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Naturally Reproduced Coho Salmon Found in Russian River for First Time in Decades

Paulette Jordan in race for Idaho governor

2025 NATHPO in Review

Reflection from NDN Collective

*If aliens landed tomorrow, I'd take them to a library just to prove we're capable of getting one thing
Indigenous Knowledge - archives from the Maven's Notebook*



[Naturally Reproduced Coho Salmon Found in Russian River's Upper Basin for the First Time in Decades](#)

Snorkeling in an isolated pool on Ackerman Creek north of Ukiah in June, Pinoleville Pomo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Water Resources Specialist Dakota Perez Gonzalez discovered young Coho salmon. These fish, as well as juvenile steelhead trout and Chinook salmon, were disconnected from surface water flow and other suitable habitat and likely to perish when the pool eventually dried up.



Idaho – yes, *IDAHO* – is showing America how the world is changing.

Paulette Jordan has just won the Democratic Primary for the governorship of Idaho.

This was not exactly a headline-grabber in New York, but it should have been. The Eastern media are so clueless that they were surprised that a socialist became mayor of NYC.

She is now positioned to be the first female Governor of the state, AND to be the first Native American governor in the US.

OK, she has a few hurdles.

She is running as a Democrat in a red state where the last gubernatorial election was the worst Democratic performance since 1924.

And she's a woman, *and* a Native.

If you are thinking: that's not really piling on the strengths, you might normally be right.

But these are not normal times – especially if you are a Republican. Having to identify as a Rep/MAGA person these days is like having to claim descent from a sewer rat.

There are several reasons to think Jordan has a great chance at winning.

First, national development.

America is finally embracing (as it were) the idea of female leadership.

Outside the walls of the White House, in the real world, the trend is clear.

A record-setting number of women have been elected as governors recently, with 13 states electing women, breaking the 2004 record of nine women governors. Eight of those new governors are women.

Women govern Alabama, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Mexico, Oregon, New York and South Dakota.

That total is bound to increase in this electoral cycle, as there are more than two dozen additional women running for governor. Their chances are better than ever, as they can now stand on a

platform of success with female governors; perhaps the not-stellar record of male governors is also giving them a boost.

If only half of them get in, then *women will be governors of half of America's 50 states*.

The legislative world will change...issues will move to a social dimension, and businesses will no longer rule the world.

Second, political shifts.

Edited; for more: https://barrygander.substack.com/p/to-republicans-in-idaho-you-cant-utm_source=share&utm_medium=android&r=5z4zi5&triedRedirect=true

And in Manitoba, something new has emerged again.

The Premier of Manitoba is a First Nations Chief.

Wab Kinew's First Nations people were not even allowed to vote until 1960. Their world is changing fast. Premier Kinew is driving for more healthcare, investment in electrical infrastructure for economic growth, and better support for young mothers.

He has written four books, and is a persuasive speaker. He leads the NDP party, a left-wing organization, so you can be sure that the Prairie Fire will continue to burn.

My point is: here is a First Nation leader who is a national treasure.

There is no reason why Paulette Jordan can't do the same.

Things are changing.

Again, edited: https://barrygander.substack.com/p/to-republicans-in-idaho-you-cant-utm_source=share&utm_medium=android&r=5z4zi5&triedRedirect=true

“Democrats took all the seats in the Georgetown City South Carolina Council.

Then there was Miami. A Democrat took the Mayor's position for the first time in three decades.

The margin was 19 points.

The new Mayor is a woman – the first woman to lead the city.

Foreshadows of Idaho...

Miami's Eileen Higgins said “We are facing rhetoric from elected officials that is so dehumanizing and cruel...”

And she therein put her finger on the reason for the nationwide upset.

Perhaps people are tired of a president that sends out videos of himself dropping feces on voters.

Perhaps they don't like ICE gestapo marching through their cities, sometimes accompanied by national guards from other states.

Perhaps they don't like gold ballrooms being built while people's healthcare disappears.

Or a president so crooked that he announces a bonus for the military – which he stole from their reserve fund.

Note: Miami is only 100 miles from Mar-a-Lago, den of thieves.

Then there is the damage that Trump-The-God has done to Idaho...

More than 350,000 Idahoans, or [29 percent](#) of its people, were on federal Medicaid in 2024. Half of all births in Idaho are paid for by Medicaid. Trump's moves to transfer funds to the billionaires – and heaven knows they need the money – will likely cause 40,000 Idahoans to lose their health insurance.

Trump's cuts to the SNAP nutritional program will push people further into despair. Just to nail it down, Trump has made a \$7-billion hold-back in educational funding permanent, so low-income students and community teaching programs will vanish.

Idaho has a sizeable rainy-day fund, but it was not meant or able to cover ongoing expenses. Like so many red states, Idaho relies on federal money -- read: money from blue states -- to keep going. It is not set up to pay its own way.

Trump's tariff policies have cut the legs off of Idaho's agricultural industry. His tariffs are driving up costs, taking away immigrant labor and killing international markets. Farm bankruptcies are at a five-year high. In just six months, Idaho businesses paid \$67 million in Trump's tariffs, more than double the year before.

And it is all for nothing. Trump did not count the American international trade surplus in service industries - things like software creation and business development – when he said that America had a trade deficit. America does not have a trade deficit. It breaks even, thank you very much, but none of the cretins advising Trump has the brainpower to figure this out. The whole tariff exercise, killing world markets, is for nothing.

Or rather, it is to give Trump a throne from which he can reign in terror over other countries. At least, that is what he wanted. What is happening instead is that all the other countries are re-arranging their trading patterns so that America does not count anymore.

Trump wanted an America-First platform; he is getting an America-Alone platform.

It will not go well, because while Idaho's farmers are struggling, Trump approved a \$40-billion bailout for Argentina to ensure that his billionaire friends did not lose out on their stock market; he is helping a foreign competitor sell soybeans and other crops to Idaho's markets.

As the [Post Register](#) notes: “He has turned record harvests into record losses, driven up costs, gutted markets and handed out tax breaks to billionaires while rural America is left to fend for itself.”

One of the Idaho sectors that is now being left to fend for itself is the dairy industry. Around 90% of the state’s dairy workers are immigrants – who pay taxes yet are ineligible for public assistance. Trump’s mass deportations are crippling this sector...and crippling beef, wheat and potatoes.

Trump is sure not fighting for the working people, like he promised.

If you drive north over the Idaho border into Canada and go East for a few provinces, you will be in Manitoba. It has the same kind of economic issues as Idaho, but the temperament – and the solutions – are different.

It was in this part of the Canada that the “prairie fire” caught hold – a sense of popular rage that ordinary people were being left behind in a race for profits. They started a movement that resulted in free medical treatment, taxpayer-funded social equity, and support for education and business.

Over the decades since, this is how the policy played out: the American life span is now five years less than Canadians, and Americans are poorer, much less healthy, and at a higher risk of going to jail...

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In this final month of 2025, we are taking time for both reflection and gratitude – reflecting on all that we have withstood communities, for our people, and feeling a deep sense of appreciation for those who supported us during this challenging

This month, we lift up gratitude for our colleagues, both past and present, whose courage and commitment helped secure [Hotel](#) and hold racism accountable in the court of law. More than three years ago, we filed this [federal civil rights lawsuit](#) against people in a blatant act of racism.

Throughout the week of the trial, we took time to reflect on the history of racism in Rapid City, including [conversations a](#) [Invitational](#), which was taking place at the same time. These reflections were further strengthened by a powerful dialogue [NDN’s LANDBACK For the People podcast](#). Their words reminded us of our collective histories, encompassing both challenge and resistance has always been connected to our survival.

This month showed us that our struggles are always worth the fight when they are rooted in justice and love for our people. We are called to slow down, to rest, and to care for ourselves and one another, so that we may continue the work of building a more just world. We wish you balance, rest, and renewal in these final weeks of 2025, and we look forward to standing shoulder to shoulder with you.

In Solidarity,  
The NDN Collective Team

*“What counts, in the long run, is not what you read; it is what you sift through your own mind; it is the ideas and impressions that are aroused in you by your reading. It is the ideas*

*stirred in your own mind, the ideas which are a reflection of your own thinking, which make you an interesting person.” - Eleanor Roosevelt*

**SAVE THE DATE: #NATHPOConference2026 IS HAPPENING AUGUST 24-28, 2026!**

**NATHPO is delighted to announce that our [26th Annual Conference & Sacred Places Summit](#) is taking place August 24-26, 2026, in Albuquerque, NM.**

We will have more details to announce in the new year, but we wanted to share the dates with you as soon as we could.

No NATHPO Conference could be successful without the partnership of the host Tribe, and 2026 will be no exception. NATHPO is honored and grateful to be working with our host Tribe, Pueblo of Acoma, and their THPO, Western Region Board Representative Steven Concho. Co-Executive Directors Valerie Grussing and Ira Matt [were in New Mexico last week meeting with Steven](#), and they returned energized and excited to get to work planning next year's conference.

**So please mark August 24-28 on your calendars, watch your email, and stay tuned to [NATHPO's website](#) for more information as it comes available.**

If you or your organization are interested in sponsoring NATHPO's 2026 Annual Conference & Saving Places Summit, please contact Operations Director Melissa Madrigal ([Melissa@NATHPO.org](mailto:Melissa@NATHPO.org)) and Finance Director Amy Garcia ([Accounting@NATHPO.org](mailto:Accounting@NATHPO.org))

## 2025 NATHPO Year In Review

2025 was an exciting year for NATHPO. NATHPO entered the year committed to dedicating more staff time and resources to visiting THPOs, listening to their stories, shining a light on their work, and communicating their needs to policymakers in Washington, DC, and beyond. Those visits brought NATHPO staff to, among other places, [California](#), Minnesota, [Louisiana](#), [Alabama](#), [South Carolina](#), and [New Mexico](#). NATHPO will continue to prioritize THPO visits in 2026 and beyond. Hopefully we can see you on the road soon!

We also continued our work of advocating on behalf of THPOs and the Tribal Nations they serve in Washington, and part of the advocacy includes connecting THPOs with [Congressional members and staff](#) and [officials within the Administration](#). We were especially excited to support Pueblo of Acoma THPO Steven Concho when he came to Washington to [testify before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources](#).



The community of THPOs grew significantly in 2025 as well. In January, we welcomed Pueblo de Cochiti, and in September we welcomed the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Metlakatla Indian Community; the Tejon Indian Tribe; the Lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel; the Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians; the Sac & Fox Nation, Oklahoma; and the Puyallup Tribe of the

## **In Memoriam: Lance Foster**

2025 began on a solemn note for NATHPO when we lost Lance Foster, a longtime NATHPO Board Member who served as THPO for the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska since 2013. A friend and mentor to so many on Team NATHPO and throughout the THPO community, Lance's loss was felt across the country. NATHPO was proud to rename our Lifetime Achievement award after Lance, and the first recipient of the Lance Foster Lifetime Achievement Award was [Guy Moura](#), THPO for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. You can read NATHPO's tribute to Lance [HERE](#).

*Our heroes don't wear capes.  
They carry the people on their backs,  
Knowledge of the ancestors in their hearts,  
And the roots from their steps on the earth extend to the descendants.*  
- Stacy Laravie (Ponca), NATHPO Indigenization Director



**Matt Lillywhite**      **Nov 28**                      **Writing Wednesdays**

**Every time I walk into a library I think, "Wow, this is what society looks like when it's actually doing its job."**

**Free heat.**

**Free seats.**

**Free internet.**

**Free knowledge.**

**If aliens landed tomorrow, I'd take them to a library first just to prove we're capable of getting one thing right.**

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Indigenous Knowledge - archives from the Maven



CA WATER COMMISSION: Best practices in meaningful Tribal engagement and consultation October 20, 2025

At its September meeting, the California Water Commission heard from Anecita Agustinez,



Tribal Affairs Executive Manager for the Department of...

NOTEBOOK FEATURE: How Karuk ceremonial leader Ron Reed used Western science to take down the Klamath dams

Robin Meadows EcosystemsNotebook News and Features August 26, 2025

The Karuk people have lived in the thickly forested mountains along the Klamath River in



Northern California...

SFEWS: Traditional knowledge and current science inform conservation and preservation practices in the Delta Guest Contributor Delta science June 30, 2025

This edition of SFEWS (Volume 23, Issue 2) includes research on integrating traditional



knowledge with science in the Delta, a...

NOAA

Fisheries: The Original Salmon Stewards October 29, 2024

How the Winnemem Wintu tribe helped return endangered Chinook salmon to the homeland they share By NOAA Fisheries The original...



[NOTEBOOK FEATURE: We are still here: Partnering with Tribes on the Delta](#)
[Robin Meadows](#) **[Best of the Notebook](#)****[Delta science](#)****[Ecosystems](#)****[Notebook News and](#)**
[Features](#) **[August 28, 2024](#)**

By Robin Meadows The first time Malissa Tayaba visited one of her ancestral village sites on the



banks of the...

[OREGON STATE: Research showcases Indigenous stewardship's role in forest ecosystem resilience](#)
[Guest Contributor](#) **[Wildfires and watersheds](#)** **[April 25, 2024](#)**

By Steve Lundeberg, Oregon State University Oregon State University researchers have teamed with the Karuk Tribe to create a novel...



[UCLA: Why are California's wildfires getting worse? Experts explain what we know](#)
[August 15, 2023](#)

Paper adds clarity to contentious debate with implications for lives and property David Colgan, UCLA Key takeaways Experts authored a..



[THE REVELATOR: A lifeline for winter-run chinook salmon](#) **[August](#)**
[7, 2023](#)

With salmon migration blocked by Shasta Dam, a Tribe and agency scientists collaborate to bring them home. By Juliet Grable,...



[NOAA FISHERIES: Tribe, State, and Federal Partners Join To Return Endangered Salmon to Historic Habitat](#) **[May 3, 2023](#)**

Three-way collaboration to restore Chinook salmon to the mountains north of Redding, California. By NOAA Fisheries The California Department of...



[CDFW: Tribe, state and federal partners join to return endangered salmon to historic habitat](#) **[May 1, 2023](#)**

By CDFW News The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, NOAA Fisheries and the Winnemem Wintu Tribe signed agreements to...



[DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL: Integrating social sciences in the Delta](#) **[March 16, 2023](#)**

Integrating the social sciences into environmental science and management in the Delta can contribute to a better understanding of...



[UC DAVIS: The Science of Saving Salmon as Klamath Dams Come Down](#) **[February 24, 2023](#)**

Scientists Test the Waters Amid the World's Largest Dam Removal by Malia Reiss, UC Davis
The world's largest dam removal...



[ESTUARY NEWS: Reorienting to Salmon Recovery](#) **[June 13, 2022](#)
[by Alastair Bland, Estuary News Group](#)**

The days when salmon and steelhead teemed in California's coastal watersheds faded away last...



[YOSEMITE ENVIRO LAW CONFERENCE: Tribal Water Rights and Resources in a Changing Climate](#) **[December 16, 2020](#)**

From the Klamath waters to the Western desert valleys, recent court rulings highlight the important and evolving role of tribal