bring you more of the important outdoor and environmental news around Nevada and the West. That's why we're rolling out a new format for the Indy Environment newsletter. Let us know what you think.*

*As always, we want to hear from readers. Let us know what you're seeing on the ground and how policies are affecting you. Email tips to me at [amy@thenvindy.com](mailto:amy@thenvindy.com).*

Long before the days of freeways and highways, interstate travelers relied on rugged dirt trails.

The Old Spanish Trail was one such path.





*Rocky Mountain juniper groves, known locally as “swamp cedars,” at Bahsahwahbee in Nevada’s Great Basin. (Courtesy of Monte Sanford)*

Spanning approximately 2,700 miles between present day Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Los Angeles, California, and running through a portion of Southern Nevada, the trail was used by traders, explorers and settlers during the early 19th century. California-bred horses and mules were swapped for goods made in New Mexico, and contraband and slaves were also transported along [the route](#).

Portions of the trail are overgrown or have been paved over by cities. But other sections have been preserved, and in 2001, more than 150 years after the trail fell out of use, the portion of the trail running through Nevada was placed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#). The following year, Congress commemorated the path by designating the [Old Spanish National Historic Trail](#).

But roughly two decades later, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the National Park Service, the federal agencies jointly tasked with managing the trail, haven’t drafted a management plan for it, leaving parts of the trail open to development. And in Nevada, that means not just residential and commercial development, but also solar development.

The BLM recently released its Western Solar Plan, a guiding document for solar development across 11 Western states, including Nevada. While the plan protects roughly 130 million acres across the West from solar development, it also identifies 31 million acres nationwide that could be used for solar development — including almost 12 million in Nevada.

While it’s highly unlikely that anywhere close to that amount will be developed, the plan fails to provide a solid framework of where solar development should occur on those millions of acres. Should solar arrays be built across one large swath of land, or in small clumps that pocket the desert? Although the plan protects critical habitat, recreation areas and wildlife migration corridors, what does it mean for areas that are locally significant or for the state’s rural way of life?

As one conservationist told me, “It is not very helpful in figuring out where and how much solar needs to go in Nevada.”

Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, along with groups including Basin and Range Watch and the Amargosa Conservancy, have [filed a protest](#) with the federal government over the plan, alleging it will be yet another scar on the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

During the past decade, federal agencies have approved roughly four dozen projects affecting the trail, including the Gemini Solar Project, the largest utility-scale solar project in Nevada. That project built utility-scale solar fields over a 3-mile stretch of the trail.

Across Southern Nevada, there are five additional proposed solar projects adjacent to the trail and one, in Pahrump Valley, that would sit on top of the trail. If built, the projects would cover thousands of acres with row upon row of solar arrays.

High solar potential? Yes. Ideal areas for solar development? Probably not

In a separate protest, the Center for Biological Diversity points out that lands will be open to development “based on poorly defined exclusion criteria, inconsistent application of those criteria, and inadequate consideration of public lands resource values.”

Not everyone feels the plan is too permissive, though. In a [letter](#) earlier this year to the Department of Interior, Dwayne McClinton, director of Nevada’s Office of Energy, took the opposite stance, calling the plan “unnecessarily rigid” and having “limiting exclusions and design features.”

Nevada lacks a solar development plan of its own, so the Western Solar Plan does provide some level of framework. It's up to federal officials to now ensure the plan strikes a balance between being “unnecessarily rigid” and being “inconsistent” and “inadequate.”

Otherwise, Nevada could end up exchanging its cultural and geographical resources and wildlife habitat for sprawling solar complexes — a remote, desert version of suburban sprawl.

### **In the weeds**

*Renewed focus on Red Rock* — The Southern Nevada Conservancy, a Las Vegas-based nonprofit organization, will no longer staff visitor centers and bookstores and offer education events at Spring Mountains National Recreation Area and Desert and Pahrangat national wildlife refuges. The conservancy will instead focus its efforts on stewardship of Red Rock National Conservation Area, considered one of the crown jewels of Nevada and under threat by development.

Earlier this year, [Clark County commissioners unanimously agreed](#) to an \$80 million settlement with a Southern Nevada developer looking to build thousands of homes near the conservation area. Despite more than 52,000 comments in opposition, the developer has secured the right to develop a master-planned community and commercial development.

*Pedal smarter, not harder?* — Step aside privatization of ski resorts and overcrowded beaches — there’s a new recreation issue at hand in the Lake Tahoe Basin. A new plan by the U.S. Forest Service to open more than 100 miles of currently off-limit trails in the Lake Tahoe Basin to e-bikes is firing people up, with nearly 600 people submitting written comments about it.

The [proposal](#) would allow e-bikes, currently allowed only on roads and trails designated as “motorized,” onto 112 miles of trail now closed to motorized vehicles, as well as 27 miles of yet-to-be-built trails — nearly one-third of the 362 miles of trails within the basin.

Some of the basin's most pristine trails — the Tahoe Rim Trail and those in the Desolation and Mount Rose wilderness areas — would remain off limits to e-bikes.



**Hunters rejoice** — A “literal boom” in the state’s chukar population is likely to result in the best chukar and Hungarian partridge hunting season thus far this century. Weighing only about a pound, the game birds were introduced from Eurasia and live in the West’s high desert plains.

Nevada Department of Wildlife biologists determined that the state’s chukar population has more than doubled in the past year from about 5,000 birds last year to nearly 11,000 this year.

The increased population is the result of two solid years of precipitation and an above average number of mature birds.

“That’s almost unheard of,” said state game biologist Justin Small.

Other wildlife, such as mule deer and bighorn sheep, are seeing numbers dip in some areas after two harsh winters. But those same conditions have resulted in thick cover and an increase in insect populations — two factors that help upland game birds thrive.

### ICYMI

*Killing coyote calling competitions?* — The possible banning of coyote calling contests in Nevada — competitions that reward participants with cash prizes for reaching certain targets such as killing the most coyotes or snagging the largest — is back before wildlife officials.

In a [story that ran](#) compromise that likely



[Sunday](#), I examined the search for a doesn’t exist.

**Securing funding for Lake Tahoe** — As [reported by my co-worker Gabby Birenbaum](#), federal lawmakers recently passed the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, securing millions in ongoing funding for work including invasive species removal, new trails and wildlife resilience programs.

Not all of the money from the \$300 million fund has been spent, and the bill will keep federal funds flowing into the Tahoe Basin for another decade.