be a sacred landscape that is absolutely eligible for inclusion on the federal Register of Historic Places as an Archaeological District.

Two Prominent Ancient Kizh Sacred Sites on the SSFL

From the Kizh Tribal perspective, there are two prominent ancient sacred sites created and utilized by their ancestors: The Burro Flats Site (CA-VEN-1072) with its main panel of pictographs and other pictograph loci across the site, and the “Vulva Site” (CA-VEN-1476).

The Burro Flats Site (CA-VEN-1072)

As discussed above, the Burro Flats Site was the first ancient Native American site of the SSFL area to be recognized and accorded scientific investigation. What is called the “main panel” at the site is an extent of polychrome images painted on an approximately 11-foot-wide expanse of a rock shelter (see Figure 3). The paintings, executed in red, white and black, are considered the most extraordinary ones of the region. A NASA report emphasized the site’s importance and significance:

The pictographs at Burro Flats are a remarkable record of prehistoric Native American art. Archaeologists who have visited the site have said that it includes some of the most dramatic and best preserved pictographs known and it is among the finest examples of prehistoric pictographic art in North America. The site’s 1976 inclusion on the NRHP (#76000539) reflects its significance…the main

Figure 3: Burro Flats Main Pictograph Panel (photo by Chris Kalashian)
APPENDIX 4
Images of Burro Flats from the book Toypurina: The Joan of Arc of California, Kizh Tribal Press 2013

Figure 5. The “sun dagger” of light marking the Winter Solstice by pointing within the concentric circles pictograph (photo courtesy of Dr. E.C. Krupp, Griffith Observatory)

Figures 6 & 7. Summer Solstice monumental boulder showing the straight line of cup-and-cover shadow cast from the monumental boulder which points to the largest mortar hole on the Summer Solstice. (photo courtesy of Dr. G. Sticht)