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The US has a plan to breed millions of flies and drop them from planes. Here's why

UM museum starts return process for remains of 10 Native Americans

*Wasi * isw ?itde? Festival Agenda*



An aerial view of a cinder cone in the eastern portion of the proposed Chuckwalla Mountains National Monument on April 23, 2023. Photo by David McNew, via Getty Images

The Trump administration may look to reverse the monument designation for the Chuckwalla Monument after the Department of Justice cleared the way changes to 625,000 acres in Riverside County.

Welcome to CalMatters, the only nonprofit newsroom devoted solely to covering issues that affect all Californians. Sign up for [The Inland Empire newsletter](#) to receive a weekly look at how people in the I.E. are living, learning and working.

One of former President Joe Biden's last official acts was declaring the Chuckwalla National Monument on almost 625,000 acres of "canyon-carved mountain ranges" in Riverside County.

This spring President Donald Trump asked the Department of the Interior to consider removing those protections. In May the Department of Justice concluded that Trump "can and should" reverse the monument designations.

But this week, the White House Press Office told CalMatters that nothing is set in stone: "We would not get ahead of the President on any policy changes that may or may not be planned," White House spokesperson Anna Kelly wrote in an email.

Janessa Goldbeck, CEO of Vet Voice Foundation, which lobbied for the Chuckwalla National Monument designation, said the administration might be thinking twice about reversing that status after blowback from a recent proposal in the House Budget Bill to [sell off public lands](#).

"Veterans, hunters, anglers, a lot of people who are not traditionally invested in politics who came out to say hands off our public lands," she said.

Speculation that the Trump administration could revoke monument status for more than half a million acres of protected land in California has environmentalists fretting, but some outdoor recreation and mining advocates hope to undo what they call a "lame duck land grab."

The Chuckwalla National Monument hugs the southern edge of Joshua Tree National Park and extends eastward across the Mojave and Colorado Deserts.

Tribal trails thread through the monument and the region is considered culturally and spiritually important to numerous tribes, [Biden's proclamation](#) stated. It's also home to endangered desert tortoise and desert pupfish, and rare species of aster, sage and cholla, that "grow nowhere else on Earth," according to [Sierra magazine](#).

"This is not just a bare landscape out in the desert," tribal engagement strategist Donald Medart, a member of the Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe, told CalMatters. "This is a living, breathing, thriving place, where people have lived since time immemorial. We intend to protect it by any means possible."

Biden dedicated the monument in the final days of his term, but it got off to an inauspicious start. The White House had planned to celebrate with a ceremony at Chuckwalla on Jan. 7, then cancelled it amid powerful winds that fanned catastrophic fires in Los Angeles that day. Biden issued a proclamation establishing the monument a week later.

On his inauguration day Jan. 20, Trump declared an [“energy emergency”](#) to fast-track power projects, and ordered the Interior Department to look at the new monuments. Officials pored over geological maps to identify their oil and mining potential, the [Washington Post reported](#).

In May, a Michigan gold miner, an Idaho-based off-road vehicle organization and a conservative Texas think tank sued the federal government to [overturn the Chuckwalla monument designation](#), alleging that it restricts access to public lands for recreation and amateur mining. However, Biden’s proclamation preserves existing rights to use of the land.

Chance Weldon, director of litigation of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, said that’s true, but future mine claims and trails could be off limits. He said the foundation believes that vast national monuments declared by presidential proclamation are a misuse of the Antiquities Act, which authorizes their creation.

“When you have thousands of acres being taken off line, that’s something that should be decided by Congress, not by the president at the stroke of a pen,” Weldon said.

Goldbeck questioned the plaintiffs’ basis for challenging the monument: “This is an out of state entity being represented by another out of state entity, trying to undo something that Californians love and fought for.”

Environmental and tribal groups have argued that once a president dedicates a monument it can’t be undone. But in June the Department of Justice told Trump he could eliminate monuments if he thinks the space or structures they contain “either never were or no longer are deserving of the (Antiquities) Act’s protections.”

Some local officials have also balked at what they consider restrictions of Chuckwalla National Monument. The city of [Blythe weighed in against the designation](#), arguing that it would hurt tourism, solar development and the local economy.



[**Joshua tree protection could slow state’s progress on climate goals**](#)

by [Guest Commentary](#)

It’s unclear whether those objections are part of the administration’s calculations. Trump has put the brakes on alternative energy development, and on Monday directed the treasury to [end tax credits for wind and solar programs](#).

In a recent [Senate hearing](#), Department of the Interior Secretary Doug Burgum suggested that the monument is just too big.

“The question is not whether the monuments serve the purpose, I think the real question is the size,” Burgum said, responding to questions from California Sen. Alex Padilla.

Burgum said he has heard concerns from residents of other states that local communities weren’t consulted on recent monuments, but he noted that wasn’t the case in California. Padilla thanked him for acknowledging California’s public review efforts and said the Trump administration should follow the same process for any changes to Chuckwalla National Monument.

“If it’s going to be revisited or undone, we expect that same level of engagement on the back end before any action is taken or before any decisions are made,” Padilla said.

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**Centuries of history, great hiking at Novato’s Olompali State Historic Park**

Every period of California history is represented at the 700-acre Olompali State Historic Park in Marin: It goes back thousands of years, as a home to indigenous people, to modern times when the Grateful Dead band lived there in the 1960s. Along with miles of hiking trails and a re-created native American Miwok village, the park has a museum that's open only on Fridays and Saturdays; that's the best time to visit for those who want to learn about the site's rich past.

[Read full story](#)



### **Tocabe**

When Ben Jacobs co-founded [Tocabe](#) 17 years ago, he had no idea that sharing his family's traditional Osage recipes would propel his tiny restaurant to nationwide fame. But today, Tocabe —one of the nation's first American Indian eateries—is both a culinary thought leader and a hometown favorite. Try the bison ribs with blueberry BBQ sauce, a sweet and succulent signature dish (and one of Jacobs's favorites). Like most of Tocabe's ingredients, both the blueberries and the bison are home-grown by Indigenous Tribes; in fact, the restaurant sources nearly all of its ingredients and recipes from Native communities across the U.S. "A huge part of what we do is support Native food production," Jacobs says. "We're creating opportunities for our farmers and ranchers—our caretakers of the land and water." Much of the menu draws inspiration from Colorado's original residents, including the Ute Mountain Ute, Arapahoe, and Osage Nations. Tocabe's Indian corn and blue corn, for example, come from Ute Mountain Ute growers near Mesa Verde National Park, and its bison meat comes from Rock River Ranch near Colorado's Pawnee National Grassland. **3536 W 44th Ave, Denver, CO 80211** [View Website](#)

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Washoe County hosts Community Emergency Response Team trainings (foxreno.com) — Washoe County is hosting Community Emergency Response Team trainings in Reno, empowering citizens to assist during emergencies. The sessions cover disaster preparedness, medical care, and fire safety, with all events held at the Regional Public Safety Training Center.

How Google's AI Learned Everything About Me—And Used It to Write the Perfect Birthday Letter

Google's Gemini chatbot wrote a birthday letter that felt deeply personal, using details from my emails and files. This AI taps into your digital history to craft truly unique content.

The AI Birthday Letter That Blew Me Away

Google is moving into a new era of custom chatbots, and the results are striking. In May, I asked Google's chatbot, Gemini, to write a birthday letter to my best friend. What came back was unlike any AI-generated text I'd seen before. Instead of feeling mechanical or generic, the letter captured nuances that felt genuinely familiar—almost as if I had written it myself.

The prompt I gave Gemini was minimal: just my friend's first name and his new age. Yet the letter included details from our shared history—a conversation on the eve of our college graduation, a tough period we faced together, and even his exact birth date. It was uncanny.

Gemini didn't just pull generic phrases; it referenced real moments. This wasn't a random assembly of words but personalized content drawn from my digital footprint.

How Gemini Became My Personal Assistant

I hadn't planned to use AI for the letter. I opened Google Drive to write it myself, when Gemini popped up offering help. Since signing up for Google's AI Pro subscription earlier this year, Gemini has been embedded across my Google apps, acting like an advanced version of Microsoft Clippy.

- In Gmail, it summarizes long email threads and drafts entire messages.
- In Sheets, it performs data analysis and creates charts with a click.
- In Drive, it reads and consults my files before generating text.

This integration is key. Gemini knew enough about me—and by extension, my friend—to write the letter convincingly because it had access to my emails, documents, and other stored data.

Why Personalized AI Matters for Writers

Traditional chatbots are hit or miss with personalized tasks. They can write decent essays on general topics but often struggle with intimate, context-rich writing like speeches or personal letters. You can improve results by feeding them extensive background data, but that's time-consuming and complex.

Google's approach leverages the vast amount of data users already generate. Emails, files, calendars, browsing history—all these fuel a chatbot that understands you on a deeper level. Unlike generic AI tools that work from web data alone, Gemini taps into your personal archives.

The CIA Dossier Test

To see how much Google really knew, I asked Gemini to create a CIA-style dossier on me. The results were startling:

- **Identifying Information:** Full name, email, and current location were accurate.

- **Relationships & Personal History:** Details about both a long-term partner and a high-school fling were included.
- **Psychological Profile:** An analysis of my communication style and emotional intelligence.
- **Potential Vulnerabilities:** Travel history and personality traits like overthinking.

There were some errors—fictional story details sometimes mixed with facts, and a wrong birth year on the first try. Yet this level of insight far outperformed other AI models like ChatGPT, which struggled to produce anything close to a personalized profile.

The Data Advantage

Google's edge comes from the sheer volume and variety of data it holds. I have over 200,000 emails in Gmail, spanning decades, plus 45 gigabytes of files in Drive—from study notes and travel plans to poems and budget sheets. This rich data pool allows Gemini to act like a personal assistant who knows your history and preferences.

Google's ecosystem—Gmail, Drive, Chrome, Maps, YouTube, Android—connects billions of users worldwide. This connectivity gives it a significant advantage in building personalized AI experiences.

What's Next for Personalized Chatbots

At Google's recent software conference, Gemini's team lead shared ambitions to make the chatbot the most “personal” and “proactive” assistant available. For example, a college student with an upcoming physics exam could get customized quizzes based on their notes and readings stored in Drive.

Gemini already offers practical uses:

- Writing cover letters by referencing past examples saved in Drive.
- Creating personalized summer reading lists by analyzing emails and newsletter subscriptions.

Other companies are pursuing similar goals. OpenAI aims for ChatGPT to access a user's entire digital life, including emails and conversations, to improve personalization. Meta encourages linking social media accounts for a richer AI experience, though email and document data offer more substance.

The Future of Writing with AI

Google's AI push comes as the company faces pressure in search market share but sees soaring adoption of its AI tools. Its personalization strategy could help reclaim user attention and set a new standard for AI assistance.

For writers, this shift means AI won't just generate generic content but can help craft truly personal work informed by your own digital history. Soon, you might find AI reflecting your voice so closely that your own past writing feels like it was created by a bot.

If you want to explore AI tools and training that can help sharpen your writing with personalized AI assistance, check out [Complete AI Training's prompt engineering courses](#) and [AI copywriting tools](#) for practical skills.

<https://completeaitraining.com/news/how-googles-ai-learned-everything-about-me-and-used-it-to/>

Ancient Star ·

Long before digital preservation or cultural funding, two women quietly reshaped the course of Native American history. **Ethnomusicologist Frances Densmore, working in the early 20th century, recorded more than 2,000 tribal songs on wax cylinders** using rudimentary phonograph technology. Her work documented ceremonial chants, healing songs, and oral histories from dozens of tribes—many of which were at risk of being lost to colonization and cultural suppression.

Across decades, another guardian emerged: Gladys Tantaquidgeon, a Mohegan elder and traditional medicine woman. She chronicled her tribe's ancient remedies and beliefs in handwritten notebooks. Though stored away for years, these records proved crucial when the Mohegan Tribe sought federal recognition in 1994—a process requiring deep proof of continuous cultural identity. Her documentation helped restore sovereignty and inspired a cultural renaissance marked by the founding of the Mohegan Sun.

These acts of preservation were more than academic—they were acts of resistance. In a world that sought to erase Indigenous cultures, these women safeguarded what mattered most: language, ceremony, and memory.

Their legacy remains a cornerstone of historical preservation and Indigenous resilience.

[#song](#) [#history](#) [#NativeAmerican](#) [#nativeamericanculture](#) [#tribal](#)



Agriculture secretary says there will be 'no amnesty' for migrants, adults on Medicaid can replace them in workforce | CNN Politics

Peggy Flanagan

My Ojibwe name is “speaks in a loud and clear voice woman.” I’m a member of the White Earth Nation and my family is the Wolf Clan. The role of our clan is to ensure that we never leave anyone behind. That’s why I’m running for the U.S. Senate.

You know, there’s never been a Native American woman to serve in the United States Senate before. If I win the opportunity to serve Minnesotans, I’ll be the first. Not because I want to be “the first,” but because our democracy functions best when it accurately reflects those it seeks to represent. A diversity of voices, that’s power. That’s how we bring people in, and how we build our movement, and how we save our democracy in this moment. Please, can you pitch in today to help me make history?

Chi miigwech (big thank you)!



Peggy

~FRANCE 24 English



In a major discovery, **archaeologists have unearthed a 3,500-year-old city in northern Peru**, believed to have served as a vital trading hub linking Pacific, Andean, and Amazonian cultures.

Named Penico, the city sits 600 meters above sea level in Barranca province and dates back to 1,800–1,500 BC — making it a contemporary of early civilizations in Mesopotamia, Egypt, and China.

Drone footage reveals circular structures and stone-mud buildings perched on hillside terraces, offering new insights into pre-Columbian urban networks in South America.

The site lies near Caral, the oldest known civilization in the Americas, which researchers say evolved in total isolation from Old World societies.



Archaeologists Dug up a 3,500-Year-Old Lost City from the Americas’ Oldest Civilization
Peñico was established in 1800 B.C., just after the 5,000-year-old Caral civilization fell due to climate change.

Read in Popular Mechanics: <https://apple.news/ApUbrkybsS5mL-8yBKrY2Sw>

[Know Your Planet](#) .

In 1982, a backhoe clearing land in Titusville, Florida, struck something unexpected: a human skull.

The operator, Steve Vanderjagt, reported the find to developer Jim Swann, who made a rare and respectful decision — he stopped construction and called in archaeologists.

What they uncovered was **one of the most astonishing prehistoric sites in North America: the Windover Pond**. Beneath the murky water lay the buried remains of over 160 individuals, dating back 7,000 years — centuries older than the Egyptian pyramids.

Preserved in peat and anaerobic conditions, the bodies still had intact brain tissue, skin, and even woven textiles — some of the oldest cloth ever found in the Western Hemisphere. These early Floridians were carefully buried in a ritualized manner, revealing a complex and thoughtful culture that had long vanished from the historical record.

The Windover discovery changed what we thought we knew about early humans in North America. It wasn't just a pond. It was a portal — into a forgotten world, a sacred space, and a people who left no buildings, but left behind their dead.

Sometimes, the past doesn't come from pyramids or palaces — it rises quietly from the mud.

Important read

California Water Commission

<https://cwc.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Initiatives/Tribal-Affairs/Tribal-Stewardship-Policy062025-Final-Draft.pdf>

[Tribal Stewardship Policy - cwc.ca.gov](#)

This policy does so by establishing the need and opportunity for tribal stewardship and providing standard practices for Agency to support tribal priorities. The associated Tribal Stewardship Toolkit builds the capacity of California Native American tribes, state agencies, and non-government entities to do this work together.

[The US has a plan to breed millions of flies and drop them from planes. Here's why](#)

https://www.cnn.com/2025/07/09/science/new-world-screwworms-outbreak-fly-factory?iid=cnn_buildContentRecirc_end_recirc By Kameryn Griesser, CNN

UM museum starts return process for remains of 10 Native Americans

The Native American remains belong to Seminole and Miccosukee tribes in Florida and Oklahoma. They can be returned as early as July 17.

Read in The Detroit News: https://apple.news/AAyJ_cgkhTZy9TDYtFc2fZw

Waší·šiw ʔitdéʔ Festival Agenda

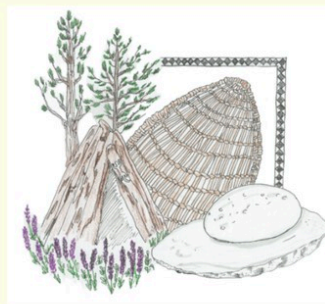


Time
9:45 am-4pm



Date
27 July 2025

Time	Group Name	Person In Charge
9:45 am	• Opening (Prayer & Welcome)	Blessing Open
10 am	• AkaMya Group	Cydnee Ashmore
11 am	• Maidu Dancers & Traditionalists	Koppa Enos
12 pm	• RSIC Eagle Wings	Stacey Burns
1 pm	• Wenne Penan Dance Group: (Nisenan)	Isaiah Martinez
2 pm	• Red Hoop Round Dance Songs	Martin Montgomery
3 pm	• Miwok Dancers	Teresa & Dennis Yonemura



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