



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS NAVAJO REGION

Report to the 24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL



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NAVAJO REGIONAL DIRECTOR COMMENTS

As we turn the page on yet another season and welcome spring I am able to reflect positively on how the work that we do has impacted our communities. Winter certainly challenged us all with the large amounts of precipitation and the need to further insure that road maintenance and other basic necessities remained in place. The lapse in appropriations also challenged us but yet we were able to persevere. I believe that the short eight months that I have led the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Regional Office, we were able to again commit our services to meeting the goals and objectives of the Navajo Nation. We will continue to fulfill trust responsibilities and remain committed to developing a collaborative, trusting partnership to meet the priorities of the Navajo Nation.

On February 15, 2019 President Trump signed the Omnibus bill titled “H.J. Res 31-Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019, Public Law 116-6, which provides funding for Fiscal Year 2019 through September 2019. Since the first CR in FY 19, a total of five (5) temporary funding measures were executed to allow the government to operate at minimal levels. A total of \$45.9 million has been allocated for the Navajo Nation P.L. 93-638 contracted programs. These funds have been awarded through various contracts to the Nation. The mission of the TIBC is to provide an advisory government to government forum for Tribal Leaders and key federal government officials to discuss and develop budget priorities, which support tribal self-determination and create opportunities to improve the economic and social conditions of tribal community members.

The Navajo Region formally joined the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) and the associated environmental impact statement (EIS) process as a co-lead. The Navajo Region will use the EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to guide the management of oil and gas resources owed by the United States in trust for the Navajo Nation and Navajo Indian Allotments in San Juan County, New Mexico. The analysis of the EIS will address impacts on both the surface and the subsurface mineral estate in the planning area. The Planning Area is located in San Juan, Rio Arriba, McKinley, and Sandoval Counties in New Mexico, and encompasses approximately 4,200,000 acres of land, including approximately 1,900,000 acres of Tribal surface land, 1,300,000 acres of BLM-managed land, across 17 Navajo Nation chapters, individual Indian allotments, and numerous Chapter House residents. This quarter the agencies the RMPA EIS Notice of Availability (NOA) has been delayed for BLM to work on integrating an additional Sub-alternative. These changes are currently being integrated into the project schedule. In addition to the National Environmental Policy aspects of the project, the agencies are initiating dialogue with potential consulting parties as required under the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, compliance. The agencies are meeting with the potential parties in early April 2019. We continue to partner with the BLM to complete the EIS to further explore oil and gas potential opportunities, while taking careful consideration of cultural resource properties.

The Wildland Fire Summer Operations across the nation will once again be actively responding to fires. The Navajo Region BIA Fire Management crew continues to provide invaluable collaboration in Fire Suppression activities. This fiscal year 2019, the BIA Fire program currently has 141 administratively determined (AD) wildland firefighters, renowned as the “Navajo Scouts,” trained to engage in wildland fire activities. In 2018, the Navajo Scouts generated a total income of \$883,682 in firefighting payroll. In addition, to the seasonal AD workforce, the Wildland Fire program includes Engines, Aviation, Hotshots, Fuels, and Administration. The Fire Management program continues the construction of a permanent

facility to house our helicopter operations at the Window Rock airport. With the continued support of the 24th Navajo Nation Council in this initiative we progressively proceed toward a permanent facility.

The Navajo Region, BIA remains committed to the work we do and my office continues to be available to all tribal leaders to address all issues and concerns. I can be reached by email at bartholomew.stevens@bia.gov or by cell at 505-870-0011.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Stevens', is centered below the 'Thank you,' text.

Bartholomew Stevens, Regional Director
Navajo Region, BIA

FEDERAL INDIAN MINERALS OFFICE (FIMO)

The Federal Indian Minerals Office's (FIMO) mission is to preserve, protect, and develop the oil and gas resources on Navajo allotted lands. FIMO continues to strive to honor our mission on a daily basis. FIMO is near completion of transferring record title and operator assignments of 90% of the Navajo Allotted leases in the San Juan Basin. This quarter has brought some extensions to leases close to expiration; large estimated payments being recouped by an operator impacting 13,700 allottees; and an undesirable event (oil spill) impacting five allotments.

Ongoing Projects

- Lease Sale – FIMO has a large number of Navajo Indian Allotments that are unleased. FIMO currently has analyzed environmental impacts to move forward with a lease sale of 22 allotments. This proposal is pending approval.
- Undesirable Event (oil spill) clean up by Enduring Resources. In collaboration with NN EPA, EPA-region 9, Army Corp of Engineer, New Mexico Oil & Gas Conservation Department, Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs-Regional Office the incident is monitor and clean-up; remediation is on track.

Accomplishments

- Outreach – Due to the government furlough, FIMO cancelled all of our January and February outreach. FIMO has conducted four outreach presentations to three Chapter Houses and a Special Outreach meeting covering estimated payment and recoupments. As a result of FIMO outreach, there have been 30 inquiries from 30 individual allottees. In addition to our outreach session, FIMO assisted 203 walk/call in clients for this quarter.
- Inspection & Enforcement – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Inspection and Enforcement (I&E) have completed 22 inspections on Navajo Indian Allotted leases for the second quarter of FY2019. There were no witnessed of oil sales, or written incident of noncompliance, or plugged and abandon wells were witnessed.
- Environmental Inspection – FIMO with BLM assistance inspected two 2 plugged & abandonment wells and 2 Final abandonment locations. There was one oil spill reported and it encompasses 5 allotments. The company continues to do remediation on site. The prior spill from quarter 1 has not met containment and BLM continues to monitor the site. There were 2 Oil & Gas Application for Permit to drill onsite inspections conducted. FIMO also inspected 38 locations for bond release.
- Audit/Compliance Reviews – FIMO continues to work on 6 full scope compliance and 1 company audit through this quarter.
- Leasing Assignments – FIMO has completed 122 assignments this quarter, 50 record titles, 72 operating rights. FIMO has received additional assignments for both record title and operating rights that are still being processed.
- Units – FIMO is in the process of approving an amendment to a recent Unit to incorporate another formation. This unit encompasses 18 Navajo allotted leases.
- Royalty Distribution – There were approximately 5,885.074 dollars distributed to Navajo individual mineral owners for the second quarter.

FIMO continues to uphold its trust responsibility through its responsibility to the Navajo Indian Allottees by providing revenues and other opportunities as a result of oil & gas development.

TRUST SERVICES

BRANCH OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Navajo Regional Office

Navajo Region Branch of Natural Resources provided an update on the status of the Navajo Partitioned Lands (NPL) to the Navajo Nation Resources & Development Committee on March 25, 2019. The BIA received the NPL Agriculture Resource Rangeland Management Plan Programmatic Environmental Assessment (ARRMP PEA) Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) from the Branch of Environmental Management (BEM). The next step is to advertise the recommended names in the local media (Navajo Times, Gallup Independent, Navajo Hopi Observer, and the Flagstaff Daily Sun).

Environmental Compliances

In compliance with 25 CFR Part 161, Subpart C-General Provisions, the Indian Agricultural Resource Management Plan and the Programmatic Environmental Assessment have been completed for the Navajo Partitioned Lands. It is important to comply with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq. prior to reissuing grazing permits.

Navajo Region Branch of Natural Resources submitted the Non-base Budget Proposal (non-reoccurring) in the amount of \$13,592,710.000. One of the proposals, the Navajo Nation Agriculture Resource Management Plan (ARMP) has been submitted at \$9,997,690.00, which will cover the entire Navajo Nation.

Fort Defiance Agency

District 14-1 and 14-2 Boundary Fence Line

The Cultural Resource Compliance Form (CRCF) was received from Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation on March 18, 2019. Fort Defiance Agency will submit a request to Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife for a Biological Resource Compliance Form (BRCF). Once the BRCF is complete, Fort Defiance Agency will begin construction of a 9.4 mile fence line between District Unit 14-1 and District Unit 14-2. Defining the two grazing units through the fence line will help to prevent inter District Unit livestock trespassing and improve control of the resources and range management.

Little Pueblo Colorado Wash and Black Creek Wash Restoration Project

Work will begin on retreating noxious weeds, particularly Tamarisk and Russian Olives, in the Little Pueblo Colorado Wash and Black Creek Wash. The need to retreat the invasive noxious weed species will allow native desirable vegetation to re-generate. Southwest Conservation Corps is the contractor whom will hire the local youth to address the retreatment.

Horse Roundup/Voluntary Horse Sale

Fort Defiance Agency assisted Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture with their voluntary horse sales through manpower, equipment and verification of ownership of branded horses. Fort Defiance Agency also assisted in the Oljato horse roundup. A total of 11 horses were captured. Fort Defiance Agency will continue to help Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture with upcoming summer horse roundups and voluntary horse sales.

Chinle Agency

Commercial Forest Range Inventory

The Commercial Forest Range Inventory has completed the field data collection. The contractor is still awaiting the Precipitation Data from the Navajo Nation. This data is to be factored in to the finalized inventory. Once precipitation data is received, a draft report will be submitted to the BIA for review before finalizing the Vegetative Report.

Canyon De Chelly Land Use Permit

Canyon De Chelly Land Use Permit Project has been completed and the Range staff is verifying field data collected and submitted by the contractor. Ownership and Assignment of farm plots, acre totals shape files are being verified within the canyon.

Navajo Partitioned Lands

Drought/Livestock Reduction

Within Navajo Partitioned Lands (NPL) there has been a severe drought taking a toll on rangeland vegetation and water resources. Precipitation of snow and rain has been very positive but does not reduce all the drought impacts on water supply, wildlife, and livestock. Grazing Officials and the NPL Office continues to recommend that livestock owners reduce their number of livestock through voluntary sales allowing the rangelands to recover. Communities through Chapter Resolutions continue to support the reduction and removal of feral horses. Livestock reduction and feral horse removal is an effort to save starving and sick livestock, restore range land vegetation and prolong water use. It is recommended that a coordinated effort with grazing committee members and the appropriate Tribal departments and programs develop a long-term water development and supply for the NPL that will be supported by the oversight committee. In the short-term, the NPL office will assist water shortage with repairs to some of the 93 windmills that it monitors. NPL will continue to monitor range condition for drought, and work with the livestock owners to meet their drought preparation needs. We request the Navajo Nation to advocate proper range and livestock management to stockowners and land users to combat severe drought, reduce livestock numbers to allocated sheep units, and provide security to range facilities from vandalism.

Hopi Proposal to Take Over HPL/NPL Mediator Fence Line

No action or communication has happened since the last meeting with Hopi, BIA Central Office, Voice of the Navajos, and NPL on July 10, 2018 at the Hardrock Chapter House. NPL provided information to the BIA Central Office and that it is recommended that information should be shared by BIA Central Office on Hopi's request to take over HPL/NPL mediator fence line. This request remains pending, in the meantime NPL will continue to provide services to fence repairs and monitor HPL/NPL mediator fence line. NPL has requested that the Navajo Nation will need to become involved in the on-going negotiation with the Hopi Tribe and Hopi BIA to resolve the issue.

Shiprock Agency

District 13 Boundary Fence

The District 13 fencing project is in progress and currently needs 1.5 miles of fencing to complete. However, for Phase II of the District 13 boundary fence, a Biological Resource Compliance Forms (BRCF) is all that is needed to begin construction.

Land Use Permits

Three (3) land use permits were issued in Shiprock Agency, which was recommended by the San Juan River Farm Board. These permits will allow farmers to finally cultivate their farm plots.

Grazing Permits

The Shiprock Agency staff attended the District Grazing Committee meetings throughout the quarter. The meetings gives an opportunity to have staff collaborate with Grazing Committee Members. Grazing Officials provide their recommendation on grazing permit transfers and serves as a technical advisor on the transfer process. Grazing permits are pending approval, until the NEPA Process has been completed. This approval includes the Biological Resource Compliance Forms (BRCF) from the Navajo Fish and Wildlife. Assistance from Navajo Nation Fish and Wildlife would be greatly appreciated in processing the BRCF

Western Navajo Agency

The Former Bennett Freeze Area Integrated Resource Management Plan

Updates and revisions to the Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA) Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) have been completed and the revisions and updates were completed with involvement of the Navajo Nation programs, including the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development and the Division of Natural Resources. The Western Navajo Agency Branch of Natural Resource (WNA-BNR) and the contractor Ecosphere Environmental Services are doing the final edits. Upon completion of final edits, the document will be forwarded to the Navajo Nation for review and approval. After approval, the Navajo Regional Office (NRO) will be ready to move forward on the issuance of the Notice to Intent for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) process. The PEIS will be the analysis of the environmental and human impacts of the IRMP in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This includes insuring all NEPA requirements for developments, actions identified in the IRMP are met, to insure all the necessary analyses are completed, and the steps up to the record of decision are completed. In the Notice of Intent (NOI) and the Public Participation Plan (PPP), the locations of five (5) Public Scoping locations have been identified and will be held at the following Arizona locations: Flagstaff, Window Rock, Tuba City, and Cameron. Once the NOI is published, we urge all concerned community members and Tribal Officials to attend and participate in the Public Scoping process.

FBFA Livestock Water Project

The WNA-BNR has been working with the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources (NNDWR) to assist the Cameron Chapter to set up a livestock water stand pipe for individuals who haul water for livestock and farming. This is to help mitigate the effects of droughts in the future.

Land Management District (LMD) 3 and LMD 5 boundary fence reconstruction and LMD 1 and LMD 3 Boundary Fence Project

The Southwest Conservation Corps (SCC) fencing crew is tasked to remove the old fence and rebuild the fence with new material. This project will start back up in the spring of 2019. The project involves the 22-mile LMD3/5 fence line and the 37-mile LMD 1/3 fence.

Kerley Valley Irrigation Canal and Access Road Right-of-Way Activity and Kerley Valley Irrigation Access Road Bridge Design and Repair

Currently BIA NRO is working with NRO Real Estate Services to prepare documents for appraisal of proposed ROW.

LMD 3 Range Management Plan

Work is in progress and the contractor is Sundance Consulting, Inc. The LMD 3 covers over 1.4 million acres in the central portion of FBFA of Navajo Nation and this effects 661 Grazing Permits (40,601 Sheep Units Year Long).

Cropland Management Plan

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Western Navajo Agency has initiated the development of a Cropland Management Plan (CMP) for Land Management District (LMD) 3. The objective of this project is to provide documentation that assesses the impacts of the proposed CMP on LMD3 throughout approximately 1,030 acres. The documentation will assess environmental impacts on the physical environment (including natural resources, cultural resources, geological resources, water resources, etc.). Public Scoping Meeting Schedule for LMD3 at the following locations and dates: Tuba City Hogan Family Restaurant, April 3, 2019; Coalmine Canyon Chapter House, April 4, 2019; Cameron Chapter House, April 5, 2019; Bodaway/Gap Chapter House, April 6, 2019

Littlefield's Spring-fed Irrigation Project

The WNA-BNR is assisting Natural Resource Conservation Service with implementation of the plan through EQIP contracts with permittees. The project involves maintaining and improving the irrigation system from the source spring to the Agricultural Land Use Permit areas. The project is near completion

BRANCH OF FIRE MANAGEMENT

The BIA Navajo Region Trust Services Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management (BWFAM) oversee the Wildland Fire Management Program. The Branch is responsible for providing Wildland Fire coordination, management, planning, oversight, and monitoring for all activities related to Wildland Fire protection of Navajo Trust Lands.

The Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management are responsible for wildfire response, firefighting safety and training as well as preventing wildland fires. The Branch also provides the use of prescribed fire and fuels management to achieve integrated wildland fire management objectives based on management plans.

The second quarter of the year is transiting from the winter months into spring, in which there is low temperatures and humidity that minimize the risk of fire danger. This quarter is experiencing unseasonable cooler weather, and an above average snow accumulation. There has been no significant fire activity to report for the second quarter of 2019.

Keyah Construction and sub-contractors have started earthwork for the new helibase building at the Window Rock Airport. Weather has cooperated enough to allow for major construction to begin. Once completed the facility will house the ten person helitack module, as well as, the contracted helicopter pilot and support personnel. In addition, there will be two helipads constructed to "park" our exclusive use helicopter and any visiting helicopter(s) when supporting our initial attack aviation operations.

The Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management continues the recruitment and certification of the Administratively Determined Emergency Wildland Firefighters (Scouts), these individuals will fill positions on Type II Initial Crews that will be deployed throughout the contiguous U.S. to assist with the suppression of wildland fire incidents. Currently, there are one

hundred and forty-one individuals being processed for hiring, an increase of sixty-three participating wildland firefighters.

The Regional Fire Management Officer, Regional Assistant Fire Management Office, and Hotshot Superintendent, attended the Forest Service “You Will Not Stand Alone,” training in Albuquerque, NM. The YWNSA provides guidelines for Agency Administrators, employees, family members, and others who have been impacted by line of duty deaths, off duty deaths, serious accidents and serious injuries. This course evolved from the Forest Service addressing Wildland Firefighter injuries, and line of duty deaths and it now serves all branches. The Forest Service training, guidelines and course content will be implemented within the Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management, to be better prepared for critical incident management.

BRANCH OF FORESTRY

Navajo Nation Forest Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP)

During the last quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, the final draft Navajo Forestlands IRMP was developed by Revolution Advisors and DHM Design (IRMP resource consultants) and an Interdisciplinary Team of Resource Professionals (ID Team). An executive summary was released to all ID Team members on August 7, 2018, via email and digital copies of all documents used to develop the IRMP were provided to the ID Team on flash drives.

Now that the IRMP is in its final draft form the NFD needs to initiate the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance process, the final phase of this project. The NFD has notified the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Region (NR), Branch of Forestry that a request for qualifications (RFQ) was initiated on March 1, 2019, to the general public. Once the NFD receives and reviews the responses from all potential contractors, the selection process can be initiated using Navajo Nation procurement procedures.

Activities and Accomplishments

The BIA NR Branch of Forestry has continued to provide technical assistance to the NFD regarding forest product harvesting on the Navajo Nation. On March 26, 2019, an Oak Ridge Timber Sale # 1 ID Team meeting was held at the NFD conference room in Ft. Defiance AZ. The ID Team is comprised of BIA and Navajo Nation resource professionals from multiple disciplines (e.g., water, range, wildlife, roads, forest, cultural, etc.). An ID Team for timber sales on the Navajo Nation has not been formed since the early 1990’s. Items discussed included: 1) the silvicultural prescription (Rx) and how it should tie in with the Navajo Nation Forest Management Plan, including Best Management Practices, and any other resource goals and objectives; 2) how mitigation measures for the proposed forest land management activities should be referenced in the Rx and documented in the Environmental Assessment. The ID Team will continue to collaborate and move the Oak Ridge Timber Sale # 1 forward. Our next tentative ID Team meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2019, via teleconference.

On March 26, 2019, NR Branch of Forestry consulted with the NFD’s Senior Forester within the reforestation program. The forester provided a tour of the reforestation compound and described the untapped potential the NFD’s greenhouses have. According to the NFD’s Senior Forester, just one (1) of the four (4) greenhouses located on the NFD’s compound has the potential to grow ~250,000 ponderosa pine seedlings every 90 calendar days. These seedlings can be sold to other forest management programs such as the United States Forest Service, other BIA Agencies, or other Indian Nations to repopulate their degraded forests. It is estimated that these seedlings could generate roughly \$250,000.00 in gross revenue for the Navajo Nation with each crop and employ as many as 40 (forty) Navajo Tribal members on a full time basis. The Senior Forester

stated that startup costs may potentially be as low as \$10,000.00 (for supplies) and a designated Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, or Tribal Enterprise Account, would be required to start this process. He receives requests quite often from across the United States to utilize the facilities since it is known that NFD has the expertise and facilities to grow trees for reforestation projects. These requests may become more frequent with the catastrophic wildfires that have affected forest lands cross the country in recent years. To capitalize on this untapped potential, the Navajo Nation should provide technical assistance to the NFD, and establish a unique DUNS number or Tribal Enterprise Account for the NFD's reforestation program.

BRANCH OF ENGINEERING

Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP)

- Reach 4C-8 ROW Tribal Trust Application is undergoing NN's 164 review process. Once the 164 review is completed, the NN will send the Application to the BIA Northern Agency for ROW review process.
- NGWSP Re-Vegetation Plan: On February 15, 2019 the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) with BIA and NN met to finalize the plan. The Re-Vegetation Plan will address remediation of vegetation where NGWSP disturbs the ground.

San Juan Irrigation Settlement Projects

Project Updates

- The Bitsui Siphon Rehabilitation Project Final Design was finalized and construction began in February 2019 with estimated completion date of April 2019.
- The Yellowman Siphon Rehabilitation Project Final Design was finalized and project is currently in NN Formal Bidding Process for construction and construction material.
- The Fruitland Diversion Final Design is at 60% completion; the 90% review meeting is anticipated in April 2019.

Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Project

The Hogback Cudei Subpart J Contract, A17AV0018: The NN-Technical Construction and Operation Branch (TCOB) and the BIA-BE will work together to resolve two issues:

- The NN-TCOB is in non-compliance in adhering to the contract's original schedule as defined in Public Law 111-11. The following projects are behind schedule: the Helium Lateral, Hogback Canal Steel Siphons, Eagle Nest Siphon Cleaning and Inlet Safety, Canal Lining Rehabilitation–Baker Wash Phase, and Lateral Conversion Project.
- The remaining \$8.1M settlement funds: The BIA-BE received a letter from the NN and will be addressing the discrepancies to ensure the funding and projects adhere to the Public Law 111-11's deadlines.

Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Projects (CGWUWP)

Buffalo Intertie and Twin Lakes System feasibility studies are completed and the BIA has accepted the deliverables.

- The Buffalo Springs Intertie to Tohatchi project is a water line project to provide additional water supply to the Tohatchi-Mexican Springs-Twin Lakes Regional Water System from the Buffalo Springs-Naschitti-Bisola and adds an 80,000-gallon water storage tank in lieu of the water system intertie.
- The Twin Lake System Project is a cost share project for the construction of an 8-inch waterline replacement for 25 homes, and to install well pumps, and replace the two existing 150,000- gallon Twin Lakes water storage tanks.
- BIA provided \$250,000 for AMI Meter Project–Phase II, to replace the manual meters within the NGWSP areas.

- A Self Determination contract for \$7.02 Million was awarded for the Chilchiltah Vanderwagon Water System Project on March 22, 2019 to provide water system to 132 homes. The Vanderwagon area is estimated to have 90% of the household with no existing plumbing and water service.
- Awarded Subpart J Contract, \$7.09M for the Chilchiltah Vanderwagon Water System Project.
- Award of \$250,000 for the AMI Meter Project.
- Projects under the San Juan Irrigation and Conjunctive Groundwater Settlement as part of the P.L. 111-11 will provide water to homes and irrigation to the Navajo Nation.

As all three parties of Navajo Nation, State of New Mexico and Department of Interior signed the Agreement to extend the deadlines in P.L. 111-11, the BE will be providing technical assistance to Navajo Nation on revising the construction schedules on the Fruitland Cambridge and Hogback Cudei settlement projects to meet before the new deadline and develop plans for funds remaining in BIA.

SAFETY OF DAMS

Emergency Levels at Dams

The Tsaile Dam is still in Emergency Action Plan (EAP) Level 1 response as of April 1, 2019. The current water surface level elevation, as of Wednesday, March 31, 2019 is 7032.75. The NN-Safety of Dams (NNSOD) continues to draw down the water reservoir level by keeping the outlet gate open.

Both Tsaile Dam and Wheatfield Dam disperse water into the Canyon de Chelly. Along with runoff of water from the water basin, the water in Chinle Wash rises from the canyon to Chinle, AZ and causes flooding. As the Navajo Nation Water Resources manages the water in both dams, it is imperative the water levels in both dams are managed to avoid high water elevation that triggers Emergency Action Levels to release water.

The Ganado Dam was in EAP Level 1 as of March 20, 2019. NN-SOD continues to monitor the surface water level; the diversion gates and outlet gate are closed. Water continues to flow through the dam spillway.

Construction

The Navajo Region SOD programs have two construction projects slated for 2019: The Charley Day Spring Dam Rehabilitation in Tuba City, AZ and the Tohajiilee Dam Rehabilitation in Tsaile, AZ.

An approval was received to proceed with the construction for Charley Day Spring Dam in Tuba City, AZ and Tohajiilee Dam near Albuquerque, NM. Both construction projects will happen in the Spring/Summer of 2019.

NAVAJO INDIAN IRRIGATION PROJECT

Operations

Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI) opened the Navajo Dam Headworks on February 15, 2018. Water has reached operating levels in the water delivery system and ready for the irrigation phase. NAPI has begun irrigating of Block 1 and 3.

Bureau of Reclamation Projects

Gravity Main Canal Wasteway Repair – Reclamation completed the last Gravity Main Deficiency by completing the repair work for the eroded channel on February 12, 2019.



Figure 1. Waste way before repair.



Figure 2. Waste way before grouting.

Canal Repairs - NAPI O&M has completed 4 repairs to canal system in February 2019



Figures 3. Before Main Canal repair at Sta 1951+00. Figure 4. After photos of Main Canal repair at Sta 1951+00.

Small repairs were also made at Gravity Main Canal Sta 20+20 Left, Gravity Main Canal Sta 33+20 Right, and Gravity Main Canal Sta 32+60 Right.

NAPI Projects

Deficiency 63 – Tunnel 5 Transition Wall – Reclamation completed the repair of the transition wall during the week of February 11, 2019 ahead of the February 28, 2019 target date.



Figure 5. Photo shows backfilling work by Western Gravel Constructors of the repaired Check Structure Inlet and Tunnel #5 Inlet

Gallegos Discharge Line Inspection – NAPI, Bureau of Reclamation Four Corner Construction Office (BOR-FCCO), and BIA-NIIP inspected the 16,000 feet Gallegos Discharge Line on

February 8, 2019. No anomalies of the Discharge Line were found, however some minor blistering and flaking of the coal tar epoxy lining of the Gallegos Pumping Plant manifold were noted. NAPI subsequently is re-inspected the Gallegos Pumping Plant manifold the week of February 18. NAPI has elected to make repairs of these anomalies in the fall.



Figure 6. Photo of workers performing a vision inspection of the Gallegos Discharge Line.

Largo Siphon Inspection – NAPI dewatered and inspected the entire Largo Siphon in late December as a follow-up to a joint-leak and repair work of April 2018. During the April 2018 repair work, NAPI made a temporary repair to another developing joint-leak. NAPI scheduled inspection of this siphon this off-season to assess the condition of all joints in addition to making permanent repairs to the above mentioned temporary repair. Miller Pipeline installed a Weko-Seal at this joint February 7-8 2019. All other joints were found to be in acceptable condition.

Off-sason maintenance activities were concluded before the start of the irrigation season. The critical off-season maintenance and repair of NIIP irrigation facilities ensure necessary work are not deferred and ensures the reliability of the water delivery system of the NIIP. The off-season typically runs from November to mid-February when the water delivery system is dewatered for the winter.

BRANCH OF REAL ESTATE SERVICES (RES)

RES priorities:

- Frontier ROW research/response regarding fiber optic upgrade of aged telecommunication lines transferred to Navajo Communications in 1970. Active grant of easements were not located. BIA participating in weekly conference call with Frontier Communications.
- NGS ROW application guidance was given to Salt River Project prior to the government shutdown.
- McKinley County Taxation Issue research.

Mineral Leasing

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- Lockbox payout to landowners on one Humate Lease
- Reviewed (1) New Sand & Gravel package for companies
- 37 ½% of State of Utah Royalty and Royalty-In-Kind payment verification to the Navajo Nation which funds are due to State of Utah
- Mescal Settlement payments to landowners and the State of NM

March 2019

- March 5, 2019 - Approved APD application for Resolute Aneth, LLC for McElmo Creek Unit J20
- March 6, 2019 - Two letters sent to Navajo Nation General Land Office for BLM expression of Interest on land that is Navajo Nation Surface ONLY lands. Sec. 16-T21N-R5W; and Sec. 1, T22N, R12W,
- Still Pending approval from the Navajo Nation on 3 APD applications: Sunflower Unit, #3, Dugan Production Corp, and Ismay-Flodine Park, S422R and Ismay-Flodine Park, U227R for Resolute Aneth, LLC.

Surface Leasing Mortgages

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- Mortgages: 25 pending - encode, approve, and imaging.

March 2019

- Pending Mortgages: 4
- Encoding Mortgages into TAAMS: 1
- Researching Mortgage files for contract, master leases, etc.:2
- Reviewed and responded: 1

Rights of Way

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- Renewal of 115Kv ROW- Tri-State Generation- One (1) Navajo Tribal Trust Lands
- Renewal of 345Kv (WW Lines) ROW - Public Service of NM- 70 Allotments
- Renewal of 345Kv (FW Lines) ROW- Public Service of NM - 48 Allotments
- Renewal of Fiber Optic on WW Line ROW - PSNM
- Renewal of 345 Kvs (WW line & FW line) on Navajo Tribal Trust lands

March 2019

- Pending Resurveyed maps/plats for projects listed below:
 - Renewal of 69 Kv (Tuba City to Page, AZ) - Arizona Public Service Co.
 - Renewal of 69 Kv (Cholla to Keams Canyon, AZ) - APS
 - Renewal of 69 Kv (Tuba City Substation) - APS
 - Renewal of 230Kv (Cholla to Leupp, AZ) - APS
- Encoding Enterprise Field Services approved plats into TAAMS
- Researching files for PNM's Allotted ROWs- BIA Document #6406
- Reviewing and responding to NTUA's 115kV transmission line across two (2)
- Allotments near Indian Wells, Arizona

Cadastral Survey & Unresolved Rights

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

Navajo Project Office - BLM: AZ State Office depending on funds to continue with cadastral surveys and projects.

- Additional funds of \$100,000 needed - \$125,000 under Interagency Agreement No. A13PG00046, from carryover funds.
- The agreement is to expire on March 31, 2019 and will be replaced with new interagency agreement for another five years. Realty received the current agreements modified to the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2019.

New Interagency Agreements are still in drafts for all three State Offices (AZ/NM/UT), pending "Economy Act" and corrections on the drafts as recommended by the Solicitor.

March 2019

- Navajo Project Office (NPO): 20.5 Miles surveyed, set 25 monuments in T31N, R27E, AZ (Canyon De Chelly)
- Approved Surveys: 4 and pending recording with Division of Land Titles and Record
- On-Going Surveys in Progress: AZ-1; NM-1 and UT-2
- New Interagency Agreements (IAs) are still pending final review for AZ/NM/UT
- Land Status/Maps Inquiries within AZ/NM/UT: 9
- Meetings with landowners or Navajo Nation & Tribal Entities: 15
- Site Inspections on boundary issues/trespasses: 6
- Land acquisitions on various land status, relinquishments: 5

Pending Trespasses

- Cameron, AZ (cemetery site by Navajo Chapter & community on 1 allotment)
- One (1) billboard (sign) on allotment by Del Outdoor Advertising in Sanders, AZ, pending assessment on trespasses
- Grazing trespasses on Babbitts Ranch in Gray Mountain on 6 allotments; pending new site inspections, request for new appraisals and letter to landowners and ranchers
- Willow Springs land disputes between landowners on 1 allotment, pending site inspection. Letter received on 3/20/2019 from potential landowners as probate is still pending

Acquisition and Disposal

- Pending Gift Deed Applications: 22
- Gift Deed researching: 9 Landowners
- Notary Applications: 4 (1 Arizona; 3 New Mexico) in preparation for upcoming Navajo Land Buy Back initiative / Summer 2019
- McKinley County Office of the Assessor: Protest of Real Property Taxes: Navajo Nation Land Department vs McKinley County Assessor's Office. Administrative assistance given by the Department of the Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs Real Estate Services (research, meetings, updates). Final Decision and Order dated March 08, 2019 from McKinley County Valuation Protests Board; ten (10) parcels named and identified determined to be held in trust for the Navajo Nation and therefore, exempt from State Property Taxation.
- Fort Wingate Legislation: Public Law 114-328: Return of Certain Lands at Fort Wingate, New Mexico to Original Inhabitants: Legislative acquisition. Total acreage 1700.53 acres, more or less within the (former) Fort Wingate Army Depot boundaries. Continued Administrative research and follow up.

- Rolling Mesa: Fee To Trust; Pending application. Discretionary Acquisition - Off Reservation; pending Environmental Compliance
- 2019 Land Buy Back: Navajo Preliminary meetings in preparation for the upcoming Wave 2 of Navajo Land Buy Back initiative to Navajo undivided interest allotment owners. Pre-Offer Outreaches to begin in April 2019.

Chinle Agency

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- 10 - ROW's reviewed
- 6- HSL needing Imaging/Recording
- 2- HSL need TAAMS Approval
- 8-New HSL's incoming 1 - New Title Status Report incoming

March 2019

- Rights of Way: 2 received
- Navajo Nation Approved Leases Submitted for Recording
Homesite Leases Received: 5 Homesite Leases Recorded: 4

Fort Defiance Agency

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- 35 - HSLs - encode, approve & image (Staff working on now)
- 1 – Residential Lease - encode, approve & image
- 14 - HSLs - imaged (completed 1/30/19)
- 3 - NN/IHS ROWs - encode, approve & image
- 1 - NN Business Lease - encoded, approved & imaged
- 1 - TSR for Irene & Mark Franklin Sr. - Twin Lakes, NM
- 1 - Impact Aid Program - Indian Lands Property Claimed - Ganado Unified School
- District #20 (completed 1/28/19)
- 1 - ROW rental payment to landowners on 4 allotments (completed 1/28/19)
- Update ROW presentation Conduct research for 2 leases (Dilcon & Twin Lakes Trading Post) for NN FD Regional Business Development Office

March 2019

- Navajo Nation Approved Leases Submitted for Recording
- Homesite Leases Received: 31 b) Homesite Leases Recorded: 18
- Title Status Reports - 1 completed, 2 requested
- Special Projects: ONHIR - recorded homesite leases

Shiprock Agency

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

Business Lease

- FuelCO (Assignment) 1 pending recording (encoding, imaging, system approval, LTR TIR Log)
- Giant Four Corners - Tee Nez Lah (Termination) provide copy of recorded document to Navajo Nation
- Compliance – Prepared Show Cause Notice to be submitted to Solicitor's Office for Review - (K&V Enterprises, Redd-Lichee, Wilsons)
- Compliance Chinle Agency Lease – Prepared Show Cause Notice for submittal to Solicitor's Office - 1 for review (Danny and Anna Smith)

- Compliance (Expired Lease) request for funds deposited through letter of credit for performance bond (Buck's Tires)

Residential Lease

- 1 pending recording (encoding, imaging, system approval, LTR TIR Log)
 - Mission Site Revocable Use Permit
- Termination working with Navajo Nation on process based on language in permit
- NN Approved Leases for Recording - 22
- Pending TAAMS system approval and enter into LTR TAAMS Imaging Repository Log for recording
- TSR Requests
- Entered into TAAMS TSR Request Module Prior to Shutdown/Pending with LTR -2
- 1 TSR request received 1/30/2019

Sand and Gravel

- San Juan Sand and Gravel, LLC - pending BL mining and reclamation plan review
- IHS Projects (Navajo Nation, Grantee) - Pending TAAMS system approval and enter into TIR Log for recording

March 2019

Business Site Leases

- CH-89-85 Fleming D Begaye - Review and provide summary of lease actions to Navajo Region Deputy Regional Director, Trust Services
- SR-96-145 Desert View Funeral Home - Met with lessees to discuss rental provisions; assignment of lease; novation to the Navajo Nation

Sand and Gravel

- Apache County Carrizo Pit - Teecnospos, AZ
Met on March 6 with representatives of Apache County to review Navajo Nation consent changes on bonding; update of sand and gravel lease (lease contains original terms and conditions) mining and restoration plan update and review by BLM; environmental assessment update
- San Juan Sand and Gravel San Juan Chapter Pit
Response to lessee re: status. Lease pending BLM review of mining and restoration plan
- Navajo Engineering and Construction Authority Carrizo Pit-Teecnospos, AZ, Lease package received March 26, met with representative from NECA same date. cursory review indicates mining and restoration not yet reviewed by BLM. Possibility of need to update environmental assessment

Special Projects

- Participated in preparing presentation for and providing Right-of-Way Training to Arizona Department of Transportation, March 12-14, 2019
- Researching recording of Office of Navajo/Hopi Relocation scattered homesite leases and assignment of lots located within subdivisions

Western Navajo Agency

January 21, 2019 – February 2019

- 0 - NN approved leases (all submitted for recording or returned due to discrepancy)
- 8 - NTUA ROW
- 2 - Business Lease - need encoding in NEPA Tracker, approve, encode & image in TAAMS

- 2 - Business Lease under appeal with IBIA, follow-up on status
- 1 - TSR request. Informed requester lease has not been submitted for recording
- 1 - Federal Impact Aid Program - Lands Status request - Flagstaff Dormitory, Flagstaff
 - Unified School District (completed 1/29/19)
- 1 - SDS update on one lease
- 1 - Data call on Frontier communications agreement

March 2019

- Navajo Nation Approved Leases Submitted for
- Recording: 6
 - Homesite Leases Received: 2
 - Homesite Leases Recorded: 3
- Title Status Reports 1
- Special Projects: Western Navajo Agency Admin Reserve, ONHIR leases

BRANCH OF PROBATE

Deceased Navajo allotted landowners trust property is probated by the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA), Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Navajo Region Branch of Probate prepares cases by completing research for probable heirs of the decedent. Research is completed by contacting the family members of the decedent by means of home visits, searching internet, telephone interviews, writing letters and office visits. Branch of Probate staff does majority of the family research work at the Navajo Nation Vital Records Office. Probates that are completed are for Allotted Individual Trust lands. It helps the Navajo landowners in updating Trust ownership records.

A total of sixty-two (62) cases were transferred to OHA for hearing to be scheduled, as follows: 12 by Fort Defiance Agency, 13 by Shiprock Agency, 28 by Eastern Navajo Agency, and 9 by Western Navajo Agency. It is an on-going process with death happening on a daily basis. At present time, the following is Navajo Region's case load by Agencies:

Agencies	Case Loads
Eastern Navajo Agency	2,425
Fort Defiance Agency	906
Shiprock Agency	544
Tuba City Agency	32
Total # Cases for Region: NAVAJO	3,907

INDIAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The Navajo Region Tribal Operation Specialist continues to attend and represent the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Navajo Nation Council Meetings, and committee meetings.

The Spring Quarter, the BIA Office referred 20 requests to the Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records/Enrollment program for further research regarding Certificate of Navajo Indian Blood (CNIB) for prospective membership. The requests for CNIB are from individuals seeking scholarship and benefits, including prison inmates seeking membership with the Navajo Nation. In addition, our office continues to provide updates to the Nation, regarding National Tribal initiatives from the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, and two (2) “Dear Tribal Leader” letter was transmitted to the Nation this quarter. Copies of the “Dear Tribal Leader” letter and transmittal are attached under Appendix A.

Awarding Official Technical Representative (AOTR) Activities

The Tribal Operation Specialist serves as the Awarding Official Technical Representative, (AOTR). In coordination with the Awarding Official, Program Administrator, and Navajo Nation; the following transactions were completed this quarter.

On March 29, 2019, the AOTR processed the following Purchase Request to award the following one-time funding pursuant to H.J. RES. 31/Public Law 116-6 Consolidate Appropriations Act, 2019. The Funds are available through their period of availability. (Feb. 15, 2019; 133 Stat.13). CR#4, 30 day appro. (Feb.16- Mar.17) 8.22%, CR#5, 30 day appro. (Mar.18-Apr.16) 8.22%.

- Higher Education, Contract A17AV0096: \$2,218,644.00.
- Tribal Enrollment, Contract A16AV00285: \$158,406.00
- Tribal Courts, Contract A17AV00252: \$238,828.00

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal (Census) Enrollment program Contract, A16AV00285

- On March 12, 2019, the AOTR prepared the monitoring tool for the annual onsite monitoring visit. The Crownpoint Agency office is proposed in May 2019, in coordination with the Program Manager, Tribal Enrollment program.
- On March 14, 2019, an inquiry came from Tribal Enrollment Program Manager on the 2020 Census and clarification was given based on Scope of Work in coordination with the Awarding Official, Self Determination Office.

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal Courts program, Contract A17AV00252

- On March 12, 2019, the AOTR prepared the monitoring tool for the annual onsite monitoring visit. The date and location were proposed to the Tribal Courts Administrator in April or May 2019.

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Higher Education, Contract A17AV00096

- On March 12, 2019, the AOTR prepared the monitoring tool for the annual onsite monitoring visit. The date and location were proposed to the Program Manager in April or May 2019.

OFFICE OF HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Contract A16AV00407 - FY 2016 - 2018 HIP: This contract is in compliance with contract and reporting requirements. The total contract amount is \$3,089,788.67. HIP serves the neediest of the needy Navajo Nation tribal member families who have no other resources for standard housing. Those selected for service will be granted a new, quality, modest, replacement home.

- FY2016 – All projects are 100% complete; seven families received new homes.
- FY2017 – All projects are 100% complete; six families received a new home.
- FY2018 – Construction is in progress; six applicants are expected to receive new homes.

Congress reinstated FY2019 HIP funding, however, final distribution is not known at this time. Once funding is known, a PL93-638 renewal contract will be issued by the Self-Determination office, project recipients will be selected, NEPA review will commence and program will be implemented.

HIP Administration

Navajo Nation Housing Manager and BIA HIP Program Officer met on February 26th to discuss current status of HIP. On March 6th and 7th the HIP Program Officer reviewed and certified the top 21 scoring applicants on Navajo Nation's submitted FY2019 Work Plan containing 824 applicants.

Pending items from the Nation include: GPRA report due to Region April 9th.

The Navajo Region Housing Officer also serves as the Regional Freedom of Information Act Office (FOIA) Coordinator. Twenty-one requests were worked on during this reporting cycle.

BRANCH OF HUMAN SERVICES

Government Performance Results Act (GPRA)

The Navajo Nation Division of Social Services Calendar Year (CY) 2019, Third Quarter GPRA for Performance Measure 1811 continues to be met at 80% or higher. This measure is the percent of General Welfare Assistance recipients that completed the goals identified in their Individual Self Sufficiency Plans (ISP) which means they are meeting the goals and progressing forward. The Navajo Nation continues to exceed its annual target goal of 69% which is acceptable.

The GPRA reports continue to seek and establish the accountability of federal funds provided to government and tribal programs. The GPRA requires the tribes to engage in performance management tasks such as setting goals, measuring results and reporting their progress. Timely submissions and accurate data show improvement in the provision of service delivery. It helps the government make a stronger case for potential increase in program funding.

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)

The Navajo Regional Office continues to process Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Notices received by the State(s). This Spring Quarter, there were 131 ICWA notices that were received by our office. The ICWA Notices continue to reveal a large number of Native children being separated from their parents, extended families and communities. This is also by the state child welfare workers and private adoption agencies.

The 2019 National Indian Child Welfare Act (NICWA) Conference was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico on March 31 to April 5, 2019. We encourage the Nation's participation. NICWA works to support the safety, health, and spiritual strength of American Indian and Alaskan Native children along the broad continuum of their lives. The NICWA support tribes in building the capacity to prevent child abuse and neglect through systems change at the state, federal, and tribal levels. NICWA is the most comprehensive source of information on American Indian and Alaskan Native child welfare.

Social Services

The Branch of Human Services, Navajo Regional Office continues to be available, and accessible for Training/Technical Assistance when requested by the Nation. Any and all requests for training are provided as such to enhance the scope of work under the Public Law 93-638, contractual agreement. Our office continues to reach out to local, state, county, federal and tribal service providers and coordinate resources which benefit tribal members.

Program Specific Information

Effective May 4, 2016, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) extended the deadline for filing an application for Burial Assistance from 30 days to 180 days to address hardships resulting from the current short timeframe. The BIA published the interim rule on March 01, 2016. The BIA did not receive any significant adverse comments during the public comment period on the interim rule period, and the rule without change is confirmed. The ruling impacts the Nation by the Welfare Assistance Funds for Burial Assistance payments.

BRANCH OF SELF DETERMINATION

The Navajo Region awarded the following funds to the Navajo Nation and other tribal programs from Jan. 29, 2019 to Mar. 29, 2019. These funds benefits the Navajo Nation and all other tribal programs:			
The Navajo Nation		Award	
A14AV00258	Indian Child Welfare	\$	17,530.00
A15AV00083	Water Monitoring Program	\$	55,670.02
A15AV00438	Contract Support Cost	\$	5,725,043.00
A16AV00285	Tribal Enrollment/Vital Records	\$	13,002.00
A16AV00335	Fish & Wildlife	\$	92,182.00
A16AV00368	Natural Heritage	\$	106,073.00
A16AV00385	Social Services	\$	10,021,526.00
A16AV00407	Housing Improvement Program	\$	10,044.00
A16AV00480	Safety of Dams	\$	9,463.00
A17AV00096	Higher Education	\$	2,734,433.01
A17AV00252	Tribal Courts	\$	306,024.00
A17AV00262	Archaeological Non-Roads,	\$	23,977.00
A18AV00262	Forestry Management,	\$	150,513.00
A18AV00337	Johnson O'Malley	\$	1,454,522.00
A18AV00338	Water Development	\$	177,052.00
A19AV00070	Groundwater Conjunctive Wells,	\$	7,087,510.00
A19AV00373	Tribal Enrollment/Vital Records	\$	364,315.00
A19AV00376	ICWA	\$	457,307.00
A19AV00490	Safety of Dams	\$	622,400.00
		Total	\$ 29,428,586.03
Office of Justice Services			
A18AV00235	Adult Detention	\$	4,371,339.00
A18AV00236	Juvenile Detention	\$	4,068,060.00
A16AV00383	LE Patrol Services	\$	16,669,553.00
A16AV00384	LE Criminal Investigation	\$	3,402,421.00
		Total	\$ 28,511,373.00
Other Tribal Programs			
A16AV00382	NAPI	\$	1,422,264.00
A16AV00430	DBOSBA	\$	14,171.96
A18AV00841	Rock Point Community School	\$	925,203.00
		Total	\$ 2,361,638.96
		Grand Total	\$ 60,301,597.99

BRANCH OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Shiprock Administrative Reserve (SAR)

The Navajo Region continues to work with the Navajo Nation to complete the Environmental Site Assessment Phase 3 to remove the environmental hazards and the demolition of the five (5) abandoned buildings located on the 7.3 acre north parcel. The north parcel is located on the northeastern limits of the Shiprock Administrative Reserve, Shiprock, New Mexico.

In this Quarter, the contractor completed the removal of all the environmental hazards and prepared the buildings for demolition. Before the demolition begins for the five buildings it was recommended by the contractor a Historic American Building Survey (HABs) is required for Building 103. The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Program (NNHPD) supported the contractor's HABs recommendation. The preparation of the HABs will require additional documentation either in form of oral histories from the community members and consultation with NNHPD, before demolition of this building occurs. NNHPD will allow the remaining Buildings 88, 94, 102 & 142 to be demolished. To date, no buildings have been demolished by Navajo Region.

The Branch of Environmental Management (BEM) coordinated the submission of the Annual Tier II (Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory) reporting with the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency programs. The Annual Tier II (Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory) report is mandated under Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA Title III), Section 312, and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPRCA). The TIER II electronic reporting submissions posed some problems for several of the BIE schools, however with assistance from Navajo Region staff, majority of the schools submitted their reports to maintain compliance. For those BIE schools that did not report due to problems with the electronic submission are working directly with Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the New Mexico Department Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The TIER II reports are due every year on March 1st.

BEM completed the 2017 Three-Year Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response (AHERA) re-inspections for BIE schools. BEM reviewed twenty-three (23) draft reports and once it is finalized, the AHERA Re-Inspections reports will be provided to the schools. The AHERA regulations require schools and non-profit schools to re-inspect asbestos containing materials every three years.

Safe Drinking Water Act

BEM Safe Drinking Water Program completed the December, January, and February 2019 Bacteriological analyses for the schools in Arizona Navajo Central, North and South Agencies and New Mexico Navajo Central, North and South Agencies. The drinking water data analysis was submitted to the primacy agencies the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency-Public Water System Supervision Program and U. S. Environmental Protection Agency-Region IX. The data showed the absence of bacteria in drinking water.

BRANCH OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW (NEPA)

BLM Farmington Field Office Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) & Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The Navajo Region will use the EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to guide the management of oil and gas resources owned by the United States in trust for the Navajo Nation and Navajo Indian Allotments in San Juan County, New Mexico. The analysis of the EIS will address impacts on both the surface and subsurface mineral estate in the planning area. The document continues to be refined to adhere to the Secretary's Order 3355 which was intended to improve the Department of Interior NEPA process.

The BLM and BIA participated in an informational meeting with the Zuni Tribe on February 20, 2019 in Zuni, New Mexico regarding the RMPA/EIS. The informational meeting was regarding

the RMPA and associated EIS. Discussions also included the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 coordination and a future meeting with the Zuni Cultural Resources Advisory Team.

The Regional Director and the Bureau of Land Management Farmington Field Office District Manager met with Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez on February 25, 2019 to provide an update to the Navajo Nation President and confirm points of contact. Dr. Rudy Shebala, Natural Resources Director, is the point of contact for the Navajo Nation.

Former Bennett Freeze Area Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

The Region is evaluating the IRMP EIS process to ensure adherence to the Secretarial Order 3355. The Region is currently updating the IRMP new information from both the BIA and the Navajo Nation before the Region can proceed with the EIS process. The Region met with the Navajo Nation's Natural Resources Manager and staff on Thursday, January 31, 2019 in Window Rock, Arizona. The Region re-committed to meeting the current FBFA IRMP Programmatic EIS schedule.

Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP)

January 30, 2019, the Regional Archaeologist participated in Programmatic Agreement (PA) meeting with all consulting Section 106 PA Signatories in Albuquerque, NM. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation presented alignment for Reach 10 alignment into Crownpoint, NM, which was endorsed by Navajo Nation.

Navajo Generating Station

March 01, 2019, Regional Archaeologist participated in a conference call with Navajo Nation THPO, Hopi Tribe, Peabody, SRP, and Museum of Northern Arizona on reclamation activities concerning reburial activities on Black Mesa. Date is tentatively scheduled for the first week of May 2019.

National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, Compliance Activities

On February 4, 2019 meeting with the Navajo Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) on various projects such as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act initiatives on Peabody and Navajo Generating Station, ARCGIS database, N71 Route and N12 projects. In addition, we met on Public Law 93-638 budgets for various projects.

February 27, 2019, Regional Archaeologist was notified by Navajo Nation THPO of the Canyon De Chelly human remains reburial scheduled for April 04, 2019.

BIA-NRO reviewed and approved 76 Section 106 compliance requests. In addition, BIA-NRO issued two Archaeological Resources Protection Act permits to Navajo Nation consultants for excavation on Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project.

BRANCH OF SAFETY

Annual Safety Inspection for twenty-eight (28) Indian Affairs sites; such as Fire Management, General Service Agency (GSA) Leased Buildings and five Agency Headquarter Buildings that accounts for 237 individual buildings for IA for Navajo Region?. It also includes; fourteen Fire Communication Towers, three agencies Law Enforcement/Judicial and Detention Facilities. All near completion targeted for 100% by April 30, 2019. Presently, we are at 85% to completion. The Tribal Program tenants are also provided a similar inspection. The Official-In-Charge was provided post inspection reports to start developing Abatement Plan to correct identified deficiencies.

Chinle Agency

The Navajo Engineering Construction Authority project at Chinle Agency is being closely monitored to ensure any traffic hazards are mitigated. The construction activity is near the vicinity of Chinle Agency Headquarter Building. The duration of the construction is expected to last two years. The project began in fall 2018.

When Navajo Tribal Utility Authority shutoff the waterline at Chinle Agency it extended into two days for repairs. Agency building tenants Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) and Tribal were advised to execute their Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP), and resulted to building closure and released employees due to the waterline shutoff.

Bureau of Indian Education Activities

160 BIE Facility Maintenance, Residential staff, Bus Drivers and Emergency Team members were provided safety trainings on; National Safety Council First Aid/CPR Certification Course, Winter Driving and Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) Emergency Action and Fire Prevention Plan.

Technical assistance was provided to Lukachukai Boarding School to help implement Fire Watch coverage for out of service fire protection system. A Contractor's school playground improvement project at Nenahnezad School, New Mexico was observed as unsafe condition. Corrections were established to ensure student and school staff safety.

BIA's commitment to its trust responsibility ensuring safe BIE and Grant Schools environment and increased employee's safety cognizant to truly benefit the Navajo Nation.

Safety maintains trust responsibilities in a unified team effort. We work closely with all responsible parties to safe guard for all stakeholders; government/tribal employees, students, parents, clients and visiting public to agency facilities.

BRANCH OF TRANSPORTATION

The Navajo Region Branch of Transportation continues to fulfill its mission to manage the intermodal transportation facilities by maintaining the existing infrastructure for reliability and safety that serves the Navajo Nation. We accomplish this by providing transportation related technical assistance and support working directly with the Navajo Nation's Division of Transportation (Navajo DOT), as they pursue self-sufficiency and discretion in the administration and operation of the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP).

The NRDOT received approximately \$401,801.00 of the TTP Program Management & Operations (PM&O) funds for the purpose of carrying out the Navajo Region's federally inherent functions of the program, which is under 25 CFR § 170.613 "What funds are used to pay for non-contractible functions and activities?" and listed in Appendix to Subpart E.

The NRDOT did not receive any TTP Tribal Shares funds for FY2019 to continue working on Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP) projects. The NRDOT is currently providing construction monitoring and technical assistance on the N2007 New Lands Bridge project in Navajo, Arizona.

Construction Projects Funded under the TTP Tribal Shares

Contract No.: A16AV00510; Project N2007; Navajo, Arizona. Construction work remaining is: placement of girders tentatively scheduled for the Summer 2019; construction of the bridge superstructure such as the deck, guardrail, fencing, approach slabs and

sidewalk; finishing aggregate base course work; grading the BNSF access road; placing hot asphalt concrete pavement on all the roads; installing signs and striping work.

Road Maintenance

The NRDOT Road Maintenance program received approximately \$2,951,465.00 of Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) funds for FY2019 to preserve, repair, and restore the BIA system of roads, bridges and transportation facilities on the Navajo Nation. The total amount of TPA funding was sub-allocated to each Agency Road Maintenance program. Below is a list of the sub-allocated amounts for each respective Agency for FY2019.

Road Maintenance Agency	Budget Amount
Navajo Region	\$ 368,964.00
Shiprock	\$ 537,200.00
Western Navajo	\$ 549,000.00
Eastern Navajo	\$ 419,100.00
Chinle	\$ 522,400.00
Ft. Defiance	\$ 554,900.00
Total:	\$ 2,951,564.00

This quarter the Agency Road Maintenance crews did an outstanding job assisting and coordinating with the Navajo DOT Road program to keep roads safe during severe inclement weather conditions through.



BIA Route 12 – Wheatfield's Lake



BIA Route N16 – Navajo Mountain

Due to winter storms, the earth roads became extremely muddy and impassable after the snow melted along with the heavy rainfall across the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation declared a “State of Emergency” from February 18-28, 2019.



BIA Route N8095 – N. Chinle (Nazlini Wash)



BIA Route N6310 – Tall Mountain (Shonto)

In February 2019, the Western Navajo Agency (WNA) experienced heavy rainfall in the Bird Springs Chapter area causing major flooding that severely eroded and washed out BIA Route N71. The WNA Road Maintenance crew closed Junction of BIA Route N71 and N2 for several weeks because the Little Colorado River flooded the area making the roads impassable. The WNA Road Maintenance crew had to wait until the river receded and the soils dried out before repairing the road. On March 22nd, 2019, the WNA Road Maintenance crew completed the repair work and reopened the roadway to the public. See pictures below:



BIA Route N71 – Looking South



BIA Route N71 – Embankment Repair



BIA Route N71 – Backfill Material



BIA Route N71 – Repair Work Completed

The Agency Road Maintenance Crews continue to perform pothole patching on BIA paved roads that are larger than 4 to 6 inches wide. They are conducting more pothole patching and planning to perform crack sealing work in the next few weeks to prevent any further damage to the structural integrity of roadway. The goal is to crack seal most cracks so the crack sealant material will penetrate the cracks to preserve as much of the paved road surface.



Junction of BIA Route N7/N12



BIA Route N64 – Chinle to Tsaile

ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

BRANCH OF ACQUISITION OPERATIONS

This quarter, the Branch of Acquisition's reports the following accomplishments FY 2019:

- Contract award is pending for the renovation of 3 water tanks within the Navajo Reservation with Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA).
- Contract No. 140A0918P0394 was awarded to GM Builders for the roofing project at Kinlani Dormitory (Flagstaff). Work is in progress and to be completed by June 2019.
- Contract No. 140A0918C0004 was awarded to Southwest General Construction, Inc. for the waterline replacement project at Crownpoint Community School, Crownpoint, NM. Work is in progress and to be completed by June 2019.
- Contract No. 140A0918P0356 was awarded to Nickle Mesa Construction for reconstruction of fencing for District 14, 15, and 16 for Eastern Navajo Agency, Branch of Natural Resources. Work is in progress and estimated completion date is March 31, 2019.
- Contract No. 140A0918F0139 was awarded to Cherokee CRC, LLC for HVAC project at Baca Community School, Prewitt, NM. Work is in progress.
- Contract No. 140A0918F0162 was awarded to Barnhart-Taylor, Inc. for the Government Quarters renovation at Wingate High School, Ft. Wingate, NM. Work is in progress.
- Contract No. 140A0918F0005 was awarded to Barnhart/Taylor for the Shiprock Land Project. The ESA Phase III Remediation and Demolition is in progress.
- Task Order No. A17PD00499 was awarded to Cherokee Nation CRC for the structural upgrade for Many Farms High School, Many Farms, Arizona. Work is in progress. Work is 80% completed.
- Task Order No. A16PD00525 was awarded to Rock Gap Engineering for the demotion of 55 quarters at Chinle Agency. The Notice to Proceed has not been issued due to the discovery of abatement in the quarters. A solicitation was issued and proposals received for the abatement of the quarters. Anticipate award to be made by April 19, 2019.

- Contract No. A17PC00115, for a modular building to replace the former BIE Facility Management office in Ft. Defiance, AZ, was awarded to Nambe Pueblo Healthcare Services, LLC. Due to land issues, the project is on hold.

The work in progress for the school construction contracts is benefiting the members of the Navajo Nation by maintaining and upgrading the deteriorating BIE school conditions where many students of the Navajo Nation attend. BIA highways within the Navajo Reservation are being maintained and repaired for the traveling safety of the public which include members of the Navajo Nation and local bus routes to ensure the safety of the students

BRANCH OF BUDGET MANAGEMENT

FY 2019 – Began on a temporary funding measure known as a Continuing Resolution (CR), H.R. 6157 “Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019”,

On September 28, 2018, Public Law No. 115-245 was enacted Continuing Resolution No. 1, which provided funds to federal programs at a rate for operation of 18.63%, based on FY 2018 enacted amounts. The CR #1 covered the period of October 1, 2018 through December 7, 2018.

On December 7, 2018, Public Law No: 115-298 was enacted and the Continuing Resolution (CR) was extended through December 21, 2018. Continuing Resolution No. 2 provided funds to federal programs at a rate for operation of 3.84%, based on FY 2018 enacted amounts. CR #2 covered the period of December 7, 2018 through December 21, 2018.

On January 25, 2019, Public Law No: 116-5 was enacted and the Continuing Resolution (CR) was extended through February 15, 2019. Continuing Resolution No. 3 provided funds to federal programs at a rate for operation of 15.34%, based on FY 2018 enacted amounts. CR #3 covers the period of December 22, 2018 through February 15, 2019.

On March 25, 2019, under Public Law No: 116-6, the Navajo region received two 30-day apportionments, with an operation rate of 8.22%; which covers the period of February 16, 2019 through April 16, 2019.

On April 1, 2019, the Navajo region received the final FY-2019 base funding distribution under Omnibus P.L. No. 116-6.

Below is a summary of funds provided to the Navajo Nation under P.L. 93-638 contracts, as of April 2, 2019. The funding provided totals \$45,912,577.00 with \$5,626,133.00 available for drawn down and \$19,918,721.00 to be obligated and to make available for draw down.

Navajo Nation P.L. 93-638 Fund Status as of April 2, 2019						
FA Budget Program	FA Budget Program Name	Funds Available	Commitments	Not Drawn Down	Distributed as of 04.02.2019	Current Available Funds
A0E904040	Johnson-O'Malley Assistance Grants (TPA)	3,825,047.00	0.00	0.00	1,446,251.00	2,378,796.00
A0E931010	Tribal Scholarships (TPA)	13,495,397.00	2,218,644.00	0.00	7,321,254.00	6,174,143.00
A0H901010	Social Services (TPA)	5,326,580.00	0.00	23,975.00	2,027,480.00	3,299,100.00
A0H901040	Domestic Violence	146,000.00	0.00	0.00	55,202.00	90,798.00
A0H913030	Welfare Assistance (TPA)	7,839,736.00	0.00	0.00	7,839,736.00	0.00
A0H922020	Indian Child Welfare Act (TPA)	1,219,426.00	0.00	457,307.00	457,307.00	762,119.00
A0H937070	Housing Improvement Program (TPA) ***	1,563.00				1,563.00
A0J908080	Tribal Courts Program (TPA)	1,460,247.00	238,828.00	0.00	788,104.00	672,143.00
A0N301010	Irrigation, Operations and Maintenance	2,080,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,080,000.00	0.00
A0N3E2020	Forest Management Inventories and Planning	78,930.00				78,930.00
A0N6A3031	Forestry Marketing Assist	25,993.00				25,993.00
A0N9A0505	Natural Resources (TPA)	4,314.00				4,314.00
A0N9B1010	Agriculture Program (TPA)	1,269,839.00	208,402.00	0.00	687,699.00	582,140.00
A0N9C3030	Forestry Program (TPA)	737,729.00	120,700.00	0.00	398,293.00	339,436.00
A0N9D4040	Water Resources Program (TPA)	708,544.00	116,070.00	0.00	383,017.00	325,527.00
A0N9E5050	Wildlife and Parks Program (TPA)	501,877.00	0.00	0.00	189,760.00	312,117.00
A0R9D4040	Environmental Quality Program (TPA)	108,631.00	0.00	0.00	40,925.00	67,706.00
A0T902020	Other Aid to Tribal Government (TPA)	969,185.00	158,406.00	364,315.00	522,721.00	446,464.00
A11246060	Emergency Management System	266,000.00	0.00	266,000.00	266,000.00	0.00
A3T937070	Contract Support (TPA)	5,847,539.00	1,296,382.00	4,514,536.00	5,847,539.00	0.00
TOTALS		45,912,577.00	4,357,432.00	5,626,133.00	30,351,288.00	15,561,289.00

FY 2021 Budget Formulation - The FY 2021 Regional Budget Formulation budget package was submitted to Central Office on March 11, 2019.

The Tribal Interior Budget Council (TIBC) Meeting is scheduled for April 9-11, 2019 in Washington, D.C, which starts the 2021 budget deliberations with BIA Director, Central Office Program Directors, Tribal Leaders and the TIBC budget subcommittee.

BRANCH OF FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Quarters Improvement and Repair (QI&R) Employee Housing

Two projects are in progress one at Tuba City Boarding School, Tuba City, Arizona to convert 93 houses and apartments to natural gas use. The other at Wingate High School, Wingate, New Mexico campus to refurbish eight houses and two 4-unit apartment buildings.

Minor Improvement and Repair (MI&R) School Locations

Projects are in progress at the following locations: Kinlichee Community School, Kinlichee, Arizona; Many Farms High School & Many Farms Community School, Many Farms, Arizona; Crownpoint Boarding School, Crownpoint, New Mexico; Fort Defiance Agency Facility Management, Fort Defiance, Arizona; Mariano Lake Community School, Mariano Lake, New Mexico; and Baca Community School, Pruitt, New Mexico.

Demolition Projects

The Shiprock Administrative Reserve (SAR) Demolition Scope of Work for the 5 buildings located on the north parcel (7.3 acres) was submitted by Region Facility Management Office to Acquisition and the project has been awarded to Barnhart-Taylor. The SAR project has completed all Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) III with the exception of Building No. 103. This building will require a Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) study. This will involve the documentation for an antiquated

Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department facility. A determination must be made to remove 45 trees and fill in the irrigation ditches. The determination will be made by the tribe and their contractor. A meeting was held on March 25, 2019, with the Navajo Region staff and Forestry relating to trees and ditches.

The demolition of 53 housing units at Many Farms Community School, Many Farms, Arizona received additional funding. The ESA III will be advertised. The closing date for the ESA III is March 22, 2019 and the notice to proceed will follow after the ESA III starts.

BRANCH OF PROPERTY

The BIA Navajo Regional Office-Property (RPO) Branch was previously under the direction of (Acting) Property Officer, Ms. Karlene Zajicek, but as of March 18, 2019 the Regional office welcomed the permanent RPO employee, Ms. Tabitha Hayes to oversee the Branch.

There is a request for transfer of BIA Division of Transportation: Force Account Station (FAS) equipment to the Navajo Nation that is near completion. It is expected to be finalized this Quarter. On-going efforts to work with the Navajo Nation will be forthcoming to build a mutually beneficial business relationship between the two organizations.

EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY (ENA)

Branch of Transportation (BOT)

In response to inclement weather, BOT has been working with tribal transportation representatives to address impassable community dirt roads and clearing asphalt roads connecting major towns within Eastern Navajo Agency. In the last quarter, Regional and Agency BOT has successfully completed road maintenance needs with Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT).

BOT completed road maintenance assessment for the community of ToHajiilee assessing dirt roads, signage, culvert conditions, bridges, and other road assets. Much of the roads were significantly impacted by winter run offs and the rain precipitation. ENA BOT is responsible for paved roads within the community with NDOT's oversight of the dirt roads under the 15-mile community allocation method.

Branch of Real Estate & Services (RES)

RES is collaborating with Continental Divide Electric Coop Inc., (CDEC), Navajo Tribal Utility Authority and contractors with utility connections for the new Crownpoint Wellness Center construction. A Navajo Tribal Business Lease for the Wellness Center was provided to continue with the construction for electrical, sewer and waterline service line drops.

RES participated in a meeting with Jemez Mountain Electric Coop. (JMEC) and discussed JMEC reconsolidation plan for existing power lines with deficient rights-of-way crossing Indian allotted and tribal trust lands. JMEC was provided with technical assistance with the Right-of-Way project. The completion of this project will allow JMEC to provide additional power lines from the existing lines to the community members. It will also provide the opportunity to use Service Line Agreements to do hook up connections to residences located near existing power lines where a right-of-way would not be required.

The Ojo Encino chapter officials arranged a road maintenance issue resolution meeting for Navajo Department of Transportation, BIA, Cuba School, Sandoval County, mining companies, and Navajo Nation, (NN) Council Delegates regarding Navajo Route N474 and the impacts by

mining operations; also addressed was identifying the entity responsible for maintenance of the dirt roads in the community. RES is available to assist the chapter officials to resolve the road conditions within the scope of authority.

RES met with Whitehorse Lake Chapter officials to provide technical assistance in the fee-to-trust application process for Navajo fee land designated for housing development. When the land into trust is completed, the community would have land available to construct homes for community members which is located near utilities and paved access roads.

Branch of Probate & Estate Services (PES)

The PES) has received 153 deaths reported for fiscal year; submitted 80 cases to the Office of Hearings and Appeals which consisted of the approximately \$138,769 in Individual Indian Monies accounts, 650 allotments, and 427 probable heirs; and completed disbursement and close-out of 33 cases. ENA PES have assisted 1,337 clients with office visits, home visits, phone inquiries and emails.

Outreaches sponsored by the Office of the Special Trustee and the Federal Indian Minerals Office, allows ENA PES to keep Indian allotment interest holders informed to have a better understanding of holdings. The outreaches are beneficial for the Navajo Nation in providing a platform, in both English and Navajo language, in educating the consent requirements for infrastructure and commercial projects that involve Indian allotments.

Branch of Natural Resources (NR)

District Land Board Meeting

NR attended the District Land Board Meetings this quarter at Nahodishgish, Huerfano, Crownpoint, and Baca Chapters. NR provided technical assistance and written recommendations to District Land Boards on requests for grazing permit transfers, seasonal grazing permits, and range unit boundaries. NR advised the Board to obtain a contact number when collecting Request for Land Board Action forms, so the program could assist in contacting permittees. District 19 Land Board met on trespass horses, resolved by trapping and hauling to auction yard. Update on a field assessment of Blanco Grazing Community and on Adobe Grazing Community boundaries. NR is working on permit data for the Bisti Paragon Solar Project, involving two range units.

Land Management District 14/15/16 Boundary Fence Reconstruction Project

NR met with the contractor to address progress and pre-construction survey requirements related to the Migratory Bird Act. NR met with the NN Fish and Wildlife and Navajo Natural Heritage Program to assist in fulfilling this requirement by conducting pre-construction surveys during the migratory bird nesting season. The survey was completed and plans are underway to complete work.

Puerco River Noxious Weed Control Project

The contractor completed 111 acres of invasive plants mitigation; Navajo Region Fire Management completed 300 slash piles by control burn using an approved burn plan. NR has informed local tribal officials and communities of the burn plan. The overall project for the Puerco River Noxious Weed Project is 90% complete.

Appendix A - Dear Tribal Leader Letter

1. President Trump's Fiscal Year 2020 budget request for DOI – Indian Affairs
2. Tribal Biomass Demonstration Project and an Alaska Native Demonstration Project.



Reply to
N360 Tribal Services

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Navajo Region

P.O. Box 1060

Gallup, New Mexico 87305

MAR 8 2019

Honorable Jonathan Nez
100 Parkway
Post Office Box 7440
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Dear President Nez:

Enclosed is a letter from the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Ms. Tara Mac Lean Sweeney, regarding a call scheduled on **Monday, March 11, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. ET**. The call is to discuss President Trump's Fiscal Year 2020 budget request for DOI – Indian Affairs which includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Indian Education. Your participation is highly encouraged.

Sincerely,

Bartholomew Stevens
Regional Director, Navajo

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Tribal Leader:

Please join me for a briefing on **Monday, March 11, 2019 at 4:00 PM ET** to discuss President Donald Trump's Fiscal Year 2020 budget request for the Department of the Interior's Indian Affairs, which includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and, for the first time in history, the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) as a separate budget justification.

Monday's call will focus on President Trump's budget plan to continue his support of tribal sovereignty and self-determination. The budget request supports the Administration's commitment to tribal nation-building and self-determination, empowering tribal communities, fostering tribal self-sufficiency, creating educational and economic opportunities, ensuring safe Indian communities, preserving and fostering cultural heritage, and the stewardship of natural resources.

CALL-IN INFORMATION:

DATE: Monday, March 11, 2019 at 4:00 PM ET

DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1-888-810-5907

PASSCODE: BIA BUDGET

Please note that this call is off-the-record and not for press purposes. Dialing-in 5 to 10 minutes early is highly encouraged in order to avoid any potential technical delays.

I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,

Tara Mac Lean Sweeney
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs



Reply to
N360 Tribal Services

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Navajo Region

P.O. Box 1060

Gallup, New Mexico 87305

APR 03 2019

Honorable Jonathan Nez
100 Parkway
Post Office Box 7440
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Dear President Nez:

Enclosed is a letter from the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Ms. Tara Mac Lean Sweeney, regarding a Tribal consultation by telephone scheduled on April 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The call is to discuss the Tribal Biomass Demonstration Project and an Alaska Native Demonstration Project. Your input into defining the criteria is welcomed.

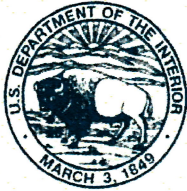
If you are not able to participate in the session, please email your input to consultation@bia.gov by April 19, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Tyler Fish at (202) 208-7163.

Sincerely,

For

Bartholomew Stevens
Regional Director, Navajo

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

APR 02 2019

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service, is establishing a Tribal Biomass Demonstration Project and an Alaska Native Demonstration Project. We would like your input on defining criteria for eligibility.

The purpose of the projects will be to promote biomass energy production (including biofuel, heat, and, electricity generation) by providing reliable supplies of woody biomass from Federal land. For each fiscal year in which the projects are authorized, the Department of the Interior plans to carry out at least four projects on Indian forest land and nearby Tribal communities, and at least one project in Alaska, in accordance with the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act Amendments of 2017 (Public Law 115-325) (Act).

The Act requires us to proceed on an accelerated schedule for establishment of the Demonstration Project, but your input on the eligibility criteria is the first step in establishing a Project that will be meaningful for Indian Country. Because of the accelerated schedule, we will be hosting a Tribal consultation by telephone on Friday, April 12, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Call-in information is:

Call-in number: 888-324-2907
Passcode: 8756820

If you are unable to participate in the above session, but would still like to provide input, please email your input to consultation@bia.gov by April 19, 2019. If you have any questions regarding this effort, please contact Mr. Tyler Fish at (202) 208-7163.

Sincerely,

Tara Sweeney
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Appendix B – News Release

3/25/19 | Online Press Releases

Assistant Secretary Tara Mac Lean Sweeney Reopens Improved, Expanded Santa Rosa Ranch School

3/11/19 | Online Press Releases

President's Proposed \$1.9 Billion For Indian Affairs' FY 2020 Budget Focuses On Programs Serving the Broadest American Indian and Alaska Native Service Population

3/11/19 | Online Press Releases

President's FY 2020 Budget Proposes \$936.3 Million for Bureau of Indian Education, Elevates Its Budget to Bureau-level Status Separate from Bureau of Indian Affairs