

Journal #6078 from sdc 9.25.25

Emil the Elk

Martinez/Yazzie Action Plan – LANL Foundation

Revolutionary design around the world is slowly turning our cities into a new wilderness

Wary of changes under Trump, 'citizen historians' are documenting the Smithsonian

California is Considering Returning Stolen Land. Here's How it Played Out in Germany

Despite Trump, the world isn't slowing on climate, E.U. official says

The Honey Ant

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Hard pass. Cold brew. Dad bod. over 5,000 words added to 'Collegiate' dictionary

National Wilderness Coalition Convenes in DC

When does beaver reintroduction make sense?

Trump's Department of Education has declared war on truth in our schools

Donald Trump and MAGA are unleashing troops on blue cities

Tanka Fund - Our First Tribal Buffalo Teams

Native-led Ecological Restoration of Bison-Grazed Land

Walker Basin Conservancy acquired 1200 AC to permanently protect Walker River Watershed



Emil the Elk caught after long summer on the loose in Central Europe

[https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gvk0y8rgvo?](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gvk0y8rgvo?at_campaign_type=owned&at_medium=emails&at_objective=awareness&at_ptr_type=email&at_ptr_name=salesforce&at_campaign=newsbriefing&at_email_send_date=20250923&at_send_id=4456865&at_link_title=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bbc.com%2fnews%2farticles%2fc4gvk0y8rgvo&at_bbc_team=crm)

[at_campaign_type=owned&at_medium=emails&at_objective=awareness&at_ptr_type=email&at_ptr_name=salesforce&at_campaign=newsbriefing&at_email_send_date=20250923&at_send_id=4456865&at_link_title=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bbc.com%2fnews%2farticles%2fc4gvk0y8rgvo&at_bbc_team=crm](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gvk0y8rgvo?at_campaign_type=owned&at_medium=emails&at_objective=awareness&at_ptr_type=email&at_ptr_name=salesforce&at_campaign=newsbriefing&at_email_send_date=20250923&at_send_id=4456865&at_link_title=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bbc.com%2fnews%2farticles%2fc4gvk0y8rgvo&at_bbc_team=crm)

Martinez/Yazzie Action Plan – LANL Foundation

Shayne, my daughter (employer nonprofit West Ed) is currently working on the Martinez/Yazzi New Mexico lawsuit case, which was filed in 2019, to address the educationally underserved, including Indigenous population.

This plan is offered by NM government for public comment prior to enactment.

I thought this might be of interest to you in your Journal.

I am hoping it will set an educational standard nationally, although Greer said it is a statewide standard that has to be adopted individually instead of being enacted Federally.

This link is quite extensive, which is the point, to cover many facets of the issue.

When my daughter told me this is what she is currently working on, and that it addressed the Indigenous as well as many other groups, you were the first person I thought of that it might be of concern to you....BB

<https://share.google/BQGNFvuPFNXf9Qc2v>

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**Revolutionary design around the world is slowly turning our cities into a new wilderness**

Moves to integrate wildlife biodiversity into the built environment are gaining momentum

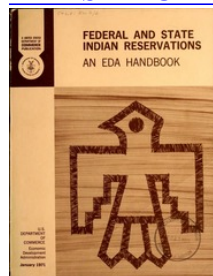
Read in BBC Wildlife Magazine: <https://apple.news/AWeaaHcqgTu-Yi3TZfWbyMQ>

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Wary of changes under Trump, 'citizen historians' are documenting the

Smithsonian

https://www.npr.org/2025/09/22/nx-s1-5517973/smithsonian-document-citizen-historians?utm_source=firefox-newtab-en-us

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[Penn State University](#)



[Federal and State Indian reservations : an EDA handbook](#)

by united states. economic development administration  
texts

**Puddle Jumper, Aquatic Life Finalist.** Mudskippers wrench themselves across mudflats, over rocks and even up the trunks of mangrove trees; Goode Beach, Australia  
Georgina Steytler, Australia - BigPicture Nature World Photography Competition 2025



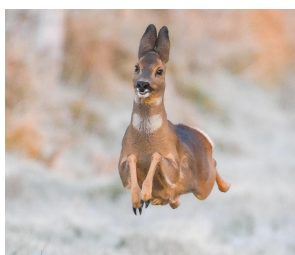
Hmmmmmm.....for your philosophic rumination

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| <b>California Is Considering Returning Stolen Land. Here's How It Played Out In Germany</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
| <p>On a recent afternoon, Francesca Thomas walked along the edge of the San Francisco Bay in Hayward, trying to picture where Russell City once stood.</p> <p>The community, which was mostly Black, Latino and poor white families, was demolished before Thomas, 57, was born, but she grew up hearing stories from relatives who lived there.</p> <p>In 1963, Alameda County leveled Russell City's 24 city blocks using federal urban renewal funds and eminent domain laws, which allow the government to force the sale of private property to make way for infrastructure projects that, they say, serve the public good. The move displaced more than 1,000 people, including Thomas' family.</p> <p>Today, California lawmakers are weighing how far government should go to repair the harm of racist state actions, like that which led to Russell City's erasure.</p> <p>Supporters say California can look abroad for examples, pointing to Germany's decadeslong programs for Holocaust survivors as proof that restitution, though imperfect, can restore a measure of dignity and wealth to families torn apart by state-sanctioned injustice.</p> <p><b>Why this matters:</b> At the center of this reckoning is Assembly Bill 62, a proposed law that would allow people who lost homes and businesses through discriminatory uses of eminent domain to seek compensation — a first-in-the-nation attempt at reparations for this kind of displacement. Last week, AB 62 was approved by the state Legislature — it now sits on Gov. Gavin Newsom's desk awaiting signature into law or veto.</p> |  |
| <b>Read More</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |

## Despite Trump, the world isn't slowing on climate, E.U. official says

“The European Union climate commissioner, Wopke Hoekstra, said President Trump’s repudiation of climate action shows no signs of affecting other countries’ ambitions, including his own 27-country bloc. “We’re doing the exact opposite of what the U.S. is doing, which, by the way, I find concerning and problematic,” he said in an interview in New York City. He described the actions of the Trump administration on climate as “basically checking out.” But other big economies, he said, are continuing to step up their targets for reducing their emissions of planet-warming greenhouse gases. That will be put to the test on Wednesday in New York City, where the United Nations plans to host a climate summit at which 118 countries are expected to announce their 2035 emissions-reductions targets under the Paris climate accord.

... ” [Read more from the New York Times.](#)



**Happy Deer; A Roedeer joyfully hops around in The Netherlands**  
Jeremy Duvekot, Netherlands - Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards 2025

## Earth Geographic



### FROM MEXICO TO THE WORLD

In Oaxaca lives a remarkable little creature known as the honey ant. Its abdomen swells with a golden nectar gathered from flowers, a natural sweetness that can be gently taken without harming the ant.

In many Oaxacan villages, especially in the Mixteca region, these ants are called \*chindudis\*. Unlike bees that store honey in combs, honey ants carry it in a pouch that expands beside their stomach, filling slowly through the night with the flavors of the desert blooms.

They are known by many names across different communities—Chindudis, Tiocondudi, Botijas, Tioko Ntudi (a Mixteco term meaning “honey ant”), Vinitos, and Binguinas. To find them, people dig carefully in dry ground where the ants are seen moving about. The taste of their honey is sweet yet surprisingly complex, layered with floral notes unique to the season.

Take only a little, then let the ant go free. By the next morning, she will begin to refill her belly with nectar once again.

Credit to the original owners.



## Wrenching information regarding Indigenous Greenlanders.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/09/24/world/europe/denmark-greenland-apology-birth-control.html?smid=nytcore-ios-share&referringSource=articleShare>

## Trump Administration Announces Plan to Rescind Public Lands Rule



Earlier this month, the [Department of the Interior announced](#) its plan to rescind the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) [Public Lands Rule](#). Among other things, the Rule reiterates that conservation is a key component of the BLM's multiple-use mission, on par with grazing, mining, and energy production. SUWA and other conservation groups are [currently engaged in litigation](#) to defend the Rule from challenges brought by Republican-led states (including Utah) and industry groups in several federal district courts around the country.

Shortly before the Rule was finalized under the Biden administration in 2023, the [Salt Lake Tribune](#) editorial board called it a "common-sense solution," stating that the only thing wrong with it was that "it wasn't written 47 years ago" when the Federal Land Policy and Management Act was passed into law. [Ninety-two percent of the public comments received by the BLM supported the Rule](#).

"The Public Lands Rule reiterates that the BLM has to put conservation on equal footing with other uses and lays out a framework for the agency to restore degraded landscapes and protect intact public lands for current and future generations," said SUWA Legal Director Steve Bloch. "Americans and Utahns widely supported the Rule and SUWA will mobilize our members and supporters to oppose the Trump administration's shortsighted effort to undo it."

>> Read our [full statement](#) and recent coverage by [Rocky Mountain Community Radio](#).

## Colorado sports betting brings in big bucks for state water plan projects

"Funding for the state's 2015 water plan started as a trickle. But sports gaming revenue has now turned that trickle into a steady stream. The Colorado Division of Gaming announced this week that nearly \$33.8 million from 2024-25 will be allocated to the Colorado Water Conservation Board to support the state's water plan, with distribution to water projects set to begin in July 2026. Estimates of the following year's revenues are even better: a forecast of nearly \$39 million that could help fund hundreds of projects throughout the state. ... " [Read more from Colorado Politics](#).

## Presidential AI Challenge

### *September reminders and projects from the field*

"It is the policy of the United States to sustain and enhance America's global AI dominance in order to promote human flourishing, economic competitiveness, and national security."

## Presidential Executive Order 14179: Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence

Signed by President Donald J. Trump, January 23, 2025.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is supporting the [Presidential AI Challenge](#), which officially opens for registration on August 26th!

Libraries and museums throughout the country have already taken on a leadership role in promoting AI literacy. The Presidential AI Challenge is another opportunity to get involved. They can provide resources and space to teach, and their staff members can organize teams as a Supervising Adult.

To support institutions through the challenge, and with other AI literacy initiatives, IMLS will send monthly reminder emails just like this one.

## **MORE ON IMLS AND AI**

### Roadless Rule Under Attack



In another assault on environmental protections and public lands from the Trump administration, the U.S. Forest Service is proposing to [repeal the Roadless Area Conservation Rule](#) or “Roadless Rule.” Since 2001, it has protected about 4 million acres of intact and old-growth forests in Utah from industrial development, logging, and road building.

Nationwide, the proposed gutting of the Roadless Rule jeopardizes nearly 45 million acres of roadless areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service from Maine to California, Alaska to Florida. These lands are open and free for public use and enjoyment; they protect cultural sites important to Native American tribes as well as vital watersheds that provide clean drinking water to local communities. They are also home to countless plant and animal species, and they mitigate climate change by storing carbon.

In recent weeks, thousands of you submitted comments to the Forest Service through our online action portal (thank you!). The Federal Register shows that the agency received a total of 625,737 comments (likely including those submitted by conservation organizations, outdoor recreation and sporting communities, tribal leaders, and other allies). When the comment period closed last Friday, an initial analysis by the Center for Western Priorities found that [more than 99 percent](#) of the comments submitted *oppose* the Trump administration’s plan to rescind the Roadless Rule.

[>> Read more about the proposed Roadless Rule repeal and its potential impact on Utah forests](#)

**Merriam-Webster: [Hard pass. Cold brew. Dad bod. over 5,000 words added to ‘Collegiate’ dictionary](#)**

## National Wilderness Coalition Convenes in DC



Last week, SUWA staff and board members participated in National Wilderness Week, an annual event put on by the [National Wilderness Coalition](#) (NWC), of which SUWA is a proud founding member. Comprised of local, statewide, national, and Indigenous organizations that believe preserving and protecting wilderness and public lands is essential, the coalition gathered in Washington, DC to:

- Build knowledge and skills as wilderness advocates.
- Talk to congressional offices and administration or agency staff about the importance of wilderness.
- Create connections and community necessary to sustain a vibrant and diverse wilderness movement.

In total, coalition members had over 100 conversations with congressional offices, both thanking long-time supporters and recruiting new champions. The coalition's Indigenous Committee, which includes SUWA Board Member Tara Benally, hosted a visibility event outside the U.S. Capitol which you can [watch here](#). The NWC and *The Wild Idea* podcast also hosted a live podcast taping with Senator Tina Smith (D-MN), a sponsor of [America's Red Rock Wilderness Act](#). The episode, "[You Can't Underestimate the Power of Place](#)," is worth a listen for anyone who believes in public lands and wilderness!



### When does beaver reintroduction make sense?

*Following the tribal blessing, the family group is released into the waters of Tásmam Koyóm in Plumas County, California on October 18, 2023. (CDFW Photo/Travis VanZant)*

““It’s a little wet!” Ben Cunningham shouted over his shoulder as he slipped knee-deep into one of the unseen rivulets spidering through the hip-high grasses and willow galleries around us. Up until that point in our walk, Cunningham had been agreeably taciturn, contemplative about the return of this meadow to the Mountain Maidu people in recent years, and their efforts to bring beavers back as part of the tribe’s work to restore its health. “Next time, you’ll have to bring your boots,” he said, chuckling over the din of rushing water that seems to be both everywhere and nowhere under a thicket of green peppered with yellow-eyed, purple-petaled asters. Above, a young osprey circled in low loops above our heads. The bird dropped periodically, flying past dragonfly armadas, their abdomens glowing orange in the August sun. Our feet thoroughly soaked, we came upon a mound of sticks and mud nearly to eye level: a lodge. It had taken this

beaver family a little less than a year to build, said Cunningham, a Mountain Maidu elder and chair of the nonprofit Maidu Summit Consortium. They'd been released here in 2023, California's first beaver translocation in decades. ... ” [Read more from Mongabay.](#)

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Trump's Department of Education has declared war on truth in our schools.

This week, Secretary Linda McMahon announced that \$137 million originally meant to support minority students and teacher training will instead bankroll "civics" content crafted by Trump's MAGA allies like PragerU, Hillsdale College, and Turning Point USA.

This isn't civics education, it's authoritarian propaganda. They want our children taught that slavery was an afterthought, that systemic racism doesn't exist, and that America's founding was flawless. They want to ban discussion of gender identity and silence any student activism by prohibiting course credit for civic engagement.

This is the 1776 Commission all over again, a whitewashed fantasy that real historians called racist garbage. Only this time, Trump's regime is pouring taxpayer money into spreading it nationwide. Their goal is simple: strip our schools of critical thought and replace it with loyalty pledges to Trump's movement.

We can't let Trump's MAGA "civics" rewrite history and brainwash a generation. State leaders must reject this whitewashing before it takes root in classrooms.

[**Tell your Governor and State Legislators: Protect public schools from MAGA propaganda now.**](#)

Trump's Education Department is hiding behind words like "patriotism" and "unity" while actively banning truth. They've already written model laws for states requiring students to glorify the Founding Fathers while forbidding any mention of slavery's role in our institutions. They want Jamestown to be taught as a failed communist colony. They want to erase systemic racism entirely.

The America First Policy Institute, a MAGA think tank bankrolled by Trump's PAC, is pulling the strings. They are joined by Hillsdale College, infamous for its revisionist curriculum, and PragerU, whose videos peddle propaganda dressed as "education." Together, they are working to replace honest civics with indoctrination.

This is a power grab. By whitewashing history, they prepare students to accept authoritarianism. That's why Trump is obsessed with it, because controlling how children understand America is how he secures power long after he's gone.

[**We must make it clear to Governors and State Legislators that MAGA propaganda has no place in public schools. Tell state leaders to block Trump's whitewashed curriculum today.**](#)

Let's stop MAGA whitewashing before it poisons a generation.
LeeAnn Hall, Director, National Campaign for Justice

Donald Trump and MAGA are unleashing troops on blue cities

Los Angeles, Washington DC, and now Memphis... Trump is sending the military into neighborhoods in blue cities to "fight crime," despite falling crime rates and the objections of state and local leaders.

Trump, who has expressed envy for dictators and authoritarians, just signed an executive order for a "standing National Guard quick reaction force" that he can deploy at will.

As we watch the alarming escalation of power from Donald Trump, we must face an uncomfortable truth: *This is not what democracy looks like.*

He is NOT deploying the National Guard to fight crime or protect citizens. He's deploying them to get Americans used to armed troops in our streets. This is part of his dangerous game plan to normalize militarization and prepare us for his dictatorship.

This is a critical moment in the fight for our democracy, and we can't afford to stand idly by. That's why we are working around the clock to mobilize voters, fight back against Trump's tyranny, and make sure every voice is heard, especially those of our Native communities.

As Native people, we have endured centuries of oppression, violence, and forced displacement. Time and again, our lands, cultures, and sovereignty have been threatened by forces that seek to control and dominate us.

Today that threat is immediate. Trump seeks to strip us of our freedom under the guise of law and order.

We know all too well what happens when a government turns its military against its people. For centuries we fought back against the US military's violent campaigns against our lands. We know first-hand the pain and destruction that come with a militarized government, one that uses force to suppress the voices of the marginalized.

We are fighting against Trump and MAGA's attempt to weaken our democracy, to sow division, and to prepare for a dictatorship. It is up to all of us to STOP this momentum before it is too late.

In the trenches with you, Native Voters Alliance Nevada
300 S 4th St, Floor 6, Las Vegas, NV 89101

info@nativevotesnv.org
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Our first Tribal Buffalo partnership

Last week marked a first for Tanka Fund as we provided direct technical service to a Tribal Buffalo program. While we typically partner with Native ranchers, this visit to the Fort Belknap Indian Community filled a critical gap that had previously been left unaddressed.

Thanks to the partnership of First Nations Development Institute (FNDI), we met with Herd Manager Bronc SpeakThunder, Yvonne Stanley, Administrative Assistant, Teri Harper, Buffalo Center Research Coordinator and professor at Aaniiih Nakoda College, four young teaching assistants (Tanner, Shaun, James, and Mikkell), and Dr. Sean Chandler, President of Aaniiih Nakoda College. Together, we toured the reservation, the college, and the two Tribal herds. One herd is dedicated to cultural and ceremonial purposes, while the other is focused on production and long-term sustainability. Both are vital to community health and sovereignty.

Our time at Fort Belknap centered on conversations about strengthening the Buffalo program and identifying next steps. These discussions emphasized cultural priorities such as ceremonial harvests, student training, and community access, while also exploring operational needs including processing capacity, cold storage, market opportunities, and disaster preparedness.

More at

<https://www.tankafund.org/our-stories/building-buffalo-resilience-at-fort-belknap>

Funder Spotlight: Native-led Ecological Restoration of Bison-Grazed Land

Tanka Fund, with support from range ecology experts and trained field technicians, is offering a new program for Native Buffalo Producers from May 2025 to April 2028. The goal is to partner with 34 producers and improve management on 300,000 acres of Buffalo-grazed land. Participants may receive custom conservation and emergency preparedness planning, technical assistance, mapping and monitoring tools, educational resources, and peer learning opportunities.

The program blends Traditional Ecological Knowledge with USDA frameworks, offering practical support for drought planning, herd health, and regenerative grazing. Open to Native producers at any stage, this Native-led, hands-on initiative is designed to strengthen herds, restore land, and build long-term resilience.



The east shore of Walker Lake near Shurz on Nov. 17, 2024. (David Calvert/The Nevada Independent)

In the weeds:

Walker Lake win — In ongoing efforts to restore dwindling Walker Lake in central Nevada, the Walker Basin Conservancy has acquired and will permanently protect 1,200 acre-feet of water in the Walker River watershed.

The conservancy acquired the decreed storage water from Poore Lake, California, in the headwaters of the Walker River, marking its first water acquisition for the lake from over the border. While about 75 percent of land from the Walker River Basin falls in Nevada, nearly all its water arrives as snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. The conservancy has now acquired 59 percent of the estimated 50,000 acre-feet of water needed to restore Walker Lake.

