

Hohokam Trade Expert (page 1 of 6)

Your role is to be your community's expert at trading for valuable items. Trade was very important for getting items or materials that could not be made or found in Arizona. Trading also helped communities when they were in trouble. For example, if the Hohokam did not grow enough corn one year, they were able to trade with a nearby community to get the food they needed. The Hohokam played a ballgame similar to soccer. They built ballcourts so that fans could see all the action. People from many other communities would gather to watch these games. This increased opportunities for trade. You will be looking for a new community where you think there will be lots of trading.

Many different things make a community better or worse for trading. Location is very important. If you are too far away then you do not have anyone to trade with. If you are too close to another large community, they will compete with you and take some of your trading opportunities. The number of trade items is also something to look at. Having ballcourts in your community means that you will have more opportunities to trade. One strategy might be better than another and you will need to decide which is best for your community.

Things to look for:

1. How many items does the community have? Are there enough items to trade?
2. Does the community have a ballcourt that attracts visitors and creates opportunities for trading?
3. Are there enough sites to trade with but not too many which would compete for trade?

Hohokam Trade Expert (page 2 of 6)

Trade Expert Vocabulary

trade – to take one item for another of equal or greater value

Prehistoric communities traded for materials or goods that they could not make or find nearby. The Hohokam traded for items from as far away as Mexico and California.



venezuelanalysis.com

copper bells - copper is a metal found naturally in Mexico Copper is soft and can be made into many things.

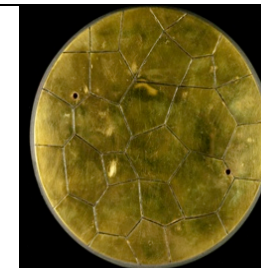
Copper bells were traded from Mexico. The bells could be sewn onto clothing or used as jewelry.



<http://swvirtualmuseum.nau.edu>

iron pyrite mirrors – Pyrite is a mineral also known as fool's gold. The surface is shiny and reflective.

The Hohokam used pyrite as the reflective surface to make mirrors.



azmnh.org/arch/hohokam.aspx

macaw feathers – feathers from a type of parrot brought from Mexico

Feathers were used by the Hohokam during ceremonies and rituals. They were also used as decoration for clothing and jewelry.



Wikipedia.org + nps.gov

palette – a large flat stone used to grind up plants, rocks, and minerals

These flat stones are used to grind up and mix paint pigments or medicinal plants. They were also used in ceremonies.



<http://www.rarepottery.info/protect/PaintPalettes.htm>

shell trumpet - large shells with the tip removed. This made a hole that could be blown into to make a loud noise - like a trumpet or horn

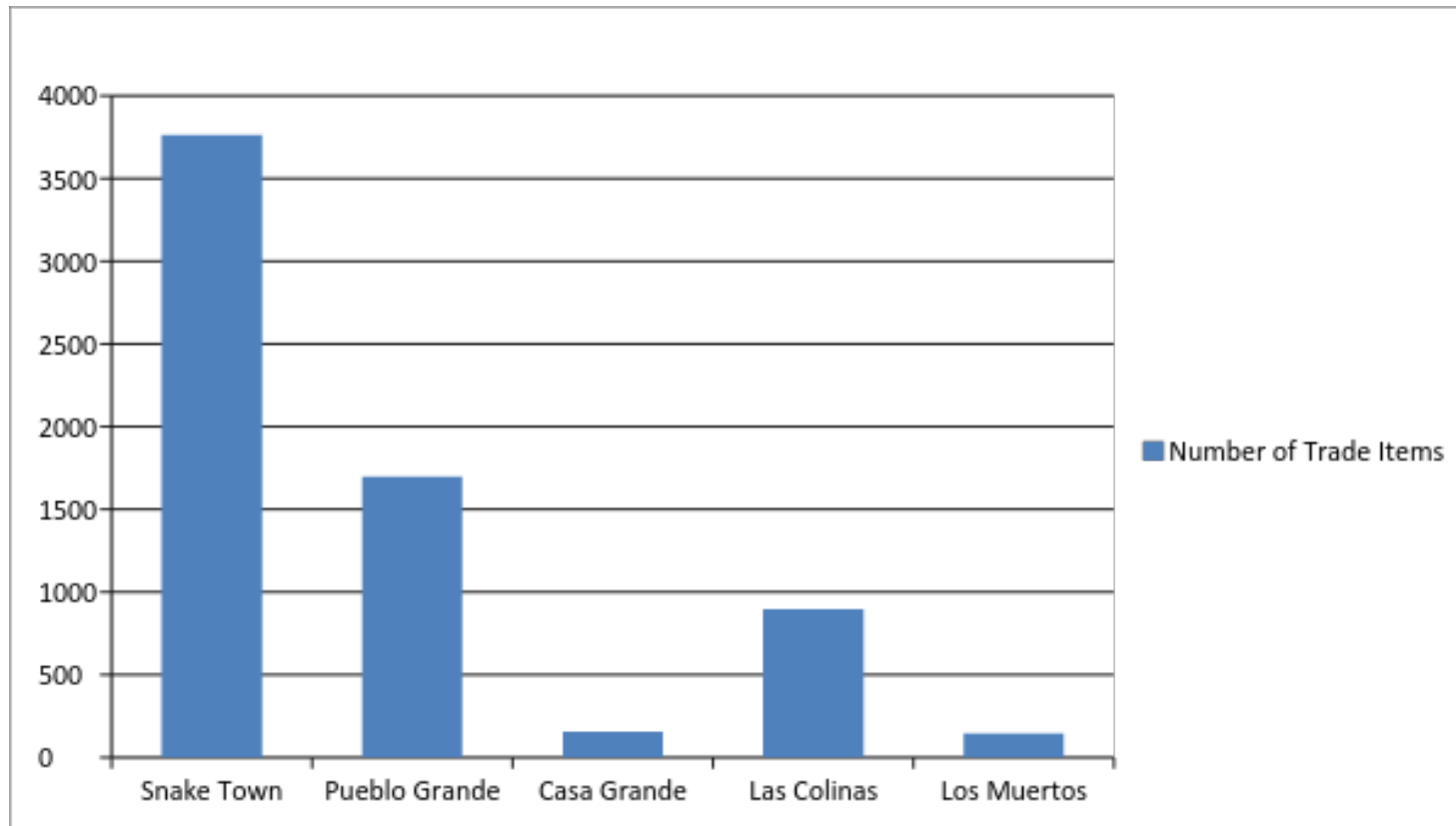
Shells to make trumpets were traded from Mexico and South America. Trumpets were used for ceremonies or to gather people together.



rarepottery.info

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Bar Graph: The number of trade items found at each community

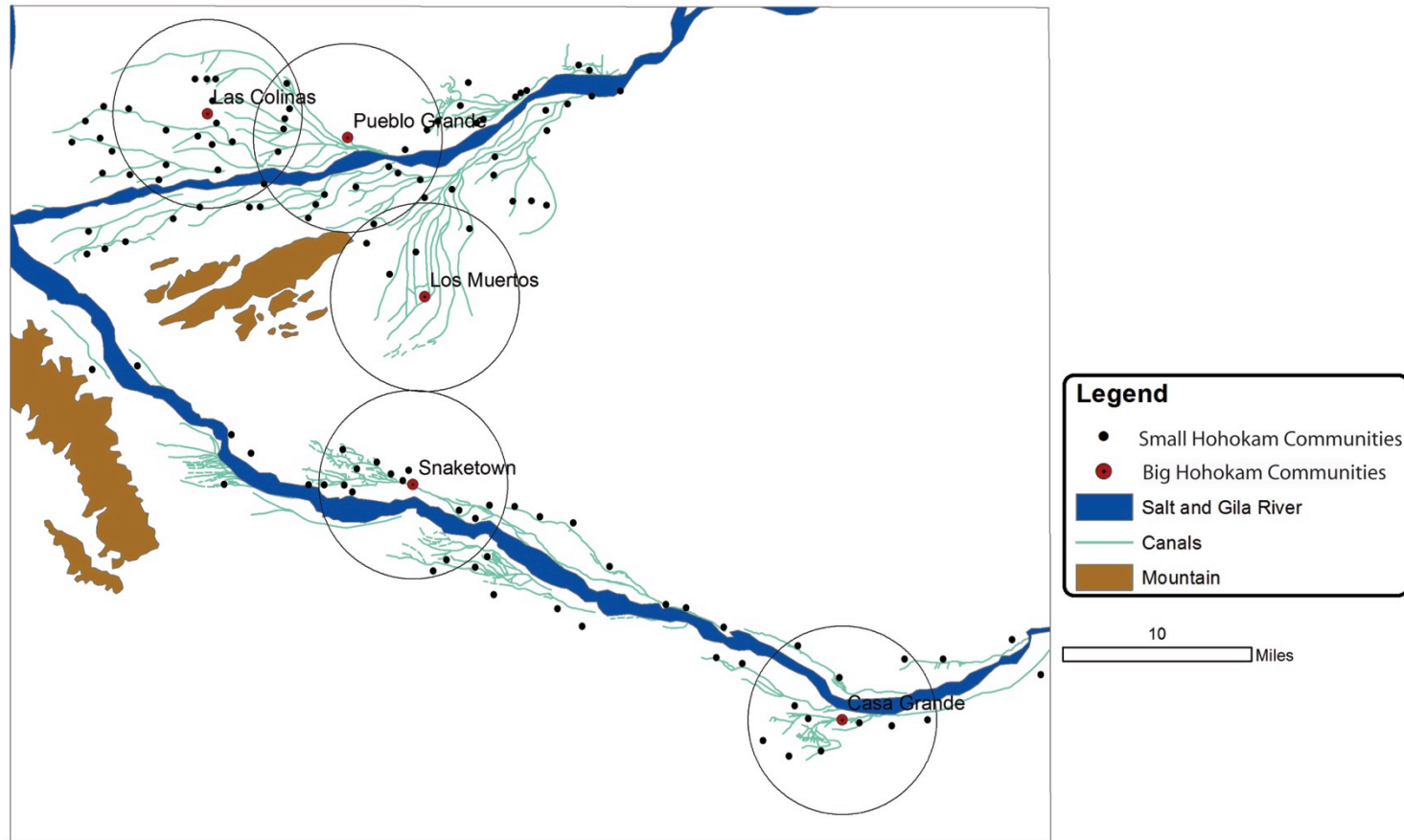


How many items are available to trade?

Are there enough items to trade?

Hohokam Trade Expert (page 5 of 6)





Map: Neighboring communities that can be traded with



Are there only a few, too many, or just the right amount of communities to trade with?

Hohokam Trade Expert (page 6 of 6)

Pictograph: Ballcourts found in each of the large communities

Communities	Ballcourts
Snaketown	
Pueblo Grande	
Casa Grande	
Las Colinas	
Los Muertos	

Does the community have a ballcourt that attracts visitors and creates opportunities for trading?

Hohokam Farm Expert (page 1 of 5)

Your role is to be your community's expert at growing food. You will be looking for a community where you think farming will be good and produce enough food. Hohokam farmers grew four main crops, which were important for their community's survival. Corn, beans, and squash were the main foods eaten by the Hohokam. Cotton could be made into cloth or traded to other Native American groups in Arizona. The Hohokam used water from the Salt and Gila Rivers to water these crops. Water was moved through the desert from the river in a series of canals.

When choosing a place to start farming, you need to consider several things. What is the soil like? Plants need nutrients from the soil to grow. If the soil is rocky or not very good you will have smaller harvests or your plants will not grow. You need access to enough water. If too many people take water from a canal, there might not be enough water for everyone who uses it. Also how close the community is to the river can change how much drought or flooding affects you. If there is a drought, there might not be enough water for everyone sharing a canal. On the other hand, a flooded river can destroy the crops and damage close canals. So consider your location on a canal and how close you are to the river.

Things to look for:

1. How much land can be used for farming? Which community has the most area for farming?
2. How much good soil does the community have?
3. How close is the community to the river? Is the community at the start of a canal or at the end?
4. Are there many communities nearby that might compete for water or land?

Hohokam Farm Expert (page 2 of 5)

Farm Expert Vocabulary

canal – a trench or ditch that carries water from a river to farm fields



Source:<http://commons.wikimedia.org>

irrigate – to water using canals or ditches



Source:<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irrigation>

farm land – areas where the soil has enough nutrients and water for plants to grow



Source:<http://2feetforward.blogspot.com>

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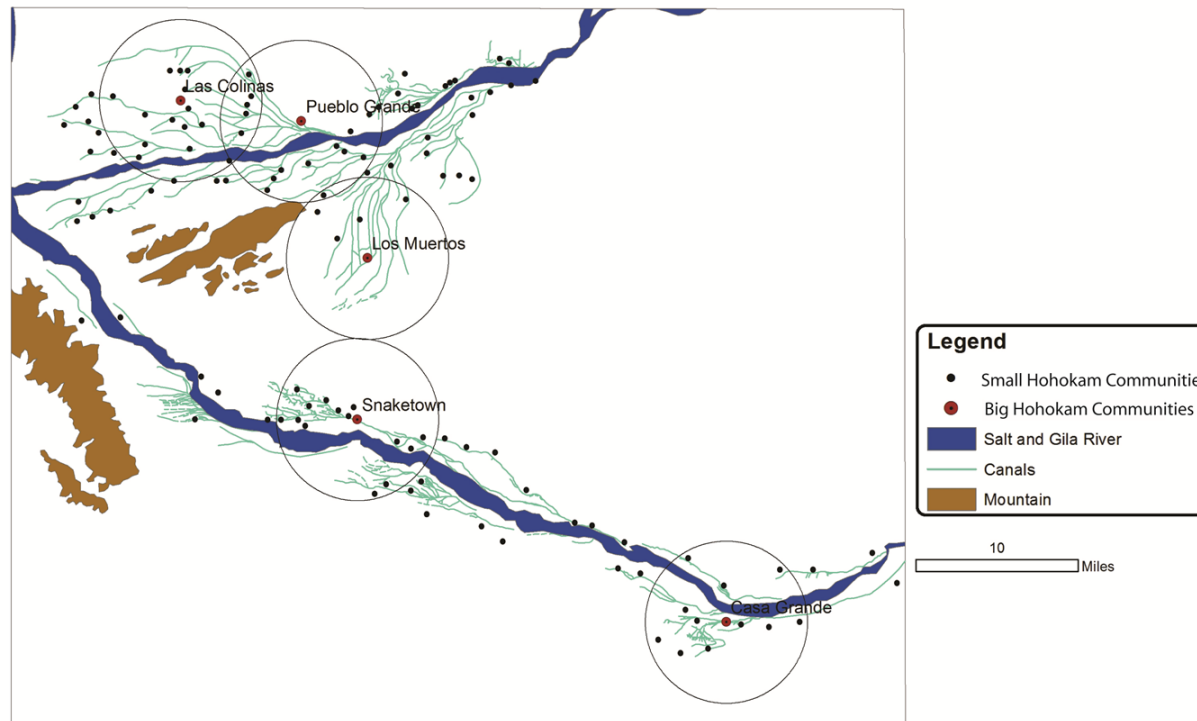
Table: The number of square miles of farm land that each community has

Community	Farm Land
Snaketown	21.8 miles ²
Pueblo Grande	32.4 miles ²
Casa Grande	19.7 miles ²
Las Colinas	34.5 miles ²
Los Muertos	26.8 miles ²

Which community has the most area for farming?

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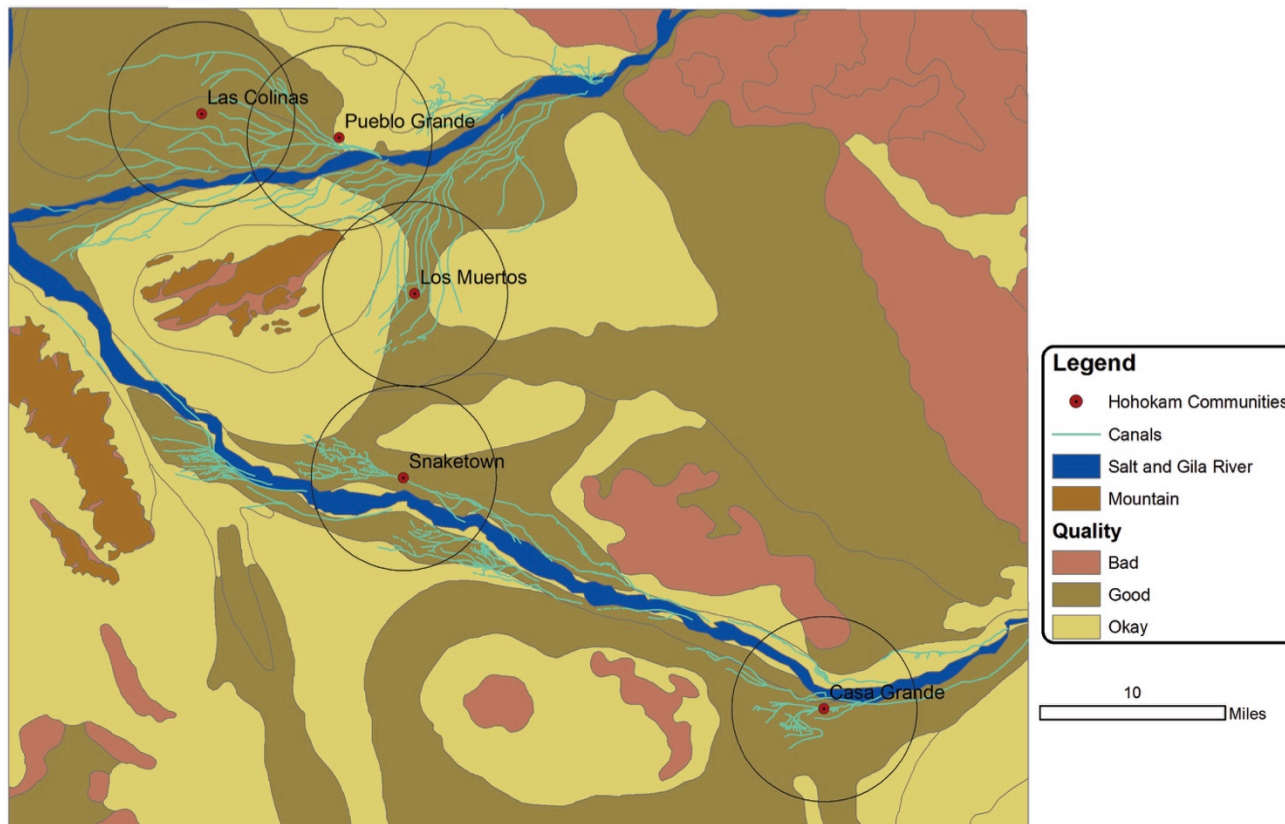
Map: Other communities that would be competing with your community for water and land to grow crops



1. How close are you to the river?
2. Are you at the start of a canal or at the end?
3. If there are many other sites in the area, would you be able to use all of your farmland and water or would you have to share?

Hohokam Farm Expert (page 5 of 5)

Map: The quality of the soil in the area around each community



How much good soil does the community have?

Hohokam Building Expert (page 1 of 6)

Your role is to be your community's expert at building homes, canals, and ballcourts. The Hohokam used a range of natural resources to build their homes and canals. They gathered materials from areas near their communities to construct both tools and buildings. Houses were built out of timber, brush, and adobe. Canals were dug and repaired. This irrigation system required communities to work together and share the work. Buildings like ballcourts were also important for a community since they attracted visitors and helped increase trade.

As a building expert you need to consider several things: the distance you will need to travel to gather building materials and how much land you have for new buildings and new canals. You will also need to consider how much of the work you would need to share with other close neighboring communities. You will need to share the work but you will also compete for these natural resources. If you have too many neighboring communities, you will all be gathering timber, brush, and water from the same places. This kind of competition will reduce the available resources nearby. You are looking for a community close to the materials you need for construction and neighbors just close enough to be helpful but not compete with you for natural resources.

Things to look for:

1. How far do you have to travel to gather building materials?
2. How much maintenance is going to be needed to take care of the canals and ballcourts? Will you need help from neighbors?
3. How much competition do you have with neighbors for natural resources?

Hohokam Building Expert (page 2 of 6)

Building Expert Vocabulary

adobe – a mixture of sand, mud, and grass that is made into bricks. Once the bricks are dry they can be stacked to build walls

Hohokam houses, buildings, and fences were built out of adobe.



<http://www.sitenet.com/travelblog/?p=3469>

ballcourt – oval courts made of mounded soil where the Hohokam played a game similar to soccer

Ball courts were places where people from many communities gathered to talk and trade with each other.



source

canal – a trench or ditch that moves water downhill from a river to farm fields

The Hohokam built over 500 miles of canals around Phoenix.



<http://commons.wikimedia.org>

forest – higher elevation areas with cooler temperatures where taller trees grow

The forest has tall trees that the Hohokam used as vertical beams in their buildings.



Azfirescape.org

chaparral – brush and short trees that grow along steep slopes at slightly higher elevations where there is more rain










The Chaparral has brush and bushes that the Hohokam used to build walls and roofs for their buildings.



tarleton.edu

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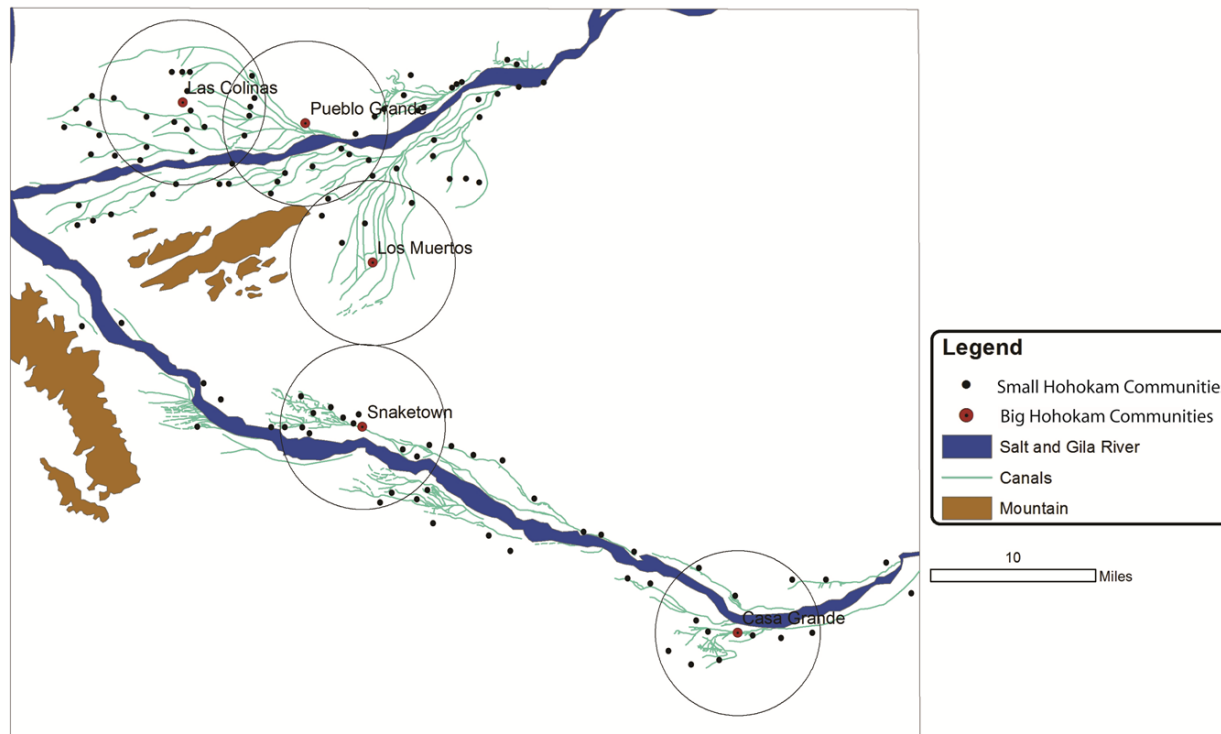
Pictograph: All of the canals and ballcourts already built in the communities

Communities	Canals	Ballcourts
Snaketown		
Pueblo Grande		
Casa Grande		
Las Colinas		
Los Muertos		

How much maintenance is going to be needed to take care of the canals and ballcourts?

Hohokam Building Expert (page 5 of 6)

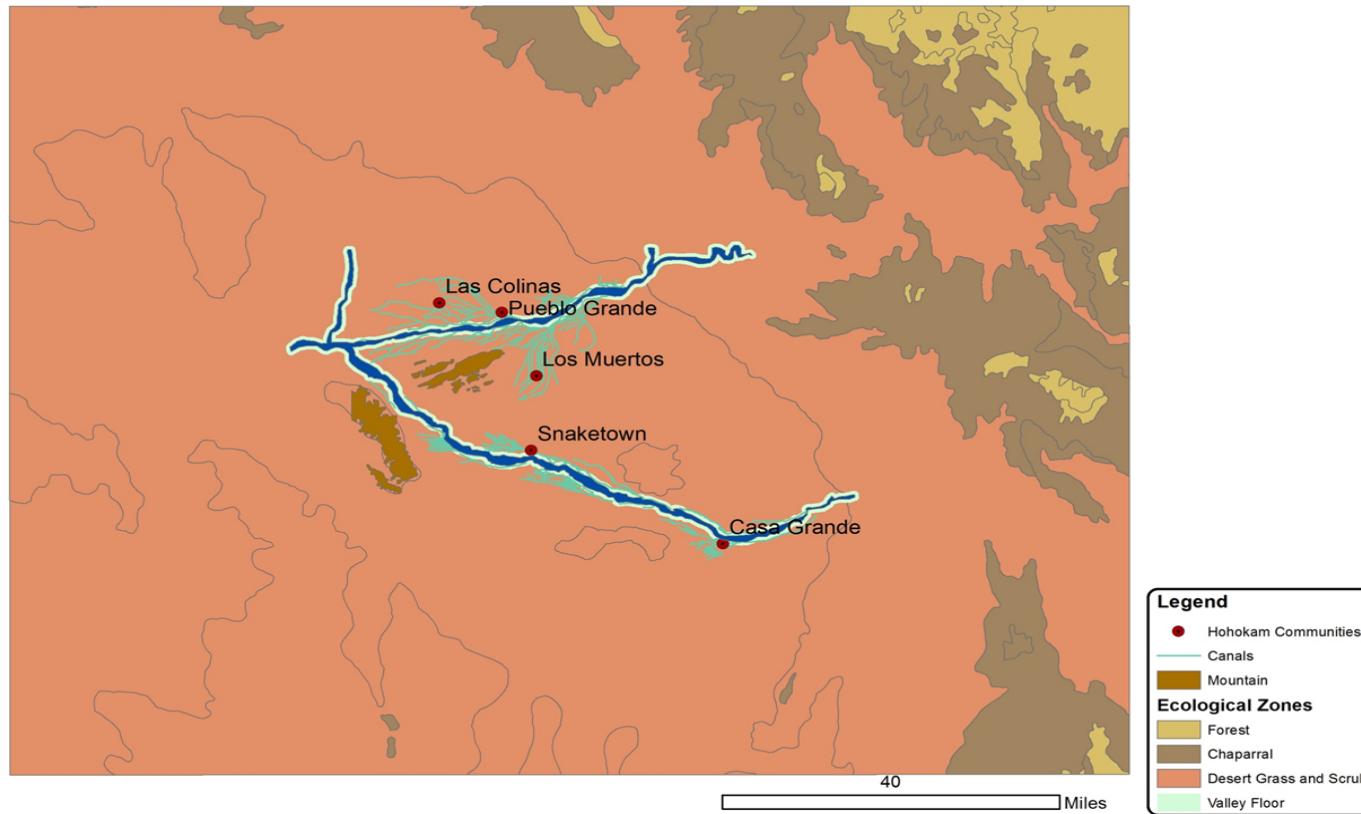
Map: Other communities that would be competing for natural resources or who may be helpful for maintenance of canals and ballcourts



1. Which communities will compete for natural resources?
2. Which communities will have neighbors to help with maintenance of canals and ballcourts?

Hohokam Building Expert (page 6 of 6)

Map: Ecological zones



Which communities have the best access to the forest for tall trees and chaparral for brush?

Hohokam Craft Expert (page 1 of 6)

Your role is to be your community's craft expert. The Hohokam were amazing artists who made a large number of crafts for their own use and for trade. Pottery and shell jewelry were the most important crafts made by the Hohokam. Pottery was made with clay and sand or mica. Pottery was used for food preparation and storage. Shells imported from Mexico and California were cut and carved to make beautiful jewelry. Hohokam craftspeople were known for their shell bracelets and pendants. This shell jewelry has been found all over Arizona and was an important trade item for the Hohokam.

As the craft expert you are looking for a community that has different types of crafts. You also want a community where you can be an artisan and specialize in making one kind of craft. This means that a community needs other craft people and communities nearby to trade all of the craft products with. Look at how many craft or trade items each community has and how close they are located to other communities. These other communities would compete with you for resources but might also be interested in trading you food for your craft items. Some Hohokam communities specialized in making pottery to trade making them more important. These communities needed access to clay and sand used to make pottery. Being close to a resource gives you better access to it, and you can collect and trade that resource to communities farther away.

Things to look for:

1. How close is the community to pottery materials?
2. Are there communities nearby who would trade for your crafts?
3. Does the community seem to have enough different items to trade?

Hohokam Craft Expert (page 2 of 6)

Craft Expert Vocabulary

pottery – dishes or containers made of baked clay. The clay is gathered and mixed with sand to help it hold its shape. It is then dried in the sun and can be painted and cooked in a very hot fire until it is hard.



Source: azmnh.org

weaving – A way of making fabric by interlacing two strands of thread or string. The Hohokam grew cotton that was spun into thread and woven to make fabric.



Source: hands.unm.edu

shell jewelry – bracelets, necklaces, and rings made out of shells imported from California or Mexico to Arizona. The shell would be cut, polished, or carved into different shapes by hand using tools made of stone



Source: azmnh.org

dying – the process of adding color to cloth or thread. This can be done by boiling it with plants or insects that are natural sources of color



trade – to take one item for another of equal or greater value.

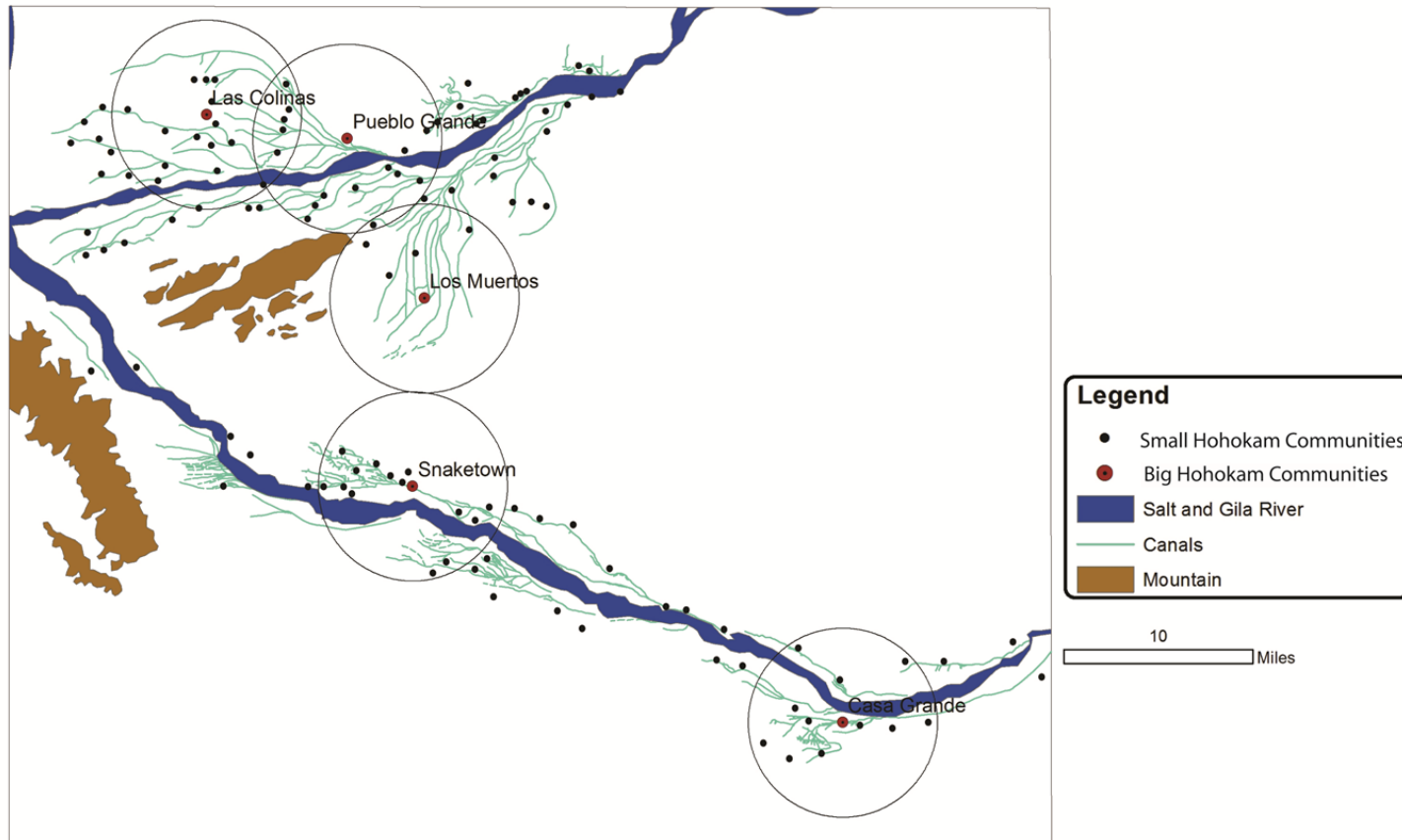
Prehistoric communities traded for materials or goods that they could not make or find nearby. The Hohokam traded for items from as far away as Mexico and California.



venezuelanalysis.com

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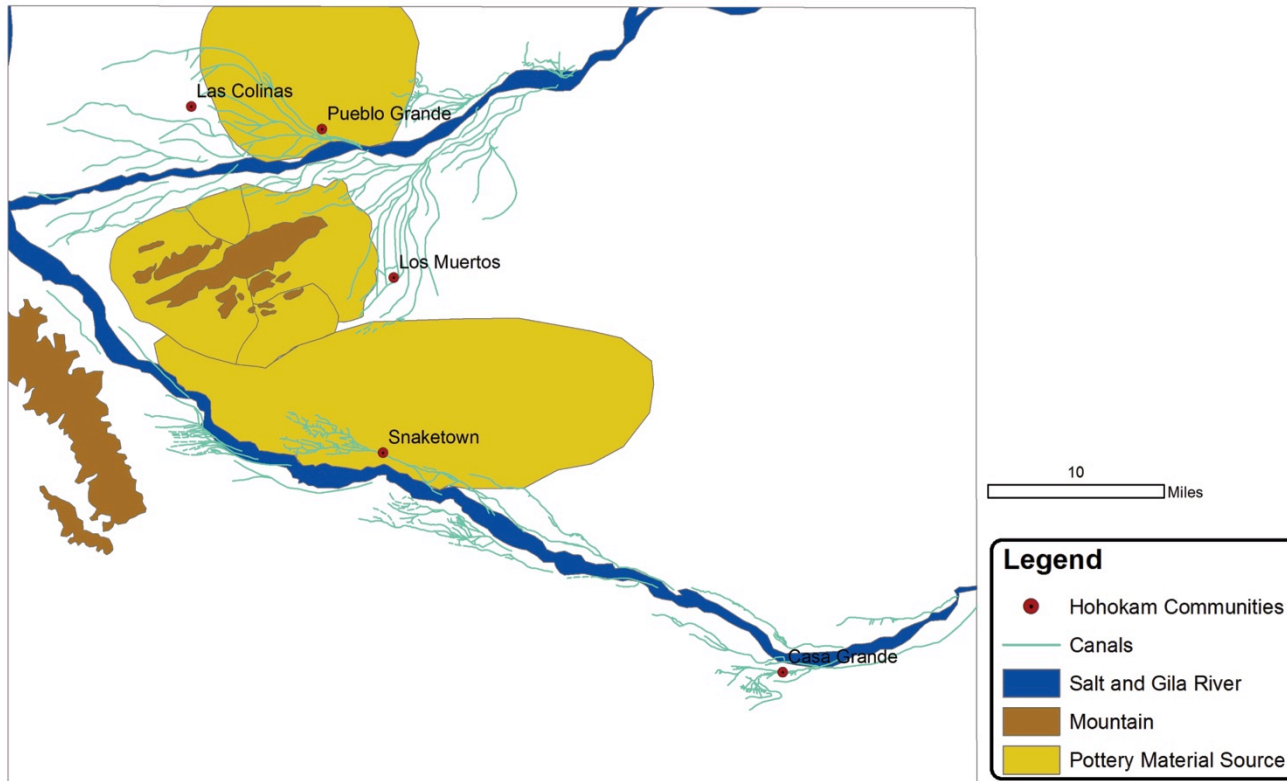
Map: Other communities that would be competing with your community for water



1. How close are you to the river?
2. Are you located at the start of a canal or at the end?

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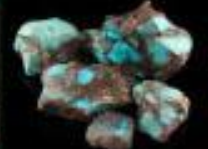


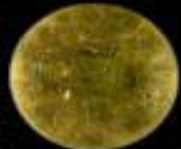



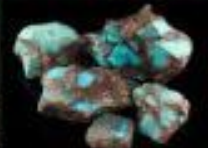





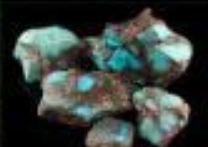

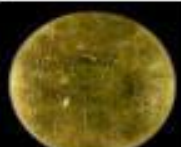



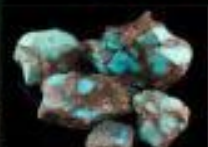

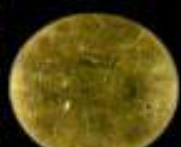



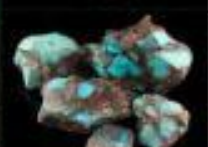
Map: Locations where clay and sand used to make pottery can be collected.



How close is the community to pottery materials?

Hohokam Craft Expert (page 6 of 6)

Pictograph: Different crafts and trade goods found at a community.

Community	Shell Bracelets	Shell Trumpets	Stone Palettes	Turquoise	Copper Bells	Macaws	Iron Pyrite Mirrors
Snaketown							
Pueblo Grande							
Casa Grande							
Las Colinas							
Los Muertos							

Does the community seem to have enough different items to trade and make it a profitable place to be an artisan?

Hohokam Wild Food Expert (page 1 of 6)

Your role is to be your community's expert in finding wild food. You will be looking for a new community where you can find many different types of wild foods and not have to travel too far. Farming was a main source of food for the Hohokam but they still relied on wild food. The Hohokam hunted and gathered food from the areas around their communities and sometimes traveled to collect foods that were not locally available. Saguaro fruit, mesquite beans, and agave hearts were three of the most important wild foods. Other grains, greens, and seasonal fruits were also harvested. Animals like deer and rabbit provided meat for the Hohokam diet.

Different ecological zones support unique types of plants and animals. A community's location will effect which types of food will be found nearby. You will need to consider how many different ecological zones are near your community. Having access to lots of different resources means that if one is not available, you can use another. This limits the risk of not being able to find enough food. To harvest some kinds of food the Hohokam would have traveled long distances. Other types of wild food could have been found in the areas right around the community. Consider how much land will be available to find other food. How close you are to other communities is also very important. If communities are too close or there are lots of them in the same area, there might not be enough wild resources for everyone to use.

Things to look for:

1. Which ecological zones are nearby and what food can be found there?
2. Are there too many other communities nearby competing for the same wild foods?
3. Which community has the most nearby desert grass and scrub land area to use for gathering wild food?

Hohokam Wild Food Expert (page 2 of 6)

Wild Food Expert Vocabulary

hunt- to pursue or look for wild animals that can be used for food

Hohokam hunters looked for mule deer, big horn sheep, rabbits, and water birds.



Source: dailykos.com

gather- to find and collect wild food and resources that are not farmed

The Hohokam collected many different types of food from the land around their communities. They also gathered wood, rocks, clay, and other materials to build their communities.



Source: organpipehistory.com

agave – a succulent plant found growing in Arizona The root of the plant can be roasted and eaten and fibers from the leaves can be made into rope.

The Hohokam harvested agave in the wild and grew it in their farm fields.



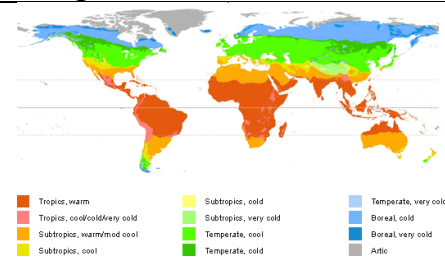
Source: Wikipedia.com

mesquite – a tree that grows in Arizona and is related to a pea The bark can be medicinal and the beans and pods can be ground into flour and eaten.



Source: foodblogdotcom.com

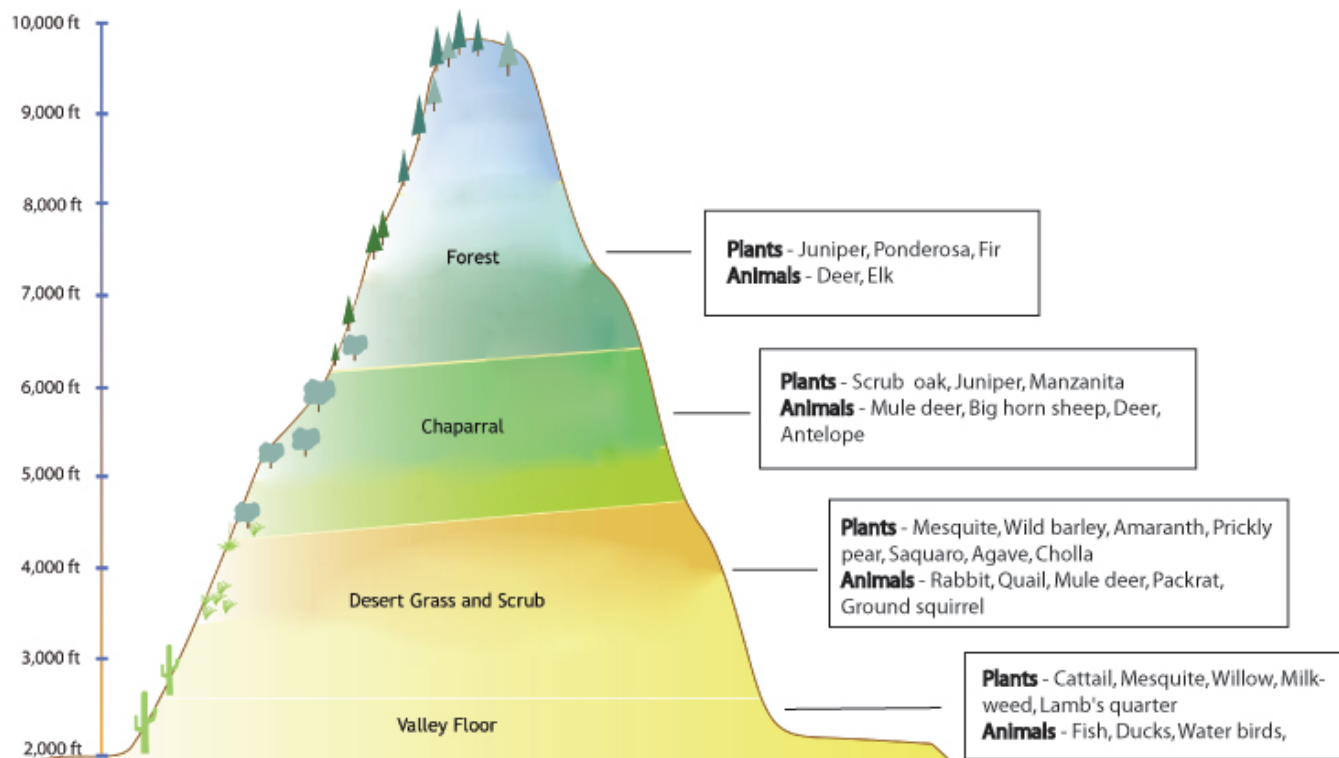
ecological zones – an area of land defined by its soil, elevation, plants, and animals



Source: www.fao.org

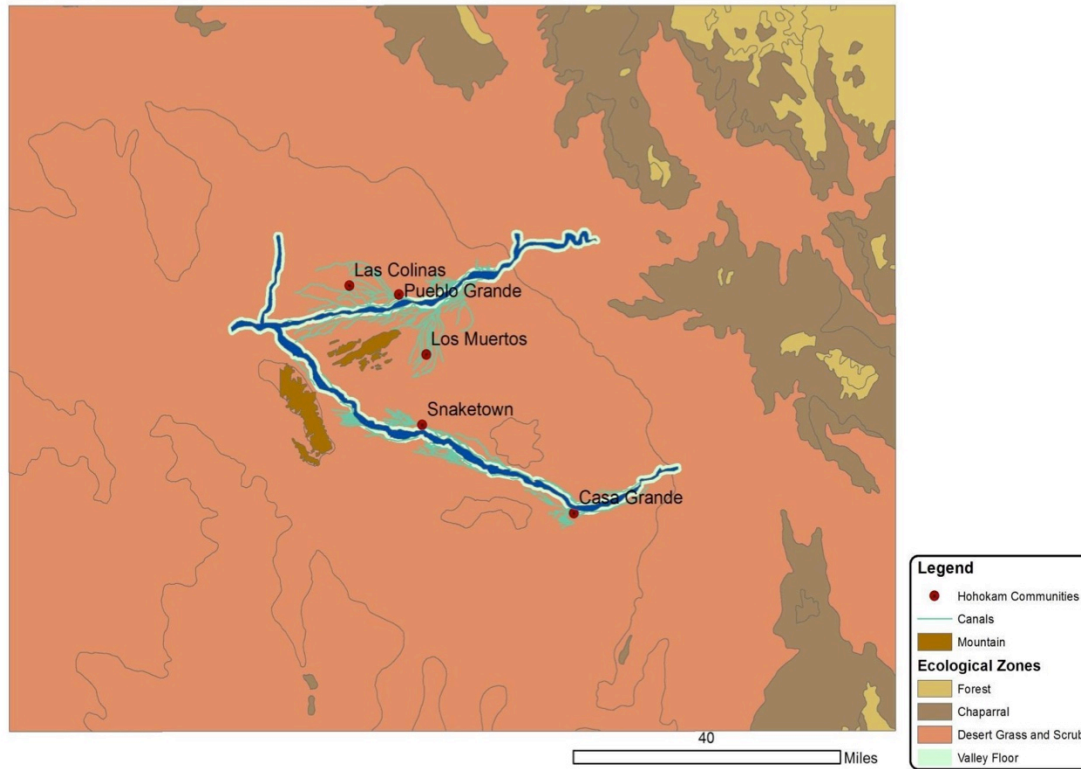
Hohokam Wild Food Expert (page 4 of 6)

Figure: Plants and animals found in each of the ecological zones



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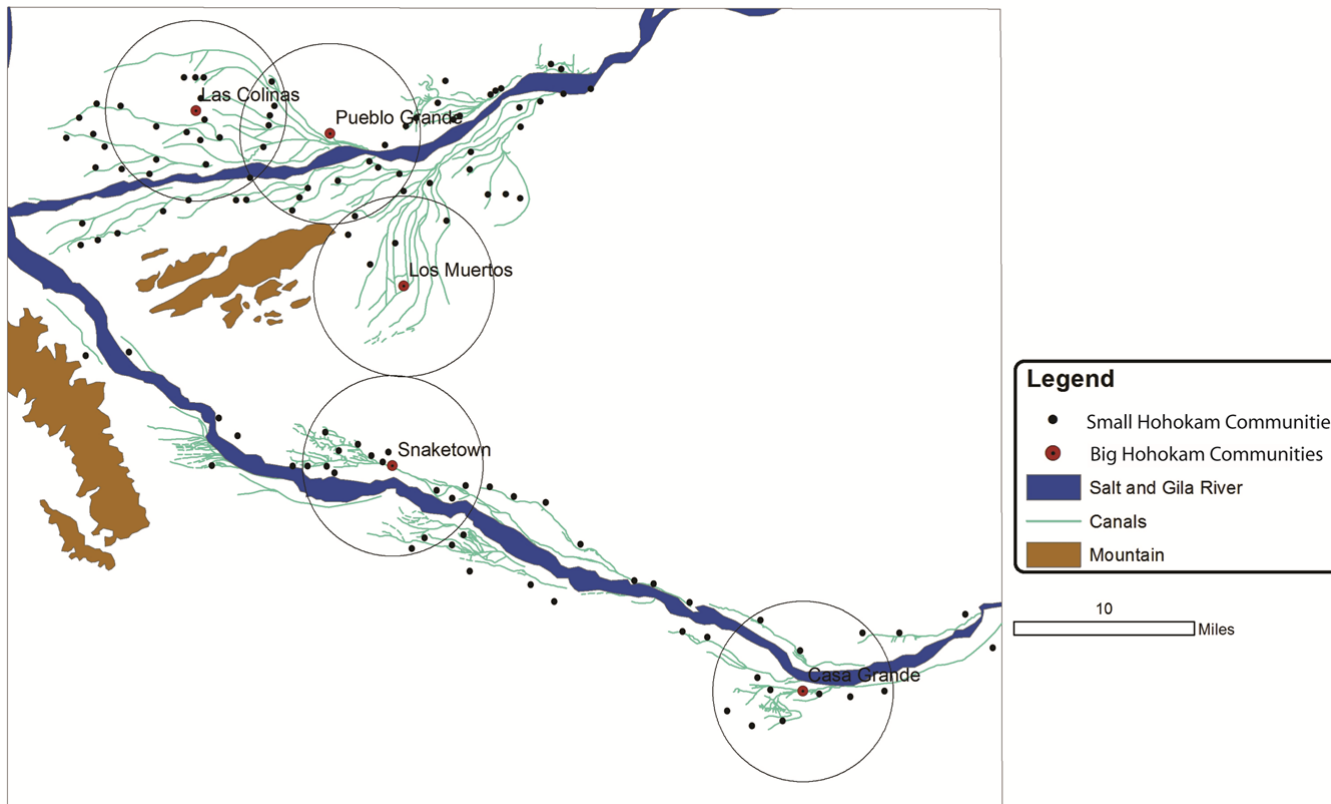
Map: Location of the 4 different ecological zones



Use the figure showing what plants and animals are available in the different ecological zones to figure out which communities have the best access to wild foods.

Hohokam Wild Food Expert (page 6 of 6)

Map: Other communities that will compete for the same wild foods



Are there too many other communities nearby competing for the same wild foods?

Hohokam Wild Food Expert (page 7 of 7)

Table: Desert grass and scrub land area not being used for farming or already built on near each community

Community	Available Land
Snaketown	55.7 miles ²
Pueblo Grande	45.1 miles ²
Casa Grande	57.8 miles ²
Las Colinas	44.0 miles ²
Los Muertos	50.7 miles ²

Which community has the most desert grass and scrub land area within a short walking distance to use for gathering wild food?