

1. Record Nr.	UNISA996214970703316
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Titolo	Sagwitch : Shoshone chieftain, Mormon elder, 1822-1887 // Scott R. Christensen ; foreword by Brigham D. Madsen
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Logan, Utah : , : Utah State University, University Libraries, , [1999] ©1999
ISBN	0-87421-359-2 0-585-20762-3
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xv, 254 pages) : illustrations, maps
Disciplina	979.20049745
Soggetti	Shoshoni Indians Latter Day Saints - Utah - History - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 207-245) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Illustrations -- Foreword Brigham D. Madsen -- Preface -- Introduction: Newe, "The People" -- The Shoshone Orator -- Massacre at Bear River -- Shoshone Mormons -- The Corinne Scare -- Lemuel's Garden -- Epilogue: Sagwitch's Legacy -- Notes -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	The Northwestern Shoshone knew as home the northern Great Salt Lake, Bear River, Cache, and Bear Lake valleys-northern Utah. Sagwitch was born at a time when his people traded with the mountain men. In the late 1850s, wagons brought Mormon farmers to settle in Cache Valley, the Northwestern Shoshone heartland. Emigrants and settlers reduced Shoshone access to traditional village sites and food resources. Relationships with the Mormons were mostly good but often strained, and the Shoshone treatment of migrants, who now traveled north and south as well as west and east through the area, was increasingly opportunistic. It only took a few violent incidents for a zealous army colonel to seek severe punishment of the Northwestern Shoshone on a winter morning in 1863. The Bear River Massacre was among the bloodiest engagements of America's Indian wars. Hundreds of Shoshone, including Sagwitch's wife and two sons, died; he was wounded but escaped. The band was shattered; other chiefs dead. The following years were very hard for the survivors. The federal

government negotiated a treaty with them but failed to get Sagwitch's signature when, enroute to the sessions, he was arrested and then wounded by a white assassin. With the world around him changed, Sagwitch sought accommodation with the most immediate threat to his people's traditional way of survival-the Mormons occupying the Shoshone's valleys. This, then, is also the story of the conversion of Sagwitch and his band to the Mormon Church. Though not without problems, that conversion was long lasting and thorough. Sagwitch and other Shoshone would demonstrate in important ways their new religious devotion. With the assistance of Mormon leaders, they established the Washakie community in northern Utah. Though efforts to secure a land base had an uneven history, they partly succeeded, and the story of these Shoshone's attempts at rural farming diverged significantly from what happened on government reservations. When Sagwitch died, his death went almost unnoticed outside of Washakie, but his children and grandchildren continued to be important voices among a people who, after experiencing near annihilation, survived in the new world into which Sagwitch led them.
