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Congressman Jared Huffman adulates Karuk and Yurok constituents during water exhibit dedication



Newspaper Rock State Historic Monument is an area of extremely dense Native American petroglyphs on a cliff wall, created by several ancient cultures beginning some 1,500 years ago.
Larry Fosse, Utah, 2022
Smithsonian Magazine 2023

Does Democracy Drive Development?

- On Monday, three researchers were awarded the Nobel Prize in economics for their “studies of how institutions are formed and affect prosperity.” [The three researchers](#) – Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson – will split the 11 million Swedish kronor (\$1 million) prize between themselves.
- Their research was aimed at explaining why some countries can effectively build wealth while others remain poor. The answer? Colonialism, kind of. Their findings show that countries where colonizers developed “inclusive institutions” – aimed at creating long-term political and economic benefits for European migrants – were able to become economically prosperous over time. In countries where colonizers set up “extractive institutions” designed to “squeeze” short-term profits out of the locals, the national economy suffered consistently low economic performance.
- Does that mean democracy creates economic growth? Not necessarily, according to Acemoglu. “The work we have done favors democracy,” he said, but warned that democracy “is not a panacea... Our argument has been that this sort of authoritarian growth is more unstable and does not generally lead to very rapid and original innovation.” China, he noted, posed a “bit of a challenge” to that idea – the country has seen rapid growth in renewable energy and AI – but maybe its recent economic struggles are more in line with the economists’ theory?

In Chile, a language on the verge of extinction, stirs into life

<https://www.npr.org/2024/10/14/nx-s1-5148780/chile-lost-language-atacama-desert>

- According to a new study by the World Wildlife Fund, [global wildlife populations decreased by 73% during the 50-year period between 1970 and 2020](#). Habitat loss was found to be the biggest contributor to this massive decline, followed by overexploitation of natural resources and the spread of invasive species. The biggest species declines occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean, which saw a 95% population decline during the observed period. The next-most-impacted region was Africa, which saw species decline by 75% over the 50-year span.
- “The findings of this report are alarming,” said a senior forest policy officer at the WWF. “EU consumption continues to be a major driver of global biodiversity loss, particularly in critical ecosystems like the Amazon, which is nearing an irreversible tipping point.” The report is a reminder that leaders are falling short of global biodiversity goals just before the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP16) in Cali, Colombia, where politicians are expected to set out actionable goals aimed at preserving wildlife around the globe.

Advice on Learning a New Language From People Who Speak Up to 16

Anyone can learn a new language, no matter their age. Simply follow this expert advice down the sweet-talking path to success.

https://getpocket.com/explore/item/advice-on-learning-a-new-language-from-people-who-speak-up-to-16?utm_source=pocket-newtab-en-us

History Notes October 21 - 27

- 1853 Oct 23** The Alabama tribe asked the Texas Legislature for a permanent reservation (more than a thousand acres were reserved.)
- 1863 Oct 25** The Carson Sink Indian war scare over the murder of Walker Lake Paiute Chief E-zedwa near Fort Churchill.
- 1869 Oct 21** The United States proclaimed the Shoshone Treaty.
- 1882 Oct 21** Chief Winnemucca died.
- 1935 Oct 27** A consultant to state governments on how to implement alcohol prohibition repeal said the number of alcohol-related deaths had declined since people started drinking again from 3.44 to 2.75 per 100,000.
- 1950 Oct 25** In D.C., the BIA was concerned about tribal attorneys, including the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribes' lawyer, James Curry. The agency was considering adopting a policy restricting use of lawyers by tribes.
- 1950 Oct 26** The Confederated Indian Tribes of Nevada sent a letter to Sen. McCarran asking him to publicly state his position on acquisition of additional lands by Nevada tribes, return of land on the PLPT reservation held for decades by white squatters and water rights for tribes.
- 1975 Oct 24** John Trudell, AIM leader, in federal district court in Reno on a weapons charge, objected to his case being handled by the federal court instead of a tribal court.
- 1995 Oct 26** The Washington Times criticize Admiral Jeremy Boorda, Chief of naval operations, for send a message to all commands "to honor the North American Indian's contribution to the form of government that we practice today".

From the Nevadan:

There are seven ballot questions that will be posed to voters this election, but what does that mean and how does your vote affect what happens with those initiatives?

The Nevada Secretary of State recently published a [guide](#) breaking down the seven statewide ballot questions, which includes background information and arguments for and against voting for each. If you don't have time to read through 58 pages though, we've got you covered.

[Read our breakdown](#)

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Born of the Bear Dance: Dugan Aguilar's Photographs of Native California

MEMBER PREVIEW DAYTIME HOURS

Thursday, November 7 • 11 am–5 pm

You're invited to the Member Opening for OMCA's newest exhibition! *Born of the Bear Dance: Dugan Aguilar's Photographs of Native California* offers guests a first look at a significant collection that highlights Indigenous endurance and explores the vivid tapestry of contemporary Native California life. **Reserved tickets are highly encouraged but not required for Member Preview Hours.**

RESERVE DAYTIME TICKETS

MEMBER PREVIEW EVENING CELEBRATION*

Thursday, November 7 • 7–10 pm

Don't miss the opening celebration. We will be convening with the curators and collaborators who have helped make this exhibition possible. Join us for complimentary light bites, beer and wine, and live music. **RSVP required.**

*Please note: For the evening celebration, Members will have access to *Calli: The Art of Xicanx Peoples*, however our galleries of California art, history, and natural sciences will be unavailable.

RESERVE EVENING TICKETS

Major support for *Born of the Bear Dance: Dugan Aguilar's Photographs of Native California* is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation and the Oakland Museum Women's Board. This project was also made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



We're excited to invite you to join the Western Environmental Law Center over Zoom on October 30th where WELC attorneys David Woodsmall and Barbara Chillcott will share insights into our vital public lands work.

In this discussion, Barbara and David will highlight our defense of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) groundbreaking Public Lands Rule—a landmark regulation which creates a framework for the agency to manage 245 million acres of public lands for conservation. The BLM's historic management of public lands has been out of balance, with energy development, grazing, and recreation taking priority over conservation, resulting in degraded landscapes. David and Barbara will explore how WELC is standing up to industry and state challenges in court to protect the future of public lands in the face of climate change and environmental degradation.

Whether you're passionate about protecting ecosystems, curious about legal strategies, or just want to learn more about the future of public lands, this webinar will offer valuable insights into how we're making a difference.

**When: Wednesday, October 30
12:00-1:00pm Pacific Time (1:00-2:00pm Mountain Time)
Where: Zoom**

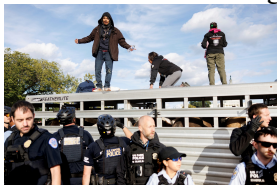
[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

PLC welcomes UNR study that busts common cattle myth (beefmagazine.com) — A University of Nevada, Reno study reveals that cattle grazing helps control cheatgrass, challenging the myth that cattle spread the invasive plant. The study supports ranchers' conservation efforts, highlighting the environmental benefits of grazing.

Massive Toxic Algal Bloom Strikes Pyramid Lake (newsweek.com) — Pyramid Lake, located near Reno, Nevada, is experiencing a severe algal bloom, posing a threat to local wildlife and human health. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe has warned the public to avoid contact with the water due to the release of toxins.

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**WASHINGTON, D.C. - 10 Muwekma Ohlone members arrested**

The tribe, whose ancestral homeland is in the Bay Area, arrived in Washington, D.C., on Monday to ask lawmakers to grant it federal recognition



*Indigenous demonstrators stand atop a horse trailer near the U.S. Capitol in Washington on Tuesday after U.S. Park Police attempted to confiscate their horses.*

By Nollyanne Delacruz and Chase Hunter Bay Area News Group

Ten people with the Muwekma Ohlone tribe, based in the Bay Area, were arrested in Washington, D.C., this week after the tribe joined others traveling to the nation's capital ahead of Indigenous People's Day to demand federal recognition for the tribe.

Nine people were arrested Tuesday by the U.S. Park Police, according to a National Park Service spokesperson. One was arrested on suspicion of assaulting a police officer and eight were arrested on suspicion of interfering with an agency function and disobeying a lawful order, the spokesperson said; another person was arrested Wednesday on suspicion of assaulting a police officer, disobeying a lawful order and interfering with agency operations.

San Jose resident Julie Dominguez, a member of and ambassador for the tribe and the community education chair of the Muwekma Ohlone Preservation Foundation, said that her brother and the husband of tribal Chairwoman Charlene Nijmeh were among those arrested Tuesday. They had been cited and released as of Wednesday.

Matt Ricchiazzi, the tribe's spokesman, said the person arrested Wednesday also was cited and released by Thursday.

In August, around 30 to 40 tribal members and supporters from other Native American tribes embarked on a three-month journey on horseback from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., seeking to persuade federal officials in the Department of the Interior to recognize them as a legitimate tribe.

The Muwekma Ohlone Tribe is made up of 614 members; its ancestral homelands consist of several areas in the San Francisco Bay Area. The tribe was federally recognized in the early 1900s, but its recognition was terminated in 1927. According to an interview with Nijmeh on KALW, the tribe lost its federal recognition status after the Bureau of Indian Affairs submitted a report saying the tribe no longer needed land.

Dominguez said that if the U.S. government recognizes the Muwekma Ohlone as a sovereign tribe, the tribe will be given the ability to repatriate its ancestral remains and artifacts and access to financial benefits and other federal protections. Federal recognition also would grant the tribe powers of self-government, which tribal members have sought to pursue gaming rights.

Last month, tribal leaders accused San Jose city officials of obstructing their efforts to regain federal recognition and pursue a casino when they delayed considering a resolution to support the tribe.

"A lot of our members were being gentrified out of our homelands, because it's Silicon Valley, it's the San Francisco Bay Area, it's a very wealthy place within the United States," Dominguez said. "So we're fighting against a lot of big corporations that already live here."

Dominguez said that Nijmeh was scheduled to meet Tuesday with Bryan Newland, the assistant secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs. Dominguez said tribal members were under the



impression that officers with U.S. Park Police would escort the tribe to the meeting, but instead, they said the police threatened to confiscate the tribal horses.

From that point, tribal members created a daisy chain around a trailer holding the tribal horses to prevent their seizure, but the situation became “really aggressive” as police “seemed to antagonize” the tribe, Dominguez said.

A National Park Service spokesperson said officers responded to an unpermitted event Tuesday. The agency attempted to help the tribe obtain a permit to protest but the members refused, according to an agency statement.

“NPS respects the right to peaceful protest, but repeatedly failing to follow the law and property damage will not be tolerated,” NPS said in a statement. “NPS officials have emphasized that permits are necessary to ensure public safety, coordinate logistics and protect the National Mall’s historic and natural resources, and that permit holders are expected to comply with the law and permit terms.”

Tribal members continued their demonstration despite numerous dispersal warnings; one person was arrested for allegedly assaulting an NPS officer, an account that tribal officials disputed. The tribal member was arrested and eight other tribal members were arrested on suspicion of “interfering with federal operations and disobeying lawful orders,” according to the agency’s statement. Muwekma Ohlone horses brought to the demonstration were seized by NPS officers and medically evaluated before being released to tribal members.

Dominguez said that one person, a mother and ally from the Lakota Nation, who was involved in the protest, was arrested Wednesday and shared a video with the Bay Area News Group of at least four officers holding a person facedown on the ground before they pick the person up and escort him away.

“I’m a proud mom, but also, I’m very hurt and very sad for what’s going on and I just want there to be peace out there. I want for the state parks and people, police, to work with our tribe,” Dominguez said. “We’re not there to cause violence or to bring an uproar; we’re there to bring an uprising towards our injustices.”

Dominguez said that Nijmeh’s meeting with Newland was rescheduled to next week, and the tribe’s goal remains to speak directly with someone from Joe Biden’s administration to reaffirm the tribe’s federal recognition.

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Interior Department Signs Settlement Agreement Recognizing Jemez Pueblo’s Rights to Occupy and Use Banco Bonito in the Valles Caldera National Preserve for Traditional Cultural and Religious Purposes

WASHINGTON — A filing in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit today requests that the Court take steps to close out litigation and give effect to the settlement agreement signed by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland and the Jemez Pueblo, which in part recognizes the Jemez Pueblo’s rights to occupy and use Banco Bonito in the Valles Caldera National Preserve

for traditional cultural and religious purposes. Banco Bonito constitutes approximately 3,035 acres within the 88,900-acre Preserve.

“Since time immemorial, our nation’s lands have been central to the cultural and spiritual practices of Indigenous peoples. It is essential that wherever we can, we allow the original stewards of these lands to live and worship in these places,” said **Secretary Deb Haaland**. “Today’s filing and settlement are part of our sustained effort to engage Tribal Nations in collaborations through co-stewardship to recognize the role that Indigenous peoples should have in managing the public lands that rest on their ancestral homelands.”

In 2012, Jemez Pueblo sued the United States to assert aboriginal title claims to all lands within Valles Caldera National Preserve. Jemez Pueblo asked the court to declare that it had legal title and the exclusive right to use, occupy and possess those lands. After an initial decision adverse to Jemez was reversed on appeal, the federal district court held a 21-day trial and ruled that Jemez Pueblo failed to establish aboriginal title to any of the lands in Valles Caldera. Jemez Pueblo appealed again, narrowing its claims to four discrete sub-areas, including Banco Bonito. Jemez Pueblo’s claim was supported by amicus briefs filed on behalf of 15 other Pueblos and the Zuni Tribe.

On March 22, 2023, the Tenth Circuit reversed the district court’s decision regarding Banco Bonito, holding that Jemez established continuing aboriginal title to that area within the Preserve. The Tenth Circuit otherwise affirmed the lower court’s findings.

The Department and Jemez Pueblo have signed a settlement agreement that recognizes Banco Bonito will remain part of the Preserve and NPS will continue to manage it consistent with the Preserve Act while also recognizing Jemez’s rights to occupy and use Banco Bonito for traditional cultural and religious purposes. The settlement also requires NPS to amend the Preserve’s foundation documents and take other actions to reflect the centrality of Jemez’s and other Tribe’s interests in the Preserve. Other Tribes and the general public will continue to have access to the area for activities consistent with the Preserve Act.

Under the Biden-Harris administration, the Department of the Interior has taken new steps to strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship with Tribal Nations, including increasing Tribal co-stewardship of lands and waters and incorporating Indigenous Knowledge into the Department’s work to preserve and protect sacred sites across the country. Among other actions, [Joint Secretary’s Order 3403 \(S.O. 3403\)](#) commits to Tribal and federal co-stewardship of federal lands, waters and wildlife, including through collaborative and cooperative agreements with Tribal Nations.

Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication

Attention professional and student journalists \$15,000 is up for grabs prizes for professional journalists and \$5,000 in prizes students for coverage of underserved communities.



cronkite.asu.edu

[2023 Shaufler Prize](#)
[\\$20,000 cash prizes.](#)

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*Love is  
the climax of my happiness,  
and the pinnacle of my pain.  
Love is  
the fire in my heart with  
an eternal flame.*  
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“My Definition” by Isabell, 10th grade

*My dreams are endless
My passion is relentless
A better life is not hopeless.*

“A Better Life” by Dillon, 10th grade

“Whispers of the Lakota” Project

Mahpiya LutaRed Cloud School



Was delighted to be at an event honoring WATER WARRIORS sponsored by the Pardee Home Museum. The speakers were Clifford Chan, General Manager of the East Bay Municipal Utility District, Congressman Jared Huffman (*pictured above*) and Dr. Peter Gleick, Pacific Institute.

The Congressman (who is a ranking member the House subcommittee on Water and thus sits on a number of related committees) was articulate and on-point in paying homage to his Karuk and Yurok constituents and their long quest for environmental justice. He talked about the significance and importance of this new age in which tribal knowledge and stewardship are truly part of the planning process and had a few good salmon stories along with reflections on the tearing down of the Klamath dam.

I don't know behind-the-scenes relationships between Mr. Huffman and the tribes, but he was eloquent on their behalf and had an all non-Indian audience nodding in agreement. Another outlook to celebrate after 100 years.

Dr. Peter Gleick (and if you're into water and don't know Dr. Gleick, then you're not into water), talked about land acknowledgements not just being a bunch of words but should truly be about respecting the cultures who lived and worked with an understanding of their environmental resources with an eye towards sustainability. He emphasized that the institutions and structures

of the past might need to be replaced with different infrastructure and thinking, particularly in the areas of reuse and recycle.

Known for his ability to take complex problems and break them down into understandable parts, Dr. Gleick compared the Klamath dam to his newly replaced shoulder. When an original structure wears down/out as did his shoulder (which he attributed to throwing travel bags into the overhead on too many flights)(I never could do that; always had to ask someone taller to do the honors), it is to be replaced with new technology when necessary.

To be sure, he and several others exhorted the audience of the East Bay to never drink bottled water again.

On a related note, it should be celebrated that on the morning of October 17, a tagged salmon from an area behind the now destroyed Klamath dam, had made it (swimming) to Oregon! Congratulations to all the salmon folk who have steadfastly advocated, live and died to see this wrong corrected.

from the printed program:

“Thousands have lived without love, not one without water.” — W.H. Auden

“If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.” — Loren Eiseley

“We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one.” — Jacques Yves Costeau

“Water is the driving force of all nature.” — Leonardo da Vinci

“Pure water is the world's first and foremost medicine.” — Slovakian proverb

“The honest name for our lovely blue planet probably should have been Water, since it covers most of the globe.”
— Peter Gleick

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[Went for a ride last night, had some engine troubles !!](#)