

# COMMUNITY UPDATE

Division of Community Development Newsletter

MAY 2022

## In this Issue

- Six New Mexico Chapters Secure \$4,981,130 in Tribal Infrastructure Fund (TIF) Project Funding
- Heavy Equipment Updates
- Klagetoh - Salt Springs South Phase II Powerline Extension
- Crownpoint - K'é Community Trails Ribbon Cutting
- Blue Gap/Tachee Community Land Use Planning Orientation
- Tech News
- Bulletin Board
- Personnel News
- Navajo Nation Census Information Center News
- Schedule Now! Community Land Use Planning Orientations & Trainings
- Being Up-To-Date on Vaccines
- Let's Make it Four

## Did You Know...

No one lived in the town of Window Rock until 1936. It was in 1936 that Window Rock was chosen to be the center of the Navajo Central Agency.

John Collier, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at the time, had sandstone brought in from a local quarry and a number of buildings were erected.

## Events:

**May: T'ááts'oh - "Growth of Late Plant Life"**

May 30: Memorial Day

**June: Ya'iishjaashchili - "Planting of Early Crops"**

June 1: Navajo Nation Memorial Day

June 14: Flag Day

June 19: Father's Day

June 19: Juneteenth

June 20: Juneteenth (Observed)

June 21: Summer Solstice

## SIX NEW MEXICO CHAPTERS SECURE \$4,981,130 IN TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (TIF) PROJECT FUNDING



May 18, 2022—The New Mexico Tribal Infrastructure Fund board has awarded over \$38.1 million in funding across nine tribes for 15 communities in New Mexico. The funds were approved by the Tribal Infrastructure Act of 2005, which recognizes that many of New Mexico's tribal communities lack basic infrastructure, resulting in poor health, social and economic conditions.

The TIF board thoroughly evaluates and scores each project proposal from tribal communities to ensure that critical needs for the projects are established. The chapters submitted their proposal via the New Mexico TIF web portal in March 2022. Then, projects were reviewed and ranked by the TIF board. This year the TIF board selected top 17 project proposals to present their projects to the TIF board meeting on May 18, 2022 at the State Capitol Building in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The presenters included the Coyote Canyon Chapter, Ohkay Owingeh, Baca/Prewitt Chapter, Santa Ana Pueblo, Huerfano Chapter, Zuni Pueblo, Pojoaque Pueblo, Santo Domingo Pueblo, Thoreau Chapter, Mescalero Apache Tribe, Church Rock Chapter, San Ildefonso Pueblo, Chichiltah Chapter, and Santa Clara Pueblo. After the presentations, the TIF board voted to approve the 2022 TIF projects and funding amounts.

The following Navajo Navajo projects were funded this year:

Coyote Canyon Chapter will receive \$602,796 for a planning grant for the Coyote Canyon Waterline Extension North/ South. Ms. Sherylene M. Yazzie, Chapter President presented the proposed project for the community.

Baca/Prewitt Chapter will receive \$300,000 for a planning grant for Baca Water System Improvements

Project. Ms. Tina Becenti, Chapter Manager presented the proposed project for the community. Huerfano Chapter will receive \$700,000 Carson - Burnham Regional Water System Project. Mr. Ben Woody, Jr., Chapter President, presented the proposed project for the community.

Thoreau Chapter, will receive \$725,000 for the 371 Regional Supply Project. Ms. Vivinita R. Bennett, Community Service Coordinator presented the proposed project for the community.

Church Rock Chapter will receive \$2,494,034.23 for the Superman Canyon Road (County Road 43) and Bridges Improvement Project. Mr. Larry King, Chapter President presented the proposed project for the community.

Chichiltah Chapter will receive \$159,300 for the Chichiltah Chapter New Wastewater Construction. Ms. Roselyn John, Community Service Coordinator presented the proposed project for the Chichiltah community.

Thirty-seven projects were submitted to the NM Indian Affairs Department for funding consideration and only 17 projects were awarded funding. Each project presentation highlighted the following: Critical Need of the project, Project Readiness, Capacity, Leveraging, Budget, and Anticipated Outcomes of the project.



This year's TIF awards is the highest amount of funding going out to tribal communities since the TIF program was established.

**Critical Need**

- Water system entirely on ground
- Existing well and IHS allocation
- Poor water quality in our community

**Project Readiness**

**Capacity**

- Broad support from key partners
  - Navajo Tribal
  - Navajo Department Resources
  - US Bureau of
  - Indian Health

**Leveraging**

**Budget**

- Total Design Funding Request: **\$725,000**
- Planning project management
- Utility & inter-agency coordination
- Land status research & PER addendum
- Hydraulic analysis
- Permission to survey
- Field staking
- Cultural, bio, & NEPA studies
- Boundary survey
- Topographic survey

**Anticipated Outcomes**

- Clean, safe running water for 43 families
- Sanitary waste disposal for 26 families
- Improved public health for entire community
- Reduced physical and economic hardships for families and elders

**The Division of Community Development congratulates Coyote Canyon, Baca/Prewitt, Huerfano, Thoreau, Church Rock, and Chichiltah Chapters on TIF Funding!!**

May 2022

# Heavy Equipment Updates

Heavy Equipment Policies and Procedures now available on [nndcd.org](http://nndcd.org) website and you can click--> [HERE](#)

## May Delivery

May 5 - Crownpoint Heavy Equipment Training

May 12 - Thoreau - Pick Up Truck



May 2022

# Klagetoh - Salt Springs South Phase II Powerline Extension

Klagetoh, Arizona - On May 19, 2022, the Capital Projects Management Department conducted a final inspection of the Salt Springs South Phase II Powerline Extension.



The project was funded by CAP-35-18, Sihasin Year 1 & 2 funds at a total cost of \$461,352.21. The construction was completed by NTUA and 7 homes were served by the project.



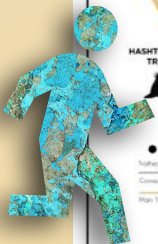
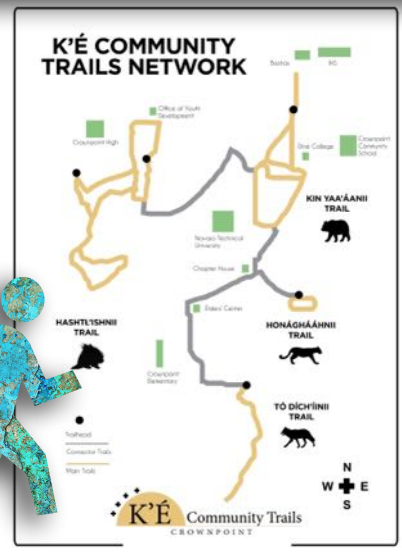
# Crownpoint - K'é Community Trails Ribbon Cutting



On Friday May 13th, 2022 - A ribbon cutting ceremony event for the opening of K'é Community Trails was attended by Crownpoint Chapter, CLUPC, National Park Service, Office of Diné Youth, Navajo Technical University, Chaco Canyon Historic Park, NM Clean and Beautiful, Crownpoint Healthcare Facility, NN Trails Task Force and DCD Senior Planner, Latasha James. Ms. James explained, "After years of planning and hard work, the K'E Community Trails is finally open to the public. The trails crisscross the hills and mesas of the community in Crownpoint, NM. The project brought together Community organizers like the National Park Service, the Chapter officials, the chapter



administration, the CLUP committee, and other organizers. The project brought together a large network of organizers and resources for trail development like mapping activities, community engagement activities, and construction and design of the trails. The K'e Trails Coalition plans to continue to work on the other remaining trails in the area."



# Blue Gap/Tachee Community Land Use Planning Orientation



On May 17, 2022, the Blue Gap Tachee Chapter Community Land Use Planning Committee (CLUPC) held their orientation for three new CLUPC members. Latasha James, Senior Planner for DCD Executive Administration, and Edgerton Gene, SPPS for the ASC department facilitated the CLUPC orientation. Topics like: Title 26 LGA Zoning; Community Based Land Use

Plan & Land Use Variations and an overview of the basic community planning methods and principles were highlighted in the orientation. Blue Gap/Tachee CLUPC members enjoyed and learned a lot from the presentation. Please contact the SPPS or the Senior Planner in your service area for more information or to schedule a CLUPC orientation.

# TECH NEWS

We would like to raise awareness of the types of scams that may be occurring to chapters or individuals at the chapter or division. For example, the scanned image to the right is showing an invoice that may be a scam. A chapter that received the invoice shared it so that other chapters may become aware of the scam. The company no longer exists and the chapter has stated - they never did any business with this company. At any time if you have questions please email us: [syl@navajochapters.org](mailto:syl@navajochapters.org) or [nnez@nndcd.org](mailto:nnez@nndcd.org)



## SCAM OF THE WEEK: Spooled SMTP Relay Services

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is the standard method that mail servers use to send emails. Organizations typically use an SMTP relay service to send mass emails, such as marketing materials. Some organizations use Gmail as an SMTP relay service, but unfortunately, cybercriminals have found a vulnerability in the Gmail service. Using this vulnerability, cybercriminals can spoof any organization that also uses Gmail as a relay service. For example, let's say that a legitimate organization owns the domain sign-doc[dot]com and uses Gmail to relay its marketing emails. Cybercriminals could send phishing emails from a malicious domain, such as wishyou didntclickthis[dot]com, and disguise the emails by spoofing the legitimate domain, sign-doc[dot]com. Since the spoofed domain is being relayed through Gmail, most email clients will consider the malicious email safe and allow it to pass through security filters.

Follow the tips below to stay safe from similar scams:

- This type of attack isn't limited to Gmail. Other SMTP relay services could have similar vulnerabilities. Even if an email seems to come from a legitimate sender, remain cautious.
- Never click on a link or download an attachment in an email that you were not expecting.
- If you need to verify that an email is legitimate, try reaching out to the sender directly through phone call or text message.

The KnowBe4 Security Team  
KnowBe4.com

**Stop, Look, and Think. Don't be fooled.**

To raise additional awareness, the Navajo Nation Department of Information Technology has started weekly announcements regarding Cybersecurity. DCD will be forwarding this information for all domains.

Due to the significant rise in Cybercrime and phishing scams, news outlets reporting on the large amount of funding Navajo received from the federal government and with checks being sent to community members, the Navajo Nation could be targeted. Please be mindful of your behavior regarding email from unknown senders.



# Bulletin Board

## Raven Chacon Claims 2022 Pulitzer Prize for Music



Michael Zwiebach  
on May 10, 2022

On Monday, the Pulitzer Prize committee announced that Voiceless Mass, by Raven Chacon, had won the 2022 Prize in Music. The work, for organ and

ensemble, “considers the spaces in which we gather, the history of access of these spaces, and the land upon which these buildings sit,” as Chacon himself wrote. The Pulitzer committee called it “a mesmerizing, original work ... that evokes the weight of history in a church setting, a concentrated and powerful musical expression with a haunting visceral impact.”

Chacon’s description of it speaks of “using the openness of the large space to intone the constricted intervals of the wind and string instruments. In exploiting the architecture of the cathedral, Voiceless Mass considers the futility of giving voice to the voiceless, when ceding space is never an option for those in power.” Chacon, a member of the Diné (Navajo) people, claims yet another first, as he is the first Native American winner of the music Pulitzer.

The composer’s distinguished career includes co-composing Sweet Land, an opera presented by The Industry, which won the 2021 Music Critics of North America Award for Best New Opera. Last year, as part of a residency at the Wattis Institute for Contemporary Art, he created a radio station, Radio Coyote. For San Francisco-based The Living Earth Show (guitarist Travis Andrews and percussionist Andy Meyerson), Chacon created Tremble Staves, a work first performed in 2019, in the ruins of the Sutro Baths. His latest album is An Anthology of Chants Operations (Ouidah, 2020).

READ MORE: <https://www.sfcv.org/articles/music-news/raven-chacon-claims-2022-pulitzer-prize-music>

## Indian Health Service Announces New Deputy Director



The Indian Health Service is announcing Benjamin Smith, an enrolled member of the Navajo Nation, as the new deputy director at IHS headquarters. As deputy director, Smith will lead IHS operations to ensure the delivery of quality comprehensive health services and ensures IHS services are integrated across all levels of the agency.

“We are excited that Mr. Smith will be serving in this important new role as deputy director of the Indian Health Service,” said IHS Acting Director Elizabeth Fowler. “He has been a consistent leader at IHS headquarters for several years. He has a wealth of experience providing leadership on tribal and urban Indian health issues, and I look forward to working with Mr. Smith on improving quality health care services throughout Indian Country.”

The IHS deputy director is responsible for facilitating collaboration between IHS and tribes to increase access to quality health programs, and assisting with the development of standardized metrics and monitoring progress of goals to ensure that quality standards are being achieved throughout the Indian health system.

Smith joined the Senior Executive Service in March 2012 and has served as the deputy director for intergovernmental affairs at IHS headquarters since November 2016, where he provided leadership on tribal and urban Indian health activities, in particular the implementation of the Title I and Title V authorities under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. He has also served as the director of the IHS Office of Tribal Self Governance, where he oversaw all aspects of the administration of the Tribal Self-Governance Program.

“I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this important role and to positively impact the quality health care services that our patients across the IHS receive,” said Benjamin Smith. “I have always been passionate about serving our American Indian and Alaska Native people, and look forward to continuing my career at IHS with new challenges and responsibilities.”

Prior to his federal service, Smith worked as a self-governance specialist for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, performing research, advisory services and consultation on health programs with national, state, and local health departments.

He has received numerous awards throughout his career, including the 2020 National Public Service Award from the American Society for Public Administration, which congratulates the work of public service and public good. In 2014, he received the Arthur S. Flemming Award from the George Washington University Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration, which honors outstanding federal employees for their exceptional contributions to the federal government.

Smith received his Master of Business Administration from George Washington University, a Master of Arts in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Brigham Young University. He is also one of the Navajo Nation’s Chief Manuelito Scholars.

Office of Urban Indian Health Programs Director Dr. Rose Weahkee will serve as the acting deputy director for intergovernmental affairs at IHS headquarters.

The IHS, an agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provides a comprehensive health service delivery system for approximately 2.7 million American Indians and Alaska Natives who belong to 574 federally recognized tribes in 37 states.

READ AT: <https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2022-press-releases/indian-health-service-announces-new-deputy-director>



# Bulletin Board

## Tolani Lake Chapter Land Use Plan Re-Certified

On May 18, 2022, the RDC re-certified the Tolani Lake Chapter Land Use Plan at Twin Arrows Casino. In attendance from the chapter were Leland K. Dayzie, Chapter President and Anna M. Begay, Chapter Vice President; and CLUPC members Lloyd McCabe, Ervin Begay, and Mary DeLowe. Honorable Delegate Thomas Walker, Jr., sponsored the legislation for presentation to RDC.



The chapter received their initial CLUPC certification in December 2014. Since then, the chapter CLUP Committee has worked hard to achieve the goal of having an updated Community Land Use Plan that truly meets their needs. The Chapter has been working for many years to gather information and has overcome many land challenges including the former Bennett Freeze area, Navajo Partition Lands, Hopi Partition Land and Navajo Trust Lands.

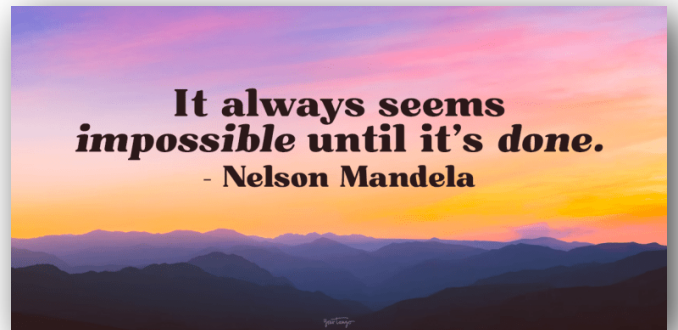
The Chapter seeks to maintain the ranching and agricultural life style and support open space. The future developments include a housing area within the chapter tract, a new cemetery, and commercial development area. They also included transportation routes including school and senior center bus routes.

The CLUP Committee is planning on having a celebration during their next meeting to express their appreciation for everyone that helped with the effort and to share the celebration with the community members. They also want to thank Dr. Pearl Yellowman, DCD Executive Director, and Marlene Hoskie, CPMD Project Manager, for their assistance in getting the re-certification.



**TOLANI LAKE  
COMMUNITY BASED  
LAND USE PLAN  
2022 to 2027**

**It always seems  
impossible until it's done.  
- Nelson Mandela**



# Bulletin Board

## Diné finishes Boston Marathon with purpose to inspire others

By David Smith | Apr 28, 2022 | Track & Field |

### WINDOW ROCK

After going through years of bullying for being overweight, Patterson Yazzie III decided to turn the harsh words into fuel as he became an active athlete after high school.

He'd run in marathons, competed in the game show American Ninja Warrior, and now adds finishing the 126th Boston Marathon on his creditable[sic].

"I hate bullying," Yazzie said. "But I'm really glad to say that they did do that to me because without it I wouldn't be right I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing."

This is the first time in two years that the Boston Marathon is held on its traditional date of April 11. In 2020, the prestigious race was canceled for the first time because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Then in 2021, the race [was] postponed to Oct. 11, which coincidentally was Indigenous Peoples Day, making it a little more special to the hundreds of Native runners who participated that day.

This year, Yazzie was one of many other Natives who ran in the race and felt very accomplished for finishing. Being a[ ]part of the historic marathon was rewarding enough, but he hopes it adds to a dream he has steadily been building to, competing in the Olympic marathon trials.

"I have a long road ahead of me and many miles left," Yazzie said. "My long-awaited goal is to try and qualify for the Olympic marathon trials. I have some work to do but that's something I know I can go after."

### Endurance athlete

For the past few years, Yazzie has steadily built his strength and his endurance.

What started, as a fun hobby became a journey to living a healthy and productive life. The first race he ran in was the Narbona Pass Classic back in 2018 and that was when he fell in love with running.

He is also a contestant on the show American Ninja Warrior, where contestants raced across an obstacle course using speed and strength.

Though he wasn't the first Navajo to appear on the show, he still had a great time appearing on the program he and his father used to watch together when he was a kid.

Never did he think it was possible for him to be on the show.

In between his active lifestyle he was also studying at the University of New Mexico branch in Gallup.

In December he received his associate degree in criminal justice.

He qualified for the Boston Marathon after running in the 2021 Duke City Marathon in Albuquerque. He was very excited for the opportunity and started training almost immediately.

"So training was pretty good," Yazzie said. "I like the way I train. I'm just really glad that I got a big support from my family, my mom and my dad especially."

"They were always out there every Sunday with me early in the morning when the roads were busy," Yazzie said. "And we get up at like 6 or 7 a.m. They'd always be right there at every mile post and giving me my fuel whenever I needed it."

He thinks that training in New Mexico gave him an edge as they're at a higher elevation than the East Coast.

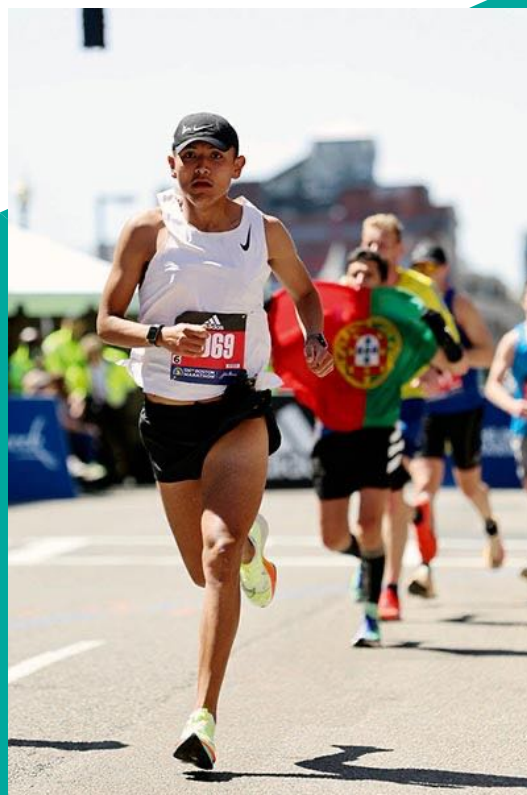
Often, he would run from the Arizona state line to Safeway in Gallup. He also focused on weightlifting and recovery; key aspects that he said helped him prepare.

At 21, this is his first time traveling to the East Coast, but hopefully not the last as he said it was an "amazing experience."

### Achievements

"Running that race and getting to be around that environment in the community, but

running community, it's truly amazing," he said. "I got to line up with some of the best runners across the world, some of the best marathoners, and that's kind of a big deal for me, because as someone who's always has been struggled with struggling with losing weight or whatnot, I'm always proud to say that I always started with running, I'm always going to be that runner, no matter what."



Patterson Yazzie III was one of many Natives who participated in the 126th Annual Boston Marathon. He hopes his story of overcoming bullying and losing weight can inspire native youths.

He came in 1,206th place overall, running against nearly 20,000 other runners with a time of 2:48:36.

He was also happy to see other runners from different Native nations competing. He didn't know many of them, but was happy to have met another Navajo from Ganado, Ariz.

He is proud of his achievements, proud to be apart of the Boston Marathon history, but he hopes that all he has done can inspire native kids to live healthy active lives and not to be discouraged.

"Never did I think that kid in high school that was getting picked on would be out running in the Boston Marathon," Yazzie said. "Once I picked up running, I always thought of it and use it as a tool to lose weight and now I use it as a way to motivate and inspire others."

"Don't worry about what the naysayers say or whatever else anyone has to say," he added. "Go out there and be you."

READ AT: <https://bit.ly/3LEjAwD>

# Bulletin Board

## Senate Confirms First-Ever Native American Federal Judge In California

Sunshine Suzanne Sykes of the Navajo Nation is also just the fifth Indigenous woman in U.S. history to serve on a federal court.

By Jennifer Bendery  
May 18, 2022

The Senate voted Wednesday to confirm Sunshine Suzanne Sykes to a lifetime seat on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, making her the state's first-ever Native American federal judge and just the fifth Indigenous woman in U.S. history to serve on a federal court.

The Senate confirmed Sykes, 51-45.

Every Democrat present voted for her, along with three Republicans: Sens. Susan Collins (Maine), Lindsey Graham (S.C.) and Lisa Murkowski (Alaska). Every other Republican present voted no. Sens. Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), Jacky Rosen (D-Nevada) and Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) did not vote.

Sykes, 48, has been a California Superior Court judge since 2013. She previously served as deputy county counsel for Riverside County, and was a contract attorney for the Defense Panel at the Southwest Justice Center. From 2001 to 2003, Sykes also worked as a staff attorney for California Indian Legal Services.

Sykes joins four other Native American judges actively serving on the federal bench out of nearly 900 authorized federal judgeships. Those four are all women, and they are U.S. District Judges Lauren King, Diane Humetewa, Ada Brown, Lydia Kay Griggsby.

Carl Tobias, a federal judicial nominations expert and law professor at the University of Richmond, called it "remarkable" that it's taken this long for a Native American person to hold a federal court seat in California, which is home to 109 federally recognized tribes.

"The federal courts can have numerous profound effects on

myriad Native American individuals and tribes," Tobias said, listing off reasons why diversity matters on the courts. "Ethnic, gender and experiential diversity improve judicial decision-making, confine biases that can undercut federal court litigation, and increase public confidence in the federal courts when their judges reflect America."

For some context on the significance of Sykes' confirmation, only seven Native Americans have ever served as federal judges in the 230-year history of the U.S. federal courts. That's out of more than 4,200 people who have served as Article III judges (lifetime judges on U.S. district courts, appeals courts and the Supreme Court). Besides the five previously mentioned judges, including Sykes, the other two were U.S. District Judges Michael Burrage and Frank Howell Seay.

There has never been an Indigenous judge on a U.S. appeals court.

Sykes' confirmation continues President Joe Biden's efforts to make the nation's federal courts more diverse, both in terms of demographics like race and gender but also in terms of professional backgrounds. His judicial nominees mark a huge departure from the prototypical white, male corporate lawyers almost always tapped for lifetime federal judgeships.

This president's court picks so far have included public defenders, voting rights lawyers and union organizers, in addition to historic firsts with Native Americans, Black women, LGBTQ nominees and Muslim Americans.

Of the 40 lifetime federal judges that Biden confirmed in his first year in office, 32 are women, 27 are people of color, 21 are women of color and 27 have professionally diverse backgrounds. Fifteen are former public defenders.

Notably, of the five Native American women who have ever been



confirmed to lifetime federal judgeships, three are Biden nominees: Sykes, King and Griggsby.

"Judge Sykes' extensive knowledge and experience are vitally important for the federal judiciary, particularly in California where countless federal Indian law issues arise among the more than 100 Tribal Nations within the state," Mark Macarro, first vice president of the National Congress of American Indians, said in a statement.

"It is critical, now more than ever, that more qualified American Indians and Alaska Natives be appointed to the federal courts," he said, "especially given how much of tribal life is controlled by federal law and the courts' interpretations of those laws."

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3wFoNid>



THE NAVAJO NATION

### Proclamation

RECOGNIZING MAY 15 – 21, 2022 AS

"NAVAJO NATION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK"

THE NAVAJO NATION proclaims May 15-21, 2022 as the NAVAJO NATION EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK. The National campaign is endorsed by the American College of Emergency Physicians and National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians to direct attention to the importance of emergency response in saving precious lives.

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) are a vital public service and are working hard to save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. Access to quality emergency medical care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden and life-threatening illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, serving as the safety net of the Navajo Nation's health care system, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, emergency medical services teams consist of First Responders, Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Dispatchers, Firefighters, Police Officers, Emergency Physicians, Emergency Nurses, Emergency Trauma Technicians, Educators, and Administrators; and

WHEREAS, career and volunteer members of emergency medical services teams engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills. EMS providers also educate the public about injury prevention; and

WHEREAS, Navajo Nation has a well-established system of EMS providers and services. We wish to celebrate the dedicated volunteers, professionals, and facilities that make Navajo Nation's EMS system strong; and

WHEREAS, the families of the emergency medical services care team endure endless sacrifice and continuous support for their loved ones while performing their duties to save lives; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, I, Jonathan Nez, President of the Navajo Nation, and I, Myron Lizer, Vice President of the Navajo Nation, do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2022 as Navajo Nation Emergency Medical Services Week with the theme, *EMS Strong: Ready Today, Preparing for Tomorrow*. We encourage the Navajo Nation to observe this week to pay tribute to our Emergency Medical Services providers, whose selfless dedication and extraordinary efforts help save countless lives each day.

PROCLAIMED THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2022

  
Jonathan Nez, President  
THE NAVAJO NATION

  
Myron Lizer, Vice President  
THE NAVAJO NATION

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

### Stage I Fire Restrictions for Navajo Nation, Effective 5-23-2022

The Navajo Nation will enter Stage I Fire Restrictions on May 23, 2022. These restrictions prohibit building, maintaining, attending or using fires in undesignated areas; including camp, charcoal, or wood fires. Any and all debris burning will also be prohibited. Outdoor smoking is permitted only within an enclosed vehicle.

The Southwest is in the midst of high fire danger with numerous large wildfires on the landscape in Arizona and New Mexico, and these restrictions are considered necessary to reduce the possibility of large wildfires that could potentially impact homes and natural resources within the Navajo Nation.

The Navajo Nation encompasses a great deal of agricultural lands. Farming practices rely on outdoor burning for debris removal in fields and open lands. Once the Stage I Fire Restrictions are in place on May 23, 2022, residents will no longer be able to burn. Thereafter firefighters may be called upon to extinguish all fires, and fines may be issued by a Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Officer and/or the Navajo Nation Police Department.

Residents are encouraged to only burn vegetation prior to the restrictions, if absolutely necessary, and to complete their burning safely by following outdoor burning guidelines. Please register your burns with Navajo Nation EPA and burn smart by observing the current and predicted weather forecast. It is recommended to burn early in the day and have control features in place, that include water, fuel breaks and tools. Never leave a burn unattended and extinguish any remaining heat when finished burning. Remember, never burn on a windy day and be aware of any Red Flag Warnings that promote extreme fire danger.

For more information, please contact the Navajo Forestry Department at 928-729-4007 and Navajo Nation EPA at 928-729-4096 to register your burn.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3yMvG40>

# Bulletin Board

## With protections restored, tribal council charts new path for Bears Ears



by Caitlin Looby on 2 May 2022

- In October 2021, President Joe Biden restored protections to Bears Ears National Monument in southeast Utah after it was drastically reduced in size by his predecessor, Donald Trump.
- The monument is known for its scenic views as well as thousands of sacred, cultural and archaeological sites.
- Now, the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition – made up of leaders from the Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni and Ute Indian Tribe – is working on a land management plan that keeps the interests of each tribe in mind as the federal government moves forward with its own plan.
- Co-chair Carleton Bowekaty says he hopes the plan will be a “living document” that will be used even when administrations change and that the efforts will keep the land intact for future generations.

Ida Yellowman stood at the top of Muley Point, seeing memories in every cardinal direction. To the north were the Baja Mountains and rock-strewn desert where she first learned to hunt with her dad and brothers. The south held views stretching out through the Mexican Hat area on to Arizona, the landscape marred by the uranium mine: as a nurse she couldn't help but see the faces of the people she took care of, sick from the uranium.

Yellowman turned to the others in her group, one holding up a cellphone trying to catch a signal. The voice of U.S. President Joe Biden came through, announcing restored protections for Bears Ears National Monument. The president's voice was followed by that of Deb Haaland, the first Native American to serve as a cabinet secretary in the United States.

Singing, prayers and a sense of relief filled the air.

“It put my mind at ease that people can hear each other,” says Yellowman, a member of the Navajo Nation and co-founder of the organization Women of Bears Ears.

“We all have our own history and legends and stories connected to that place. And we're all in it together.”

Biden restored the Bears Ears National Monument in southeast Utah on Oct. 7, 2021, reversing the actions of his predecessor, Donald Trump who slashed the size of the protected area by 85%. Biden called for protections across 1.36 million acres (550,400 hectares) – slightly

larger than the original boundary established by Trump's predecessor, Barack Obama.

Now, the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, made up of leaders from the Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni and Ute Indian Tribe, are working as co-managers to develop a plan that represents each tribe's interests. The land management plan is rooted in their perspectives and place-based conservation strategies that they've held for centuries.

“We're reflecting on our cultural values, yet still meeting



the needs of our people,” says Carleton Bowekaty, lieutenant governor for the Pueblo of Zuni and co-chair of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition.

“The Bears Ears is a holy place’

Hoon'Naqvut (Hopi), Shash Jaa' (Navajo), Kwiyaqatu Nukavachi (Ute), Ansh An Lashokdiwe (Zuni), or Bears Ears, is a place that is sacred but also important to daily life, says Meredith Benally, a member of the Navajo Nation and co-founder of the Women of Bears Ears.

Bears Ears is known for its stunning cliff dwellings that serve as a backdrop for thousands of sacred, cultural and archaeological sites. Tribes also still use the area to hunt and gather food.

“We're tied to it not just physically, but spiritually, mentally and emotionally,” Benally says.

Obama established Bears Ears National Monument by presidential proclamation at the end of his presidency on Dec. 28, 2016. Yellowman recalled the day the proclamation was made, thinking about her mom who was very active in the grassroots efforts to bring protections to Bear Ears. Her mom passed away one month before the proclamation.

“She would tell me: ‘Shash Jaa' hogodanin aze'e' doo ch'il ho'lo,’” says Yellowman. This meant that “the Bears Ears is a holy place where the medicine and plants grow.”

When she saw the proclamation, she read it word for word to honor her mother. And she was heartbroken when Trump “took it away.”

After Trump cut the Bears Ears protections, many feared that it would open the door to extractive industries, like uranium mining.

Uranium was once mined just outside the monument's boundaries, and between 2017 and 2021, just before Biden restored Bears Ears to its full size, mining companies proposed 14 new claims within the original boundaries. Although mines are not currently active, they've left scars on the landscape and remain hazardous to humans and wildlife.

Other major threats to this day are vandalism and looting of art, rock carvings and burial sites. Last year the coalition sent a letter to Biden to bring attention to this threat, showing mud smeared over the carvings.

Restoration of the monument and co-management by the tribes are positive moves forward to preserve the land for future generations, say both Bowekaty and Benally.

“I'm glad there are people out there in the world that believe in this. Believe in us as a people. Believe in the Earth as it is,” Yellowman says.

‘An opportunity’

Part of Obama's proclamation in 2016 included an inter-tribal commission that would work together to educate and inform land management practices. Today, the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, made up of one leader from each of the five tribes, keeps tribal interests and priorities at the forefront and helps to coordinate efforts.

Trump took office one month after the proclamation, leaving the group little time to get its footing before the new administration cut protections. Prior to this move, the group referred to itself as a commission. But as soon as the protected area was reduced and litigation ensued, it started calling itself a coalition, says Patrick Gonzales-Rogers, executive director of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition, because the members didn't want to seem like they were acquiescing.

Since Biden restored the monument, the coalition is working toward creating a land management plan that should be completed by the end of June, pending approval from the tribal governments of the five coalition tribes.

“We know that communities of color suffer in an exponential way relative to climate change and environmental degradation,” Gonzales-Rogers says. “We should not just be people that have their opinions solicited. We should be a primary integer to the calculus of problem-solving and decision-making.”

READ MORE AT: <https://news.mongabay.com/2022/05/with-protections-restored-tribal-council-charts-new-path-for-bears-ears/>

# Bulletin Board

## The Navajo Nation's first economist takes a fresh view on development

*Micel Spotted Elk is an editorial intern at High Country News reporting on the Indigenous Affairs desk.*

Alisha Murphy discusses her vision of a robust tribal economy and the importance of community input.

Alisha Murphy, who is Diné, has always had a story to tell. It just happens to come in the form of economic data and its details. In November 2021, Murphy assumed her post as the Navajo Nation's first-ever full-time economist. Her appointment comes at a time of great transition, both for the Navajo Nation and for Indian Country as a whole. Murphy has spent her first half-year in the Navajo Nation's Division of Economic Development focused on how best to assist the tribe as it transitions away from a coal-centered economy. She is also currently pursuing a doctorate in economic development at New Mexico State University.

HCN recently caught up with Murphy as she was settling into her new role.

### What led you to study economics?

I started as an undergrad in the social work field. I received my bachelor's in social work and then my master's in social work at Washington University in St. Louis. It was my last semester where I took social-economic development. And the professor was just so passionate about using data to tell the story of the inner city — and that turned the light bulb on in my brain. My first question was: How can I use data to tell the story of the Navajo of my community? And is that possible? Has it been done before?

### What other questions do you have that you're still working on answering?

Right now, the most prominent question is: Will a data (collection agency) for the Navajo Nation help with the efficiency of economic development? A lot of times, we have to resource our information from third parties like the U.S. Census, BLS (Bureau of Labor Statistics), VA (Veterans Affairs). However, I do question how accurate those data sources are when we're talking about the very rural communities on Navajo or any other tribal nation. So, the data center — can we do that? And will it help the communities that we're serving? That's the biggest question I have right now.

### Why is data sovereignty important for tribes?

It would help in a number of ways. And it's important to think about because Navajo Nation and other tribal or Indigenous communities are not fitting the mold for which a lot of non-Native communities are measured by. They operate in a different legal status, different health care, a different definition of business success. It's just completely different measuring sticks. This notion of "How do we quantify and measure our performances that match with the values of what Navajo communities really take to heart?" is not about getting rich and making the revenue report. Providing the basic goods and services that our communities need is the best definition of success. I think data sovereignty is going to have to be in the conversation.

### Could you take a moment to address the economic situation in the Navajo Nation as the nation moves away from a coal-centered economy?

When NGS (the Navajo Generating Station) shut down, there are some assets that the Navajo Nation has acquired coming from that facility. And how do we turn that location, (those) materials, into an opportunity for growth? I am impressed by the communities surrounding that area — that they're looking for creative ways to approach that. That's how it should be. It should start with what the community needs and wants, and how to make sure that the communities benefit from the work that's happening there. It should always start at the community, and I think that's what they've been doing.

### What responsibility do you think you have, not only to your tribe but to the community?

I feel my responsibilities are to tell the story of our community and all the ways we celebrate the successes that our tribe has as a whole in terms of increased numbers in tribal enrollment and increased success of educational attainment. I grew up here in Crownpoint, New Mexico, and I remember my grandparents talking about chapter meetings. To take what my grandparents started, their interests and their passion for serving their community — I'm happy to do that, too.

READ AT: <https://bit.ly/3LxGEx1>



## Navajo Nation men stun at the MET Gala



NEW YORK – Two Native American dancers from the Navajo Nation proudly graced the MET Gala's red carpet Monday.

The theme was "gilded glamour," a nod to the grandeur of 19th-century America. During that time, wealth was held by very few, and the U.S. government was waging wars to crush Native Americans and drive them from their native lands.

Kenneth Shirley and Dominic Pablo proudly showcase their native culture around the country as dancers for Indigenous Enterprise.

"I heard cheering from behind this crowd across the street from the met gala. They're cheering, and I'm like, which celebrity are they cheering for? Who got out of their ride? And they were looking our way, cheering for us," said Pablo.

Shirley and Pablo scored the MET red carpet invite from a friend catering it.

"In that gilded age, we weren't even considered U.S. citizens in our own country. So we would have been arrested for what we're doing," said Shirley.

Fast forward to 2022, and the men stood front and center at the MET Gala adorned in their men's fancy war dance regalia.

"That's a beautiful thing," said Shirley. "It was only fitting because that theme was America. And we had to let them know what the real America is."

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3zdKetR>



### NORTHERN AGENCY VETERANS' ORGANIZATION

P.O. BOX 4349  
SHIPROCK, NM 87420  
Phone: (505) 635-3249

### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

#### CONTACT

Vern Lee, Commander  
Mobile: (505) 635-3249  
Email: [vernlee@gmail.com](mailto:vernlee@gmail.com)

#### DATE

May 12, 2022

The Northern Agency Veterans Organization, Inc. (NAVO) will be hosting a free Navajo Nation 2022 Presidential Candidates Forum at San Juan College in Farmington, NM on June 3, 2022 beginning at 4:00 p.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m. This will be a free event and everyone is welcome to attend, but VIP seating will only be made available for Northern Agency Veterans and their families on a "First Come, First Served" basis. Free VIP tickets for Veterans can be obtained from Vern Lee, Commander. Interested Veterans can call Vern Lee at (505) 635-3249.

All Navajo Nation Presidential Candidates are invited to attend. Candidates must RSVP with Vern Lee by 5:00 p.m. on June 1, 2022 at (505) 635-3249.

#### NN 2022 Presidential Candidates Forum Event Information

Place: San Juan College – Farmington, NM  
Henderson Fine Arts Meeting Rooms

Date: June 3, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm

# Bulletin Board

## Lashawna R. Tso Appointed As New Executive Director for Navajo Nation Washington Office

WINDOW ROCK, AZ – The Navajo Nation announced the appointment of Lashawna R. Tso to serve as the new Executive Director for the Navajo Nation Washington Office. Tso is a member of the Navajo Nation and originally from Smoke Signal, AZ. She is Tódik'ozhi (Salt Water) and born for Ma'ii deeshgiizhinii (Coyote Pass).



Prior to her appointment, Tso served as the New Mexico Assistant Secretary of Indian Education, and the Chief of Staff for the Office of the Speaker under the Navajo Nation Legislative Branch. She was also a Legislative Staff Assistant for the Navajo Nation for four years prior.

"We are proud to welcome one of our young Diné professionals back to the Navajo Nation to serve our people," said President Nez. "With her extensive background and experience, we are confident that she will advocate for our people and strengthen our Nation's relations at the federal level. She grew up on the Navajo Nation, achieved a higher education, and now she is returning home to help our people once again."

Tso replaces former Executive Director Santee Lewis, who recently began a new role working with tribal nations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. President Nez and Vice President Lizer thank Lewis for her service to the Navajo Nation and wish her well in her new position.

"We greatly appreciate Ms. Lewis' tremendous service for the Navajo Nation," said Vice President Lizer. "She worked with many partners on many issues and she played a critical role in securing federal COVID-19 relief funding for the Navajo people by working with various departments and programs to gather and submit data to the U.S. Treasury. We wish her and her family the very best. We look forward to working together with and supporting Ms. Tso."

"I am deeply honored to serve our people in Washington, D.C.," said Tso. "It could not have come at a better time. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, we have an opportunity to engage with our federal partners, and members of congress in a meaningful way. The Washington Office will continue to work hard to ensure the investments made by Congress will benefit our people and communities across Navajo. I am ready to get to work."

Tso will officially begin serving as the new Executive Director on May 16.

READ AT: <https://bit.ly/3PBcRXg>

## 'Nobody saw us': Rural Navajo Nation homes get electricity for the first time after decades of asking



### SRP crews connecting homes on the Navajo Nation to power grid for the first time

Crews from nearly a dozen states are working hard in some of the most remote parts of Arizona, as part of a volunteer effort to help bring power to homes on the Native American nation. FOX 10's Steve Nielsen reports.

NAVAJO NATION - Utility crews from nearly a dozen states have volunteered to bring power to remote homes on the Navajo Nation whose residents have been asking for power for decades.

On average, it costs \$5,500 dollars to bring power to just one home on the reservation. It's an undertaking that crews say is worth it because it means so much to residents who have never been able to flip a light switch before.

"It was the greatest thing to happen to me," said resident Shirley Chee.

Her home, along with 31 other houses on the Navajo Nation, have power for the first time.

SRP donated two crews to volunteer with teams from 10 other states to electrify hundreds of homes over eight weeks. The America Public Power Association and Navajo Tribal Utility Authority organized it.

In this remote area, homes are spread out on dirt roads far from the grid.

"Average was .7 miles of line and 6 poles, one transformer added to pick up one customer," said Dean Fresholtz with SRP.

Dean Fresholtz is back in Tempe after spending the first week with his crew up there. They battled snow and cold temps, but he said it's powerful work.

"Having a child at home, not able to turn on a light switch to do their homework, to go to the fridge...[to] not be able to do that on a daily basis is incredible in 2022 in America," Fresholtz said.

Shirley Chee told SRP that her family has asked for power for three decades.

"Nobody saw us. Nobody knew we existed," Chee said. "That's why we kept going to the chapter meeting, asking, asking them if they could accommodate us with electricity."

Fresholtz says every day was an experience, and his crew was happy to volunteer.

"If you can, you do," Fresholtz said. "If you have the ability, you do."

The 10-man SRP crew will return this week from their two-week work, then another team will head up later this month.

They say typically they can add 2 homes a day, but the most remote home so far took a full 2 days and 20 poles to connect them.

More on the initiative: <https://www.publicpower.org/donate-light-navajo>

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3LznV43>

# Bulletin Board

## A student's journey toward the stars



**This is the story of one Navajo teen's transition to ASU — and how higher education is changing to better serve the needs of Native American students**

Story by ASU News reporter Marshall Terrill • Photos by Charlie Leight

It's dusk, and smoke from an oak wood fire wafts from a tipi and disappears into the stars over the reservation.

Inside a house nearby, Kiera Charley is wearing a traditional Navajo blouse and silver and turquoise jewelry, preparing to walk out to the tipi where she will join her family and supporters. They are about to begin a sacred ceremony, which will last all night and end at sunrise. They will sing songs and pray throughout the night to ask the holy people for help guiding and protecting Kiera as she prepares for her trip to Tempe.

It's not a quiet scene on the mesa of Many Farms, just outside Chinle, Arizona, on the Navajo Nation.

A drum beats steadily.

Dogs bark.



Children are laughing.

Adults are conversing.

The fire crackles.

It's a gathering of generations. Their purpose on this mid-August night is to bless Kiera before she heads to Arizona State University to pursue a degree in astrophysics.

As she prepares to leave her family's homeland, the ceremony — commonly practiced among the Navajo — will bless and protect her in the outside world as she ends one academic journey and starts another.

Kiera is a star student — a Flinn Scholar, starting college at 16 — but for her and other Native American students, intellect alone doesn't conquer all the barriers they have to face to complete college.

Historically, statistically and anecdotally, Native Americans find it more difficult to earn a degree. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, as of 2019, approximately 133,000 Native Americans attend college each year in the U.S., making up about 0.06% of the nation's college student body. When compared with other ethnicities — white (51.5% of U.S. college students), Hispanic (19%), Black (12%) and Asian/Pacific Islander (6.6%) — it's not even close.

The reasons are many and varied: The academic calendar does not correspond with the calendars of their home communities. Their ways can be different from mainstream society. That extends to how they view spirituality and religion; how they acquire knowledge (Navajos, for example, are mostly visual and auditory learners, according to Kiera's mother, Erika Begay); how they interact with one another; their reciprocal relationship with nature and the environment; and how many are desperately trying to maintain their traditional language and culture.

Breaking away from their family and the reservation is hard; homesickness is a major issue. Native Americans can have stronger ties to their land; it's often where their ancestors have lived for hundreds and hundreds of years. There are also the ties to family and their community. When those students step off the reservations, traditions can become lost in a world that revolves around Thanksgiving, Christmas, spring break and the Fourth of July. They're going to leave behind food that can be difficult to find elsewhere — like a butchered sheep and blue corn mush. Even the hamburger is different.

In short, almost everything.

ASU News tagged along with Kiera Charley as she experienced her first school year at ASU, witnessing her transition from the reservation to a big campus in a big city far from home, and cheering along as she found her footing and her friends on campus.

This is her story, but it's also the story of thousands of Native American students who enter college life each year: their challenges, their triumphs and how higher education — and ASU in particular — is changing to better serve them.

The backstory

For Erika Begay and her husband, Jeroy Charley, sending their daughter Kiera off to boarding school a few hours away was a gut-wrenching decision. It gave Kiera a better education, but she lost a chunk of her childhood.

"As a mother, that was such a hard decision because I felt guilty for not being there for her every day," Erika said. "But I knew the price of her education was invaluable."

In a way, it has become a family tradition.

Erika's mother, Lorraine, did it; then it came time for Erika to do the same with her child.

For most students living on the extensive Navajo Nation, attending a boarding school is one of the few ways to pursue a better education. It's not like the wider culture, where oftentimes even college students will live at home until they've earned their degree.

READ MORE AT: <https://bit.ly/3wBOBvL>

# PERSONNEL NEWS -- DCD OPEN POSITIONS

POSITION TITLE	LOCATION	PAY RATE	CLOSING DATE
<b>Administrative Service Centers</b>			
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Forest Lake, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Alamo, NM	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Kaibeto, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Coalmine Mesa, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Lukachukai, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tolani Lake, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Community Services Coordinator (S)	Sanostee, NM	38,836.80	OUF
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Navajo Mountain, AZ	38,836.80	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Red Mesa, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Tecnospos, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Black Mesa, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Hardrock, AZ	38,836.80	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Rough Rock, AZ	27,519.84	OUF
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Crystal, NM	27,519.84	06/06/2022
Community Service Coordinator (S)	Red Mesa, AZ	38,836.80	06/02/2022
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Huerfano, NM	27,519.84	06/14/2022
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Round Rock, AZ	27,519.84	06/22/2022
Accounts Maintenance Specialist (S)	Sanostee, NM	27,519.84	06/07/2022

### Capital Projects Management Department

Registered Architect (S)	Window Rock, AZ	69,217.20	OUF
--------------------------	-----------------	-----------	-----

(OUF) Open Until Filled

(S) Sensitive Position (subject to background check)

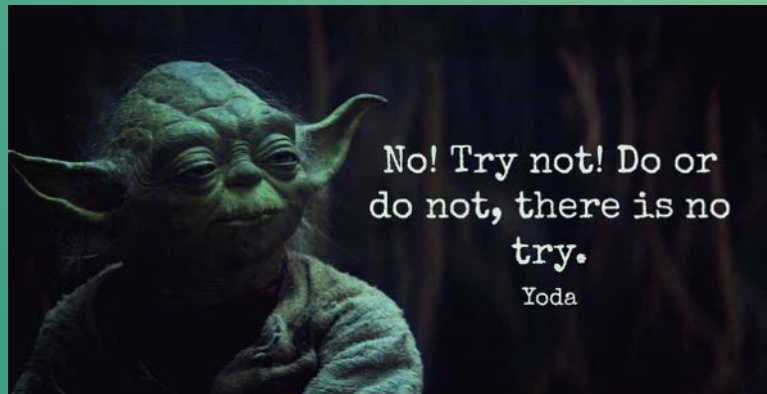
Closing Dates may change due to temporary reduction in non-essential Navajo Nation government services

For the most up-to-date personnel info, please visit DPM's website at  
<http://www.dpm.navajo-nsn.gov/jobs.html>

### Comic of the Month



### Quote of the Month





# Navajo Nation Census Information Center News

## Memorial Day: May 30, 2022

May 30, 2022

Release Number CB22-SFS-73

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who died in service to their country. The holiday was officially proclaimed in 1868 to honor Union and Confederate soldiers and was expanded after World War I to honor those who died in all wars. It became an official federal holiday in 1971, known as Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day. Today, Memorial Day honors over 1 million men and women who have died in military service since the Civil War began in 1861.

From The American Presidency Project, Proclamation 2889–Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day (1950): “Since war is the world's most terrible scourge, we should do all in our power to prevent its recurrence.

“It was the hope of mankind that with the cessation of hostilities of World War II the way would be open to founding a permanent peace. Instead, that war has left the world in a state of continued unrest. Accordingly, we feel the need of turning in humble supplication to Almighty God for help and guidance.

“In recognition of this need, the Congress has fittingly provided, in a joint resolution which I approved on May 11, 1950, that Memorial Day, which has long been set aside for paying tribute to those who lost their lives in war, shall henceforth be dedicated also as a day for Nation-wide prayer for permanent peace. The Congress has also requested that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe Memorial Day in that manner.”

READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/memorial-day.html>



## National Police Week: May 15-21, 2022

May 15, 2022

Release Number CB22-SFS.70

### Peace Officers Memorial Day: May 15, 2022

From The American Presidency Project, Proclamation 10208–Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week, 2021, “There are many ways we can demonstrate appreciation for our law enforcement heroes. We recognize acts of bravery through the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor and the Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery. We must also acknowledge the challenge and value of their service through the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act of 2017 and the Supporting and Treating Officers in Crisis Act of 2019. Should tragedy strike, Public Safety Officers' benefits must be available for the families of officers who lose their lives or are catastrophically injured in the line of duty.”



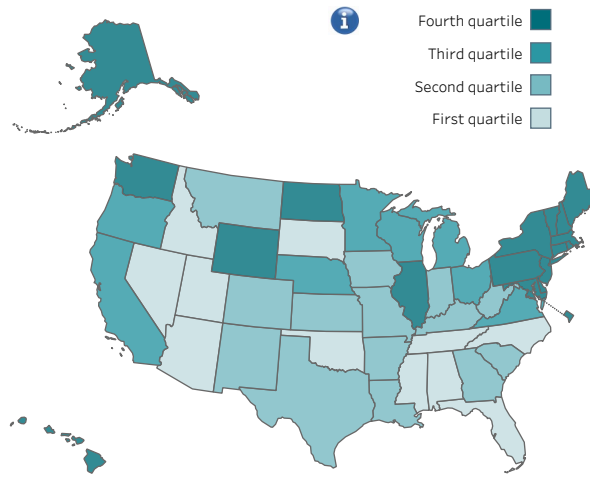
READ MORE AT: <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/stories/police-week.html>

# How Did COVID-19 Affect School Finances?

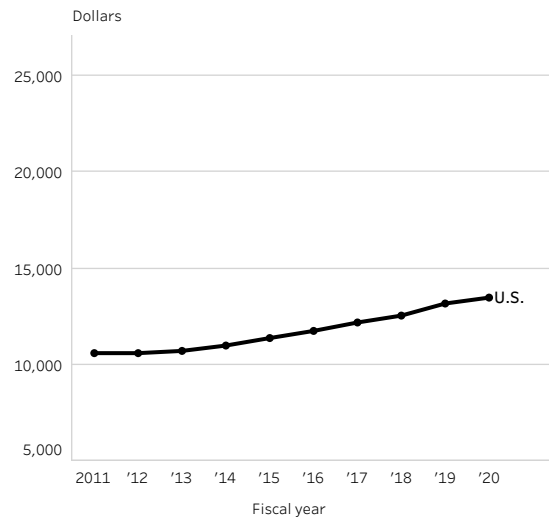
10-Year Comparison of Data From  
Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Annual Survey of School System Finances

For optimal experience, click on the map.  
United States

Per Pupil Current Spending by  
Weighted Quartile and State: FY 2020

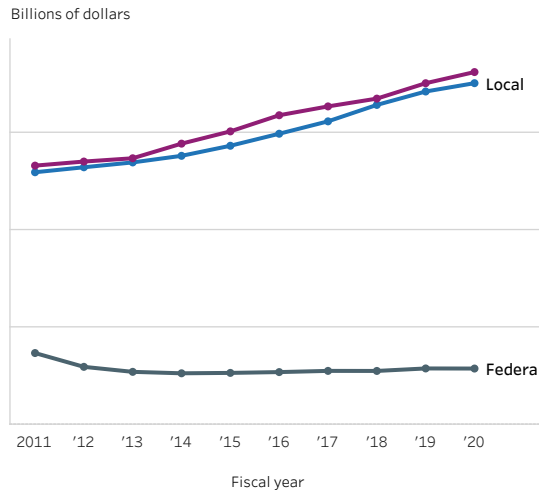


Per Pupil Current Spending:  
FY 2011–2020

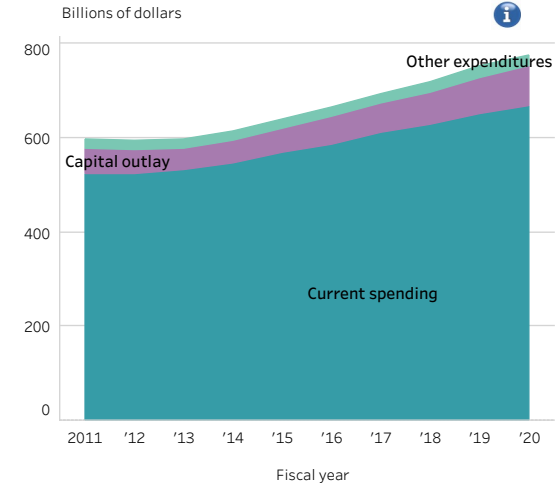


## Revenues and Expenditures for the United States: FY 2011 to FY 2020

Revenues by Source



Total Expenditures

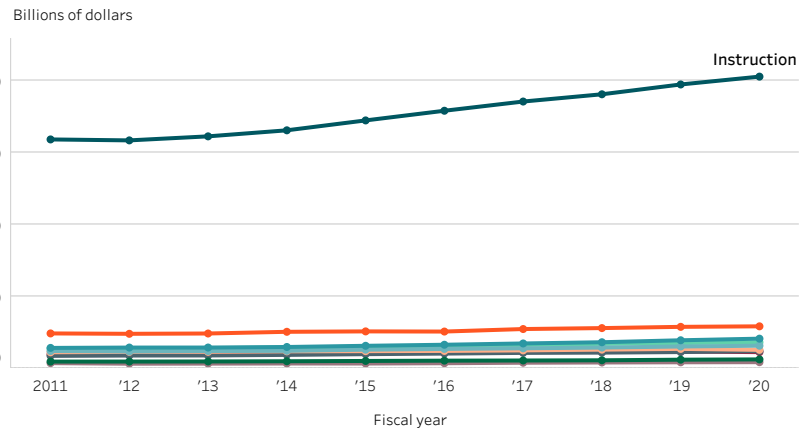


## Current Spending for the United States: FY 2011 to FY 2020

Current Spending by School Finance Function

Select the function(s) to display on the graph  
All

- Instruction
- Pupil support
- Instructional staff support
- General administration
- School administration
- Operation and maintenance
- Pupil transportation
- Other/nonspecified support
- Food services
- Other current spending



Note: Statistics are not adjusted for inflation and do not account for geographic cost differences.



NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

# *Schedule Now!*

## Community Land Use Planning Orientations & Trainings

### Topics

- Review the *Title 26 Local Governance Act - Zoning & Community Based Land Use Plans*
- Provide overview of Land-Use Planning for Navajo Chapters
- Review the CLUPC certification process
- Strategic Planning assistance
- Community assessment collection tools & methods
- Introduction of land use planning topics
- Technical Assistance
- Solid Waste Management

### CONTACT US

#### **Baca- Gallup, ASC**

Guarena Adeky, SPPS  
gadeky@nndcd.org

#### **Ft. Defiance, ASC**

Patricia Begay, SPPS  
pdbegay@nndcd.org

#### **Chinle, ASC**

Edgerton Gene, SPPS  
egene@nndcd.org

#### **Keyenta, ASC**

Calvin Tsosie, SPPS  
cetsoisie@nndcd.org

#### **Crownpoint, ASC**

Casey Begay, SPPS  
casey\_begay@nndcd.org

#### **Shiprock, ASC**

Elizabeth Washburn, SPPS  
eliza-beth@nndcd.org

#### **Dilkon, ASC**

Eunice Begay, SPPS  
ejbegay@nndcd.org

#### **Tuba City, ASC**

Milford Maloney, SPPS  
mmaloney@nndcd.org

#### **Executive Staff**

Latasha James, Senior Planner  
ljames@nndcd.org

Sonlatsa Jim-Martin, ASC Dept. Manager II  
sjim-martin@nndcd.org

#### **Chapter Unit Attorney**

Rodgerick Begay, Attorney  
rbegay@nndoj.org

# Navajo Voters Coalition Planning June 2022 Conference



The Navajo Voters Coalition is planning an annual conference to be held on Friday, June 17, 2022, from 8 am to 4 pm at the Twin Arrows Casino & Resort east of Flagstaff. The conference will be about rural addressing, voter education and registration, federal and state redistricting, state legislative initiatives, voter suppression bills, tribal elections concerns, and candidate views on voter rights.

- After the posting of colors, invocation, and introduction, the keynote speaker will talk about the 2021 redistricting of voting districts in Arizona, New Mexico and Utah and the input given by the Navajo Nation.
- For state redistricting, digital census and precinct maps were overlaid to create a comparative map which showed discrepancies between the census and voter data.
- Rural addressing on Navajo lands will be covered by the Navajo Nation Addressing Authority.
- A panel of election workers will discuss voter registration and tribal elections.
- The Arizona Clean Elections Commission will explain their role in elections.
- Speakers from the Rural Utah Project will talk about the Plus Code web mapping tool that was used for southern Utah Navajo county voters.
- The Arizona Deserves Better will discuss a key Arizona voter initiative, its legislative status and any potential circumstances that may occur if the bill becomes law. The initiative report will educate us.
- Indivisible, a national organization will talk about their efforts in the political advocacy and volunteer work throughout the country.
- The Navajo Election Administration and its Board will address tribal election concerns and process.
- Two local rural addressing committee (LRAC) representatives from the chapters will give reports on their rural addressing activities.
- A panel of political candidates will give their views on current voting issues and voter suppression bills.

Qualified candidates are needed to run for positions in the upcoming elections, locally, statewide, and nationally. Many voters in Arizona are interested in hearing and learning about important political activities. The conference will cover some of these topics. Closing remarks by the conference coordinator will adjourn the meeting.

To help with the cost of the summit, registration is set for \$3. The organizers are building a foundation for future events for the benefit of voters in Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah so come out and join the Navajo Voters Coalition at 22181 Resort Boulevard (857C5P9R+2C Plus Code).

May 2022



**BEING UP-TO-DATE**  
on vaccines is the best way to protect  
against severe COVID-19 illness.  
This includes a **BOOSTER SHOT.**

 **DIKOS NTSAAÍGÍÍ-19**  
CORONAVIRUS

NAVAJO HEALTH COMMAND OPERATIONS CENTER

(P) 928.871.7014

(E) [coronavirus.info@navajo-nsn.gov](mailto:coronavirus.info@navajo-nsn.gov)

[www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19](http://www.ndoh.navajo-nsn.gov/COVID-19)

    
@navajodephealth  
#DineDabizil



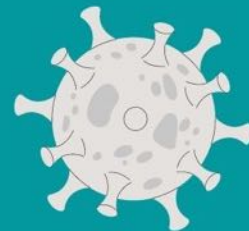


# LET'S MAKE IT FOUR



A SECOND BOOSTER  
(4TH VACCINATION)

IS RECOMMENDED FOR  
THOSE 50 YEARS AND  
OLDER OR ARE  
IMMUNOCOMPROMISED



May 2022



The DCD Newsletter, "Community Info", is produced monthly by the Division of Community Development and is a resource for division staff and chapters.

NEWSLETTER TEAM:

Norbert Nez, Editor

Denise Copeland, Assistant Editor

Sylvia Jordan, Contributing Writer



Division of Community Development • P.O. Box 1904, Window Rock, AZ 86515  
(928) 871-7182  
[www.nndcd.org](http://www.nndcd.org)