

# Save our Tubape Wapí'no

(Pine Nut Trees & Cedar Trees)



Save our Tubape (Pine Nut Trees)  
& Wapi (Cedar Trees)

Cease and desist cutting in the areas of:

- . Sweetwater (PEHABE PA'A)
- . Desert Creek (PAZEETA NAHU GWAYTU)
- . Sand Canyon (KIBA MOBEGWAYTU)

\*And any future  
Ancestral Paiute Territory Lands

The U.S. Forest Service has begun planning to cut our Pine nut Trees in the Spring of 2013.

A team of traditionalists rallied together in support of saving our Pine Nut Trees and Traditional way of Numu life.



- L-R Stacey Burns, Rosemary Desoto, Laverne Roberts, Vernon Rogers Jr., Josh Dini, Herbert Dini Sr., Gracie Dick.

- US forest Service has tried to justify cutting our Pine nut trees in the name of the Sage Grouse.
- The Sage grouse has been petitioned to be on the Endangered Species act two separate occasions in 2002, and in 2003.
- The Sage Grouse has become a lower level 8 candidate in March 2010
- The Sage Grouse is not on the Endangered Species List. At this point they are not considered threatened.

The Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Objectives (COT) Report issued has compiled a list of threats to the Sage Grouse.

- Conifers Are considered to be 5<sup>th</sup> on the Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Objectives (COT) Report threat list.

- Pinion and Cedars are a large part of the Sage Grouse habitat. And an even larger part of our whole eco system. The elders say the Pinions provide a safe haven for the Sage Grouse and protection from the predators such as ravens.
- Conifers are an important part of the Sage Grouse habitat. To destroy the conifers it to destroy the sage grouse.

**"OUR PINE NUT  
TREES ARE THE  
LIFE LINES TO OUR  
MOTHER EARTH"**

**-STACEY BURNS.  
PHOTOGRAPHER, PAIUTE  
LANGUAGE TEACHER**



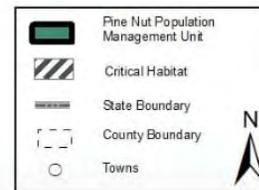
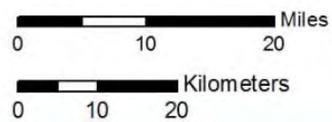
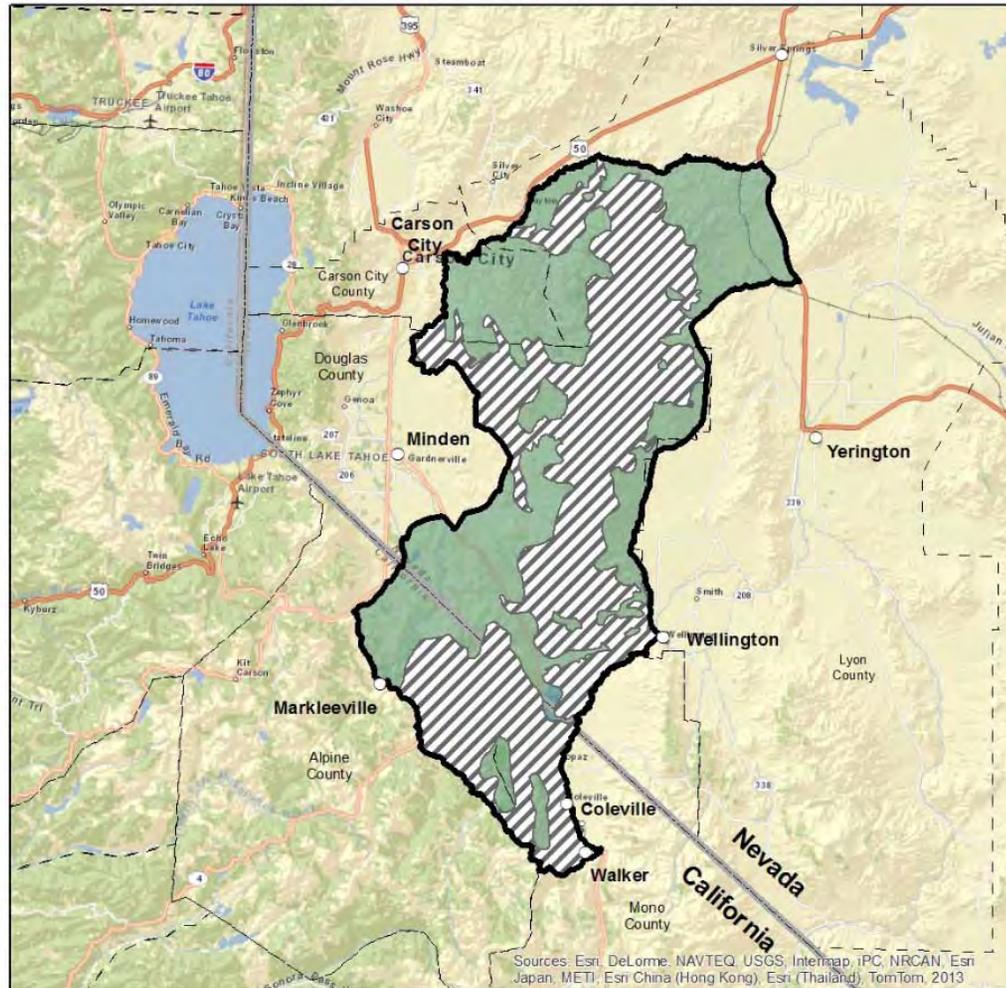
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Objectives (COT) Report identified Priority Areas for landscape improvement for the Sage Grouse.

- Six locations were identified as improvement sites.
- Pine Nut
- Desert Creek-Fales (cutting)
- Mount Grant
- Bodie
- South Mono (cut by Green Lakes Rd.)
- White Mountains

Unfortunately our sacred Pine Nut gathering sites were placed on the designated list of habitat improvement for the Sage Grouse on a whole landscape scale.

Sweet water Summit is at a higher elevation of 6812 and local elders who have grown up in the area do not recall the Sage Grouse to venture in such high elevation. The Sage Grouse lived in lower elevation at one time, according to the elders. They have been forced to move to higher elevation due encroachment of humans and their recreational vehicles.

**Unit 1: Critical Habitat for Bi-State Distinct Population Segment of Greater Sage-Grouse; Carson City, Douglas, and Lyon Counties, Nevada; and Alpine and Mono Counties, California**



- In the Fall of 2012 into the Spring of 2013

the U.S. Forest Service clear cut our sacred Pine nut trees in the Sweet Water mountains. They openly and publicly stated in a community meeting held in the Sweet Water Mountains, that it was “a mistake”.

- The following pictures are from the first “Mistake” clear cut in Sweet Water Summit.







**"IT WAS LIKE SEEING OUR RELATIVES  
LAYING ON THE GROUND" - GRACE DICK**

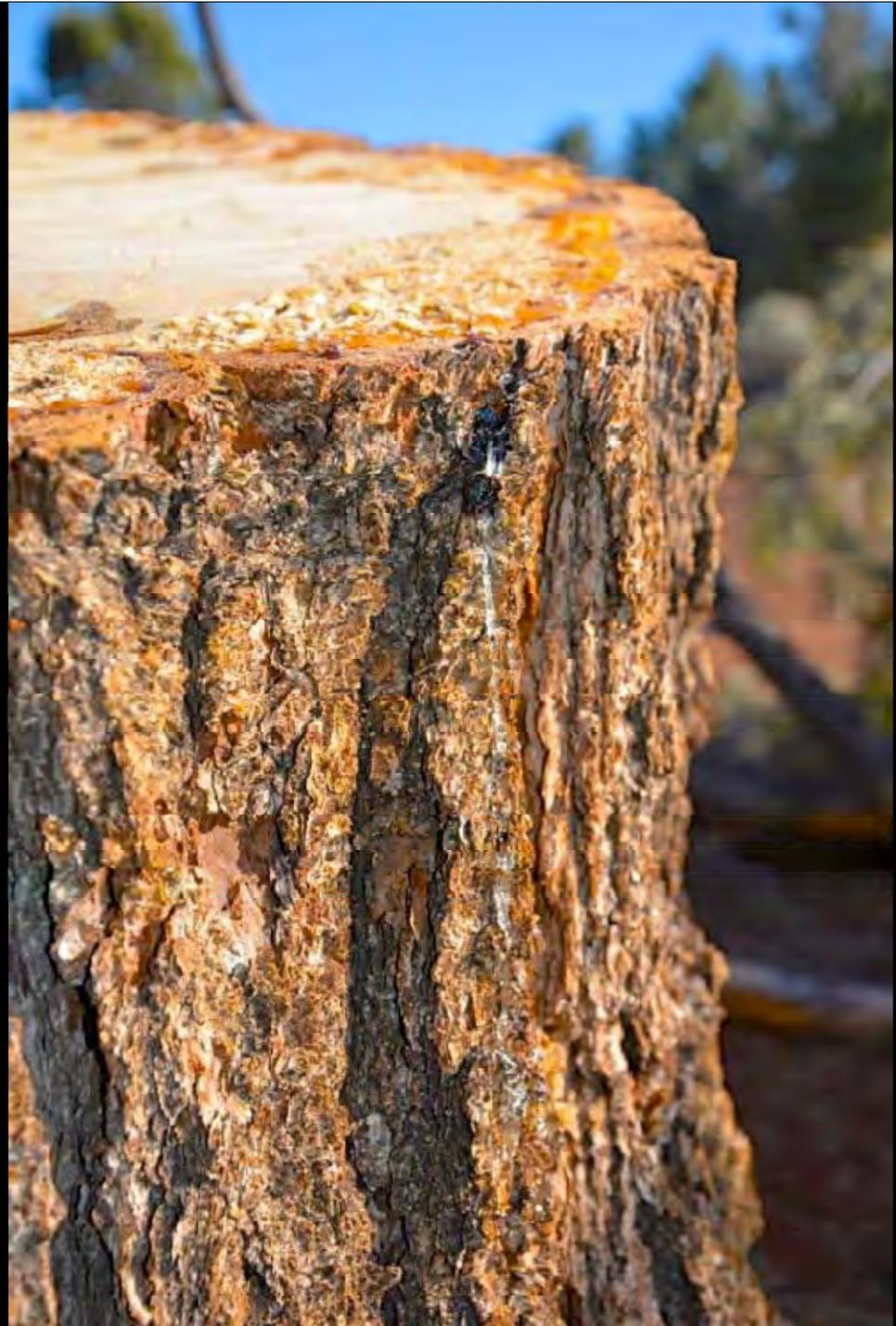


**A FAMILY CAMP SITE BELOW WAS ABLE TO BE IDENTIFIED UNDER THE WRECKAGE.**



**"THEY ARE GOING  
AGAINST THERE OWN  
CODES, LEAVING  
THESE TREES HERE ARE  
A FIRE HAZARD"**

**-DUANE TOM, LOCAL PAIUTE  
HUNTSMAN AND WOODSMAN**



**ROCK CIRCLES ARE EVIDENCE AND  
ARE IDENTIFIED AS A SACRED SITE.**



**OBSIDIAN ARROW  
HEADS WERE ALSO  
PRESENT AND EVIDENCE  
OF AN ANCIENT SACRED  
SITE.**

Obsidian was placed for  
picture purposes, and  
returned to proper  
resting place.



**PICTURED IS ONE OF  
THE FEW PINION TREES  
LEFT STANDING.  
ESTIMATED TO BE 400  
YEARS OLD.**



**PICTURED:  
GRACIE DICK,  
PAIUTE ELDER,  
ACTIVIST &  
LANGUAGE TEACHER**



**My children will not get to  
gather pinenuts from  
Sweetwater, my  
grandchildren will not get  
to, my great  
grandchildren many not  
either.**

**It takes hundreds of years  
for the pinon tree to grow  
to this magnitude**

**- Stacey Burns , Photographer,  
Palute Language Teacher**



- The wanton destruction of our pine nut forests and cedar forests has to stop for eternity and perpetuity and never to be cut again.
- When the U.S. Forest service is making these plans, they do not take into consideration the Paiute Indians and what these sacred pine nut trees mean to our Paiute People.
- The U.S. Forest Service, BLM & Department of Fish and Wildlife have not consulted with proper procedures and a thorough explanation of proposed actions.

- The Tribal Nations need to be in on the planning from the ground level. So we should not have to revisit this year after year. The government agencies need to listen to the Tribes and not cut or destroy within our ancestral territories.

- We ask that all Nevada Tribal Nations help us and back us by writing a resolution to cease and desist immediately the cutting of our Sacred Pine nut trees and Cedar trees.
- Using words like perpetual, perpetuity, eternity, forever, never, shall cease, protection

# Pine Nut Tree Cutting Timeline

- See hand out

# SOURCES

## Conservation Summary

- **BI-STATE SAGE-GROUSE DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT CONSERVATION SUMMARY** [ndow.org](http://ndow.org)
- THE WOVOKA CULTURE AND MUSEUM PROJECT
- GRACE DICK; PAIUTE LANGUAGE
- BLM Nevada News
- Paiute Elders Representing: Walker River, Pyramid Lake, Coleville, Yerington, Dresslerville, & Bridgeport