

Lorraine Eiler

International Sonoran Desert Alliance

“When I think about the people that I descend from – my great, great, grandparents, were the were my great great grandmother was the last one as a child she walked between here and Welton or the Domed Valley which is about 30 miles east of Yuma. When I think about them walking from that area to Quitobaquito which is on Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, or to the Pinacates when they walked from the Domed Valley to the Pinacates, which is across the border just below Highway 2, and I see the trails, the old trails that are out there I think to myself when I hear the stories that it took them 3 days to walk and that’s how they got around, I mean I feel, I feel so, I don’t know what the word is, I’m just awed by the fact that here this group of people that survived this desert, this land, and some of its harshest conditions sometimes – and they survived out there. And when I think about that, yeah, it’s a special, it’s a special place for me. A very special place for me. I know that their spirits are out there and that I hope to continue to take care of this land just like they did and use what little I can get out of it and do whatever I can to take care of it.”