

Megan Kate Nelson
Virtual Talk: The Civil War in the Desert Southwest
Smithsonian Associates
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Timeline

Summer-Fall 1861

- Recruitment and mustering of Henry Sibley's Brigade in San Antonio, Texas
- Concentration of U.S. Army forces at Fort Craig and Fort Union, New Mexico Territory
- Recruitment and training of California volunteers in Los Angeles
- Diné (Navajo) and Chiricahua and Mescalero Apache raids on U.S. Army and American civilian wagon trains in New Mexico Territory

July 23, 1861:	Confederate Lt. Col. John Baylor invades New Mexico Territory
August 1, 1861:	Baylor creates the Confederate Territory of Arizona
October-December 1861:	The Sibley Brigade marches from San Antonio to El Paso/Fort Bliss
December 1861:	Gold miners recruited into the U.S. Army gather in Cañon City, Colorado Territory
February 21, 1862:	Battle of Valverde (Confederate victory)
February 23-March 10, 1862:	1 st Colorado Volunteers march from Denver to Fort Union, New Mexico Territory
February 28, 1862:	Confederates occupy Tucson
March 2, 1862:	Confederates occupy Albuquerque
March 3, 1862:	Confederate officer John Reilly leaves El Paso on diplomatic mission to Sonora and Chihuahua, Mexico
March 13, 1862:	Confederates occupy Santa Fe
March 26, 1862:	Battle of Apache Canyon (draw)
March 28, 1862:	Battle of Glorieta Pass (Confederate victory on the field, U.S. destruction of Confederate wagon train)
April 5, 1862:	Confederates abandon Santa Fe
March-August 1862:	March of the California Column from Los Angeles to the Rio Grande, under command of Brig. Gen. James Henry Carleton
April 15, 1862:	Battle of Picacho Pass (California Column victory)

April 16, 1862:	Battle of Peralta (U.S. Army victory)
April 26-July 1862:	Confederate retreat from El Paso to San Antonio
February-July 1862:	Diné (Navajo) and Chiricahua Apache attacks on U.S. and Confederate wagon trains
May 20, 1862:	California Column retakes Tucson
June 8, 1862:	Carleton declares Arizona a U.S. Territory
July 15-16, 1862:	Battle of Apache Pass (California Column victory)
September 18, 1862:	Carleton succeeds E.R.S. Canby as commander of the U.S. Department of New Mexico
Fall 1862:	U.S. Army initiates campaigns against Mescalero Apaches and Chiricahua Apaches
January 19, 1863:	U.S. Army soldiers murder Chiricahua chief Mangas Coloradas
July 1863-January 1864:	U.S. Army initiates hard war campaign against Diné (Navajos)
January 6-21, 1864:	Campaign/Battle of 'Tséyi' (Canyon de Chelly) (U.S. Army victory)
November 25, 1864:	Kit Carson leads U.S. Army attack on Kiowa and Comanche camp (Kiowa-Comanche victory)
1864-1866:	Long Walk of the Navajo
September 1866:	Surrender of Manuelito's band to the U.S. Army at Fort Wingate
May 27-June 1, 1868:	Diné (Navajo) and U.S. officials negotiate the U.S.-Navajo Treaty
June-July 1868:	Diné (Navajo) prisoners leave Hwéeldi (Bosque Redondo) and return to their homeland

Selected Sources:

Megan Kate Nelson, *[The Three-Cornered War: The Union, The Confederacy, and Native Peoples in the Fight for the West](#)* (Scribner, 2020)

Jennifer Nez Denetdale, *[Reclaiming Diné History: The Legacies of Navajo Chief Manuelito and Juanita](#)* (University of Arizona Press, 2007).

Official Records of the War of Rebellion, Series I, Vol. 9, pp. 486+: [The Battle of Valverde](#).

[Lesson plan: Bosque Redondo](#): Carleton's Failed 'Experiment.' *New Mexico Historic Sites*.

Don Alberts, ed. [Rebels on the Rio Grande](#): *The Civil War Journal of A.B. Petcolas* (Bickerstaff's, 2013).