

EXTRA EXTRA!

READ ALL ABOUT IT

How indigenous Americans work with the land

This is an edited version of a story from
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Zuni waffle gardens

Jim Enote, 66, has been planting a traditional Zuni waffle garden (or hek'ko:we in the Zuni language) since before he could walk.

"My grandma said I started planting when I was an infant tied to a cradleboard," said Enote, who grew up on the water-scarce Zuni Pueblo on the southeastern edge of the Colorado plateau. "She put seeds in my baby hands, and I dropped seeds into a hole."

Enote has continued this ancient garden design, creating rows of sunken squares surrounded by adobe walls that catch and hold water like pools of syrup in a massive earthen waffle. The sustainable design protects crops from wind, reduces erosion and conserves water.

"Water is scarce here and becoming more so every year," said Enote, referring to the increasing drought and heat caused by climate change. "So, I continue planting waffle gardens."

Swinomish clam gardens

When Swinomish fisherman Joe Williams walked onto the shore of Skagit Bay in Washington to help build



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the first modern clam garden in the United States, he was overwhelmed with a sense of the past and present colliding. "It was magic, really," said Williams, who also serves as the community liaison for the Swinomish tribe. "I could feel the presence of my ancestors."

For thousands of years, the Swinomish built and maintained clam gardens on the coasts of the Pacific Northwest. They constructed rock terraces in low-tide lines to increase shellfish production. The gardens also help the clams weather the impacts of a changing climate by moderating water temperature and expanding habitat threatened by rising seas and ocean acidification.

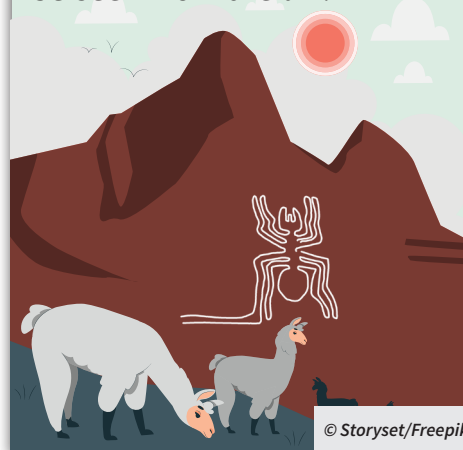
"That was how [ancestors] provided food for their communities, tending these gardens, living through climate change from then to now," Williams said.

"We are rediscovering this way of life that sustained our people through past natural climate change events," he said. "We can utilise the playbook that our ancestors left us in terms of adapting to a fast-changing environment."

TRUE OR FALSE?

Not all news is based on truth. Do you think this story is based on true or false news?

The Nazca, an ancient indigenous people in Peru, built a series of stone shapes in the desert that can only be seen from the air.



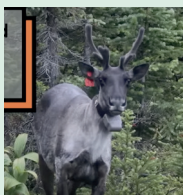
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