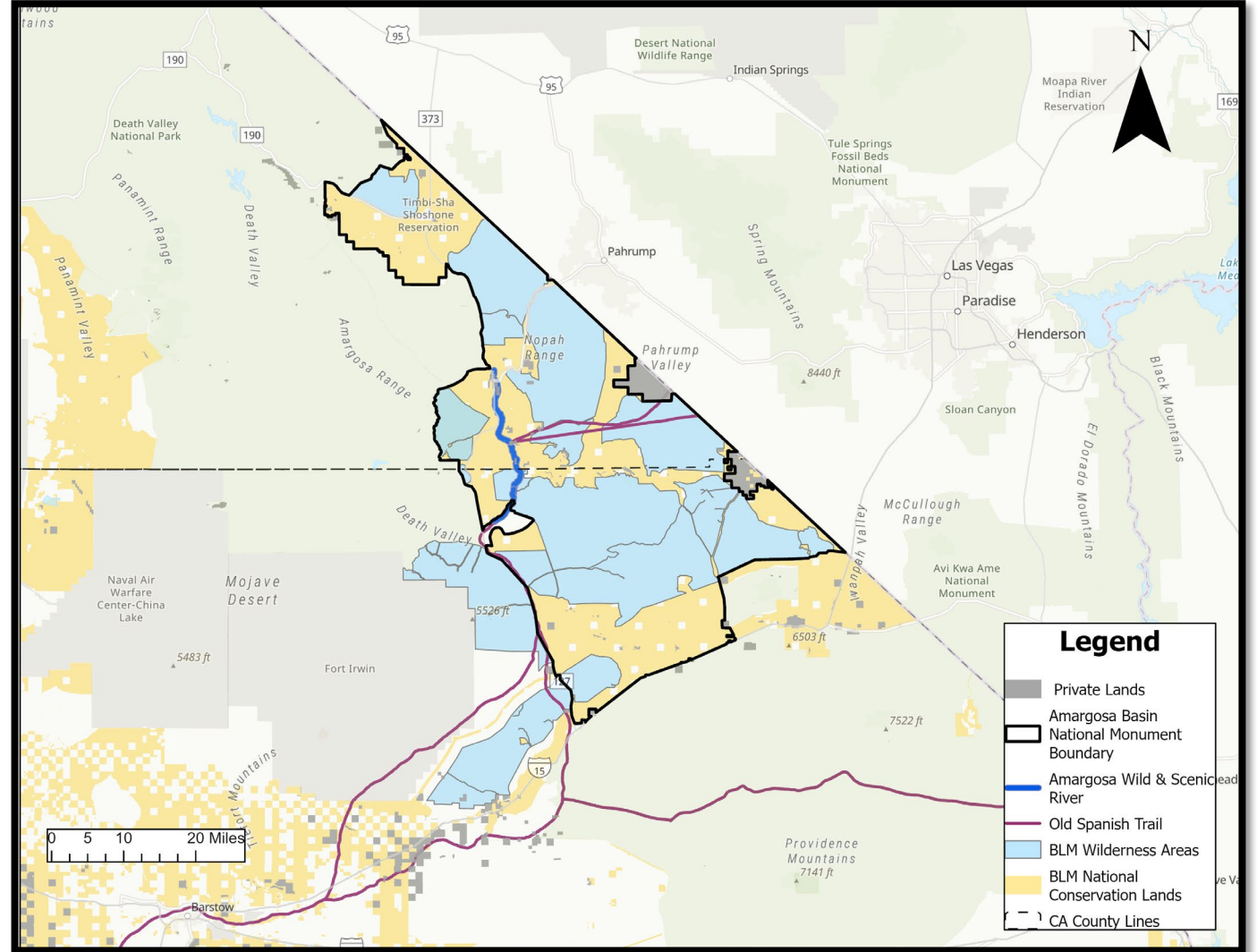




The Amargosa

A Land Worth Protecting for Future Generations

Proposed Amargosa Basin National Monument



Legal basis of the establishment of monuments

- The Antiquities Act of 1906
- The National Landscape Conservation System of 2009



National Landscape Conservation System

- In 2000 , during the Clinton administration, BLM management created the National Conservation Lands system
- In 2009 the Omnibus Public Land Management Act officially authorized the National Landscape Conservation System
- The mission of the NLCS is to “conserve, protect and restore these nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological and scientific values for the for the benefit of current and future generations
- There are ten different federal conservation designations that make up NLCS, and a monument is one of them.



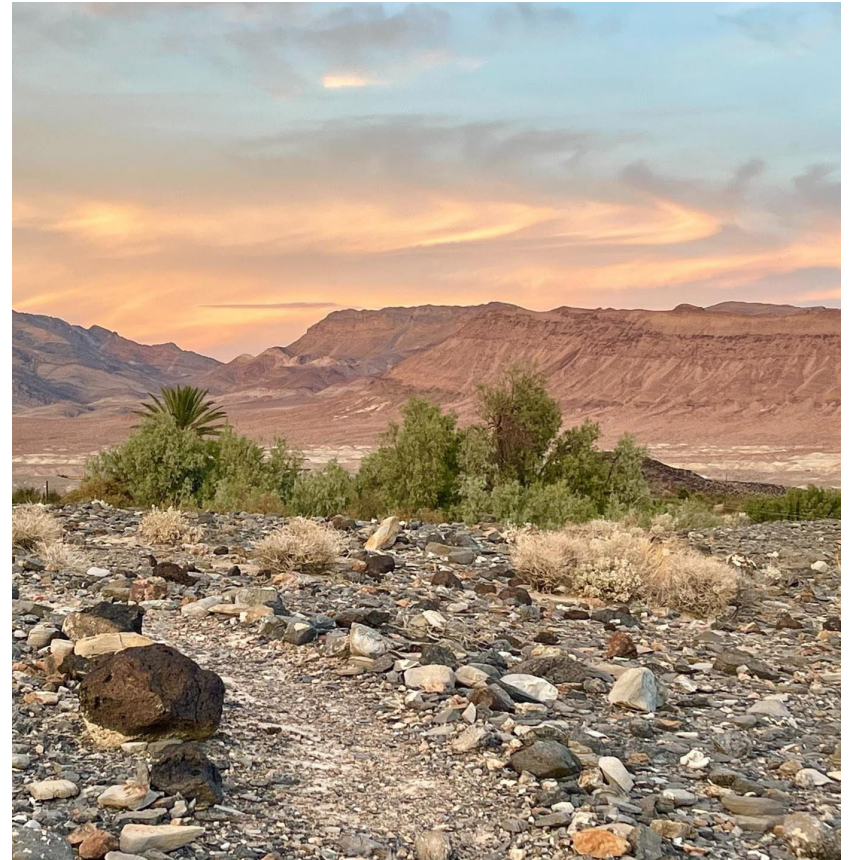
Present Land Designations in the Amargosa

- The Amargosa Basin already includes many of the ten units of the NCLS: a Wild and Scenic River, Wilderness Areas, a National Historic Trail and National Conservation Areas.
- Taking the next step and designating the entire Amargosa Basin as a national monument would ensure holistic management. The whole is far greater than the sum of its parts.
- Monument status has no jurisdiction over tribal lands or private property



Amargosa Basin National Monument, Protecting the Land and its People

- A shift in BLM land management from extractive to protective and restorative
- Consideration of cultural landscapes as well as natural ones
- A focus on holistic management protecting large landscapes and ecosystems
- Establishment of co-management agreements with Tribal Nations
- Empowerment of local communities through their collaboration in crafting the management plan as well as implementing it through oversight committees and friends groups



Why is monument designation needed?
Threats to the Amargosa.

Unsustainable water use

External development pressures

Unmanaged recreation



Opportunities offered by Monument Status

- A new approach to land management that includes communities, Tribal Nations, and interested individuals and groups who are concerned about the future of the Amargosa Basin
- Holistic management that considers entire landscapes and ecosystems
- This proposal for the Amargosa Basin National Monument is for the environment AND for the people
- Decisions about land management that strive for environmental justice
- Economic sustainability for local communities



The National Monument Campaign

The Amargosa Basin National Monument Prospectus, a study that documents the many values of the Amargosa Basin, values that are worthy of protection for present and future generations



Friends of the Amargosa Basin, spearheading the monument campaign

- FAB, a nonprofit, was established in 2020 with the principal purpose of achieving national monument status in the Amargosa
- The mission statement: supporting the diversity of life in the Amargosa Basin by protecting its land, water and beauty
- The office for FAB in Shoshone, CA



Board of Directors, grounded in the community and dedicated to protecting the Amargosa and its communities for present and future generations

Susan Sorrells, President

Lee Adams, Vice President

Len Warren, Treasurer

Darrel Cowan, Secretary

Janet Foley, Director



Susan Sorrells

- Susan Sorrells grew up in Shoshone, California as a member of the Fairbanks Brown pioneer family. She graduated from Smith College and after college worked in Washington, DC. She then joined the Peace Corps and worked in West Africa. When she returned to the United States, she received a MA in African Studies at UCLA. After living in Europe for for several years she returned to Shoshone. She and her husband own and operate the town of Shoshone. Their goals are to integrate nature and wildlife into the "development" of the village. Their strategy for economic sustainability is promoting ecotourism.



Lee Adams

Lee is a founding member of the Lake Tecopa Yacht Club. With a seasonal cabin outside Shoshone, he lives in the Sierra County gold rush era community of Downieville and currently serves on the Sierra County Board of Supervisors. He previously served as the Sierra County Sheriff from 1988 to 2007. In June 2018 he was appointed by Governor Brown as a member of the State Historical Resources Commission. His husband, Stuart Lauters, serves on the board of the Shoshone Museum.



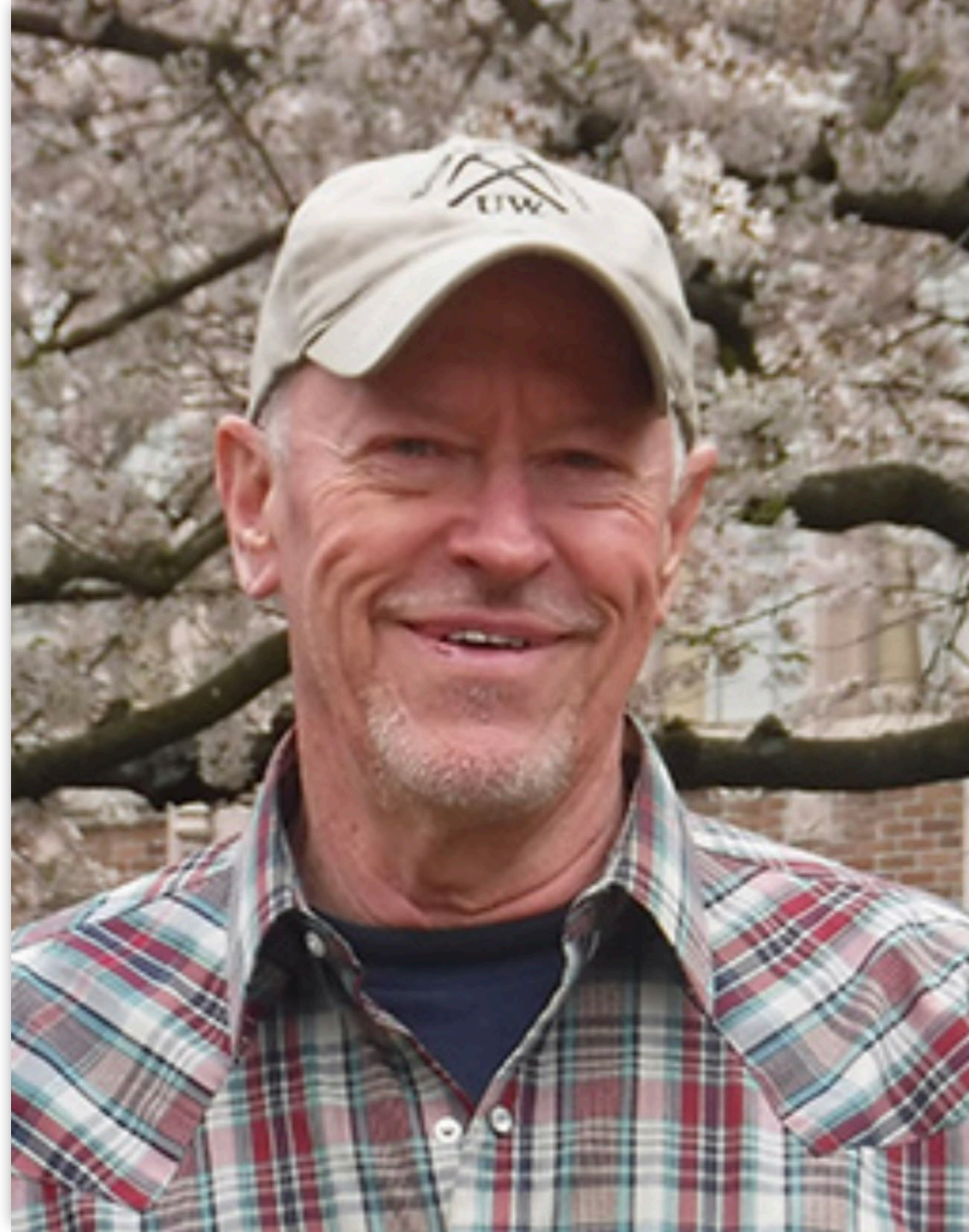
Len Warren

- Len Warren has been studying birds along the Amargosa since 2009 as a nest searcher for Point Reyes Bird Observatory. Previously employed by The Nature Conservancy as the Amargosa River Project Manager, he implemented restoration projects. He is known for giving bird walks along the Amargosa. Len loves to photograph and paint birds. His passion is to teach and talk about the future of birds in the area



Darrel Cowan

- Darrel S Cowan was born and grew up in Los Angeles and is sure that his love for the desert germinated on the weekend trips with his family to Death Valley and Joshua Tree. He received his BS and PhD in geology from Stanford University and spent his first professional career as a geologist for Shell Oil Company from 1971 to 1974. He then accepted a faculty position in the University of Washington, where he is currently a Professor Emeritus in the department of Earth and Space Sciences. He began serious research in Death Valley and the Amargosa in the early 1990's and he still brings senior level classes to the region to study the exemplary geologic record extending from about 1.7 billion years ago to the present day. He also is the president of the nonprofit, Shoshone Education and Research Center that offers a field campus for university groups.



Janet Foley

- Janet Foley is a veterinarian and researcher at the University of California School of Veterinary Medicine. She was one of the original members of the Amargosa Vole Ad Hoc Team and has been working closely with agencies, local residents, non-profits and other stakeholders in the Mojave region who are committed to conserving the amazing biological and cultural resources. As a mom and a citizen of the world, she is laser focused on helping craft a healthy planet that next generations can inherit and love. In the Amargosa she finds much magic.



Cameron Mayer, Executive Director

Cameron Mayer lives in Shoshone, California, a stone's throw from Nevada. He “discovered” the Mojave in the Fall of 2017 on a class field trip while attending CSU Long Beach. Having recently finished his master's thesis on the western Joshua tree conservation debate in the Morongo Basin, he is aiming to bring such introductory knowledge and experience to the Friends of the Amargosa campaign to achieve monument status while learning tremendously more about the area and communities on both sides of the border.



First Step: Listening

- Communities
- Tribal Nations
- Partners
- Government Agencies
- Elected Officials





Second Step, Creating a Campaign That Includes All Voices

.Continue to build a coalition of partners through communication and meetings

Prepare campaign communication materials to spread the word about the proposed monument

Continue to listen to Tribal Nations in the area with the goal of engaging them in monument management

Build support for the monument campaign through media efforts


Education and relationship building with elected officials



How to Get Involved

- Sign a letter of support. Get others to support the monument campaign as well
- Become a Friend of the Amargosa Basin and follow our news and updates
- Ask questions, become informed and involved, give us your input





Friends of the Amargosa Basin

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