

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS NAVAJO REGION

Report to the

24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL



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Appendices: Status Reports

- A. <u>Dear Tribal Leader Letter</u>
- B. News Release: http://www.bia.gov/press-releases

NAVAJO REGIONAL DIRECTOR COMMENTS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Regional Office (NRO) continues to address issues and concerns impacting the Navajo Nation (NN). The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly brought many issues, challenges and concerns for everyone.

Today we are facing a time of new uncertainty and upheaval as the spread of COVID-19 challenges our communities and workplaces. Our thoughts are with the healthcare workers and volunteers around the nation who are working tirelessly to care for the sick and protect public health. Our thoughts are with teachers struggling to teach in new environments in new ways, and with students who want to continue learning. Our thoughts are with parents trying to explain to their children why everything will be different for a while and why home is the safest place they can be.

The BIA understand the NN is facing unique challenges during this crisis, from the unprecedented disruptions to operations and how to best support public health efforts through our knowledge and expertise.

The BIA also understands the effects these challenges will have, and we are committed to providing the greatest available flexibilities to support your work. Communication innovations are helping us telework and remain connected with our families and friends while practicing social distancing. I hope you'll take comfort knowing that your work is important in this difficult moment. The work we do is also crucial to our future success. That progress is built on optimism and hope for a bright future.

During my tenure, I have been thrilled to watch the NN overcome challenges through creativity and diligence. I know that the dedication and inventiveness you all bring will enable everyone to navigate these hardships to rise to meet the challenges that face us.

The teams that have been brought together to address health, safety, and systemic issues and concerns are fully committed to the endeavor of fulfilling fiduciary trust responsibilities. These teams address issues related to expediting federal actions to allow services to be provided to the communities served.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Regional Office 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 phone at (505) 870-0011.

Thank you,

Bartholomew Stevens, Regional Director Navajo Region, BIA

OFFICE OF TRIBAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The Navajo Region Tribal Operation Specialist continues to represent the Bureau of Indian Affairs at a variety of different meeting including the Office of the President and Vice President, Navajo Nation Council Meetings, individual meetings with council delegates, and committee meetings where NN leadership is involved.

In addition, this office continues to provide updates to the Nation, regarding National Tribal initiatives from the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, and (13) "Dear Tribal Leaders" letters were transmitted to the Nation this quarter. Copies of the "Dear Tribal Leaders" letter and transmittals are attached under Appendix A.

The Tribal Operation's Specialist also serves as the Awarding Official Technical Representative (AOTR). The AOTR report for contractual P.L. 93-638; Higher Education, Tribal Enrollment and Tribal Courts program is on page 24.

FEDERAL INDIAN MINERALS OFFICE (FIMO)

The Federal Indian Minerals Office (FIMO) was established in 1992 to provide fiduciary and "one stop" services to the Navajo Allottees regarding their mineral interests. Our mission is to balance, preserve, protect, and develop the oil I& gas resource on Navajo Allotted lands and to service the Navajo Allottees.

Ongoing Projects:

Lease Sale – FIMO continues to work toward having an on line competitive lease sale for 40 allotments, covering approximately 6,400 acres and encumbering approximately 2,405 allottees. FIMO has completed the environmental assessment. However due to the COVID-19 pandemic the lease sale will be conducted later in the year.

Inspections – FIMO continues to collaborate with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct environmental inspection of plugged and abandonment wells per rules, regulations and policies for the allotted wells.

Resource Management Plan Amendment/Environmental Impact Statement-The BLM/BIA colead project continues to move forward. If all major steps are met and no major issues or concerns are determined. The projected timeframe for the Record of Decision to be posted for the public is December 2020.

Accomplishments:

Outreach – The FY 2020 second quarter has been consistent with the first quarter. Due to the COVID-19, FIMO has cancelled the two weeks of March and all of April Outreaches. For the second quarter, there has been 11 outreach conducted servicing approximately 35 inquiries and presenting Realty Action presentation to 267 mineral owners across 8 Chapters. In addition to the onsite outreaches, FIMO assisted with 301 walked/called in clients for this quarter.

Inspection & Enforcement – the BLM Inspection and Enforcement (I&E) completed 20 inspections on Navajo Indian Allotted wells for the second quarter. There were 7 wells witnessed for oil sales; 6 written incident of noncompliance, and 0 plugged and abandon wells were witnessed. There were 2 wells witnessed for drilling operations.

Environmental Inspection – FY 2020, FIMO with the assistant of BLM is working through inspection of 140 wellsite for plugged and abandonments. We completed the inspection of the 40 proposed allotments for Oil & Gas lease sale. There was 1 onsite inspections conducted for Oil & Gas Application for Permit to drill.

Audit/Compliance Reviews – FIMO auditor's work plan for FY 2020 includes 38 new cases, 8 limited scope compliance, 3 full scope compliance and 1 audit. The auditors are working continuously to complete the 8 limited scope and 3 full scope compliances. No major findings for these compliance reviews. The FIMO is looking into shut-in royalties clauses of the lease contracts as companies are shutting wells in due to the major reduction in oil and gas prices.

Leasing Assignments – FIMO realty specialist processed/completed 54 assignments this quarter; 27 record title; and 27 operating rights. We are working through 40 proposed allotments for an Oil & Gas competitive lease sale tentatively rescheduled for later in the year and working on terminating approximately 40 leases.

Units – FIMO continues to work with BLM-State Office to process 2 Units for Enduring Resources and 2 for DJR Resources. Enduring Resources proposed Units include 20 allotted leases and DJR's proposed Units include 37 allotted leases. These are still pending with the BLM State Office.

Lease termination/Cancellation – There were no leases expiration for this quarter.

Application for permit to drill (APD) – There were no notice of staking and 1 APDs were received for this quarter.

Surface Damages – There is 1 surface damage reported for this quarter.

Royalty Distribution – There were approximately \$8,695,460 distributed to mineral owners for this quarter.

As we close out the second quarter FIMO is encountering a drop in oil & gas prices, a reduction in development in oil & gas activity and the spread of the COVID-19 virus that is impacting the San Juan Basin. FIMO will continue to service the mineral owners as best as we could through as we navigate through these obstacles.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

BRANCH OF ACQUISITION OPERATIONS

Contract was awarded in the amount of \$4,668,230.00 for the renovation of Government Quarters at Nazlini Community School. Abatement work has begun at the quarters and the design work is also in progress.

Contract was awarded in the amount of \$231,990 for the earthen dam projects within the Chinle Agency. Twenty-one earthen dams were rehabilitated to meet the needs for livestock and spillways. The project is 100% complete.

Contract was awarded in the amount of \$878,804.42 for the demolition of the Chinle Quarters. The project is 100% complete. A final inspection was held on March 11, 2020.

Contract for the helitack pad located at the Window Rock airport, for the BIA, Fire Management Office, is in progress. The modular building has been set up. A Service Line Agreement (SLA) was issued to complete the utility lines.

Contract was awarded in the amount of \$2,450,076.58 for the Government Quarters renovation at Wingate High School, Ft. Wingate, NM. Work is in progress. The project is 95% complete.

Contract for a modular building to replace the former BIE Facility Management office in Ft. Defiance, AZ, was awarded. The modular building was delivered and set up. A final inspection was held. The Division of Safety Management reviewed the final drawings and were approved with notes.

A total of 169 purchase requests with a value of \$2,145,886.58 has been completed for Fiscal Year 2020.

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 2020 - Below is a summary of FY-2020 funds provided to the Navajo Nation under P.L. 93-638 contracts, as of April 1, 2020. The funding provided totals \$69,603,056.00 with \$9,661,807.00 available for tribal draw down and \$1,324,902.00 to be awarded.

NAVAJO NATION P.L. 93-638 FUND STATUS as of April 1, 2020						
Fund	FA Budget Program	Funds Available	To be Awarded	Not Drawndown	Distributed as of 04.01.2020	Available Funds
201A2100DD	A0H901010 : SOCIAL SERVICES-TPA	5,411,753.00			5,411,753.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0H901040 : Domestic Violence	146,000.00			146,000.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0H913030: WELFARE ASSISTANCE-TPA	14,319,695.00			14,319,695.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0H922020: IND CHILD WELFARE ACT-TPA	1,275,291.00			1,275,291.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0J304545 : Conservation Law Enforcem	47,000.00				47,000.00
201A2100DD	A0J908080 : TRIBAL COURTS PROGRMS-TPA	1,469,463.00			1,469,463.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0N301010: IRRIGATION, OPER & MAINT	5,500,000.00			5,500,000.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0N6A3031 : FOREST MARKETING ASSIST	25,993.00				25,993.00
201A2100DD	A0N9A0505 : NATURAL RESOURCES -TPA	4,315.00				4,315.00
201A2100DD	A0N9B1010 : AGRICULTURE PRGRM-TPA	1,271,208.00			1,271,208.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0N9B1010 : AGRICULTURE PRGRM-TPA	545,908.00				545,908.00
201A2100DD	A0N9C3030 : FORESTRY PROGRAM -TPA	740,341.00	740,341.00		740,341.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0N9D4040 : WATER RES PROGRAM -TPA	710,404.00			710,404.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0N9E5050 : WILDLIFE&PARKS PRGRM-TPA	501,877.00			501,877.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0R9D4040 : ENVRMNTL QLTY PRGRM-TPA	109,461.00			109,461.00	0.00
201A2100DD	A0T902020: OTHER AID-TRBL GOV -TPA	972,477.00			972,477.00	0.00
20XA2301DD	A11246060: EMERGENCY MGMT SYSTEM	266,000.00				266,000.00
201A2100DD	AEE904040 : JHNSN O'MALL A GR TPA BIA	3,148,790.00			846,484.00	2,302,306.00
201A2100DD	AEE931010 : TRIBAL SCHOLARSHI TPA BIA	16,482,201.00			16,482,201.00	0.00
201A2240DD	A3T937070 : CSC CONTRACT SUPPORT TPA	16,654,879.00	584,561.00	9,661,807.00	14,256,005.00	2,398,874.00
	FY-2020 TOTALS	69,603,056.00	1,324,902.00	9,661,807.00	64,012,660.00	5,590,396.00

The "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" or the "CARES Act" was enacted on March 27, 2020 as Public Law No: 116-136. At the time of this report, BIA Central Office was working on making these funds available to the Tribes.

BRANCH OF PROPERTY

Two Utility Service Line Agreements (SLA) were completed and granted to Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) for the improvement/upgrading of Fiber Optic cables at the Ch'ooshgai Community School at Tohatchi, New Mexico and Greasewood Community School at Greasewood, Arizona. The BIA's review and approval of these SLAs allows for improved telecommunication services, internet services, and internal broadband services for the students and faculty.

A large equipment refreshment project funded by BIE Central Office allowed for the issuance of new IT equipment at 28 schools throughout the Navajo Nation. The schools received their new equipment last quarter. The final stage of this project will ensure the new equipment is incorporated into the IT system infrastructures and inventory. In the coming months, the BIA Property Branch will be working with each school to assist in e-recycling old equipment to ensure all IT equipment is disposed of in an environmental friendly manner.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Annual Inventory of personal and real property started January 6, 2020. The physical inventories will be completed by April 30, 2020.

The GSA Fleet's FY-20 Customer Acquisition Module (CAM) cycle closed January 7, 2020. This past CAM cycle, 11 program/schools from the Navajo Region will be receiving GSA vehicles for exchange of current vehicles that have either met lifecycle in years or miles.

TRUST SERVICES

BRANCH OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Navajo Regional Office

COVID-19:

As of March 23, 2020, the Navajo Regional office – Branch of Natural Resources has limited access its offices to protect the wellbeing of the staff and the public. As advised all necessary precautions taken such as hand washing, social distancing, and cleaning of workstations. The following are essential employees for Branch on Natural Resources:

Calvert L. Curley, Navajo Region Branch of Natural Resources Tony Robbins, Western Navajo Agency Branch of Natural Resources Amos Johnson, Navajo Partitioned Lands Dean Gamble, Chinle Agency Branch of Natural Resources Lambert Chee, Shiprock Agency Branch of Natural Resources Jerome Willie, Fort Defiance Agency Branch of Natural Resources On March 26, 2020, the Branch of Natural Resources was contacted by the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Division Director to assist with unloading semi-trucks that will be delivering emergency supplies, food, etc. These supplies will be on pallets and delivered to Window Rock Fair Grounds, Gorman Hall. The deliveries were made throughout week. Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Division Director requested for a forklift and the BIA Hotshot Fire Crew to assist with unloading. The Natural Resources Branch delivered the equipment on March 27, 2020 to assist with unloading the supplies. The BIA staff were provided Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and have volunteered to assist the Navajo Nation.





On March 27, 2020, Fort Defiance Agency Branch of Natural Resources unloading emergency supplies, Chinle, Arizona

Canyon De Chelly Management Plan:

BIA Natural Resources participated in a meeting with Navajo Nation departments and National Park Service for preliminary planning concerning a Joint Management Plan for Canyon De Chelly. The BIA and Navajo Nation had provided funding for the past couple of years for this project. The Canyon De Chelly National Park Service is currently awaiting available funding for the project before proceeding further.

The Cameron Livestock Waterline Project:

The project has been delayed to adjust the alignment of the proposed waterline to comply with recommendations from Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department. A proposed adjustment has been approved and will need to be re-surveyed. Once the survey is complete the plats will be updated and re-certified, and the Right Of Way (ROW) package will be submitted for approval.

Fort Defiance Agency

Fort Defiance Agency Non-Compliance Letters:

Non-compliance letters have been mailed to grazing permit holders who are in non-compliance, which includes; over permitted numbers, expired state brands, grazing within the wrong district/unit, and using a deceased individuals grazing permit. Non-compliance letters were also

mailed to individuals who do not have a grazing permit but allow their livestock to graze. Non-permit holders were advised their animals must be corralled and grazing is not allow.

Utilization Studies:

The Fort Defiance Agency attended the monthly Agency Grazing Committee Meeting. The Branch of Natural Resources started the utilizations studies within Fort Defiance Agency for District 14, 17, and 7. The utilization studies field work measures the percentage grazed grass species which are recorded and figured in percent livestock grazed in a given GPS location.

Feral Horses:

The Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture continues to request BIA's assistance with manpower and equipment in rounding up feral horses throughout the Fort Defiance Agency.

Chinle Agency

District 10/District 9 Boundary Fence project:

This ongoing project has attained support from the two adjoining chapters to establish a boundary fence to mitigate inter-district trespass. The Biological Resource Compliance Forms (BRCF) were received from the Navajo Nation Fish & Wildlife.

Navajo Partitioned Lands

Status of Livestock Grazing Permits Reissuance:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Partitioned Lands (NPL) in collaboration with the Navajo Department of Agriculture (DOA) and District Grazing Committee (DGC) will continue to reissue livestock grazing permits to those who have met all of the eligibility requirements and compliance with the 10 Sheep Units Year Long (SUYL). The BIA in collaboration with Navajo Nation will continue to issue livestock grazing permits as recommended by the Joint NPL District Grazing Committee (DGC) through the Navajo Nation Council's Resources and Development Committee (RDC).

The NPL and DOA will continue to conduct NPL grazing permit orientation. The orientation covers range management provisions of an NPL grazing permit. Following the orientation, the attending permittees will receive a copy of the signed orientation sheet, a copy of the range management plan and their new NPL Grazing permit. Future orientation will be schedule within each precinct at a specified location to be determined and schedule in collaboration with NOA and the Grazing Officials.

Feral Horses:

On February 11, 2020, as part of the Navajo Nation feral horse incentive program, NPL transported 13 unbranded horses from Black Mesa to Window Rock fair grounds.

On February 19, 2020, NPL Supervisor and the Navajo Regional Director (RD) attended the Resources and Development Committee (RDC), regular schedule meeting at Pinon Chapter. The BIA gave an update on issues relating to the NPL Grazing Permit Reissuance Initiatives.

Customer Service:

The NPL provided customer service support to approximately (103) individuals inquiring on grazing permits, enumeration, and its reissuance NPL Grazing permit procedures. The NPL office also provided information regarding the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request.

NPL Range Management Plan (RMP) and Range Unit Boundary:

The NPL office completed 27 draft Range Management Plans (RMP) for the recommended list of the 50 grazing permits.

Range unit boundary scope of work include completing the cultural resources survey of the NPL Precinct 2 range units that still need fencing.

Windmill Project:

The NPL maintains 93 windmills and 43 windmills repaired in 2019 will continue to be monitored for maintenance and operation. To date, six windmills were reported nonoperational which will be included in the new contract for repairs for 2020.

NPL Earth Dam Rehabilitation Project:

Water conservation projects involving rehabilitation of 21 earth dams were completed at a cost of \$208,000 as identified in the following table. These dams are located on rangeland and some are large ponds. Ponds near windmills are the overflow ponds from the windmills that serve as water resources for livestock and wildlife. The Contractor removed silt, compacted the earthen berms, and installed emergency spillways to lessen the possibility of breaching. The dams are considered Low Hazard Class given the locations are in a rural rangeland and agricultural area where failure to property damage is at none to the lowest minimum.

No.	Chapter	Range	No	Chapter	Range
		Unit			Unit
1	Pinon	401	12	Forest Lake	308
2	Pinon	401	13	Low Mountain	409
3	Pinon	307	14	Low Mountain	409
4	Pinon	307	15	Low Mountain	409
5	Blue Gap	402	16	Tolani Lake	501
6	Black Mesa	311	17	Tolani Lake	501
7	Black Mesa	311	18	Tolani Lake	501
8	Black Mesa	308	19	White Cone	508
9	Black Mesa	308	20	White Cone	509
10	Black Mesa	311	21	White Cone	510
11	Forest Lake	308			





Whitecone Range Unit 508

Whitecone Range Unit 510



Low Mountain Range Unit 509



Tolani Lake Range Unit 501

Shiprock Agency

District 13 Fence line:

The Shiprock Agency is working towards obtaining a Biological Resources Compliance form (BRCF) for Phase II of the District 13 boundary fence line. The BRCF is the last component needed since a Purchase Request was completed and funds are currently available. The Shiprock Agency is currently seeking the Navajo Fish & Wildlife assistance in obtaining the BRCF for Phase II of the fence line.

Feral Horses:

The Shiprock Agency Branch of Natural Resources continues to assist the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture and the Navajo Nation Department of Resource Enforcement with feral horse roundups, seizures, right of way removals and the equine rewards program. A total of 50 were removed this quarter which is the equivalent to a total of 250 sheep units. The Horses were transported to Window Rock, Arizona.

District 13 Weed Inventory:

The Shiprock Agency continues to complete a request to conduct a noxious weed inventory for the District 13 portion of the Navajo Nation. Currently the request is pending with the Branch of Natural Resources for internal processing.

District 9 Grazing Management Plan:

The Shiprock Agency Natural Resources is currently drafting a Grazing Management Plan for District 9. The plan provides a 5 year conservation plan for District 9, outlining mechanisms to better utilize its natural resources. The Plan promotes heathier rangelands, improved wildlife habitat, and sustainable management of livestock.

Land Use Permits:

A total of four Land Use Permits were issued during this quarter. A total of six Land use permits were submitted to the Navajo Regional office for processing.

Western Navajo Agency

FBFA Livestock Water Project:

The Western Navajo Agency Branch of Natural Resources (WNA BNR) has been working with the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources (NNDWR) on the development of a livestock water stand pipe for individuals who haul water for livestock and farming. The land survey for the right of way for the waterline, the archaeological survey and the biological assessment have been completed. As a result of the archaeological survey, a burial was discovered in the vicinity of the proposed right of way. To mitigate this discovery, the right of way is being adjusted to avoid disturbing this discovery all together. Based upon the certified land survey and assessments, the Cameron Chapter has the option to request a land withdrawal, as identified in the Navajo Nation's General Leasing Act.

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. The project will be delayed due to COVID-19 Public Health Emergency orders. The project involves the 22-mile LMD 3/5 fence line and the 37-mile LMD 1/3 fence.

The Kerley Valley Irrigation Canal and Access Road Right-of-Way Activity and Kerley Valley Irrigation Access Road Bridge Design and Repair is now permanently stopped, due to obtaining rights of ways through the four Individual Indian Allotments and the diversion dam on Hopi Tribal Trust Land. The WNA-BNR is looking at alternatives and alternative water sources for the irrigation project.

LMD 3 Range Management Plan:

The project continues to be on hold, pending the completion of the Former Bennett Freeze Area (FBFA) Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA). The LMD 3 covers over 1.4 million acres of the FBFA, and effects 661 Grazing Permits (40,601 Sheep Units Year Long).

Littlefield's Spring-fed Irrigation Project:

The WNA BNR completed and provided technical assistance to the Agricultural Land Use Permit (ALUP) holders to implement on-farm practices. The project involved maintaining and improving the irrigation system from the source spring to the ALUP areas.

Earthen Tanks:

The Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources' Technical Construction Operations Branch continues to repair of earthen tanks and windmills in the FBFA; WNA BNR is awaiting the annual reports for the PL 93-638 funded projects.

BRANCH OF WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

The BIA Navajo Region Trust Services Branch of Wildland Fire and Aviation Management (BWFAM) oversees 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 second quarter of the year is predominately during the winter period and the start of spring, which typically maintains low temperatures and humidity minimizing the risk of fire danger. This has been an unseasonable cooler period with an average snow and rain accumulation. There has been a slight increase in fire activity to report for the second quarter of 2020.

In light of the COVID-19, BWFAM has made the decision to delay the seasonal workforce report date tentatively to April 13, 2020.

The BWFAM anticipates all resources will be available by the end of April 2020, at the latest early May 2020. A memorandum from the Fire Management Board (FMB), which provides guidance for all Department of Interior wildland fire programs, has waived the Work Capacity Test (WCT), and the RT-130-Annual Refresher. The waiver will allow the transition of availability for the wildland fire season to be more manageable.

The Navajo Hotshot crew will maintain the date of early May 2020 of "rostering" as a Type I Interagency hotshot crew. The hiring and onboarding, along with the FMB waivers will allow BWFAM to expedite the status of the crew, making them available to fight fire.

The Navajo Helitack crew will maintain the date of May 1, 2020 to start the exclusive use helicopter contract. The hiring and onboarding, along with the FMB waivers will allow BWFAM to expedite the status of the crew, making them available to fight fire.

The Navajo Engine section is currently available to respond to initial activity on the Navajo reservation, although on a small scale. Most engine personnel are on standby and will be activated if wildland fire activity increases.

The BWFAM 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 195 individuals being processed for hiring, an increase of 54 participating wildland firefighters for the 2020 fire season.

The unknown impact of the COVID-19 virus, BWFAM could potentially see a dramatic modification in responding to wildfire incidents on the Navajo reservation. The primary objective is to keep wildland firefighters and the public safe by rapidly responding to wildland fire incidents

BRANCH OF FORESTRY

The Branch of Forestry (BOF) and the Navajo Forestry Department (NFD) continue to assist the Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) with the Navajo Route 12 (19-4) road project currently in progress. The NFD conducted inventories of trees that will be harvested within the project right of way and marked the trees to identify for the NDOT harvesting crew. This inventory provides the basic information to develop an appraisal value of the forest resource. Once the value is determined, BOF and NFD will use the information to create a timber cutting permit that allows the project sponsor to harvest the forest products legally. The NDOT sponsored project is located near the Wheatfields Chapter area. The forest products harvested will be hauled to a staging site to be utilized by the general public for fire wood at no charge.

The Branch of Forestry and the Navajo Forestry Department continue to coordinate with compliance of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for projects. Upon completion with reviews by BOF and NFD, recommendations are forwarded to the Navajo Region, Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance and Review office. This office is responsible for creating the appropriate NEPA document that allow projects to proceed and are in compliance with federal, local, and state laws. For this quarter, a total of five packets of project documents were reviewed by BOF and NFD.

A collaboration between the Branch of Forestry, the Navajo Forestry Department, and the Northern Arizona University School of Forestry is in progress to finalize the Ecological Restoration Project. This project will commence at the Diné College Tsaile, Arizona campus. The expectations from this project will restore pre-reservation conditions of the pinyon pine forest structure, recreating the density, spatial distribution, and variability of trees at the time of disruption of the frequent fire regime in the late 1800s. Restoration of the tree over story structure is one component of an integrated ecosystem restoration plan, which may include forest floor fuel treatments, prescribed fire treatments, and natural revegetation of the herbaceous understory.

The Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) project is underway with Navajo Forestry Department collecting the field inventory data. This inventory will be the fourth for a majority of the 852

plots and is identified within the six-year action plan as a project that is essential for the department which is anticipated to continue through calendar year 2021. This CFI project entails NFD field crews gathering field data of trees within a fixed-radius plot that covers ¼ acre in size. Field inspections are completed by the Branch of Forestry and the NFD. The purpose of the inspections is to ensure that field inspections occur at least 10% of the total number of plots identified in this project. This is a requirement within 53 Indian Affairs Manual (Chapter 8.5.A). During this quarter, an NFD field crew requested for a courtesy inspection of a completed plot. A completed plot was randomly chosen by the BOF inspection crew and the inspections that occur at the beginning of the project allow the NFD CFI crew to accompany the BOF inspection crew on the plot. This will assist with identifying any misinterpretation of procedures by NFD field crews and allow the NFD crews the opportunity to raise questions to alleviate errors that could carry to future CFI plots during data collection.

The Timber Sales training scheduled for March, 2020 was cancelled in response to the national events with the COVID-19 pandemic. The hope is to schedule one training for the Southwest area to include the Regional Offices of Southwest, Navajo, and Western. This class will be key in strengthening Forestry and other resource professionals' knowledge with Timber Sale preparation and administration.

BRANCH OF ENGINEERING

Water Management/Water Monitoring P.L. 93-638 Contract

The Branch of Engineering (BOE) Management/Water Rights Project released \$195,925 to the Navajo Nation Water Management Branch (NNWMB) for Fiscal Year 2020 Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) third and final portion funding.

The Water Monitoring, Inventory and Water Management PL 93-638 Model 108 contract with the NNWMB was extended to December 31, 2020.

Water Development P.L. 93-638 Contract

The BOE released \$358,006 to the NNTCOB for Fiscal Year 2020 TPA third and final portion funding.

FY2020 TPA funding of \$101,129 was awarded to the Navajo Nation Technical Construction Operations Branch (NNTCOB) for the Water Development PL 93-638 Model 108 Contract.

Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project

The Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP) Re-vegetation Workshop was held in Gallup, NM on March 5 and 6, 2020 at the BIA Navajo Regional Office. BOR and the BIA Reveg Team visited four Areas/Reaches on the NGWSP that will be re-vegetated beginning this summer 2020. After the site visit, the group reviewed documentation and notes from the field visit to ensure proposed re-vegetation work will comply with the NGWSP Re-vegetation Plan.

San Juan Settlement Irrigation Projects

Fruitland-Cambridge Irrigation Project

The Fruitland-Cambridge Irrigation Project was funded under the Public Law 111-11 Navajo Settlement in 2009, in the amount of \$7.7M. The Navajo Nation elected to rehabilitate four water infrastructures to utilize the Navajo Settlement funding, with a deadline to complete by December 31, 2023. Currently, construction of one project is complete and three are in Final Design status.

The four projects are as follows:

- 1. Bitsui Siphon Rehab Project (Construction Complete)
- 2. Fruitland Diversion Dam Rehab Project
- 3. Yellowman Siphon Rehab Project
- 4. Canal Seepage Rehab Project

The Yellowman Siphon 90% Final Design review meeting was held in Shiprock, New Mexico at the Navajo Nation Shiprock Irrigation Office in January 2020; attended by the NNTCOB-Shiprock Irrigation Office, KB-Walkoma Engineering, and BIA. The NNTCOB Shiprock Irrigation Office plans to finalize the design by June 2020.

Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Project

The Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Project was funded under the Public Law 111-11 Navajo Settlement in 2009, in the amount of \$15.4M. The NN elected to rehabilitate five water infrastructures to utilize the Navajo Settlement funding, with a deadline to complete by December 31, 2022. Currently, one project is in construction and four are in Final Design status. The five projects are as follows:

- 1. Helium Siphon Rehab Project
- 2. Hogback Lateral Rehab Project
- 3. Eagle Nest Siphon Rehab Project
- 4. Lateral Conversion Project
- 5. Canal Lining Rehab Project

The Hogback Canal Steel Siphons 90% Final Design Review Meeting was held in January, 2020 at the Nation Nation Shiprock Irrigation Office. The Final Design Task is contracted through a P.L. 93-638 Subpart J Construction Tract to the Rock Gap Engineering firm from Albuquerque, New Mexico. The NNTCOB Shiprock Irrigation Office plans to finalize the design by May 2020.

Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Projects

The Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Project was funded under the Public Law 111-11 Navajo Water Settlement in 2009, in the amount of \$30M. The Navajo Nation elected to utilize the Navajo Settlement funding to rehabilitate water infrastructures such as water wells, waterline interties to main stem lines, and rehabilitate water tanks to assist Navajo communities. To meet the deadline requirement of the Navajo Water Settlement, the BIA has to allocate the entire \$30M to the Navajo Nation by December 31, 2024.

The BOE awarded \$342,357 for Work Order #3 Wood PLC: Professional Management and Technical Support Project, which is part of the existing Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Subpart J Construction Contract.

The BOE and BIA Southwest Regional Office (SWRO) met with the Navajo Nation (NN) on March 6, 2020 to present the calculated cost index value for the Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Project and the Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Project. The BOE –Branch Chief sent the concurrence letter to the NN with a Technical Memorandum detailing the cost index calculation process. The NN concurred in March 2020 and in doing so the BIA-NRO will release funds through the existing PL 93-638 Subpart J Construction Contract.

Funding of on-going water-related projects/activities will provide positive social and economic benefits for Navajo communities throughout the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation will benefit from water delivery projects by providing water to the Navajo communities in accordance with the Public Law 111-11.

Safety of Dams

Navajo Nation's Calendar Year 2020 Successor Annual Funding Agreement Proposal for Safety of Dams Program was approved and \$356,400.00 of \$622,400.00 requested was funded.

NAVAJO INDIAN IRRIGATION PROJECT (NIIP)

The following FY2019 Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act (WIIN) Irrigation Rehabilitation Projects were completed by NAPI O&M Department during off-irrigation season (from mid-October 2019 to mid-February 2020):

1.	Horn Canyon Siphon		\$623,950.00
2.	West Kutz Siphon		\$1,171,050.00
3.	Electrical Deferred Maintenance		\$260,000.00
4.	Heavy Equipment Replacement		\$280,000.00
		TOTAL	\$2,335,000.00

Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) notified NAPI-O&M WAPA is unable to renew Operations and Maintenance support agreement for select NIIP facilities due to reduced personnel. The BIA-NIIP and NAPI-O&M will seek services from other local contractors to provide the necessary services. The WAPA/NAPI agreement expires March 31, 2020.

Through a Continuing Resolution (CR2) NIIP O&M provided funding to NAPI-O&M in amount of \$440,000.00.

NAPI's Calendar Year 2020 Successor Annual Funding Agreement Proposal for NIIP O&M; Agricultural Testing and Research Laboratory (ATRL); and On-Farm Development programs was approved and fully funded. The NIIP O&M Program has received FY2020 Irrigation Operations and Maintenance funding of \$5,500,000.00. The ATRL (\$381,362) and On-Farm Development (\$889,846) programs have received FY2020 TPA funding of \$1,271,208.00.

The NIIP Program Management provided funds to the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NN-HPD) in amount of \$15,000.00 for NN-HPD to inventory and curate NIIP archaeological collections stored at Gamerco and Farmington, New Mexico.

The NIIP participated in the final walkthrough of Irrigation WIIN Act projects Horn Siphon and West Kutz Siphon in January 2020. The final walkthrough/field review was of the repair work for three sections of 20-foot, 210" (17.5 ft.) diameter Pre-stressed Cylindrical Concrete Pipes. This walkthrough provided an opportunity for BIA-NIIP and NAPI Management to review the completed repair work and inform the contractor on the repair process, quality control work, and workmanship.

The NAPI O&M Department addressed critical deferred maintenance of the NIIP. The WIIN Act Irrigation funding will be available for NIIP through calendar year 2028 for critical deferred maintenance needs.

The FY2019 Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act (WIIN) Irrigation Rehabilitation Projects were completed and successful NIIP O&M, ATRL, and On-Farm Development services were completed by NAPI. The successful completion of WIIN projects reduces critical deferred maintenance and helps to maintain the infrastructure integrity of the Project.

BRANCH OF REAL ESTATE SERVICES (RES)

Mineral Leasing

A letter to NTEC submitted a formal request intention in the near future of partial surrender portion of the northern portion of the lease. January 28, 2020 – The Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Company returned two incomplete application of the Application to Drill applications. February 13, 2020 – A letter to Lan Ma's Oil & Gas, LLC on notification to replace the Letter of Credit bond for Oil and Gas leases on Navajo Reservation. The Real Estate Services Branch has not receive a response. February 20, 2020 – A follow-up letter sent requesting a written response for 10 Assignment of Leases between XTO Energy, LLC and Exxon Mobil Corporation to Hilcorp San Juan, L.P.

Solid Minerals

February 18, 2020 – A follow-up letter sent requesting a written response from Navajo Nation on lease relinquishment application and release of the bond for CONSOL Lease No. N00-C-14-20-2190.

Surface Leasing

Research is being conducted within Tuba City, Arizona for vacant lots and abandoned buildings located on BIA administrative lands from inquiries made by various organizations on land status. On February 18, 2020 – meeting held with Chinle Chapter regarding Abandoned BIA buildings located on BIA Administrative lands. The buildings were identified and documented on maps with listing of parcels and land status will be updated.

At the request of Ft. Defiance Chapter, research is also being conducted on land status of Winslow Dorm tract at the request of U.S. Attorney's office. A legal description will be plotted on a map. On February 28, 2020 – a meeting was held with NHA regarding the temporary use of Shonto Preparatory School Sewer Lagoon until a new sewer lagoon is developed by NHA. Research is ongoing for land status and title status reports of abandoned homes located within subdivisions leased by Fort Defiance Housing Corporation.

Rights of Way

Proposed rights-of-way projects Public Service of New Mexico, Western Refining, Navajo Tribal Utility Authority and Arizona Public Service. All have not filed applications. Coordination efforts are made on survey maps and uncertified title status reports. All have been advised to work with Regional Environmental Quality, at Navajo Regional Office, BIA in regard to environmental assessments to obtain a FONSI and cultural resource compliance for biological resource compliance.

Acquisition and Disposal

There is one Fee-to-Trust application pending the BIA, Navajo Region's decision. The application is as follows: Discretionary Acquisition, Rolling Mesa Property, San Juan County, near Farmington, New Mexico; approximately 67.39 acres. The Regional Environment Compliance Review Department is currently reviewing final revised Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared by iiná bá, Inc., dated February 2018 (revised May 2019), received August 12, 2019. The environmental compliance review is for the purposes of compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.

Chinle Agency

Rights of Way – Approved:

- NTUA for Chinle Wireless Utility Project as built waterline January 6, 2020.
- NTUA for Chinle Wireless Utility Project as built sewer line January 6, 2020.
- NTUA for Tselani/Cottonwood to Steamboat distribution line with fiber optic February 28, 2020.
- NTUA for Tselani/Cottonwood distribution line with fiber optic March 3, 2020.

Navajo Nation Approved Leases Submitted for Recording

Homesite Leases Received: 19 HS Leases Recorded: 19.

Special Projects:

Meeting with Chinle Regional Business Development Office on mutual terminations.

Fort Defiance Agency

Rights of Way:

 BIA Transportation Branch Temporary Construction Easement N12 Wheatfields to Tsaile, Arizona – March 6, 2020.

- Pending ROW: NTUA Fiber Optic Project Hunter's Point to Lupton. Returned to NTUA for corrections.
- On March 6, 2020, Permission to Access BIA property (Shonto Preparatory School Sewer Lagoon) approved for NHA on survey activities.

Navajo Nation Approved Leases:

■ Homesite Leases Recorded: (116) Homesite Leases Returned: (12)

Title Status Reports: 1 completed; 1 submitted to Division of Land Title and Records.

Lease Renewals - Window Rock Unified School District No. 8. FD-86-701 Window Rock Elem. School. N00-C-14-20-8392 WRUSD Housing. Provided copies of all leases and maps.

Special Projects:

- On March 4, 2020 Meeting with Indian Health Service regarding NEPA compliance.
- Fort Defiance Agency research land status, request for NEPA, pending land survey and legal description for BIA, Ft. Defiance Agency office.

Shiprock Agency

Rights of Way:

- Elk Petroleum provided guidance on right-of-way application for CO2 lines acquired from Resolute Aneth, LLC.
- Navajo Nation Oil and Gas Company provided guidance on maintenance of line whereby a portion was exposed crossing a wash northwest of Shiprock. Maintenance within right-of-way width with conditions required permits acquired from Corp of Engineers; any disturbance outside right-of-way i.e. equipment yards require permit from Navajo Nation.
- March 31, 2020 Bureau of Reclamation, Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project:
 received courtesy copies of Application for Consent from Navajo Nation for Temporary
- Construction Easement Reach 6 and Reach 8 Staging Area (San Juan Lateral-Sheepsprings Chapter); Reach 7, Pumping Station 4 with Temporary Construction Easement (Sheepsprings Turnout) and Reach 7 Staging Area.

Navajo Nation Approved Leases:

- Homesite Leases Received for Recording: 31.
- Toadlena Trading Post provided lease status to Navajo Nation Tax
- Commission, Valuation and Assessment Department, BIA approved Lease No. SR-96-144 Robert B. Foutz/Grace B Foutz dba: Toadlena Trading Post cancelled effective October 23, 1996. Thereafter, if the trading post is operational a Navajo Nation approved lease should have been issued.

Business Site Lease, Compliance:

 SR-99-155 Redd/Lichee - tribal consultation letter sent to Navajo Nation requesting Nation's determination to move forward with cancellation. The lessee did not cure violations noted in show cause letter.

- SR-01-168 K&V Enterprises LLC issued show cause letter to lessee advising provisions in which lessee is default including outstanding rent due to the Navajo Nation.
- Sand and Gravel San Juan Sand and Gravel LLC pending BLM review of mining and restoration plans.

Title Status Reports: 2 completed; 2 received during reporting period.

Special Projects:

- Assisting Navajo Indian Irrigation Project Office on research of allotments located within the NIIP/NAPI project area.
- Coordinated research of home sites, grazing and land use permits affected by Gold King Mine Spill.
- Assist research of encumbrances affecting lands affected by proposed by site and lines for Painted Desert Power Solar Project, Cameron, Arizona.
- Participation in meeting regarding formers Shiprock Administrative Reserve, Right-of-Way issues involving Indian Health Service and Transportation rights-of-way.
- Shiprock Agency is operating via teleworking amid the COVID-19 situation. The Agency continues operations for Real Estate Functions and assist the Real Estate Services program Navajo Region-Wide.

Western Navajo Agency

Rights of Way:

- NTUA WO#16-170-0010 Inscription House. Distribution line and fiber optics, pending review.
- NTUA Kayenta 4" gas line, pending review.

Navajo Nation Approved Leases Submitted for Recording Homesite Leases Received/Recorded:

• 15 pending system approval in Trust Asset and Accounting Management System

Business Site Lease: Lease Compliance initiating cancellation process for 2 leases

- Van's Trading Post.
- Tuba City Barber Shop.

Title Status Reports:

 Request for uncertified Title Status Reports for areas affected by site and lines for Painted Desert Power Solar Project, Cameron, Arizona.

Special Projects:

- Western Navajo Agency Administrative Reserve affecting Grey Hills High School health facilities continued research.
- Navajo/Paiute Treaty and Agreement: research regarding parcels located west of Tuba City and east of Navajo Mountain.
- Research on home site leases for individuals that may be on Paiute rolls.

BRANCH OF PROBATE

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

Navajo Region Division of Probate prepares cases by completing research for probable heirs of the decedent. Research is completed by contacting the family members of the decedent through home visits, searching internet records, telephone interviews, written communication and office visits. Division of Probate researches work at the Navajo Nation Enrollment Office. Probates that are completed are for Allotted Individual Trust lands and it is beneficial for the Navajo landowners to keep current all Trust ownership records.

A total of seventy-eight (78) cases were transferred to OHA for hearing to be scheduled, as follows: 24 by Fort Defiance Agency, 14 by Shiprock Agency, 37 by Eastern Navajo Agency, and 3 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	2,487
Fort Defiance Agency	1022
Shiprock Agency	588
Tuba City Agency	45
Total # Cases for Region: NAVAJO	4,142

No Outreach was conducted for this quarter.

INDIAN SERVICES

HOUSING SERVICES

Contract A16AV00407 - FY 2016 – 2018 Housing Improvement Program (HIP): This contract is in compliance with contract and reporting requirements. The total contract amount is \$3,089,788.67. The HIP serves the neediest of the needy Navajo Nation tribal member families who have no other resources for standard housing. From FY 2016 to present a total of 19 recipients were granted a new, quality, modest, replacement home as follows: FY2016 – 7 recipients; FY2017 – 6 recipients; and FY2018 – 6 recipients.

FY18 – This portion of Contract A16AV00407 was completed this quarter with construction completed on two homes in January 2020.

FY2019 – Modification No. 2 to Contract No. A20AV00003 was awarded for Contract Support Costs in the amount of \$61,439, during this last quarter, the total contract amount is now \$1,009,177.25. There are 7 applicants expecting to receive a new home; NEPA – Categorical Exclusion review was completed during this reporting cycle. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there is currently no activity.

FY2020 – The FY2020 Housing Work Plan with 868 names was submitted to the Region by the Navajo Nation Housing Program on January 31, 2020. The HIP reviewed and certified the Work Plan containing 817 eligible applicants; submission to BIA's Central Office was completed on February 3, 2020. Once final funding is known, the Tier II (applicant selection) will be finalized and a contract modification will be completed, adding FY2020 into the existing Contract No. A20AV00003.

HIP Administration: The HIP provided technical assistance to the Navajo Nation Housing Program on February 19, 2020; February 26, 2020 and March 11, 2020 regarding the FY2020 funding cycle. Pending items from the Nation include: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the GPRA report due to Region is delayed until further notice.

The HIP also serves as the Regional Freedom of Information Act Office (FOIA) Coordinator with 10 FOIA requests during this reporting cycle.

HUMAN SERVICES

Government Performance Results Act (GPRA):

The GPRA was enacted in 1993 and was designed to improve program management throughout the Federal government. Under this act, tribes are required to plan outlining mission, long term goals for their major functions, performance measures and reporting results.

Second Quarter for Fiscal Year 2020, the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services continues to meet the GPRA Performance Measure for 1811 at 69% or higher. The Measurement for 1811 is the percentage of General Welfare Assistance recipients that have identified Individual Self Sufficiency Plans this practice allows for self-sufficient accountability.

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA):

The ICWA was enacted in 1978 in response to a crisis affecting American Indian and Alaskan Native children, families and tribes. Studies revealed that large numbers of Native children were being separated from their parents, extended families, and communities by state child welfare and adoption agencies. In fact, research found that 25% - 35% of all Native children were being removed; of these, 85% were placed outside of their families and communities – even when fit and willing relatives were available.

The Navajo Region continues to process ICWA Notices received by the States throughout the United States. For this quarter, there were 96 responses that were addressed by the Branch of Human Services.

Other activities:

The Branch of Human Services continues to remain accessible and available for Technical Assistance upon request from the Navajo Nation. The Human Services Branch continues to reach out to local, state, county, federal and tribal service providers in coordinating resources that benefit tribal members and tribal communities.

BRANCH OF INDIAN SELF DETERMINATION

The Navajo Region (NR), Branch of Indian Self Determination (ISD) works with 16 Public Law 93-638 contracted programs that provide services or upgrades to communities and other contractual activities in accordance with the Annual Funding Agreement (AFA) or Successor AFA and each program's Scope of Work (SOW). The following two programs have not been approved for Calendar Year 2020: Housing Improvement Program, due to lack of appropriation to support a contract and the Forestry Management Program for making substantial changes to the SOW. The ISD completes annual on-site visit to each program to ensure compliance to the federal laws and regulations, SOW, and technical assistance are provided to ensure success. The majority of the contracts are performing in a satisfactory manner. Lastly, the ISD awards 100% of federal appropriations upon receipt of the funds which entirely benefit the Nation. The following awards were distributed from January 2, 2020 to March 31, 2020 to the Nation and other tribal entities listed below:

Contract No.	P.L. 93-638 Program	Award
A15AV00083	Water Monitoring Program	1,488.00
A15AV00438	Contract Support Cost	7,025,919.00
A16AV00335	Social Services	268,497.00
A16AV00368	Natural Heritage	2,004,467.99
A16AV00383	LE – Patrol	22,723,269.00
A16AV00384	LE – Criminal Investigations	4,623,532.00
A16AV00385	Social Services	20,296,774.00
A17AV00096	Higher Education	16,659,915.00
A17AV00252	Tribal Courts	1,846,441.00
A17AV00262	Archaeology, Non – Roads	189,440.00
A18AV00235	Correction – Adult Detention	5,997,764.00
A18AV00236	Correction – Juvenile Detention	4,333,234.00
A18AV00337	Johnson O'Malley	898,727.00
A18AV00338	Water Development	495,425.00
A19AV00070	Conjunctive Groundwater Use Well Projects – Chichiltah – Vanderwagon	102,128.00
A19AV00373	Tribal Enrollment/Census	1,030,124.00
A19AV00376	Indian Child Welfare Act	1,396,335.00
A19AV00490	Safety of Dams	400,882.00
A20AV00003	Housing Improvement Program	61,439.00
A20AV00139	Water Monitoring	271,508.00
	Total:	\$90,627,308.99
A16AV00382	Navajo Agricultural Products Industry	7,121,359.00
A16AV00430	Dine Bi Olta School Board Association	15,956.00
A18AV00841	Rock Point Community School	903,153.00
A19AV00739	Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc.	2,351.00
	Total:	\$8,042,819.00
	Grand Total:	\$98,670,127.99

The Nation's Office of Management and Budget requested for an extension to submit Calendar Year 2019 Annual Federal Financial Report and Annual Narrative Report by May 29, 2020 for the current eighteen contracts. This request was due to the COVID-19 situation and shut down of the Nation's government.

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.

This Spring Quarter, the BIA Office referred 25 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.

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

- On April 1, 2020, the AOTR completed the review of the SF-425, Federal Financial Report and no issues were identified.
- In March 2019, in coordination with the Tribal Enrollment Program Manager, Ronald Duncan, technical assistance is continuously provided to essential employees on building accessibility on shared Agency offices in Tuba City, Chinle, Arizona and Shiprock, New Mexico during the Navajo Nation, Government Office closures during the Pandemic, COVID 19.
- On February 12, 2020, thee AOTR completed the purchase request in the amount of: \$757,992.00 for FY-2020, Tribal Priority Allocation funds pursuant to H.R. 1865/Public Law 116-94 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020. The TPA funds made available to be used to carry out all program functions, services and activities under the approved CY 2020 Scope of Work for Tribal Enrollment, (Census) program.

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

- On March 3, 2020, at the request of the Court Administrator, Kayenta Judicial Complex, copies of the "Judicial Branch of the Navajo Nation, District Buildings and Building Plan information" was sent to the Chief Justice, Navajo Nation and Court Administrator including the 1) guidelines for Operations and Maintenance, 2) Space Expansion Request Guidelines and 3) DFMC response to the NABI committee questions regarding the NN Judicial Public Safety Facilities.
- On February 12, 2020, AOTR completed the purchase request in the amount of: \$1,146,278.00, for FY-2020, Tribal Priority Allocation funds pursuant to H.R. 1865/Public Law 116-94 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020. The TPA funds made available to be used to carry out all program functions, services and activities under the approved CY 2020 Scope of Work for Tribal Courts program.
- On January 20, 2020 and February 10, 2020, technical assistance was given by the BIA on Detention, Tribal Courts, Facilities and Law Enforcement to the NABI committee at the request of Council Delegate Eugenia Charles-Newton.

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

In March 2019, in coordination with the Higher Education, Program Manager, Rose Graham, technical assistance is continuously provided to essential employees on building accessibility on shared Agency offices in Tuba City, Chinle, Arizona and Shiprock, New Mexico during the Navajo Nation, Government Office closures during the Pandemic, COVID 19.

- On April 3, 2020, at the request of the Program Manager, Rose Graham the BIA facility parking lots were approved for use for students at the Western and Shiprock Agency by the Regional Director, BIA on April 6, 2020. Since all colleges and universities are closed and transitioned to online educational services.
- The logistics are still being worked on with the amount of students that will be allowed and time of use on the internet. The plan is to have NTUA wireless set up Wi-Fi hotspots, so students will have access to Wi-Fi by way of sitting in their vehicles in the parking lots. The internet availability is from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., (M-F) in compliance with the Nation's curfew times and social distancing.

BRANCH OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Many Farms Community School 53 Quarters Demolition:

The Branch of Environmental Management (BEM) completed the demolition of 53 Quarters at the Many Farms Community School, Many Farms, Arizona. All 53 quarters were properly abated and removed. There are several residential quarters that are remaining, as these quarters were occupied and not on the demolition list. After each of the quarters were removed, the surrounding surface was appropriately re-contoured. Also all the water valves were completely installed and accessible for future use. The Many Farms Community School is clear to reuse the area.

Shiprock Administrative Reserve (SAR):

The BEM is finalizing the scope of work to conduct the American Society Testing and Material (ASTM) Environmental Site Assessment Phase 2 to sample the remaining 46 abandoned buildings located at the Shiprock Administrative Reserve (SAR) area. The ASTM ESA Phase 2 will identify the environmental hazards to be removed before the ASTM ESA Phase 3 abatement and demolition occurs for these buildings and any underground utilities that require removal. The ASTM ESA Phase 1 has been conducted for the entire site for recognized environmental hazards. This project will also require NEPA and Forestry requirements for removal of trees from the property.

Navajo Tribal Utility Fiber Optic Project Lupton to Sanders, Arizona:

The BEM and other BIA Regional programs have been providing technical assistance to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) to complete the Lupton to Sanders 69kV Fiber Optic Project. The project involves various bureau programs to ensure all requirements under Realty, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Forestry Tree Permitting, and Cultural are completed. The working group is nearing NTUA deadlines to maintain the flow of the project for completion.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA):

The BEM continues to provide compliance technical assistance to all the Bureau of Indian Education Schools within the Navajo Region. The BEM works with the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Public Water Supervision Systems Program and the U. S.

Environmental Protection Agency Region IX for Annual Sampling Schedule and the Quarterly Sampling. The regulatory agencies submit to BIA SDWA program an annual sampling plan to follow with BIE schools to maintain environmental compliance.

Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance and Review (BEQACR):

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

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) presented the RMPA to the Department of Interior's National Environmental Policy Act Review Team in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The BIA presented the EIS Alternatives that were applicable to Navajo Nation Trust Lands and Navajo Allotment Lands. The Review Team requested minor changes to the proposal to release the RMPA EIS. The BLM and BIA released the RMPA EIS draft for public review and public comment for a period of 90 days; the comment period will end on May 28, 2020.

The BLM and BIA held a Section 106 meeting with the Consulting Parties including the Navajo Nation on the development of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for Section 106 consultation for activities on BLM Lands, Navajo Nation Trust Lands, and Navajo Allotted Lands. The BIA received responses from the consulting parties to continue finalizing the PA agreement. The Navajo Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), BIA, Federal Indian Minerals Office provided recommendations for the Section 106 process on Navajo Nation Trust Lands and Navajo Allotted lands.

Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project (NGWSP)

The BEQACR participated in the NGWSP Programmatic Agreement (PA) meeting with the Navajo Nation THPO, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), and Naschitti residents regarding construction activities impacting a Tribal Cultural Properties (TCP) of the family in Naschitti Chapter. The Navajo residents negotiated their terms with BOR on the mitigation measures and compensation to the family. This is among the seven cultural resources impacted by BOR's construction contractor lack of communication between the BOR and Construction Company. The Navajo Nation Heritage Historic Preservation Department is in the process of developing further stipulations to ensure no further incidents.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Compliance Activities:

Categorical Exclusions:

For this Quarter, BEQACR processed a total of 28 Categorical Exclusions received. Of the 28 Categorical Exclusions, 20 were Residential Leases, 7 were Agricultural Land Use Permits and 1 was for forestry Dine College Experimental Plot. The BEQACR processed 94 Section 106 Cultural Resource Compliance Reports for projects throughout the Navajo Nation lands.

National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, Compliance Activities: On February 06, 2020 BEM attended the Canyon De Chelly Resource Management meeting with Navajo Nation and National Park Service. The meeting focused developing management plan that would guide land managers of Canyon De Chelly for the next decade.

Environmental Assessments:

A total of seven Environmental Assessments (EAs) have been received this Quarter with two EAs of have been completed with a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and two EAs resulted in a No Federal Action. In addition, nine FONSI impacts were completed from the backlog of EAs.

Technical Assistance and Site Visits:

The BEQACR provided technical assistance on several Navajo Nation EA projects that required additional information to finalize their submitted EAs for review. Once these revisions were made by the submitting customer or Navajo Nation programs on their EAs, reviews for determination were completed. The EAs that required review and site visits were from: BRIC LLC on waterline project and septic tanks; Arizona Department of Transportation Kayenta Bridge Project; Navajo Gallup Water Line Project for Reach 27.11 for extensions that will run from that main line; Arizona Department of Transportation for 14 projects that will be on Navajo Nation Lands; RMPA, Department of Interior review team presentation and meeting in Santa Fe, New: and to Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority for the Wheatfields Borrow Pit, and Teec Nos Pos Gravel Pit.

The BEQACR will continue the reviews and technical assistance to the Navajo Nation and outside customers that require reviews and decisions on their EAs for projects.

BRANCH OF SAFETY

The commitment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Branch of Safety is to provide a safe and healthy environment for all Navajo Nation programs within the BIA and Bureau of Indian Education's (BIE) facilities for students and the general public within the exterior boundaries of the Navajo Nation. This office provides safe and healthy working conditions by implementing practices to protect the Navajo Nation programs by conducting annual inspections at Chinle, Northern, Eastern and Western Navajo agencies. The inspections are conducted in accordance with the Indian Affairs Safety & Occupational Health and Accessibility Inspection/Evaluation Guidelines. To date, the Branch of Safety completed 26 annual inspections within the Navajo Nation. The BIA Safety inspectors completed evaluations to safeguard workplaces, ensuring the fire alarm systems and precautionary measures are maintained and operational in accordance with regulations. Inspections benefit all parties involved to warrant safety management and upholds the trust relationship to guarantee a safe environment by correcting deficiencies in a timely manner.

The Branch of Safety continues to provide assurances to Navajo Nation programs safety concerns, providing training for awareness and emergency response. The Branch of Safety has sponsored the following trainings: First Aid, CPR, and Blood Pathogen to maintain accreditation for the Navajo Nation and BIE participants. The Safety Offices for the Eastern and Northern Navajo Agencies provided technical assistance to the Navajo Nation programs and BIE schools in emergency evacuation awareness training for suspicious packages to ensure the safety measures. The Chinle Navajo Agency Safety Office ensured the Navajo Nation programs had access to the facility when an overflow construction water flooded the facilities parking lot. The Northern Navajo Agency conducted a training for Lock Out/Tag Out to the Navajo Preparatory School Facility in preparation of a potential emergency situation. The Branch of Safety will

continue to collaborate with Navajo Nation programs to provide and certify a safe work environment in response to the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic.

BRANCH OF FACILITY MANAGEMENT

Quarters Improvement and Repair (QI&R) Employee Housing:

A Design/Build Quarters Improvement and Repair (QI&R) project is in progress to completely renovate and refurbish (correct code deficiencies and modernize) eight houses and two 4-unit apartment buildings located on the Wingate High School, Wingate, New Mexico campus. The project is 96% completed and the completion date is April 30, 2020.

Another project to restore two houses, five duplex apartments and one 5-unit apartment building will begin at the Nazlini Community School in Nazlini, Arizona. The temporary construction fencing is installed around the project site, while the abatement of the hazardous building materials is in progress. Design effort for renovation of each building, buried utility replacement and design of street paving in the housing area is underway. This project is 10% complete with a completion date schedule for November 30, 2020.

Minor Improvement and Repair (MI&R) School Locations:

The Facility improvement projects are in progress at the following locations; Wide Ruins Community School, Wide Ruins, Arizona, Kinlichee Community School, Kinlichee, Arizona; Fort Defiance Agency Facility Management, Fort Defiance, Arizona; Flagstaff Dorm, Flagstaff, Arizona and Baca Community School, Prewitt, New Mexico.

BRANCH OF TRANSPORTATION

The Navajo Region Division of Transportation (NRDOT) 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).

On January 10, 2020, the NRDOT received a total amount of \$132,960.00 of FY2020 TTP Program Management & Oversight (PM&O) funds under Continuing Resolutions No. 1 & 2 to carrying out the Navajo Region's federally inherent functions of the program that are identified under 25 CFR § 170.613 "What funds are used to pay for non-contractible functions and activities?" and listed in Appendix to Subpart E.

Road Maintenance:

On February 20, 2020, the NRDOT Road Maintenance program received their full share of \$8,129,189.00 Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) funding for FY2020 to preserve, repair, and restore BIA system roads, bridges and transportation facilities on the Navajo Nation. The total amount of TPA funding was sub-allocated to each respective Agency Road Maintenance program for FY2020; see table below:

Road Maintenance Agency	Budget Amount		
Navajo Region	\$ 1,268,089.00		
Shiprock	\$ 1,260,000.00		
Western Navajo	\$ 1,503,900.00		
Eastern Navajo	\$ 1,317,000.00		
Chinle	\$ 1,276,300.00		
Ft. Defiance	\$ 1,503,900.00		
Total:	\$ 8,129,189.00		

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Road Maintenance program continues to perform routine maintenance activities on BIA system roads, bridges and transportation facilities on the Navajo Nation through direct service.

The Western Navajo Agency Road Maintenance (WNA RM) program repaired road base, raised and cleaned out an existing cattle guard at two turnout locations along BIA Route N21. The pavement at both turnouts was failing and the cattle guards were settling causing unsafe driving conditions for the travelling public. Due to poor cattle guard drainage, the cattle guard was settling and the pavement was failing. The maintenance crew cut out a portion of the pavement, repaired the subbase and road base, raised the cattle guard to the desired elevations and placed and compacted cold mix patching materials.









The WNA RM program repaired damaged guardrails on BIA Route N20 & N71.





The WNA RM program performed routine earth road grading services as soon as the roads dried out with some moisture to compact the road. Priority earth road grading occurred on the most travelled roads in every District within Western Navajo Agency.





The Chinle Agency Road Maintenance (CRM) program perform right of way (ROW) fence repair work on the following BIA Routes: N4/ N41/ N59/ N7/ N27/ N102-6. A crew of four (4) laborers have been busy repairing fencing every day for the past three (3) months to keep livestock out of the road ROW. Damages mostly consist of 40 feet to 150 foot length openings requiring new fencing materials such as barb wires, t-posts, stays, etc.





The CRM program is performing ongoing roadway pothole repair work on the following BIA Routes: N12/N59/N64/N27/N7. The present pavement condition of these three (3) major BIA Routes N64, N59 and N27 are showing extensive signs of deterioration consequently, our maintenance crew is continuously performing pothole patching work on these three roads. Routine road patrols on these routes have been helpful and with the assistance of local residence calling in to the office.





The Fort Defiance Agency Road Maintenance (FDRM) program performed pothole patching activities on the following BIA Routes: N12/N112/N7/N15. The pavement surface condition of these roads are showing signs of deterioration and stress that need constant pothole patching repair work. The work consist of pothole patching critical areas that had an extensive amount of unrepaired potholes, ruts or unsealed cracks that were widening and deep. The pavement failure is prominent at numerous locations making the road unsafe to drive at the design speed. These roads actually need rehabilitation such as an overlay of new hot asphalt concrete pavement, which is beyond the scope of our road maintenance program.









The FDRM program performed cattle guard clean outs consisting of the removal of silt and debris for the following BIA Routes: N60/ N15/ N9. Apparently, livestock were reported entering our road right of ways which becomes a safety issue. FDRM also installed "No Vending in ROW" signs along the road right of way on BIA Route N60 as requested by the Dilkon Chapter. The signs were installed to close the flea market and protect public accessing BIA Route N60, which is a major road through the Dilkon Community. There were reports of minor accidents occurring at the flea market, therefore the Chapter relocated the flea market to the fair grounds.





The FDRM program continued with their routine maintenance of grading earth roads in various areas in the Ft. Defiance Agency.





The BIA Road Maintenance program has been advised to stay at home or telework during the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we been operating under limited capacity with reduced manpower since March 23, 2020. However, we are doing the best we can to provide routine maintenance that is safety related to ensure the safety of the traveling public.

EASTERN NAVAJO AGENCY (ENA)

Branch of Transportation (BOT)

The ENA BOT continue to provide routine road maintenance to ensure safe roads for the tribal communities by posting new road signs within Crownpoint areas (i.e. directions and school zone speed limits.) Road maintenance and grading of dirt roads were maintained throughout the winter conditions. Due to high wind damage on N9 west (Standing Rock - Crownpoint, NM), N7046/N7062 (Jones Ranch - Breadsprings - Highway 602) and N49 and N11 (Smith Lake - Pinedale) ENA BOT repaired damaged road signs. These activities ensure ENA BOT are providing safe driving conditions and road maintenance for the public.

For the month of February, ENA BOT conducted snow removal on the following routes after a snow storm with accumulation of 2 to 4 inches of snow: N9 West (Fort Defiance line to New Mexico State Road 371), all Crownpoint streets, N48 North and South (Littlewater area), N49/N11 (Pinedale/Mariano Lake area from NM State Road 566 to NM State Road 371), N9 East (NM State Road 371 to Whitehorse Lake), and N7140 in the Lupton area. The ENA BOT conducted fence and sign repair that included posting "No Passing Zone" signs and replacing faded non-reflective signs on N9 west, Standing Rock to Crownpoint, NM. The ENA BOT acquired new solar powered flashing LED stop signs for use within the Agency. The ENA BOT completed pothole patching on N49/11, Pinedale and Mariano Lake area. The ENA BOT completed crack seal repairs restriping on N49/11 from State Highway 566 to State Highway 371, N9 East - from State Highway 371 to Pueblo Pintado. The ENA BOT also hauled approximately 8 tons of highway milling received from the New Mexico Highway Department. The ENA BOT flat bladed, pulled ditches and surface blading on N11, repaired erosions, and removed rockslide on Mariano Lake pass road. Fence repair was made along N7062 located in the Breadsprings area and signs were repaired or replaced on N-9W in the Standing Rock area.

The ENA BOT conducted sign repairs on N9 west, replaced broken base posts and straighten leaning sign posts. The following work was also completed: blading, ditch and surface work on N50, Mount Powell located in the Smith Lake area. Pothole patching work on N7044 – ChilChilTah area, sign repair on Crownpoint streets also were completed. The ENA BOT posted 35 miles per hour signs on Crownpoint streets. Fence repair was completed at N7140, Lupton road. The ENA BOT bladed: N7113 and N7111 in the Mariano Lake area; N492 and N493; Hosta Butte area; N485, Casamero Lake loop. The ENA BOT assisted Navajo Police Department with traffic control at an accident site on Mile Post 25 on N9 west in Standing Rock area.

Branch of Real Estate Services

The ENA BRES is currently working to clarify the Navajo Division of Transportation's (NDOT) compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Code of Federal Regulations (25 CFR 169, 25 CFR 170) for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded roads rights-of-way. This will determine if NDOT can use the categorical exclusion process under 25 CFR 170 to comply with 25 CFR 169 requirements.

The ENA BRES participated in a NDOT Regional Right-of-Way meeting at Pueblo Pintado Chapter House to discuss the rights-of-way requirements. The discussion evolved into other transportation issues shared from local community members.

The ENA BRES attended a meeting for the Eastern Navajo Agency and Navajo Region addressing ENA Abandoned Uranium Mine (AUM) activities. Items discussed included: 1. Leaving Waste on Allotted Lands, 2. Possible Land Exchange, and 3. Coordination on the projects with Navajo Nation and US EPA. Roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders completing remediation work and what authority being used for plans and actions are critical for addressing the numerous AUM sites on Navajo Nation.

Branch of Probate Estate Services

In Fiscal Year 2020, ENA BPES received 133 deaths notices. The ENA BPES submitted 75 cases to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) which consisted of approximately \$830,760.11 in Individual Indian Monies (IIM) accounts, 680 allotments, and 410 probable heirs. The disbursement and close-out of 45 cases were completed. The ENA BPES assisted approximately 1,100 clients (average of 183 persons per month) either in the office, field home visits, by phone/email, and via community outreaches. The ENA BPES collaborates with FIMO and OST in the community outreaches, with providing assistance with Indian allotment interest holders account information. Many of the community outreach activities are conducted in the Navajo language to ensure all clients are informed of the information shared. The types of service requested by the clients include: printing Individual Tribal Interest reports; showing clients how to review reports; updating client contact information; explaining required documents needed for case work; conducting client interviews; and educating the public on the Federal probate process. These activities support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty ensuring Indian allotments accounts are accurate and updated resulting in timely disbursement of funds to heirs and to the Navajo Nation.

Branch of Natural Resources

The ENA BNR continue working with Navajo Nation, Land Board members, Permittees, and the public. The ENA BNR has prepared Land Management District (LMD) 19 permits for Superintendent Approval. The ENA BNR conducted quality checks on 16 grazing permits pending approval for LMD 19 by making sure all the required information have been received along with a checklist, FONSI document, and an approved conservation plan so the grazing permit is ready for approval. The ENA BNR conducted quality check on all grazing permits by comparing Range Contract (acreages and carrying capacity) with the grazing permit records (i.e., correct invoices and payments).

To ensure the landowners trust resources are in compliant, the ENA BNR has identified delinquent payments for 94 range units' annual grazing rental fees payments for trust lands. The ENA BNR will notify the Navajo Nation regarding the delinquencies and mail Notice of Violations. In addition, the ENA BNR has provided Land Board Members maps of range units with the Permittee list and a delinquent list as resources to assist with collecting Permittees payments.

This quarter, the ENA BNR prepared 8 permit renewal packets for District 19 temporary permits near Navajo Indian Irrigation Project for the Superintendent's approval. The ENA BNR identified and labelled maps for 13 Rocksprings Grazing Community permittees on February 27, 2020.

The ENA BNR continue to assist Permittees and applicants with conservation plans and maps, advised on annual livestock tally count and state brand requirements, reviewed Request for Land Board Action (RFLBA) form, and coordinated on reports of trespass.

The ENA BNR addressed two issues with the cultural sites in Segment 4 for the District 14/15/16 Boundary Fence Project during field work; flags were placed near an archaeological site on March 3, 2020. Permit renewal packets will be prepared for District 20 with the amended changes.

The ENA BNR conducted a presentation on the FONSI Rollout for 8 permittees and signed three grazing permits. The ENA BNR provided 10 permittees Authority to Grant guidance and ten compliance letters were mailed for 10 range units.

The ENA BNR participated in a meeting with a Land Board representative from Thoreau and former permittee regarding Range Unit 17. The issues discussed included recommendations for the Land Board to address low range forage and overgrazing.