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Susie Qashu finished her doctorate at the University of Arizona in December 2010. She studied livelihood adaptations in the communities' adjacent to Pingüino de Humboldt National Marine Reserve and the Los Choros, Chañaral de Aceituno, and Carrizalillo watersheds in La Higuera and Freirina counties, Chile. The Inter American Foundation's Dissertation Fellowship and the University of Arizona's excellence in social science research funded her investigation and the Northern Catholic University in Coquimbo, Chile hosted her. She continues to research human behavior in watersheds and neighboring protected areas in arid coastal zones. Previously she worked as a National Park Service ranger, was an active participant in the National Park Service's Intake Management and International Affairs Programs, and worked with the Northern Catholic University's extension team for her MS research with Chilean artisanal fishers' locally managed marine areas. Currently, she is an active Environmental Leadership Program senior fellow and participates in leadership workshops. She works in Arizona on watershed and ecological restoration projects with the Sky Island Alliance, and also advises graduate students or Prescott College's environmental studies program.