

**Understanding Native Cultural Dimensions  
of Climate Change in the Great Basin:  
responses of Great Basin tribes' cultural  
traditions to climate change**

**Dr. Samantha Chisholm Hatfield**



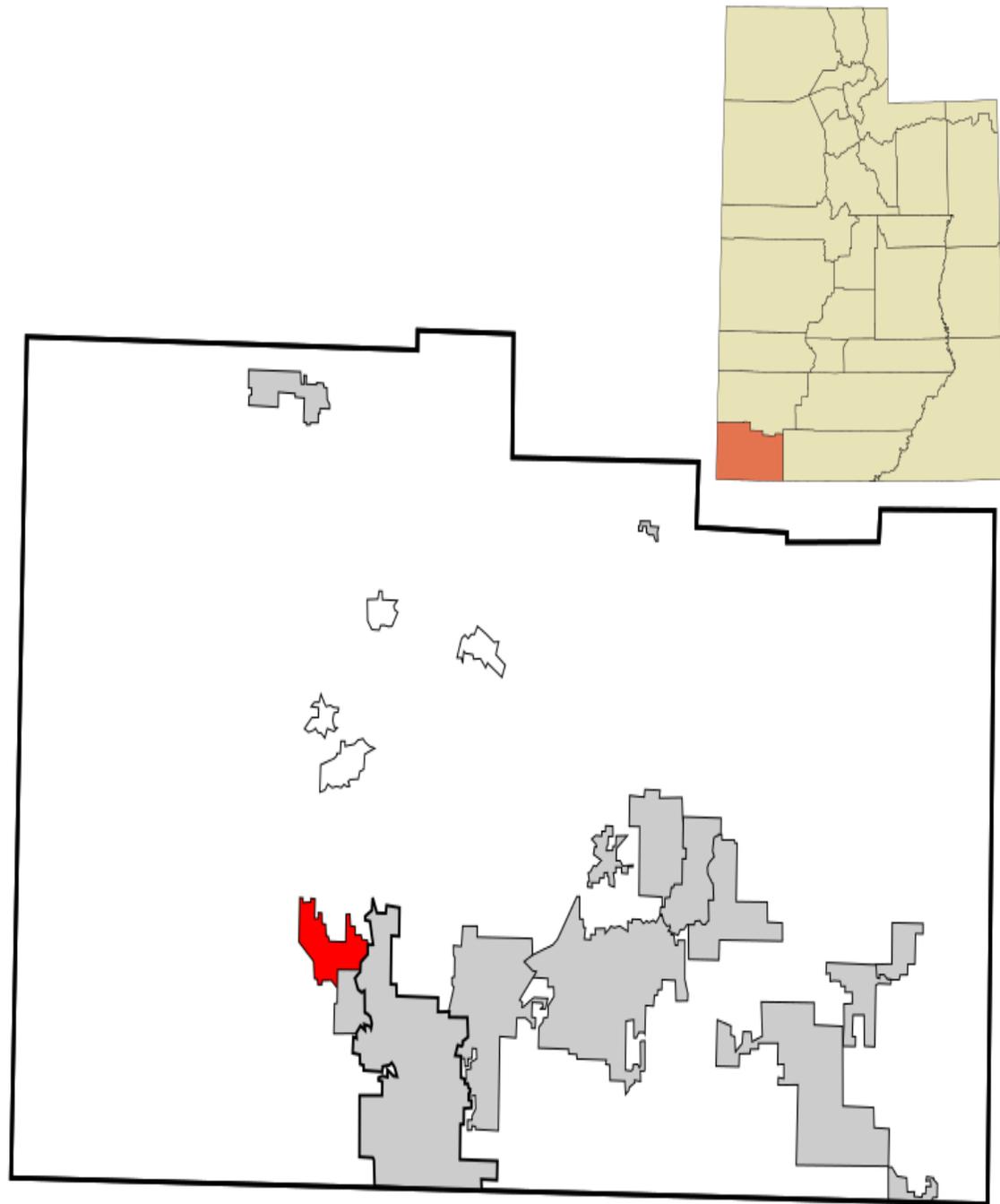
- “Traditional environmental knowledge is a body of knowledge and beliefs transmitted through oral tradition and first-hand observation. It includes a system of classification, a set of empirical observations about the local environment, and a system of self-management that governs resource use. Ecological aspects are closely tied to social and spiritual aspects of the knowledge system. The quantity and quality of TEK varies among community members, depending upon gender, age, social status, intellectual capability and profession (hunter, spiritual leader, healer, etc.). With its roots firmly in the past, TEK is both cumulative and dynamic, building upon the experience of earlier generations and adapting to the new technological and socioeconomic changes of the present” (Dene Cultural Institute 1995 in English translation, quoted in Stevenson 1996: 281).



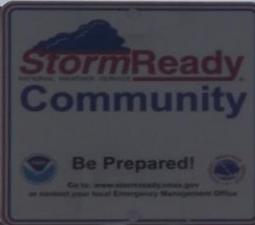
# Traditional Culture and Climate Change:

- Duckwater Shoshone Tribe (NV)
- Shivwits Band Paiute (UT)





Entering Duckwater  
Shoshone Indian  
Reservation















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CURRANT  
SUMMIT  
ELEV 6999

Alpinis



*ENTERING*  
SHIVWITS  
PAIUTE  
INDIAN  
RESERVATION













# Time is Cultural

- Environmental change disrupts the integrity of the sequences in which resources are available, and the concept of time is challenged

# Indian Time

- Is a real occurrence
- Follows environmental patterns
- Holistic
- Based in natural resources and events
- 3D rather than linear
- Evolved and complicated (based in natural laws)

Findings: in addition to changes in specific cultural practices, a profound disruption to identity connected with:

- (a) changes in seasonality, disturbing the sense of natural time
- (b) a sense that wisdom passed down through generations, mainly based on TEK, is no longer a sound basis for which decisions are made.
- Adaptations are being employed in varying degrees

Shu' aashi' nu' la / Thank you

[www.occri.net](http://www.occri.net)

[shatfield@coas.oregonstate.edu](mailto:shatfield@coas.oregonstate.edu)

[drsamzs@yahoo.com](mailto:drsamzs@yahoo.com)

503-420-9654 (cell)

@drsamzs (twitter)