



# American White Pelican Survey of Anaho Island National Wildlife Refuge, Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation, Nevada

May 11-15, 2015



Nesting American White Pelicans

Anaho Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1913 to provide secure nesting habitat for colonial waterbirds. Management objectives for this refuge include supporting breeding populations of at least five colonial nesting waterbird species, including American White Pelican, Double-Crested Cormorant, Caspian Tern, California Gull, and Great Blue Heron. Anaho Island NWR currently supports one of the largest American White Pelican nesting colonies in the western United States. On average, 10,000 pelicans return each spring to nest on Anaho Island. Colonial nesting waterbirds are vulnerable to multiple factors, including predation, lack of sufficient forage, weather events, disease and human disturbance, which can influence their productivity and survival. Obtaining reliable population data is crucial for effective conservation and management of Anaho Island's waterbird colonies. Anaho Island is a part of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.



Natural Color Imagery collect via the RQ-11A Raven Platform



The Department of the Interior -The U.S. Geological Survey in coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge Complex and Pacific Southwest Region National Wildlife Refuge Inventory and Monitoring Program), Humboldt State University and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe conducted population surveys of nesting American White Pelicans and other colonial waterbirds via the Raven UAS platform on May 11-15, 2015 at Anaho Island National Wildlife Refuge, NV. For more information: <http://uas.usgs.gov>

