

Alger Wash

On Saturday, April 24th, under a beautiful sunny sky, eleven members of DAS gathered to journey into Alger Wash. We were amazed with the unique geology and the panoramic views of Diamond valley.



Who says the earth is not “plastic”



View of Diamond Valley



Rich Cline watching the rest of us scramble up the rocks

There petroglyphs located at three separate sites within a couple of mile of each other. The main site in Alger Wash had a number of glyphs of sheep and anthropomorphs. A major panel consisted of sheep from at least four different time periods, based on the amount of repatination on the rocks (Figure 1 & 2). Figure 2 also has a map (?), perhaps showing the location of sheep and/or water. Note the sheep in Figure 1 above the water symbol.



(1)



(2)

Another rock showed evidence of even earlier habitation (Figure 3), perhaps from the archaic period.

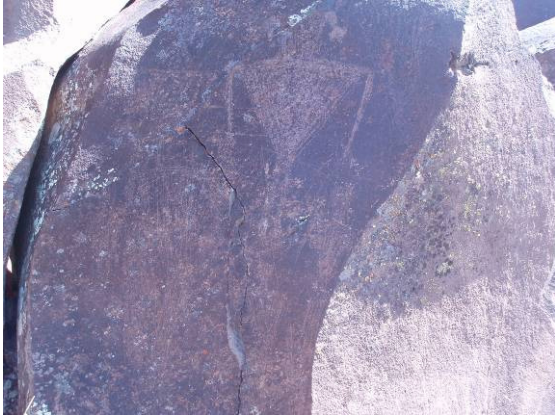
Figure 4 shows an anthropomorph looking through some rocks. He is facing west and appears to be watching the western horizon as well as the approach up Alger Wash. Figure 5 shows this glyph in detail. It appears that the glyph was made by scratching the rock, rather than pecking or rubbing. Figure 6 shows another anthropomorph made by scratching, which is on an adjacent face of the same rock. The glyphs on this one rock appear to be the only ones made by scratching. Why? The shape of this anthro was distinctly different from another anthro in the same proximity (Figure 7). The figure in Figure 7 still had a generally triangular shaped body, but his shoulders were much less defined. The Figure 7 person appeared to have been pecked or rubbed rather than scratched. Were these made at different times by a different artist or by different peoples?



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)

Farther down the wash was the third set of petroglyphs. There we encountered a sheep that appeared to have his face facing out from the rock face (Figure 8). Also there was my favorite glyph, a necklace clan symbol along with some turkey clan symbols (Figure 9).



(9)

Thanks to Dave Evans (and Vickie) for leading a very interesting and fun trip.

