

# **The Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island (Juana Maria) Unknown-1853 USA**

Juana Maria, better known to history as the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island (her Native American name is unknown), was a Native Californian woman who was believed to be the last surviving member of her tribe, the Nicoleño. She lived alone on San Nicolas Island off the coast of Alta, California from 1835 until her removal from the island in 1853. Scott O'Dell's award-winning children's novel Island of the Blue Dolphins (1960) was inspired by her story. She was the last native speaker of the Nicoleño language.

