## **BIG PINE PAIUTE**



In east-central California, south of Yosemite National Park, are a string of small reservations, or "rancherias" (GAI, 42). A band of Paiute shares the Big Pine Rancheria with a band of Shoshone.

Officially known as the Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley, the flag of this

branch of the widespread Paiute nation is the tribal seal on a white background. The circular seal shows the back of a seated Indian warrior facing into a golden sunrise, alluding to the location of the rancheria in the eastern part of California. Glimpses of a brilliant blue sky separate the sun's rays. The landscape is white, its horizon forming a jagged edge against the rising sun. The warrior has black hair,

tan skin, red pants, and a yellow breechcloth. From the warrior's uplifted arms flow two springs of water, shown in light blue with black detailing. This image probably refers to the clear flowing springs coming out of the mountains and nourishing the lands of the Big Pine Rancheria and the entire Owens Valley. The seal on the flag is unusually large.

A black ring surrounds the seal. Across the top of the ring is "THE GREAT SEAL OF THE BIG PINE" and around the bottom is "PAIUTE TRIBE OF THE OWENS VALLEY", all in red. Z

[Thanks to NAVA member Jim Ferrigan for providing data on this flag.]

