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**Carrizo Plain National Monument Native American Advisory Council**

**October 25, 2024**

**for**

**The Carrizo Plain Conservancy Annual Colloquium**



# **Indigenous and Federal Agency Co-Management: Carrizo Plain NM and the Native American Advisory Council**

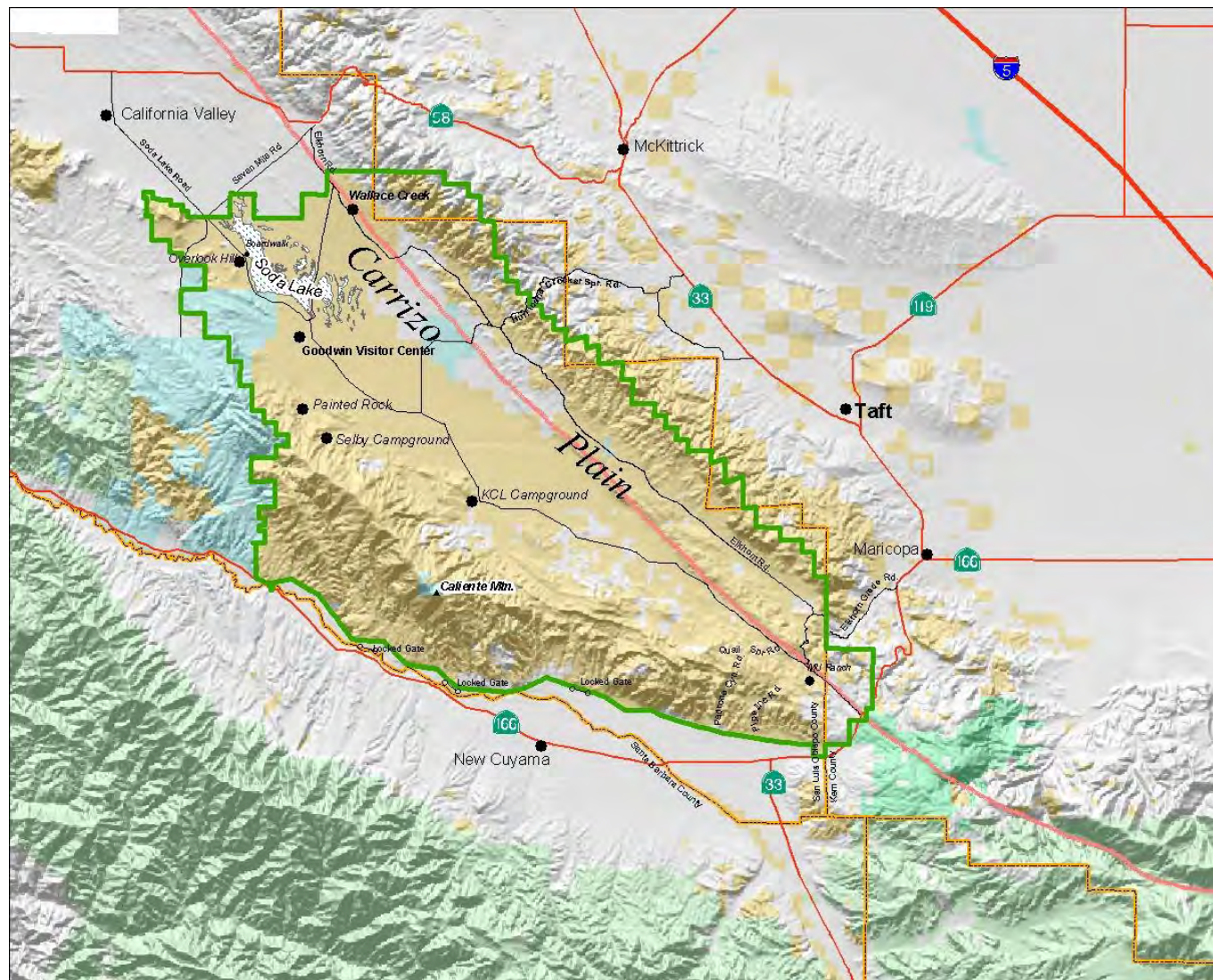
## **Presentation Outline:**

- **Overview of the Monument's Cultural Resources**
- **Why a Native American Advisory Council (NAAC) for the CPNM ?**
- **Example of Co-Management: The Painted Rock**
- **Collaboration between NAAC and the Carrizo Plain Conservancy**

# **Cultural Resources Overview**







**Legend**

- CPNM Boundary
- San Andreas Fault
- County Boundary

**Land Status**

**AGENCY**

- Bureau of Land Management
- US Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Military
- Other Federal
- State
- County/State/Regional
- Private/Other

**Carrizo Plain National Monument**

0 2.5 5 10  
Miles



# Early Indigenous Habitation

- Archaeological studies date Native presence (both seasonable and permanent) in the Carrizo area from 8,000 -12,000 years ago.
- The rock paintings are world-class and represent the highest development of this form of Native creativity, symbolic writing and spiritual presentation.
- Types of Sites:
  - rock art, mostly pictographs;
  - special activity areas for community and family events;
  - rock configurations and shelters;
  - stone flake scatters associated with the manufacture of lithic tools;
  - camps for short- and long-term habitation;
  - rock quarries for procurement and use of raw materials;
  - and plant processing areas such as bedrock mortar and milling stations.



## **Pictograph , Habitation, Quarries & Work Sites**





**Historic Ranching and Farming Sites –  
about 25% of cultural sites on the Monument**



Van Meter Ranch



Saucito Ranch

# BLM Cultural Resource Surveys on the Carrizo

## Before and After BLM Resource Management Plan of 2010

- 2010 (RMP) 9.7% of the Monument and non-federal land has surveyed.
- As of 2024, 12 % surveyed – archaeologists aim for about 50 acres/yr.
- 2010 (RMP) 181 cultural sites were recorded.
- Since 2010, 37 more field surveys completed, about 4,700 acres.
- As of 2024, 26 additional sites recorded
  - 18 of these sites are Native American heritage sites
  - 8 are associated with 19<sup>th</sup> century to modern ranching and farming



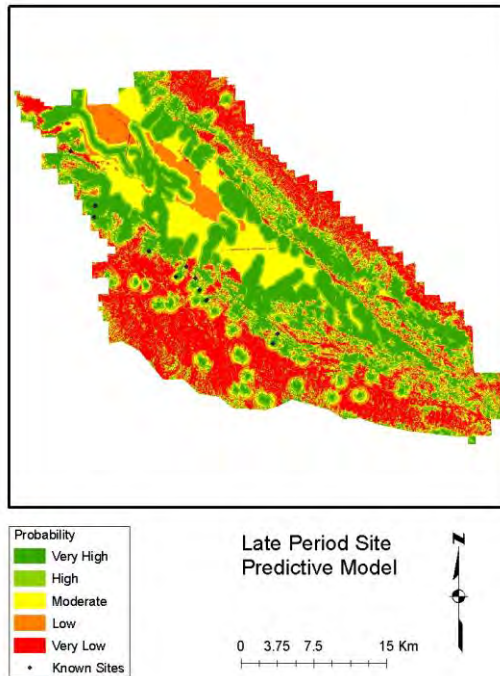


# Geographic Information System Studies on the Carrizo

Since the RMP in 2010:

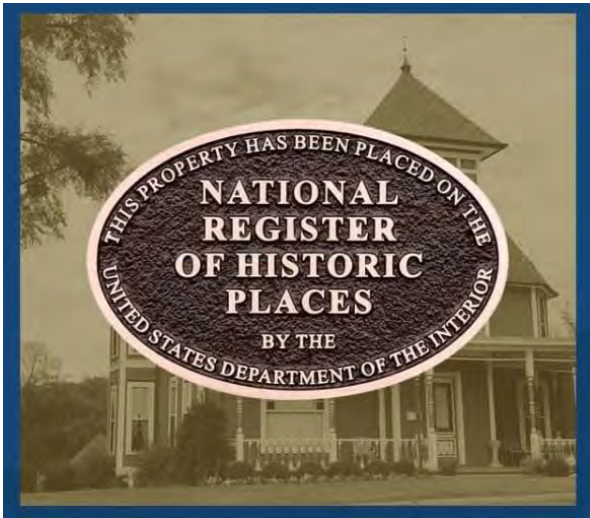
GIS now used by BLM  
archaeologists.

Data/factors input into  
software that predicts  
likelihood of cultural sites  
which enables targeting of  
specific locations for  
ground surveys



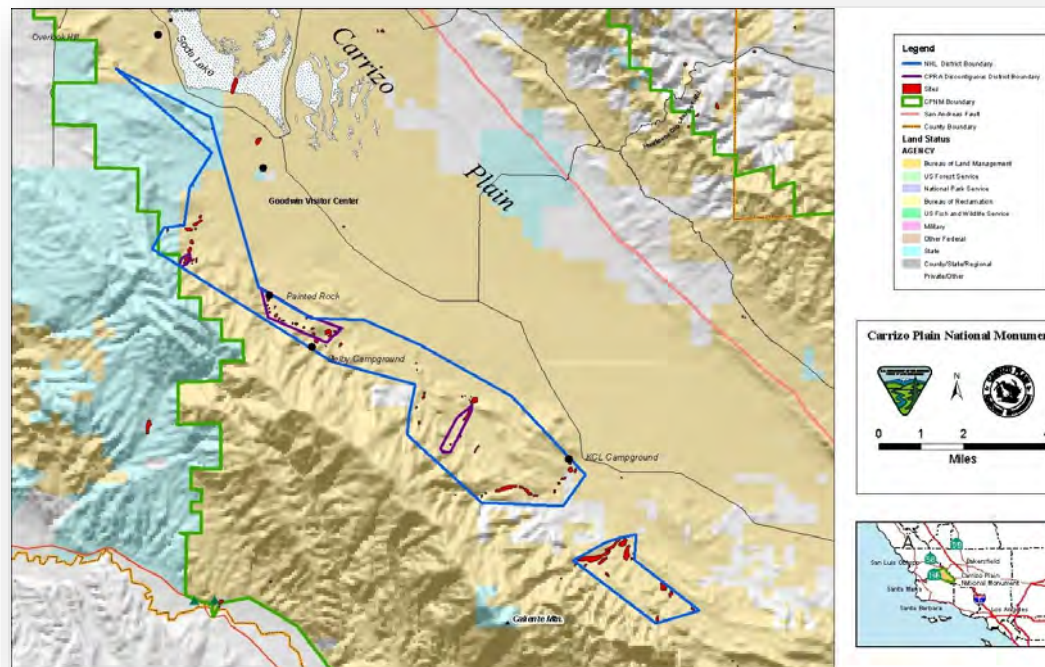
# Carrizo Plain National Historic Landmark (NHL)

## Listed March 2, 2012



- An NHL listing is reserved for the *most significant historic places* in the United States.
- The Carrizo Plain NHL is comprised of 100 Native American archaeological sites located within the CPNM.
- Included:  
pictograph sites,  
concentrations of villages, camps and other sites dating from 12,000 to 200 YBP.
- The concentration of these sites documents the history of California's indigenous people, especially in light of changing environmental conditions over time, and illustrates the expression of cultural values in the rock paintings, that are a hallmark of the district.

# The Carrizo Plain Archaeological District National Historic Landmark





# **Why a Native American Advisory Council for the CPNM ?**

# **From the Native American Perspective**



***“We look at the Carrizo and say:***

***‘Look ! Look at what is happening: the reemergence and the strengthening of life out there.’***

***It’s wonderful to know that our sacred places are protected to the degree that they are at this point... We Chumash are a colonized people. So we work within the context that that we find ourselves, and we change it when we have the opportunity. We don’t just submit.” Pilulaw Khus***

Earth Wisdom: A California Chumash Woman by  
Pilulaw Khus and Yolanda Broyles-Gonzalez, 2011

## **From the Native American Perspective**

- The California Native tribes have never ceded our traditional territories to the jurisdiction of the U.S. Government.
- For the Chumash, Salinan, Yokut and all indigenous nations here on ***Hutash*** (Mother Earth), we have a responsibility, a traditional obligation to caretake our portion of the lands and waters that Grandfather Creator gave to us.
- We also have a spiritual tradition to uphold. In this case, this means that we must use the sacred sites for the purpose that they were intended, such as conducting Summer Solstice at the Painted Rock.
- By continuing to use our sacred sites, we seek to restore the vitality of the Lifeforce that sustains all of us, and to balance the destructive “impacts” that might threaten the natural order.



# Additional Reasons for a Native American Advisory Council at the CPNM

1. The National Historic and Preservation Act [Section 106 36 CFR Part 800], has been interpreted to allow for ongoing consultation to protect places and resources that are integral to indigenous cultural practices with those who have a “*cultural interest*”. The Chumash, Salinan and Valley Yokuts tribes claim such “cultural interests” on the Carrizo Plain.
2. The First Amendment’s free exercise clause and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (1993) protects indigenous spiritual practices and beliefs, including those that relate to wildlife as documented in recorded indigenous stories, songs and dance and extends these rights to incorporated tribal organizations. The Native American Advisory Council (NAAC) provides guidance to CPNM Managing Partners about how to manage the sanctuary *in harmony with indigenous spiritual beliefs and practices*, and avoid instances when those beliefs and practices might be quashed or diminished by government policies or activities.
3. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, to which the United States is a signatory: “*Article 9 Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the community or nation concerned. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.*” It would be discriminatory for federal agencies to exclude non-federally recognized tribes from ongoing consultation and collaborative management of public lands managed by federal agencies.
4. The CPNM’s NAAC adds to precedents for federal agencies to create and charter standing and permanent tribal advisory councils under NHPA Section 106. The chartered NAAC consisting of numerous tribal groups from Chumash, Salinan, Central Valley indigenous nations without discrimination based upon federal recognition status for over 30 years on the CPNM reflects an **enlightened approach** to government relations with indigenous nations.

## Federal Tribal Consultation Authorities

- **National Historic Preservation Act, 1966- Section 106 and 36CFR 800 Regulations**
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA), 1978
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act, 1979, amended 1988
- NEPA, National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and FLPMA, Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 1990 and 43CFR part 10 regulations\*, being revised
- Executive Orders
  - 13007, 1996, Indian Sacred Sites
  - 13175, 2000, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments; Sec. Haaland Plan to Improve Implementation, 2021
- Secretarial Orders
  - SO 3317, 2011, Department of Interior Policy on Consultation with Indian Tribes
  - SO 3342, 2016, Identifying Opportunities for Cooperative and Collaborative Partnerships with Federally Recognized Tribes in the Management of Federal Lands and Resources
  - SO 3403, 2021, Joint Secretarial Order on Fulfilling the Trust Responsibility to Indian Tribes in the Stewardship of Federal Lands and Waters
- Instruction Memorandums
  - Interagency Traditional Gathering Policy, 2008
- BLM Policy – 2016, BLM Manual 1780 and Handbook, H-1780, Tribal Relations

# **The Native American Advisory Council**

- The Chumash, Yokuts, and Salinan people use areas in the CPNM today for traditional uses such as plant gathering and conducting ceremony at Painted Rock.
- Under a charter agreement initiated in 1997 between BLM and representatives of the three Native Tribal Groups, a Native American Advisory Council was established for the Carrizo Plain.
- This Advisory Council actively participates in planning and project activities with the managing partners in the CPNM.
- The Advisory Council was formed to encourage participation of both the federal tribes and the state or federally unacknowledged tribes of Native Americans with cultural ties to the lands in the Monument.

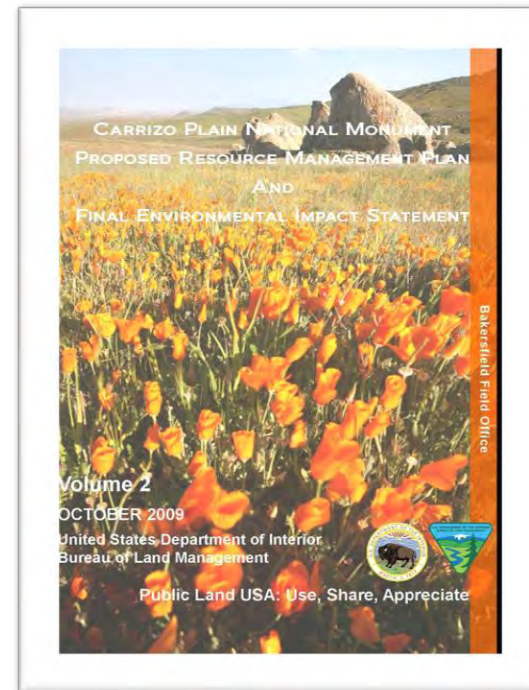
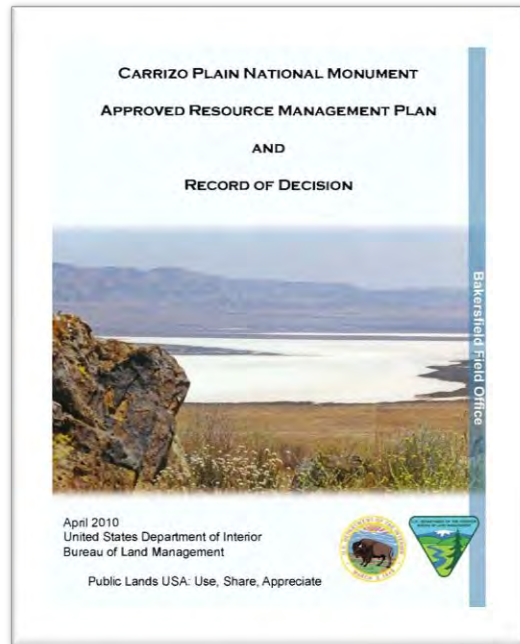


**Example of Co-Management**

**The Painted Rock**

# **Carrizo Plain National Monument Resource Management Plan (RMP)**

## **In part, a Product of Indigenous Co-Management Planning with Tribes**



**Finalized in 2010**

# Painted Rock

- 1989 - Acquired by the BLM
- 1991 - Getty Conservation Institute documentation and graffiti reintegration project.
- 2010 – Site management plans included in the CPNM EIS and RMP
- 2011- Detailed site documentation project was completed





1896



Present Condition



## **First Steps to Preserve Painted Rock**

- The north-south road to Painted Rock was closed, a fence was installed, and grazing was discontinued in the Painted Rock pasture to protect a number of archaeological sites.
- Shooting was also banned in the same pasture for protection of the public and the rock art paintings.
- The road on the eastern boundary (Selby-Caliente Road) of the Painted Rock pasture was rerouted to avoid any further impact to cultural resources that were bisected by an existing roadbed prior to federal ownership.
- The Painted Rock Interpretive Trail and vehicle parking area, located less than 0.75 mile from Painted Rock, were developed to provide site protection by replacing vehicle access with pedestrian access to the site.

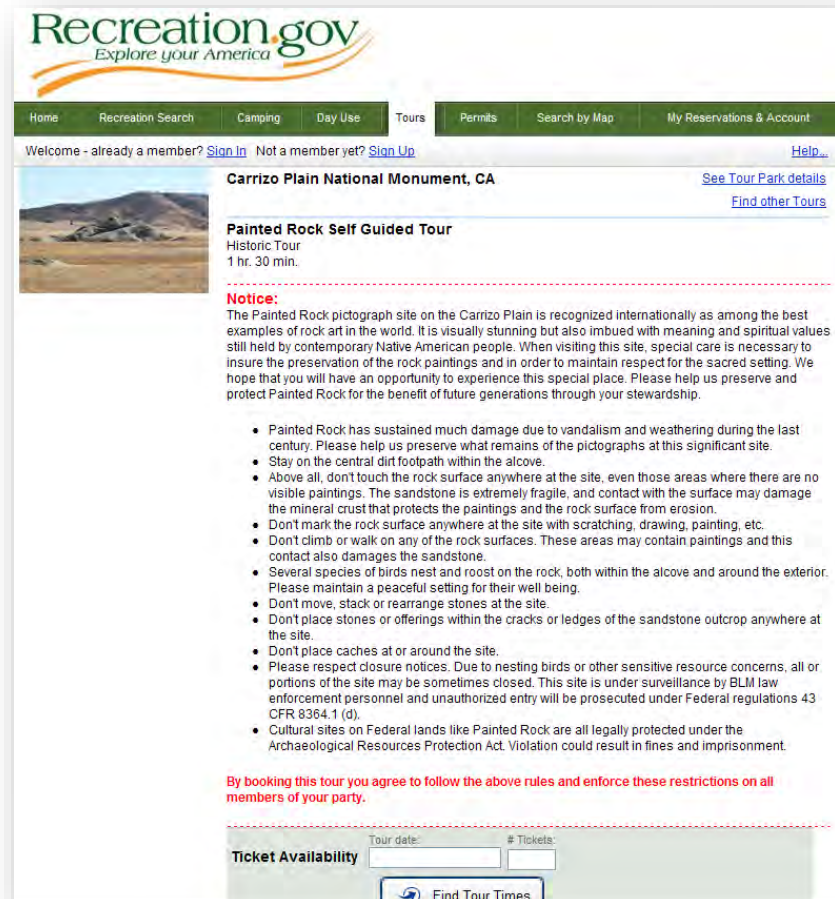
## Public Visitation at Painted Rock

- Of primary concern to BLM and tribes has been protection of the site.
- BLM worked with the NAAC to formulate a strategy that would protect Painted Rock while allowing visitors to experience the site.
- **Site Closed-** From March 1 to July 15, during peak CPNM visitation, the site is closed to public access and can be visited by guided tour only during March - May.
- **Permit Access Only-** From July 16 to the end of February, self-guided access will require a BLM Permit.
- **Tribal Access-** The site is always open to tribal access





## Self-Guided Permits





# Site Security

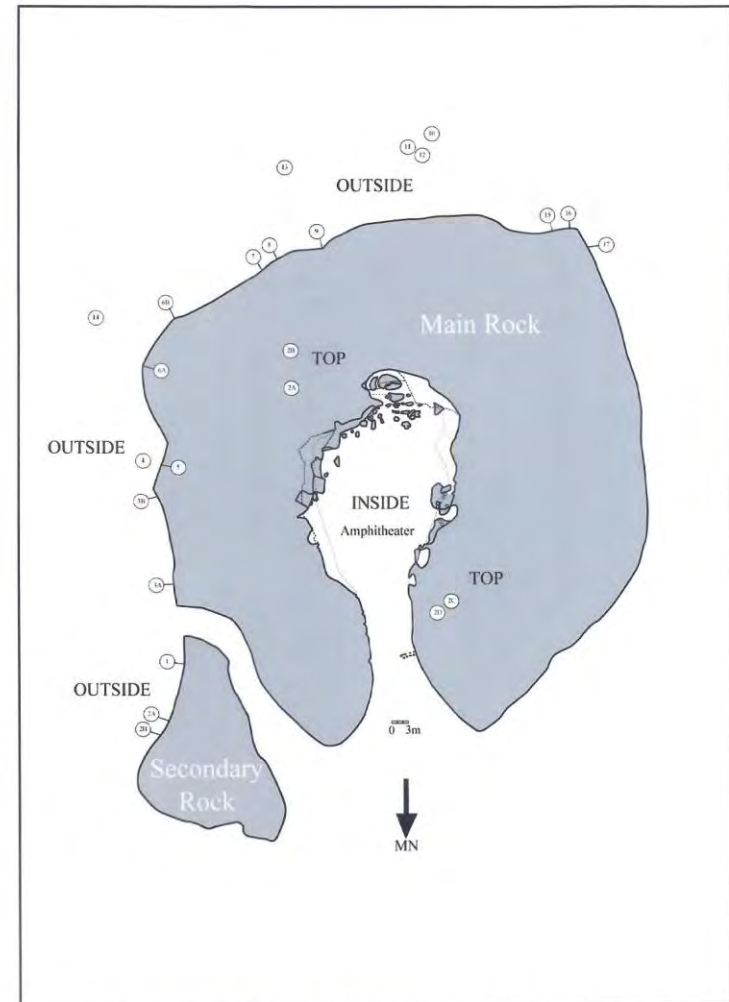
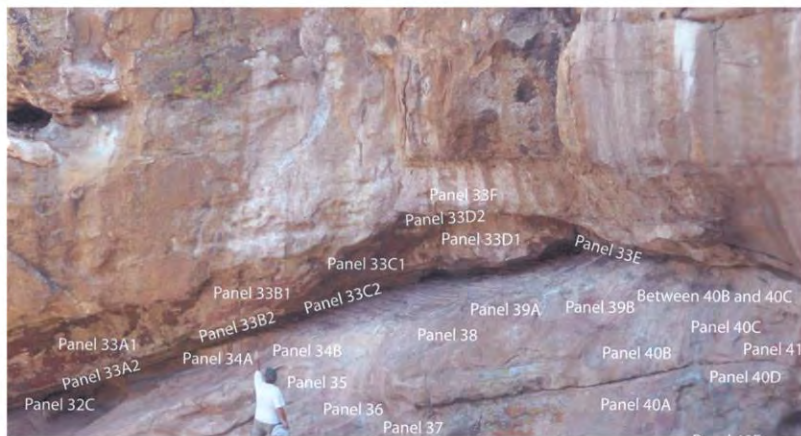




## Site Monitoring is ongoing



Map Showing Inside Panel Locations in Relation to Painted Rock Amphitheater Outline.



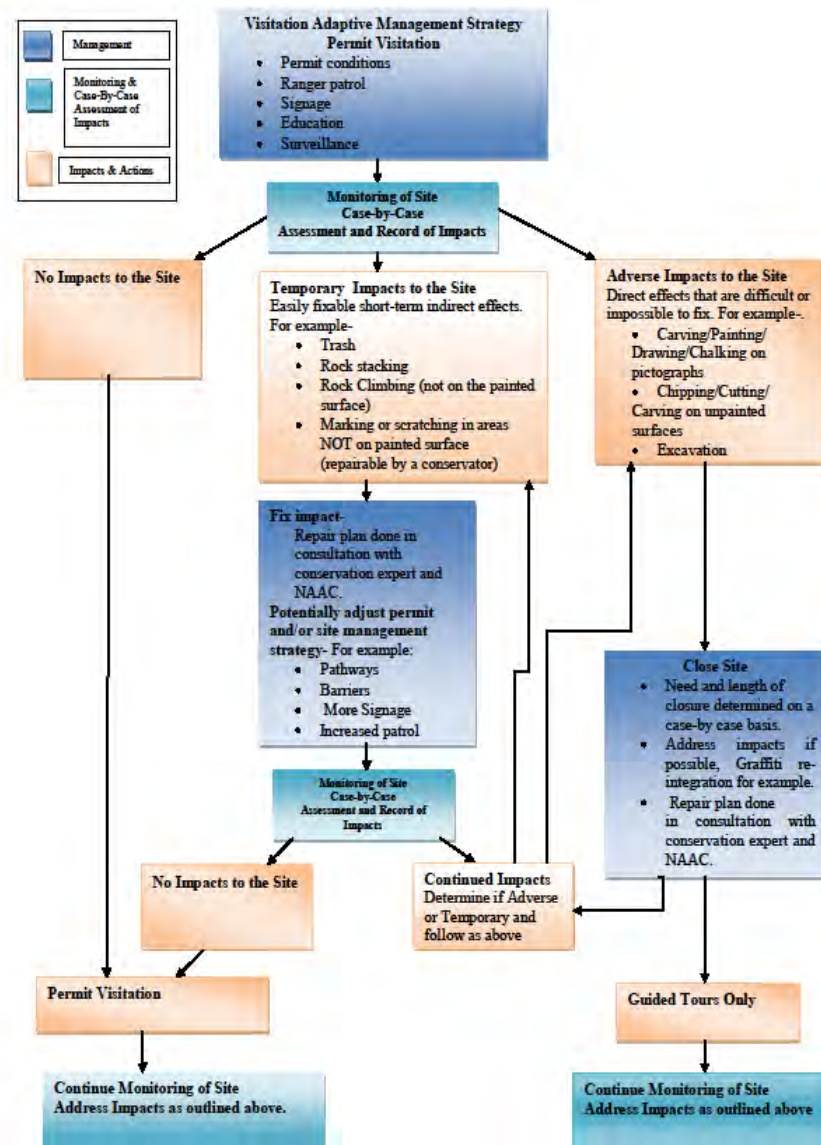
Map Showing Outside and Top Panel Locations in Relation to Painted Rock Outline.

# **3-D Modeling of Painted Rock**

## **New Project:**

- Using iPhone camera
- Taking high-resolution/pixel shots
- Software produces detailed 3-D models for pictograph sites on the CPNM.
- When complete, will provide a higher level of detail and documentation
  - will improve our ability to monitor site changes
  - creates a comprehensive record for the paintings.
- With BLM archaeologist Zach Day, the NAAC is considering a plan to employ this technology at the Goodwin Education Center for the public to view Painted Rock, virtually. If employed, this would add to the experience of visitors for educational purposes and potentially reduce impacts on the site.

# Painted Rock Adaptive Management Strategy



**NAAC Collaboration  
with  
Carrizo Plain Conservancy**



# Tribal Collaboration with NGO's



environmental  
DEFENSE CENTER



**SIERRA CLUB**  
SANTA LUCIA

**NAACP**

*San Luis Obispo County Branch*



Some NGO's that member tribes of NAAC have worked with in past:

- History Center of SLO
- Santa Barbara Natural History Museum
- Environmental Defense Center
- Sierra Club
- National Ocean Protection Coalition
- Hispanic Access Foundation
- Surfriders
- Maui Nui Makai Network
- NAACP of SLO County

# Protection of Endangered or Threatened Species



3 October, 2023

To: California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Wildlife Diversity Program

From: Michael Khus-zarate, Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation

RE: **TEMBLOR LEGLESS LIZARD**, Listing as California Endangered Species

To Whom It May Concern,

The Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation (CBCN) wishes to ardently express it's endorsement for the listing of the "Temblor Legless Lizard" as an endangered species in accordance with the California Endangered Species Act.

The Chumash people have a strong and visceral relationship to this animal and all of its related species. Lizard is featured in many of our traditional stories, and has various names, including onok'ok (lizard) and pocoyi (long-tailed lizard). Lizard is also a subject of some of our sacred rock paintings that date back thousands of years, found on the Carrizo Plain and elsewhere in Chumash national territory

# CPNM Boundary Expansion



**Northern Chumash Tribal Council**

[northernchumash.org](http://northernchumash.org) [chumashsanctuary.org](http://chumashsanctuary.org)



20 April, 2023

Mr. Neil Havlik  
President, Carrizo Plain Conservancy

Dear Mr. Havlik,

The Northern Chumash Tribal Council endorses your proposed expansion of the eastern boundary of the Carrizo Plain National Monument to include about 16,000 acres of property now administered by the Bureau of Land Management, and located on the eastern slope of the Temblor Mountains.

We agree that this addition to the monument is ecologically sound since the upper eastern slopes of the Temblors is more closely related to the Carrizo Plain than to the much drier landscape further down the slopes. Moreover, along with some groves of valuable "Tucker oaks" the proposed property supports some unique scrub vegetation which deserves additional protections.

# **NAAC Collaboration with Carrizo Plain Conservancy**

## **What do tribes bring to the game ?**

- Public trust – large segments of the general public regard tribes as credible, worthy of respect and inclusion in shared stewardship of public lands
- RMP scoping of the public found overwhelming support for tribal co-management of CPNM
- Local, State and Federal agencies must listen and respond to indigenous consultation and recommendations – another layer of environmental advocacy and potential protection
- If provided enough notice, NAAC and its member tribes can provide additional support for worthy environmental objectives



