

# Southern Paiute ~ Parashant Bulletin

Written by: Maiya Osife; Parashant National Monument Intern & tribal member of the Kaibab Band of Southern Paiute Indians



## Who I am...

Mikwas! Nu' Neyahunt Maiya Laree Osife. Nu' Kaivaviich nung'. Hello! My name is Maiya Laree Osife, and I am from the Kaibab Band of Southern Paiute Indians. I am the daughter of Cynthia Osife and Thaddeus Donoho; granddaughter of Edna Osife of Kaibab Band, and the late Keith Osife of Gila River Pima. As a 17 year old and an early high school graduate, I received my high school diploma on June 12th of this summer, 2013, after completing my high school classes 6 months earlier in January, 2013. My plans include starting college at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon for the fall term of 2013, pursuing my higher education with a focus on natural resources, and majoring in water resources and management. I come to you all today as both a representative of my generation of Native youth, and as a representative of the Grand Canyon- Parashant National Monument. As some of you may know, Parashant offers great internships for Native youth that expose us to the world of natural resources and land management. Last year I had the opportunity to work in a crew as a historical construction intern with my fellow Southern Paiutes, Markuitta Bushhead, Cortland Spute, and Rauni Spute of the Shivwits and Kaibab bands. Over the summer, our crew accomplished the goal of restoring the historic root cellar at Pine Ranch

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*“It became clear to me just how vital we are to the career of natural resources and how important it is to me that I be able to apply my passion and education to something as important as our land. I believe strongly that it is so important to have Natives involved in natural resources and sciences not only to bring our ways into the practice but also because it is important for our people to be involved and stay informed on our Native lands and land rights.”*

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near Mount Dellenbaugh on Parashant National Monument. This job included camping out 5 days every week at our work site. My experience that year truly opened my eyes to the real opportunity of being a Native American in the present day natural resources and land management field. It became clear how vital we are to the career of natural resources and how important it is to me that I be able to apply my passion and education to something as important as our land. I believe strongly that it is important to have Natives involved in natural resources and sciences not only to bring our ways into the practice, but also for our people to be

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involved and stay informed on our Native lands and land rights. This belief is why I am writing to you all today.

My experience last year left me inspired and knowledgeable of what I wanted to do and further my education in. Instead of doing the same crew work, I decided to pursue an internship that would pertain more to my interests of working with water and land resources, working with our tribes, and land management as a whole. This summer, I am working as the Interpretation Intern for Parashant National Monument. Parashant's internships are really flexible and build their positions to be accustomed to each individual intern. I was able to choose my overall mentoring plan; projects, job shadows, short term goals, etc. My

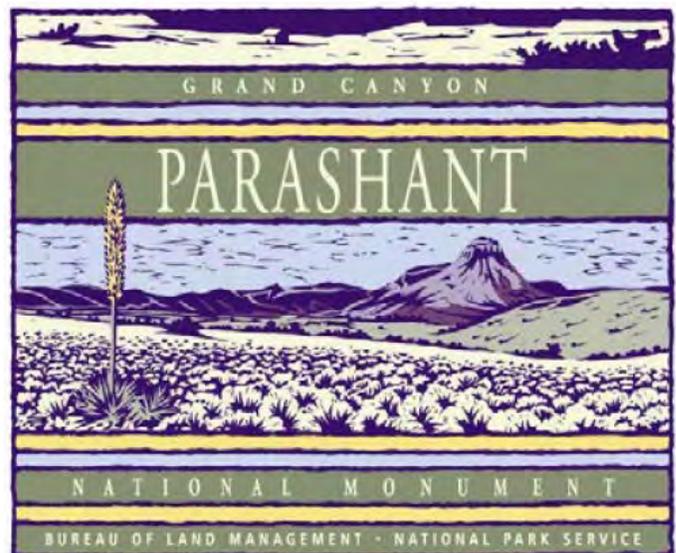
greatest goal for this internship is to see how Federal Agencies, such as the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management work with tribal government through land and resource issues. I am able to participate in different types of field studies and trips to sites that are meaningful to our people. Parashant National Monument includes a fraction of our aboriginal lands and culturally significant sites. I believe that it is vital that our people stay informed on things going on throughout the land. I have taken it upon myself as one of my priorities to write to you, my people, to inform and update you on what is happening today on Parashant National Monument from my perspective as an intern.



## Parashant National Monument: What it is, Present Day Land Borders, Aboriginal Lands, and Cultural Sights

### What is Parashant National Monument?

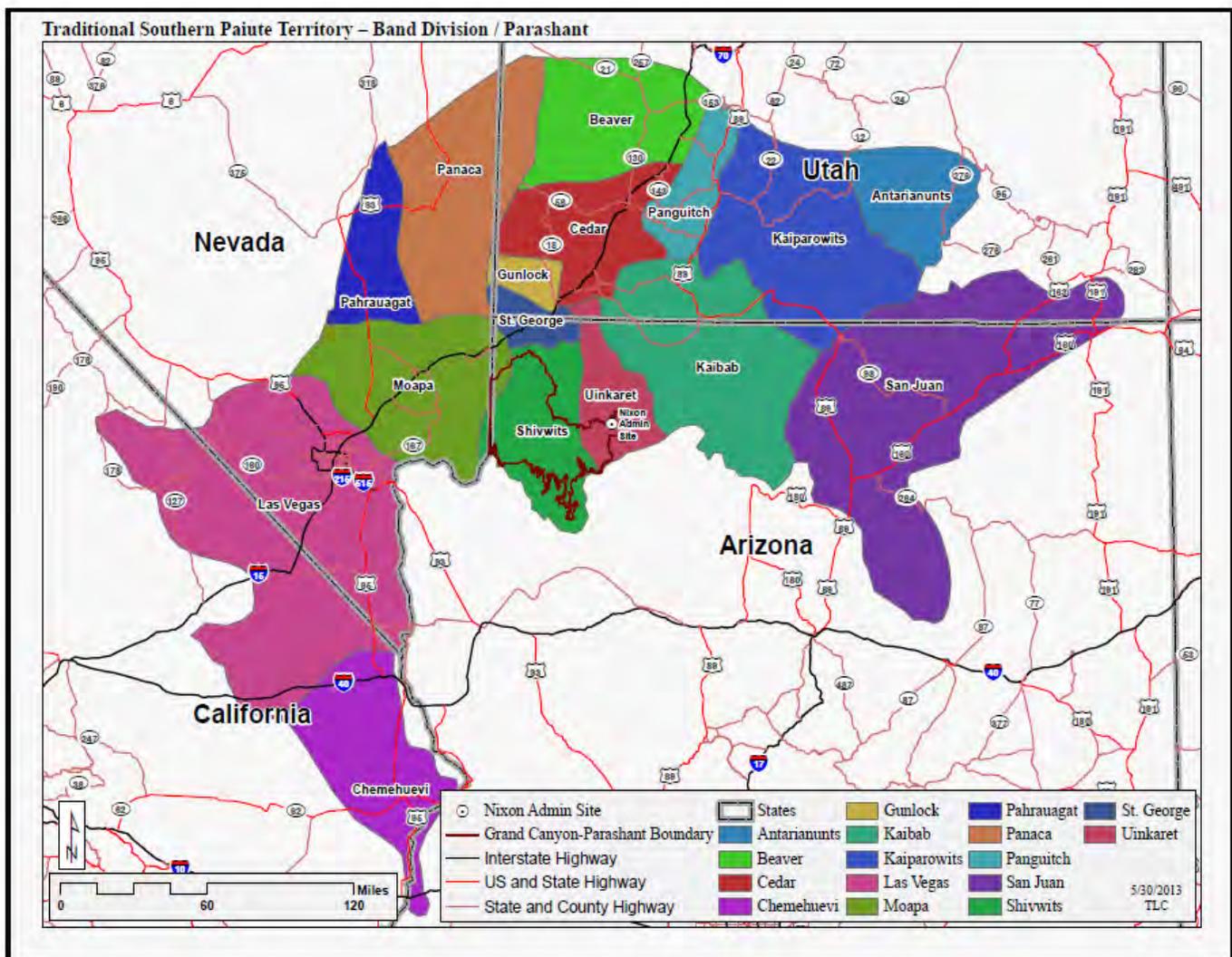
The monument is located in Mohave County, Arizona, immediately north of Grand Canyon National Park and the Colorado River and east of the state of Nevada. Altogether, it encompasses 1,048,321 acres. The federally administered lands lie within the Arizona Strip BLM District and the Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NPS), co-managed under a Service First agreement. These lands include the ponderosa pine forested areas of Mt. Trumbull, Mt. Logan, and Mt. Dellenbaugh; the Mojave Desert in the Grand Wash and Pakoon areas; Kelly Point and Twin Point overlooking the Grand Canyon; and the Shivwits and Uinkaret plateaus.<sup>1</sup>



1. Goolrick, Faye. National Park Service. U.S. Department of the Interior. *Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument Long Range Interpretive Plan*. 2012.

## Present Day Land Borders

According to present day land borders and land marks, the Monument is located on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona, and a portion of the Mohave Desert. It borders Grand Canyon National Park to the south, Nevada to the west, and is bounded by the Bureau of Land Management Arizona Strip region on the east and north. You can access the Monument, through dirt roads, from Nevada, Utah, and Arizona. It is approximately 30 miles Southwest of St. George, Utah. The map below, (A2), depicts where Parashant National Monument is, according to present day roads and interstates.



**Traditional Southern Paiute Territory/ Band Divisions and Parashant**

**Fig. A2**

## Southern Paiute Aboriginal Land and Parashant National Monument

Parashant National Monument makes up a small portion of our aboriginal lands, what we call Yanawant. “Yanawant reflects a traditional term which has been glossed to mean the traditional Southern Paiute territory that encompasses the lands currently called by the Anglo term Arizona Strip. The Paiute term conveys a world of information about the traditional, social, and political structure.”<sup>2</sup> The map below, (A1), depicts Yanawant, our Aboriginal territory, and highlights where Parashant National Monument is located within our lands.



2. Stoffle, Van Vlack, Carroll, Chmara-Huff, Martinez, . Bureau of Land Management. U.S. Department of the Interior. *Yanawant Paiute Places and Things*, Vol. 1 2012

## Sites Within Parashant National Monument

Parashant National Monument encompasses a few of our culturally significant sites. For example, a group of sites that are important to us are located in the Mount Trumbull region including Nampaweap, Nixon Spring– Uinkaret pueblo, and the Toroweap overlook. It has been told by elders that “each of these places has a unique function...for Southern Paiute People who would seek visions, spirit help, or medical cures;... In addition, each place is sequentially linked creating a ceremonial landscape that is integrated in terms of time, function, and space.”<sup>2</sup> These are places where our people were, where they lived, and where they left their stories.



2. Stoffle, Van Vlack, Carroll, Chmara-Huff, Martinez, . Bureau of Land Management. U.S. Department of the Interior. *Yanawant Paiute Places and Things, Vol. 1*

## News Around Parashant: Current Projects and Plans

### Pakoon Springs: The Rehabilitation Continues

#### Back Ground

Pakoon is the largest spring system on Parashant National Monument and it has always been used as a major water source. At one time, the area was privately owned and used for livestock, irrigation, and homesteading for at least a century, with the springs channeling into a series of small ponds. Many non-native species (including, most notably, an alligator) have been introduced at Pakoon. A major trash cleanup was conducted in the area in 2006. A conservation team is in the process of rehabilitating Pakoon Springs and restoring the springs to a more natural state; discouraging invasives, including tamarisk and bullfrogs. Another challenge for the site is configuring fencing that will allow people in to the immediate springs and pond surroundings, while discouraging cattle, wild burros, and OHVs that might damage the resource.<sup>1</sup>

#### Presently

Rehabilitation efforts continue at Pakoon Springs. Various bands of the Southern Paiute nation have been involved in the restoration and rehabilitation of the area by having youth participate in the revegetation of trees. The current focus is on invasive bullfrog removal which is being executed with the participation of Arizona Game and Fish. The process of clean up and rehabilitation is currently being looked at, reviewing previous contouring of the ground and how the land held up after this past year's monsoon season. Stream stabilization that took place is also being reviewed for continuous stability and success.

#### Goals

Overall plans for Pakoon are to continue to work with Arizona Game and Fish and the Arizona Water Protection Fund to eventually make Pakoon a stable and healthy ecosystem while also increasing public awareness and education of the sight.



Overlook of Pakoon Springs

## Pakoon Springs: Update

- Arizona Game and Fish removed invasive bullfrogs in the first week of June at Pakoon.
- Cattails were removed in the second to last week of May.
- An information kiosk is to be put in by the North end of Pakoon by the end of 2013.

National Public Lands Day event to complete a variety of tasks is scheduled for September 28, 2013. Call 435-688-3298 for more information.

Paiute elder Glendora Homer reseeding the vegetation at Pakoon Springs, 2009



Beavertail Cactus Found at Pakoon

Tribal member and BLM employee Gloria Benson showing her support for the Pakoon Springs Restoration, 2009



**Anybody out at Pakoon:**  
***Please report any burro sightings!***  
**Steps:**

- Take a picture
- Mark it on a map or obtain a GPS point
- Report it to 435-688-3376 or email [Jennifer\\_Fox@nps.gov](mailto:Jennifer_Fox@nps.gov)

## News Around Parashant: Current Projects and Plans

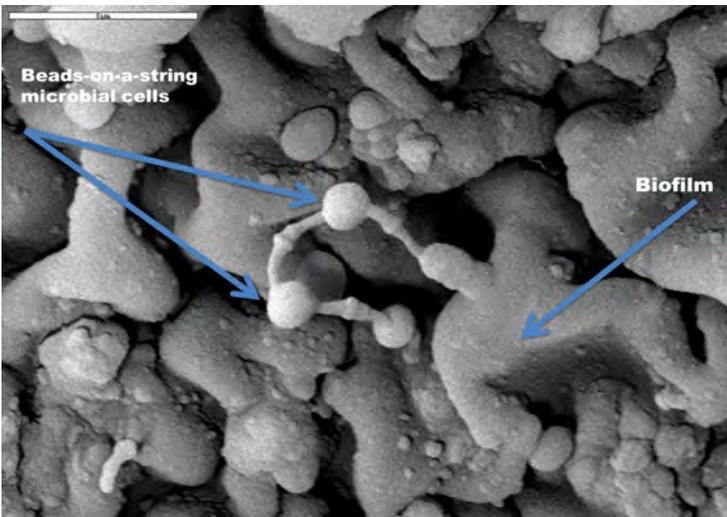
### The Next Generation of Information: Mobile App Development for the Monument

A three year project has begun to develop a mobile app for Parashant National Monument. The app will highlight 20 public sights and areas, Nampaweap included. Little is known and definite about the app so far, as it is still very much in its development stages. Brainstorming meetings have been held to decide upon its design and functions. There is talk about having panoramic photography, and the possibility for a real time virtual tour of the sights included in the app. Photography began around mid June in the Mount Trumbull region. Content of the app itself has yet to be written. Once finished, the free app will be available on itunes U, and the Parashant National Monument website, [www.nps.gov/para](http://www.nps.gov/para), in 2014.



**Examples of Mobile Apps for other National Parks**

### Microbiology and Soundscape Project



**Microbial Images found during Microbiology Study**

Parashant National Monument is conducting a Microbiology Study to assess microbial organisms found within the pristine cave environments located in the remote areas of the Monument, including Nampaweap. The Basalt flows found in the Uinkaret vicinity are important for microbes because of their iron and magnesium content. The area being studied is substantial because there are few spots world wide that contain both basalt and ice. A portion of the caves under study are potentially radioactive and may exhibit properties similar to a group of bacteria known as extremophiles. Understanding these microbes and their environment will help to further expand the knowledge base of these organisms and will help in other areas of research such as detecting life on Mars and shifts in the subterranean– surface nitrogen cycle due to climate change. The overall goal of this project is to expand the knowledge base of these organisms and to bring the attention of its rarity to the public.

## Youth Updates



### “A Call to Action”: Past Yevingkarere Camp Participants Reunion



The Yevingkarere Camp hosted by Parashant National Monument at Mount Trumbull each fall, provides opportunities for Southern Paiute youth to develop a deeper understanding of monument resources, emphasizes cultural connections to traditional homelands and demonstrates the relevance of all parks and public lands in their lives.

The National Park Service will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016. A plan entitled

“A Call to Action” has been developed to prepare the National Park Service for a second century of public service, stewardship and engagement. As one of the ways to celebrate the centennial, every park unit across the country will be adopting a Class of 2016. To celebrate the NPS centennial, Parashant National Monument is planning to adopt all Yevingkarere Camp graduates from 2008 to 2015, as its Class of 2016. Past graduates, elders, instructors, chaperones and tribal



2008 Yevingkarere Camp Participants

officials will be invited to attend a fun reunion gathering in 2016. Stay tuned for more information and details to be announced in a future newsletter. Past camp participants are encouraged to send updated contact information (name, email, and phone) to [scott\\_sticha@nps.gov](mailto:scott_sticha@nps.gov).

**\* Reminder - Applications for the September 20 -22, 2013 Yevingkarere Camp (ages 10 -12) are due to your band representative by August 23.**

### Grant Received for New Southern Paiute Youth Camp, Kwiyamuntsi

Expanding upon the successful Parashant hosted Yevingkarere Youth Camp at Mount Trumbull, a second camp, recently named Kwiyamuntsi, meaning “oak plateau”, for 7 – 9 grade level Southern Paiute youth is currently being developed and will be held from August 1-4 on the Paunsaugunt Plateau in the Dixie National Forest. The camp is being funded with a \$13,000 America’s Best Idea grant from the National Park Foundation to engage and educate Native youth

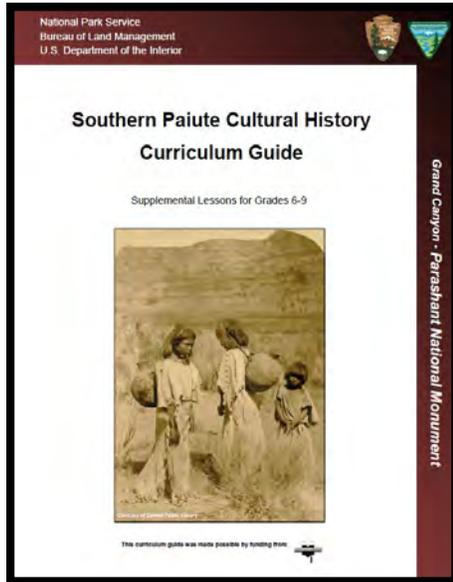
and eventually lead them toward advanced education and employment opportunities with land management agencies. The concept for the annual camp is based on incorporating traditional cultural knowledge into resource management and conservation. Southern Paiute elders teaching traditional values will work with agency resource specialists providing hands-on activities to inspire this early teen-aged group to consider science related courses and potential resource management careers. Inter-

agency partners working with the Southern Paiute tribal staff include Bryce Canyon National Park, Dixie National Forest, Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument, Cedar Breaks National Monument, Zion National Park, Pipe Spring National Monument, Parashant National Monument, Arizona Strip District Office, Bryce Canyon Natural History Association and Southern Utah University. Applications are due to band representatives by July 5.

## Youth Updates



### Southern Paiute Cultural Curriculum Now Available



Lessons designed for grades 6 -9 will introduce students to the rich history and legacy of the Southern Paiute people and cultural resources of Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument. The curriculum guide was developed through the collaborative efforts of Southern Paiute tribal members, middle school educators and agency staff. The Southern Paiute Cultural Curriculum is now available for downloading at <http://www.nps.gov/para/forteachers/upload/Total-Final-Curriculum.pdf>. To inquire about the use of the trunk and library materials to accompany the lessons, please call 435-688-3298 or 3377.



*Thank you for taking the time to read this first edition of The "Southern Paiute ~ Parashant Bulletin" by Maiya Osife. Look forward to more editions to come!*

### From the Managers

We would like to send a big thank you to interpretation intern Maiya Osife for getting the first edition of this newsletter off the ground. Maiya has been a wonderful addition to our staff. The focus on Native youth, from the Yevingkarere Camp to the internship programs, is starting to show great success.

We are very proud of the strong partnerships the Parashant is forging with the Southern Paiute tribes and we look forward to working together on new projects. Hope you enjoyed learning more about tribal connections to Parashant National Monument.

*Pam McAlpin (BLM Monument Manager) and Rosie Pepito (NPS Superintendent)*

