A Film and Panel Discussion

*Paya: The Water Story of the Paiute* tells the untold story of America’s longest lived water war between the Owens Valley Paiute and the City of Los Angeles. Using in-depth interviews, 2-d animation, archival footage and photography, *Paya* documents the history of the Owens Valley Paiute who constructed and managed sixty square miles of intricate irrigation systems for millennia, long before Los Angeles diverted the Owens River through the Los Angeles Aqueduct, 220 miles across the Mojave Desert. After the Indian War of 1863, surviving Paiute returned to the valley from the Eastern Sierra and White Mountains to find their ancient waterworks taken over by white settlers. Over 150-years later, the Paiute continue the fight to save their waterworks, which are remnant in the Owens Valley landscape. Using archival maps from 1856, the filmmakers spent four years working with Paiute elders to locate and map their remnant irrigation systems using GIS technology, ultimately laying the foundation for a ‘first use’ water rights case now underway. *Paya* is currently being used by the Owens Valley Paiute and the Native American and academic communities nationally to mobilize tribes.

Please register to attend and see the Program for more information.

**Payahuunadü — Land of the Flowing Water**

Los Angeles gets most of its drinking water from Payahuunadü through the Los Angeles Aqueduct with devastating impacts to the environment, Indigenous culture, and the well-being of the Nüümü.

**Monday**

**June 28, 2021**

**4 PM**

**Panelist:**

Teri Red Owl

Paul Huette

Monty Bengochia

**Moderated by:**

Kyndall Noah

Amanda Ford

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