

Journal #6021 from sdc 7.8.25

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*Take a close look at Scott Mortimore's acclaimed photograph *The Sun Slides to the West*, and then read Scott's breakdown of the image, below. Image courtesy of Scott Mortimore.*

“The first thing to notice is there’s no immediately obvious subject, and that goes against what you expect in a photograph. Conventional wisdom says you have to have that central subject, and you need leading visual lines directing the viewer’s attention to it. But I would argue that the subject here isn’t what you see so much as what you feel. There are certain elements that matter, though. Hurricane Hilary had just passed through. So I sat down, set up my tripod, had a beer, watched antelope crossing the valley, and then just waited, because light is what really makes this happen! There’s a little bit of raking over the foreground, which I really like. The sky isn’t crazy, just has a little bit of accent. I shot in panorama format because to me that’s what Nevada is all about: it’s a horizontal landscape. I wanted a foreground, midground, and background, but I didn’t want a lot of contrast between them. And, again, the light did me all the favors in the world. I had seen this view at midday, and in that bright sun it just didn’t have much appeal. But I knew this was going to be an evening to sit down and let nature do the heavy lifting.”

“This spot is out between Gerlach and Vya. I’m camped on BLM ground, but the High Rock Canyon Wilderness is less than 100 feet from where this was taken. In the shot we’re looking south, and everything you see in the image is public land—and in the distance that’s all designated wilderness. High Rock Canyon gradually starts to take shape in the distance, beyond the mountain that is left center in the frame. Everything flows in that direction, especially the drainages to the east that flow south and then get serious about carving out that amazing mountain. And on the left here is Grassy Mountain, which is sacred to Native people. On the back side of it is a cave with petroglyphs in it. It’s right above a spring, and it’s a place where you can see pronghorn and wild horses. And on the right of the frame, off in the distance, it’s not in the photo itself, but it’s in my mind, is Hog Ranch Mountain, that’s where my dad’s ashes are. I really love the idea that you could travel through this image. You can look at that photo and walk into it. This is something I hope somebody could put on their wall and admire it for what it is, and say, let me go in there for a minute. It calms me.”

Learn more about Scott Mortimore’s photography at scottmortimore.com.

from: ierranevadaally.org/2025/07/02/learning-to-see/?vgo_ee=04HQ4SuAOalfILnJp3n0ugnvc0d5nqe0Sg67fROZJ%2B5v%3A4Tqd7i90Rbm2IR0kAKeF4g%2Fa7qnquEW3

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**AUGUST POWWOWs**

**Aug 1 - 3**      **8th Annual Honoring Mother Earth Gathering 2025**      **Mercer PA**  
**NEW LOCATION! Gates open at 10:00am. Grand entry at Noon Dancing and Drumming Friday and Sunday until 4:30 and Saturday until 6....**

**Aug 1 - 3**      **Ute Mountain Casino Pow Wow 2025**      **Towaoc CO**  
**\*\*NEW DATE\*\* Ute Mountain Casino Annual Pow Wow 2025 and Handgame Tournament Dance Contest \$28,000 Drum Contest \$12,000 Specials: Pink Dress, Hand...**

**Aug 1 - 3**      **Siyó Nidé Nakóda Oyade Wacibi 2025**      **Kisbey SK**  
**Grand Entries: Friday 7:00pm Saturday 1:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday 1:00pm Host Drums: Mato Pejuta (2024 Drum Champions) Dakota Travels Red Iron Specials:...**

**Aug 1 - 3      Beaver Lake Cree Nation Competition Pow Wow 2025      Beaver Lake Nation AB**  
Grand Entries: Friday 7:00pm Saturday 1:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday 1:00pm & 7:00pm Pow Wow Raffle: 1st \$5,000; 2nd \$2,500; 3rd \$1,500; 4th...

**Aug 2 - 4      Wiikwemkoong Annual Cultural Festival 2025      Wikwemikong ON**  
In 1961, Wikwemikong Band Member Rosemary Odjig sought to revitalize the Pow Wow in Wikwemikong and held the very first "Wikwemikong..."

**Aug 2 - 3      Honoring Traditions Eastern Woodland Native American Celebration 2025      Lancaster OH**  
Join Us for Our 20th Annual Celebration of Native American Culture! Experience the rich heritage and vibrant traditions of Native American culture...

**Aug 2 - 3      66th Annual O-Sa-Wan Pow Wow 2025      Big Rock IL**  
Everyone Welcome! Come Participate in Intertribal Singing and Dance. Each Grand Entry Will Feature a Parade of American Flags - Veterans With...

**Aug 3 - 4      12th Annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival: A Celebration of Native American Art, Music and Cultures 2025      Turners Falls MA**  
10:00am-5:00pm This is not a traditional pow wow but features many of the beloved pow wow features, such as music and fabulous...

**Aug 4      One Day Traditional Pow Wow (Alberta) 2025      Lac La Biche AB**  
One Day Traditional Pow Wow- Co-Hosted by: Beaver Lake Cree Nation, Heart Lake First Nation, Whitefish Lake First Nation #128 and Lac...

**Aug 8 - 11      49th Annual Mohican Pow Wow 2025      Bowler WI**  
Save the Date! Traditional pow wow with rough camping on site.

**Aug 9 - 10      9th Annual King City Pow Wow 2025      King NC**  
Rain or Shine! Admission: Children 0-5 & Veterans Free Ages 6-12 & Seniors \$5.00 Ages 13-62 \$10.00 (\$8.00 with 2/cans of food)...

**Aug 14 - 16      47th Wichita Annual Dance 2025      Anadarko OK**  
Wichita Night 8:00 am - Flag Raising 6:00 pm - Supper 7:00 pm - Wichita Songs &...

**Aug 15 - 17, 2025 - The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Contest Pow Wow 2025      Grand Ronde OR**  
Friday: 11:00am Royalty Pageant (Governance Center) 5:00pm Royalty Outgoing/Crowning Ceremonies 7:00pm Grand Entry (Pow Wow Grounds) Saturday: 1:00pm Grand Entry 7:00pm Grand...

**Aug 15 - 17      Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Wacipi 2025      Shakopee MN**  
Grand Entry: Friday 7:00pm Saturday 1:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday 1:00pm Public Welcome Free Admission Fireworks 10pm Saturday Live streaming 3212 Dakotah Parkway...

**Aug 15 - 17 Mille Lacs 59th Annual Traditional Pow Wow 2025**

**Onamia MN**

Save the Date! <https://www.millelacsband.com/>

**Aug 16 5th Annual Celebration Youth Mentorship Gourd Dance 2025 Albuquerque**

**NM** Open & free to the public. Gourd Dance 12:00pm-7:00pm Supper Break 4:00pm-5:00pm(meal provided) 11:00am Cedaring Ceremony • Head Singer: Mr. Don Patterson/Tonwaka...

**Aug 16 - 17 Mohegan Wigwam Festival 2025**

**Uncasville CT**

Come on out and enjoy native goods, native food, and good medicine from the drums! This 2 day event is held at...

**Aug 16 - 17 45th Annual Roasting Ears of Corn Festival 2025**

**Allentown PA**

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and join us for a weekend of Native American drumming, singing, dancing, food, artisans, cultural heritage...

**Aug 17 The Melting Pot of Revolution 2025**

**Staten Island NY**

Arts Festival

**Aug 22 - 24 Zhiibaahaasing 29th Annual Pow Wow 2025**

**Zhiibaahaasing ON**

An event in celebration of our proud and growing First Nation. All welcome. Friday, August 22nd Welcome fish fry 6pm - 8pm or While supplies...

**Aug 22-24 Schemitzun: Feast of Green Corn and Dance 2025**

**Mashantucket CT**

Gate Opens Friday at 5:00pm - No shuttle service on Friday Gate Opens Saturday and Sunday at 10:00am ...

**Aug 23 Lake Granbury Intertribal Pow Wow 2025**

**Tolar TX**

Free to Attend! Indoor, Air Conditioned Event venue. Carefully curated vendors. Dancers, Artisan Vendors, Indian Tacos, Fry Bread Over 15 Sovereign Native...

**Aug 23 - 24 Nulhegan Abenaki Heritage Gathering 2025**

**Eden Mills VT**

The Nulhegan Abenaki Heritage Gathering will be held at Mount Norris Scout Reservation on August 23 - 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Throughout...

**Aug 23 -24 Hawaiian Gardens Robert Canada Friendship Pow Wow 2025**

**Hawaiian Gardens CA**

Honoring Jimi Castillo and Benjamin Hale Native American Arts & Crafts, Frybread All drums & dancers welcome! Free Admission Open to...

**Aug 23 - 24 11th Annual Spirit of the Wolf Native American Festival & Pow Wow 2025**

**Johnstown NY**

All drums, dancers, public welcome Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm Grand Entry: Noon 12:00pm Aztec Fire Dancers, Exhibition Dancing, Birds of Prey...

**Aug 29 - 31 Numaga Indian Days Pow Wow & Hand Games 2025 Hungry Valley NV**  
Nevada's Largest Pow Wow! Free Admission; Family Friendly Event; Open to the Public Grand  
Entries: Friday 7:00pm Saturday 1:00pm & 7:00pm Sunday...

**Aug 29 - Sep1 Special Event: 42nd Annual Iroquois Arts Festival 2025 Howes Cave NY**  
10:00am - 5:00pm Celebrate Haudenosaunee creativity at this vibrant event, which features an  
all-Iroquois Art Market showcasing traditional,...

**Aug 30 - 31 White Mesa Bear Dance & Contest Pow Wow 2025 White Mesa UT**  
Contest Pow Wow August 29-September 1, 2025 - Bear Dance Vending Info will be posted soon.  
Updates will be announced as...

**Aug 29 - 31 Heart Lake First Nation 22nd Annual Competition Pow Wow 2025**  
MC: TBA Arena Director: TBA Host Drum: TBA Lac La Biche AB

**How to interview your family members like an oral historian (KQED)**

Nevada Public Radio: What's next for public lands after land sale efforts were removed from  
GOP Tax Bill? >>

*Old news but important to read.*

## **Lee's Land Sale Provision Dies in a Saturday Night Special**

Utah Republican Senator Mike Lee released a statement yesterday saying that he would no longer pursue a provision that would allow for public land sales in the GOP tax bill that's moving through Congress. By [Kyle Roerink](#) • June 29, 2025



*Image courtesy of the Great Basin Water Network*

*Republished here with permission from the [Great Basin Water Network](#) and [Kyle Roerink](#).*

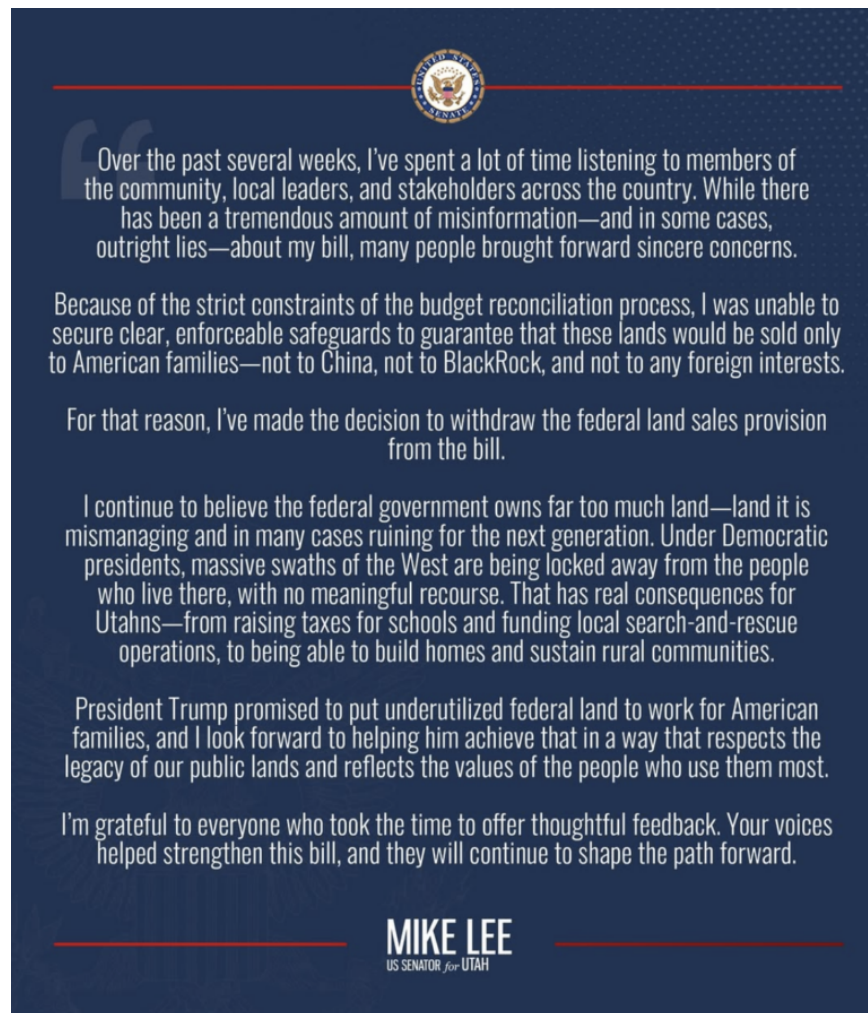
The move came as the vote counts became [less predictable](#) and the July 4 deadline to pass the tax measure looms. Senate Republicans from Montana and Idaho were going to be hard NOs on the whole measure, jeopardizing tax breaks for a bevy of special interests. And other cloakroom



counting signaled that there might be more. Lee could only lose three votes. In the end, the risks of tanking a Trump Administration priority were too great.

After Lee removed the provision, the legislation cleared [a key procedural hurdle](#) on Saturday.

On the Senate side, the land-sale interest coveted by a select few in Utah was not special enough. A month ago the House rejected public land sale language championed by Utah Rep. Celeste Maloy and Nevada Rep. Mark Amodei, both Republicans. And it still had problems with [Rep. Ryan Zinke](#) and other Republicans in the House — where the bill will return if it passes the Senate for a conference committee before going to President Trump's desk.



Lee's provision at face value was about selling off public lands to generate revenues for the U.S. government while simultaneously providing new real estate for residential home developers. But the unprecedented move put us at the precipice of a greater shift in land management unlike any other. It was a means of forcing us to accept that our public wealth can be bartering chips for politics.

In Lee's statement announcing his decision, he alluded to the provisions not being able to pass muster from the Senate parliamentarian. That technocratic, impartial job in the Senate exists as

the overseer of rules. In this case, that job requires guiding the budget reconciliation process, a procedural means of expediting spending hikes and budget slashes with a majority vote rather than a two-thirds hurdle. The Democrats used this procedural means to pass the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022.

In defeat, Lee alluded that the Parliamentarian raised the question as to whether the lands would be sold to families rather than shadowy, faceless corporate interests.

Specifically, Lee called out foreign investment like China and firms like Black Rock as potential beneficiaries of the housing provisions wrapped up in the public land sales.

While this provision is now dead, there are other public land sale provisions to consider down the road. Nevada Senator Catherine Cortez Masto has a bill to sell public lands in Nevada. It also has some nominal language about housing. It doesn't, however, have language about preventing Black Rock or foreign investors from buying homes built on once-public lands.

As GBWN has elaborated for years, Las Vegas has a special provision allowing public land sales that came into law more than a quarter century ago. And, over time, we can infer from looking at maps of those now-developed lands surrounding Sin City that once-public parcels are now controlled by Wall Street interests, not families. Cortez Masto's Southern Nevada Economic Development Act expands that longstanding policy.

We will see what happens in the future. But Lee highlighted a major policy issue for the pro-land-sale crowd. Let's keep the discussion going. And, of course, let's keep asking where the water will come from to serve development in the arid west.

Lee's proposal symbolizes a misguided logical appeal that developing in the desert or in forests will solve the housing crisis. However, there is an affordability crisis that building in the wildland-urban exurbs will not fix. We need a congress that is more interested in fixing that problem than bolstering the balance sheets of billionaires with tax bills built on arcane parliamentary rules.

Maybe one day that will come. Neither party is ready.

Lastly, not to be forgotten in this is all of you. There was a unified outcry unlike any other we have seen in natural resource policy debates. Lee's Instagram page is a good barometer of how people felt. Usually he has a few hundred comments on a given issue. On this matter, he has thousands. To put it nicely, few cast praise on his proposal.

At a time where apathy casts a pall over many, know your voice still counts in this experiment that we know to be a constitutional federal republic called the United States.

Lee's statement admits as much. He heard from you. So did others. It's not in a bill that still includes a lot of bad things. There are giveaways to tech bros, finance bros, and oil bros that are ripe for debate.

**But a win is a win. Take them when you can.**

## Media Watch:

Someone alerted me to the fact that this article, "[Seven generations forward and seven generations back](#)," (which can still be seen on web archives) was removed from UNR's website without comment, presumably as part of a widespread erasure of Native stories in response to anti-DEI-orders.

I have not yet checked in with UNR to confirm whether this was the reason. I plan to. It does strike me as entirely possible, so I'm writing to ask whether you've seen any similar content become unpublished from government websites.

Thanks for any observations,

Kris Vagner, Managing Editor, Reno News & Review [renonr.com](http://renonr.com)

*Ed note: if anyone has examples of such, please send a note to Kris. sdc (My most egregious example is the removal of tribal flags from the Phonix VA.)*

Story in question that was removed:

## Seven generations forward and seven generations back

**During National Native American Heritage Month, Extension's Tammy Haddad and Matilda Begay share their history and how they empower Native youth through education    November 08, 2024    By: Tammy Haddad & Matilda Begay**



My name is [Tammy Haddad](#), and I am a member of the Navajo Nation. I was born on the Navajo reservation but raised in the city of Las Vegas. Today, I work for [University of Nevada, Reno Extension](#) as a coordinator. More specifically, I coordinate the 4-H Afterschool Program serving youth in Boulder City and North Las Vegas.

I come from a line of teachers – my grandma was a teacher on the reservation, and my mom teaches special education. The Navajo people deeply value education as a means of keeping our culture alive. Chief Manuelito, a famous Navajo leader, is quoted as saying on his deathbed:

“Go and tell the Navajo people that education is the ladder. We should send our kids to school



despite what they did to us.”

To be a Native American is to be a minority, almost always. The injustices done to our Native brothers and sisters can only be fixed by providing education. The Native American way is to consider the impacts of our actions today for our relatives seven generations forward, and seven



generations back.

I never had a Navajo teacher during my time in Las Vegas. It was only in college that I finally met a Navajo professor who taught a multicultural course. Today, I am proud to work at the University of Nevada, Reno, as a Navajo woman, where I teach and facilitate a range of subjects, including multicultural topics. I can only guess how encouraging it must be for younger generations to see a Navajo woman in a faculty role, leading the classroom.

Although we don't live on the reservation, a new generation of urban indigenous folk is growing in Las Vegas. I feel proud to represent my people in this generation and lead the next group of young Natives towards excellence and prosperity through education.



Yá'át'ééh, my name is [Matilda Begay](#). I have lived in Las Vegas for 13 years now. I have been with the Nevada System of Higher Education for seven years, and three of those years have been with Extension's [4-H Youth Development Program](#) in Clark County.

I am a proud Navajo woman. Every day I draw inspiration from my Navajo traditions and culture. As a 4-H community based instructor, I teach to empower the next generation. Growing up on the Navajo Nation has unknowingly prepared me to give back to the community in many aspects. My grandma was the matriarch in her Klagetoh Chapter area, so my summers with her included, but were not limited to, arranging community-wide dinners, growing and harvesting food for us and the community, hosting out-of-state visitors, doing early morning chores, sitting under the tree and watching her weave, feeding the livestock, and hauling water. I learned the importance of community, resilience and connection to the land because of her. She is forever my inspiration.



Left to right: Matilda Begay, Louise Etsitty, Marilyn Brown and Charly Begay, four generations of Tsinnijinnie (Black Streak Wood People) women, celebrate Louise Etsitty's 92nd birthday, July 2016.

My eight years of service in the Marine Corps honed my discipline and teamwork approach to my community action. My upbringing and life experiences help me to navigate the classrooms of Clark County. I have since realized that the values instilled in me during my upbringing on the reservation and my service years align with Extension values, of preserving and using knowledge to strengthen the well-being of people. Together in the classroom, the students and I celebrate our identity and instill a sense of pride in our own heritage. Hágoónee'



### About the authors

**Tammy Haddad is Extension's 4-H afterschool coordinator for Boulder City and North Las Vegas, Nevada.**

Tammy strives to reach youth in creative, innovative ways. When she is not teaching and coordinating 4-H classes on topics ranging from coding to cosmetic science, she reaches students around the world through her educational podcast for kids: [Cozy Rainbow Podcast](#).

She earned her honors bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Utah and her master's degree in urban leadership from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

**Matilda Begay** is an Extension 4-H community based instructor in Clark County. Through 4-H, the nation's largest youth development organization, Matilda empowers young people with the skills and confidence needed to thrive as engaged citizens, making positive impacts in their lives and communities. Matilda earned her bachelor's degree in early childhood education from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20250626222119/https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/blogs/2024/national-native-american-heritage-month-extension>

## [NV schools face budget emergency as Congress impounds federal funds](#)

July 7, 2025 - Suzanne Potter, Public News Service (NV)

The U.S. Department of Education has not said if or when it will release \$6.8 billion in federal grants to school districts. (Syda Productions/Adobe Stock)

Panic is setting in at school districts across the Silver State as the Trump administration continues to withhold federal funds.

State data show the grants being impounded total [about \\$56 million](#).

Luis Valentino, an education expert and host of the podcast "District Leader: Transforming Education," said unless it is resolved quickly, schools will be forced to cut back or eliminate programs.

"Without timely allocation tables from the United States Department of Education, states will be left uncertain, making it challenging to prepare for the 2025-26 school year," Valentino explained. "School districts, especially those in high-poverty and rural areas, will be left scrambling."

Last week the Department of Education notified schools across the country five grant programs are "under review" to determine if they align with administration priorities. In a [statement](#) to Real Clear Politics, the Office of Management and Budget said "initial findings have shown that many of these grant programs have been grossly misused to subsidize a radical left-wing

agenda." The grants in question fund summer learning, professional development for teachers and after-school programs. They also support English language classes and support for children of migrants.

The grants are usually distributed on July 1. Valentino warned there will be far-reaching consequences if the congressionally-approved funding is not restored.

"Migrant children, English language learners and those in low-performing schools stand to lose vital support that helps them meet academic benchmarks," Valentino pointed out. "This decision will only exacerbate existing educational inequities across each state."

Programs already underway this summer are now in limbo. In a statement, the head of the Boys and Girls Clubs said without the promised funding, [more than 900 sites](#) serving 220,000 kids across the country could be forced to shut their doors. Almost 6,000 staff members could lose their jobs.

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[NV youth can kick off summer with free fishing, hunting license](#)

July 8, 2025 - Suzanne Potter, Public News Service (NV)

Everybody loves to get something free and right now, kids aged 12-17 can get a fishing and hunting license at no cost from the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The license is good for one year and normally sells for \$15.

Bobby Jones, outdoor connection coordinator for the Nevada Department of Wildlife, said the free licenses are funded by donations to the Nevada Youth License Fund.

"This is actually the third year that the program's been active," Jones explained. "We keep it open as much as possible. We're just limited by the amount of donations that we have. Right now, we have almost 2,000 available and they go fast."

Youth can get a free license on the [Nevada Department of Wildlife website](#) or wherever the licenses are sold. Children under age 12 do not need a fishing license. The state said almost two-thirds of the kids who have taken advantage of the program in the past have never had a hunting or fishing license before.

Jones emphasized the program is designed to tempt kids to leave the digital world behind for a short time and enjoy some time outdoors. It could lead them to even consider a nature-based career like wildlife biology, forest management or outdoor education.

"Essentially what we're up against is a lot of kids are engaged in their phones and social media, TV," Jones pointed out. "They're constantly bombarded with things. We're trying to make it a little bit easier for them to enjoy the outdoors."

Some of the most popular fishing spots include Lahontan in the Fallon area, Wild Horse and South Fork in Eastern Nevada, and Lake Mead down sou