

25th Navajo Nation Council 2025 Winter Session Report

Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ya'at'eeh Honorable Madam Speaker Curley, Honorable Council Delegates of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, Honorable President Dr. Nygren, Madam Vice President Montoya, Tribal, State, County, and local leaders, Navajo Nation employees and Shik'éei dóó Shi Dine'ée of our Great Navajo Nation.

I am pleased to present to you the Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region's 2025 Winter Session Report to the 25th Navajo Nation Council. Our report summarizes our accomplishments for this first quarter in carrying out our BIA mission operations to the Navajo Nation.

The BIA Navajo Region hit the ground running in Fiscal Year 2025. Some of the incredible work that I am highlighting for the Navajo Nation include:

As a pilot, the BIA Navajo Region approved Public Law 102-477, known as the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Demonstration Act (25 U.S.C. 3401 et seq), approved for the Navajo Nation for approximately \$53 Million. This law was established to streamline and consolidate various federal grant programs related to employment, training, and related services into a single, cohesive plan, budget, and reporting system. The intent is to align tribal priorities, reduce administrative burdens, and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery within tribal communities. We worked collaboratively with the Navajo Division of Social Services for the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families federal grant funding.

BIA Navajo Region also awarded the Tribal Electrification Project (TEP) to the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA), an enterprise of the Navajo Nation, in the amount of \$10 Million. We are also working with NTUA to secure an additional Statement of Work and Budget for a second round of funding in the amount of \$7,376,200.00.

As I reflect on our accomplishment for this quarter, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible dedication and teamwork by the BIA Navajo Region carrying out our mission. Together, BIA Navajo Region employees, achieved remarkable milestones for the Navajo Nation and we look forward to expanding additional opportunities for the Navajo Nation and Navajo People.

I am thankful for what we accomplished and wish our Great Navajo Nation continued success!

Axhe'hee,

Deborah Shirley
Regional Director, BIA Navajo Region

**Bureau of Indian Affairs
Navajo Region**

Department of the Interior FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan Framework

For the performance period from October 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, the BIA Navajo Region reports the following accomplishments:

STRATEGIC GOAL 1 - Promote Well-Being, Equity, and Justice for Tribes, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Insular Communities.

ADMINISTRATION:

Budget: The BIA Navajo Region began Fiscal Year 2025 on a temporary funding measure known as a Continuing Resolution (CR), Public Law 118-83 (H.R. 9747), the Continuing Appropriations and Extension Act, 2024 which was signed by President Biden on September 21, 2024. This CR #1 provides funding through December 20, 2024, to federal programs at a rate for operation of 22.19%, based on FY 2024 enacted amounts.

On December 21, 2024, Public Law 118-158 (H.R. 10545), American Relief Act 2025 was signed by President Biden which authorized CR #2 for FY 2025 to extend federal funding through March 14, 2025 (84 days), at a rate of 23.01% based on FY 2024 enacted amounts.

On December 27, 2024, the BIA requested an exception apportionment of 100% of FY 2025's allocation for both FY and CY Tribes. The BIA Navajo Region is awaiting approval of this request.

Below is a summary of FY 2025 funds provided to the NN under P.L. 93-638 contracts, as of January 6, 2025. Total funding provided is \$7,481,209.00 with \$1,486,705.12 available for draw down.

NAVAJO NATION P.L. 93-638 FUND STATUS as of January 6, 2025					
Fund	FA Budget Program	Funds Available	To be Awarded	Not Drawn Down	Current Available
256A2100DD	A0N9B1010 : AGRICULTURE PRGRM-TPA	289,691.00	289,691.00	289,691.00	0.00
256A2100DD	A0H901010 : SOCIAL SERVICES-TPA	1,348,911.00	65,684.00	65,684.00	1,283,227.00
256A2100DD	A0H901040 : Domestic Violence	32,397.00			32,397.00
256A2100DD	A0H913030 : WELFARE ASSISTANCE-TPA	1,669,469.00			1,669,469.00
256A2100DD	A0J908080 : TRIBAL COURTS PROGRAMS-TPA	412,661.00	412,661.00	412,661.00	0.00
256A2100DD	A0N6A3031 : FOREST MARKETING ASSIST	5,668.00			5,668.00
256A2100DD	A0N9A0505 : NATURAL RESOURCES -TPA	957.00			957.00
256A2100DD	A0N9C3030 : FORESTRY PROGRAM -TPA	171,833.00	171,833.00	171,833.00	0.00
256A2100DD	A0N9D4040 : WATER RES PROGRAM -TPA	164,322.00	164,322.00	164,322.00	0.00
256A2100DD	A0N9E5050 : WILDLIFE&PARKS PRGRM-TPA	118,974.00	118,974.00	118,974.00	0.00
256A2100DD	A0R9D4040 : ENVRMNTL QLTY PRGRM-TPA	26,557.00	38,215.12	38,215.12	(11,658.12)
256A2100DD	A0T902020 : OTHER AID-TRBL GOV -TPA	225,325.00	225,325.00	225,325.00	0.00
256A2100DD	AEE931010 : TRIBAL SCHOLARSHI TPA BIA	3,013,526.00			3,013,526.00
25XA2100DD	A0H937070 : HOUSING IMPROV PROGRAM-TPA	918.00			918.00
TOTALS		7,481,209.00	1,486,705.12	1,486,705.12	5,994,503.88

Indian Self-Determination: The BIA Navajo Region Indian Self-Determination (ISD) continues to work with Navajo Nation’s twenty (22) non-construction Contracts; seven (7) Subpart J Construction Contracts; and six (6) other Tribal Organizations (TO) under Public Law (P. L.) 93-638. This quarter, the Navajo Nation submitted their CY 2025 Successor Annual Funding Agreement (SAFA) proposals to continue contracting services under a P. L. 93-638 Contract. Both BIA Navajo Region and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) reviewed the proposals in accordance with 25 CFR Part 900 and approved seven (7) SAFA proposals. The BIA Office of Justice Services approved four (4) CY 2025 SAFA proposals. This quarter BIA Navajo Region awarded all available FY 2025 CR 1 funding at 22.19% of FY 2024 Rate of Operation to P. L. 93-638 Contracts. The funding distribution to the Navajo Nation and Tribal Organization’s P. L. 93-638 Contracts are shown in Table 1. All contractors continue providing services to communities and other contractual activities, in accordance with their approved 2025 Scope of Work (SOW) and budgets. All funds awarded entirely benefit the Navajo Nation.

Table 1 -Public Law 93-638 Contracts Funding Allocations

	The Navajo Nation	Amount
A21AV00001	Natural Heritage Program	\$63,056
A21AV00002	Fish & Wildlife Program	\$55,918
A21AV00140	Law Enforcement -Criminal Investigations	\$995,649
A21AV00186	Law Enforcement-Patrol Services	\$4,861,110
A21AV00383	Social Services-Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families	\$65,684
A22AV00149	Environmental Archaeological Non-Roads	\$26,557
A22AV00151	Tribal Courts Program	\$412,661
A23AV00265	Adult Detention Program	\$1,879,635
A23AV00267	Juvenile Correction Program	\$611,577
A23AV00366	Water Development Program	\$106,201
A23AV00367	Forestry Management Program	\$171,833
	Sub-Total	\$9,249,881
	Tribal Organizations	Amount
A19AV00984	Dine Bi Olta School Board Association, Inc. (DBOSBA)	\$140,000
A24AV00800	DBOSBA	\$30,000
A23AV00006	Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc. (ANSBI)	\$42,000
A23AV00905	Rock Point Community School (RPCS)	\$1,145,617
A24AV00878	Subpart J Construction Navajo Tribal Utility Authority - TEP	\$7,376,200
	Sub-Total	\$8,549,470
	GRAND TOTAL	\$17,983,698

This quarter, the BIA Navajo Region conducted on-site P. L. 93-638 Contract Monitoring for the following Contracts:

- A22AV00150, Tribal Enrollment Program, October 8, 2024
- A16AV00710, Subpart J Construction Fruitland-Cambridge Irrigation Projects, October 23, 2024
- A17AV00180, Subpart J Construction Hogback-Cudei Irrigation Projects, October 23, 2024
- A23AV00366, Water Development Program, October 24, 2024
- A21AV00001, Natural Heritage Program, October 29, 2024
- A21AV00002, Fish and Wildlife Program, October 30, 2024
- A12AV01292, Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells, December 17, 2024
- A19AV00070, Subpart J Construction Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Projects, December 17, 2024

The BIA Navajo Region is still awaiting the Navajo Nation’s response to the questioned costs for FY 2022 Single Audit Report (SAR). The Navajo Nation’s FY 2023 SAR was due on June 30, 2024. The Federal Audit Clearinghouse reported the Nation’s electronic audit report was received on November 19, 2024; thereafter, the BIA Navajo Region received the audit report on November 22, 2024, from the Department’s Indian Affairs Division of Internal Evaluation and Assessment (DIEA). In accordance with 5 IAM 2 H SAR, the DIEA provides oversight and monitoring of federal funds which includes a) obtain and review sufficient appropriate evidence from the NN; b) confirm that the corrective action has been effectively implemented; and 3) resolve issues identified and prevent the recurrence of similar finding in future audits.

The BIA Navajo Region provided P. L. 93-638 Subpart J Construction training on November 19-21, 2024, to the Navajo Nation ‘638 Tribal Programs and OMB Contracts and Grants Section.

The BIA Navajo Region worked collaboratively with the Navajo Nation Division of Social Services on the approval of the Public Law 102-477, which enables the Nation to combine tribal related federal grants for employment and training into a single budget and reporting system.

TRUST SERVICES: The Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region Trust Service Programs include: Environmental Services, Fire Management, Forestry, Geospatial Information Systems, Natural Resources, Probate & Estate Services, and Real Estate Services.

Eastern Navajo Agency (ENA) Real Estate Services: The ENA Real Estate Services worked on the following projects:

Business Lease in To’Hajiilee - The ENA Real Estate Services (RES) prepared a business lease between the To’Hajiilee Navajo Chapter and the Navajo Nation (NN) Division of Economic Development to secure a lease for the construction of a building to be used in a business enterprise. The draft lease has been submitted to the NN Regional Business Development Office (RBDO) and will be reviewed by the NN Department of Justice. RES provided an overview of Title 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 162 (25 CFR

162) – Lease and Permits to RBDO, along with a list of required documents to complete the application. This lease and enterprise will provide a local source of food and other necessities lacking in the community.

FAST 41 Project - The Department of the Interior awarded to the Navajo Nation Division of Education and McKinley County Schools funding for connecting two (2) broadband projects under Title 41 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST 41 Project). The Tribe was selected to be the applicant for securing the Right of Way while the BIA Navajo Region is selected to assist with environmental reviews and/or funding. A project timeline was developed for these projects, and key points of contact from NN, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) office, and NN Broadband office were identified.

Alamo Chapter Broadband Project – ENA Real Estate Services is working with Western New Mexico Communications (WNMC) and the Alamo Navajo Chapter to establish a business lease for a broadband project. The project proposes the construction of four (4) telecommunications towers to provide internet services with expanded coverage to the Alamo community. BIA participated in meetings with Chapter Officials and representatives from WNMC to provide guidance and to ensure all regulatory measures are implemented in compliance with 25 C.F.R. 162.

Outreach on Residential Lease Process – Real Estate Services (RES) provided presentations on the residential lease process on allotted lands to educate chapters located in the ENA. RES attended the Tselichi Strategic Planning Work Section in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and made presentations at the Nageezi and Pinedale Chapters – the presentations contained information cited in 25 C.F.R. 162 and information on procedural processing and required documentation. Education is provided as the community members seek assistance with housing and structural upgrades from their respective chapters.

Eastern Navajo Agency (ENA) Probate and Estate Service: Probate and Estate Services staff submitted 33 cases to the Office of Hearing and Appeals (OHA). These cases involved \$1,764,694.44 in Individual Indian Money accounts, 457 allotments, and 176 probable heirs. The BPES staff completed 35 disbursements and closings. They have also assisted 612 clients regarding probate matters.

Shiprock Agency Natural Resources: For the months of October, November, and December, customer service was provided to approximately 249 people regarding transfer of grazing permits, conservation plans, ALUP’s and maps.

Fort Defiance Agency Natural Resources: This quarter, the FDA Natural Resources staff performed the following:

Grazing Committee Meetings and Farm Board Meetings - BIA Natural Resources commits to improve customer service through interactions with the Navajo Nation and clients. Received inquiries are on pending applications for fencing, grazing and land use permits. Clients continue to request for updated certification of their grazing permits for hauling livestock, auctions, and supplemental funding through the NN Department of Agriculture. Fort Defiance Agency also continues to work with clients in Global Positioning System (GPS) farm plots, proposed Range Management Units, and district fence lines. Technical assistance is also given to permit holders in developing conservation plans for grazing permits and land use permits, in addition to providing technical assistance to grazing committee members on filling out forms.

Monthly District Grazing Committee Meetings - District 7: three (3) transfers of grazing permits, one (1) probate, one (1) range management unit surveyed, no land use permit requested. Three (3) agriculture land use permits are almost ready for approval. District 17: Grazing committee recommended (7) probates action on grazing and land use permit, (3) transfers of Grazing and Land Use Permit request recommended, (1) On going discussion Proposed Range Management Unit request, (5) Probate homesite lease request, and (1) dispute/complaints. Districts 14 and 18: four (4) land use permit cancellations, five (5) surveys of land use permits, eight (8) new grazing permits requested, four (4) new land use permit applications, 20 grazing and land use permit probate recommendations. District 14 Grazing Committee recommended to cancel a grazing permit in accordance with 25 CFR 167 and District Grazing Resolution 2023-003 District #14 Final Resolution to Recommend the Decision regarding a cancellation of Grazing Permit No. 14-17-99, because the permit was not utilized properly due to overstock, and livestock roaming and grazing in Indian Route 9's ROW which resulted in vehicle collision.

Grazing Permit Conservation Plans - Fort Defiance Agency contracted BRIC LLC., to complete the 286 grazing permit conservation plans. The contractor visited 36 homes for GPS location and observing the area.

Grazing Permit Verification - Under the authority of the 25 CFR §167.7, the Fort Defiance Agency requested permittees to update and verify their permit information.

Navajo Partitioned Land (NPL): NPL office continues to maintain 38 windmills to provide water for livestock, wildlife and use by some community members for domestic purposes. Twenty-one (21) windmills were certified for repair on November 4, 2024, with seventeen (17) windmills still pending for repairs. Due to winter weather conditions, BIA will resume windmill repairs starting in the spring 2025.

Navajo Partitioned Lands Navajo Partitioned Lands 2024 Windmill Repair List					
Chapter	Item No.	Windmill Number	Motor Size	Date Assess	Date Certified 4 Repairs
Teesto	1	506-3	12'	3/13/2024	11/4/2024
	2	507-W5A	16'	3/13/2024	11/4/2024
	3	507-W6	14'	3/13/2024	11/4/2024
	4	507-11	14'	3/13/2024	11/4/2024
	5	512-3	14'	3/13/2024	11/4/2024
Jeddito	7	515-1	16'	4/4/2024	Pending repairs
	8	515-2	16'	4/4/2024	Pending repairs
	9	517-4	10'	4/10/2024	11/4/2024
Low Mountain	10	409-11	12' D	4/4/2024	11/4/2024
Whippoorwill	11	407-10	14'	4/9/2024	11/4/2024
	12	408-3	10'	4/4/2024	11/4/2024
	13	408-22	10'	4/9/2024	11/4/2024
Pinon	14	306-6	12' D	4/16/2024	11/4/2024
	15	401-2	16'	4/15/2024	11/4/2024
	16	403-3	14'	4/9/2024	11/4/2024
	17	405-1	8'	4/15/2024	Pending repairs
	18	406-5	16'	4/15/2024	11/4/2024
Hardrock	19	305-22	12'	4/3/2024	11/4/2024
Forest Lake	20	302-2	14'	4/10/2024	Pending repairs
	21	302-4	16'	4/10/2024	11/4/2024
	22	303-7	14'	4/10/2024	11/4/2024
	23	303-10	12'	4/11/2024	11/4/2024
	24	309-1	14'	4/10/2024	11/4/2024
Black Mesa	25	308-1	14'	3/21/2024	11/4/2024
	26	311-5	10'	4/11/2024	11/4/2024
Chilchinbeto	27	310-2	10'	4/10/2024	Pending repairs
	28	310-3	14'	4/10/2024	Pending repairs
Kayenta	29	603-6	10'	4/15/2024	Pending repairs
Shonto	30	104-5	12'	4/4/2024	Pending repairs
	31	110-9	16'	4/15/2024	Pending repairs
Tonalea	32	101-4	16'	4/9/2024	Pending repairs
	33	101-9	16'	4/9/2024	Pending repairs
	34	102-15	14'	4/10/2024	Pending repairs
	35	105-3	16'	4/9/2024	Pending repairs
	36	105-15	14' D	4/9/2024	Pending repairs
	37	106-2	14'	4/4/2024	Pending repairs
	38	107-7	14'	4/4/2024	Pending repairs

It is Navajo Partitioned Land's priority to reissue grazing permits that were cancelled due to the Navajo Hopi Land Dispute in the 1970s and to ensure rules mandated by 25 CFR Part 161 Navajo

Partitioned Lands Grazing Permit Regulation and NN Resources Committee; RDCF-20-17 legislation are followed.

The Navajo Partitioned Lands office has reissued 28 grazing permits under Phase 1 and will continue to provide customer service and inquiries on the status of their Heirship Applications under Phase 2. In response to the status of their Phase 2 applications, they are pending review at the NN Department of Agriculture. The Navajo Partitioned Lands office will continue to provide customer service to family members seeking to obtain a copy of their parents or grandparents grazing permit through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) who are provided the information and sample letter to complete and return.

Environmental Management: For this Quarter, Environmental Management worked on the following environmental clean-up projects:

Toadlena Sheep Dip Vat (SDV) – BIA Navajo Region Environmental Team conducted voluntary cleanup for the Sheep Dip Vat (SDV) site under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), which requires the complete removal of the SDV structures and contaminated soil at the site. The contractor completed the excavation of the contaminated soils within the former drainage area of the SDV site then transported the disposal of contaminated soils off-site. The cleanup is completed with the remaining work for the contractor to prepare a draft final report for BIA Navajo Region and the Navajo Nation’s Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) Superfund Program for review and comment. The period of performance for this project was extended to January 31, 2025, for contract close out.

Chichiltah School Landfill - The BIA Division of Facilities Management and Construction (DFMC) transferred the cleanup of former landfill located south of the Chichiltah School, NM. The area of contamination previously assessed was a former dumpsite located south of the school was completely excavated and backfilled with clean soil. Further assessment of the site discovered other pockets of solid waste mixed with asbestos contaminated materials that required additional work for the excavation and backfill of these areas. Further work is required to determine the horizontal and vertical extent of contamination. To help identify the extent of the waste and ensure a more accurate estimate of the additional work, a soil boring investigation is required. This requires BIA Navajo Region to submit a proposal requesting additional funding for the soil boring investigation to DFMC to support further work. This additional work will delay the new school construction for the Chichiltah Community School.

Chinle Land Transfer - Navajo Nation requests six (6) parcels in Chinle, Az, that was used by the BIA to be transferred back to the Tribe. In 2021, BIA Environmental Management contracted iina ba Inc., to conduct the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Phase I and Phase II. Phase I ESA identified a number Recognized Environmental Concerns (RECs) from former and

current uses of the six parcels. During the Phase II ESA, the contractor collected asbestos samples from the identified RECs (debris and piping) as well as performed a lead-based paint survey on the existing structures. The data confirmed the presence of lead-based paint within the parcels, along with Asbestos Contaminated Materials (ACM), water wells, and one possible culturally significant building on one of parcels. BIA Navajo Region contractor is working on clean-up of three (3) parcels: B-1, G-1 and P-1 which are located along BIA Navajo Route 7 (Main Street) in Chinle, AZ. BIA Navajo Region issued a Notice to Proceed on October 25, 2024, with the work plan being approved on December 10, 2024. Field work is scheduled to begin in mid-January 2025. BIA Navajo Region's Environmental Management in concert with Real Estate Services and Property are regarding the other remaining three (3) parcels as these parcels have existing residential housing and businesses that requires further guidance for future environmental clean-up. BIA Navajo Region is also working with Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) regarding the utilities located within the parcels that requires removal.

Tuba City 3-Year Groundwater Monitoring - The week of December 16-20, 2024, BIA Navajo Region Environmental Management Contractor, Eastern Shawnee, was on-site to collect water samples from sixty (60) monitoring wells within the areas of Operation Units 1, 2, and 3. BEM is working with NNEPA Public Water System Supervision Program (PWSSP) and the EPA Region IX on the groundwater monitoring wells for technical assistance.

Shiprock Administration Reserve (SAR) - Environmental Management Contractors continue to demolish and abate the buildings located on the SAR continue. The burned down buildings require manual removal and abate lead-based paint materials and asbestos containing materials. NTUA removed and disposed abandoned utility poles. Concrete sidewalks and asphalt are being demolished and disposed of. During the removal of the concrete work, the Contractor came across some old bones which stopped the project temporarily. Environmental Management requested technical guidance from the Tribe's Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) and the BIA Regional Archaeologist to aid in resolution. After the complete removal of buildings, the next step requires backfilling with clean soil in areas where there are voids. Lastly, mulching will be completed to prevent soil erosion.

Bass Lake Sheep Dip Vat (SDV) - BIA Environmental Management met with the Tribe's HPD on December 3, 2024, to discuss a path forward on the preliminary findings of a cultural site evaluation. Navajo Nation HPD determined that certain site areas identify possible Anasazi habitation within the proposed sampling and remediation boundaries; resulting in potential buried human remains, structures and artifacts. BIA Environmental Management and NNHPD that sampling at the site will continue with the oversight from a designated NNHPD Archaeologist.

Rock Point Sheep Dip Vat (SDV) - BIA Environmental Management reviewed eight (8) possible sites at SDVs in Grazing District #11. Due to its accessibility near US Highway 191, BIA Environmental Management selected this project for remediation. Environmental Management drafted a Statement of work for this project; and requested the Rock Point Chapter to secure a Chapter Resolution in support of this project. BEM is requesting a chapter resolution from Rock Point Chapter to support the assessment and removal of potential contaminated soils and SDV structures. Rock Point reports the Chapter Resolution is forthcoming.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) – Environmental Management received, reviewed and reported the analytical results for the September, October, and November bacteriological results from NTUA Laboratory for the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools. All data and supporting documents were sent to (NNEPA), Public Water System Supervision Program (PWSSP) and U. S. EPA to maintain environmental compliance.

Rocky Ridge Gas & Market Wastewater Lagoon - Environmental Management responded to request to assess a potential wastewater system for the Rocky Ridge Gas & Market (a local business) to tie into BIE Rocky Ridge Boarding School’s wastewater system. In June 2024, the BIA Environmental Management team contacted the Rocky Ridge Boarding School and BIE Tuba City Education Resource Center Facility Manager for information on the operation and maintenance of the lagoon. The Rocky Ridge Gas & Market was advised to contact NNEPA Public Water Systems to secure a wastewater construction permit. BIA Navajo Region does not know if this was conducted by the local business. BIA Environmental Management also advised the BIE Environmental Program to determine if the school lagoon system can accept the extra load of wastewater from the local business. BIA Navajo Region advised the local business that a formal agreement would need to be established between the business and BIE regarding the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of the wastewater collection system.

Forestry: On November 26, 2024, the BIA provided comments and recommendations, in a letter to address their Statement of Work (SOW) for their Calendar Year (CY) 2025 Successor Annual Funding Agreement (SAFA). BIA Navajo Region recommended: 1) clarification on the SOW as it is unclear what the Tribe specifically proposes to conduct under the Timber Management section of the SOW; 2) change the language for “Attachment C – Government Performance and Results Act”; 3) change the language for “Attachment D – Program Specific Report”; and 4) amend the CY 2025 SOW to request full forestry funding available for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA). BIA Navajo Region is waiting for a response letter from the Navajo Nation.

Probate and Estate Services: Probate and Estate Services in partnership with the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) successfully adjudicated 63 cases this quarter. BPES supports the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) to process and disburse the trust assets. At the start of FY2025 1st Quarter, BPES reports there is a total of 8,467 active probate cases being processed at some level. Currently, there are 125 cases eligible for closure. Of those, 115 have completed the

disbursement of the trust property (92.74%) and 87 have completed the disbursement of the trust personalty (80.56%).

Real Estate Services: For Acquisition and Disposal of land activities, the Regional Real Estate Services worked on the following:

BLM Land Transfer to Navajo Nation - the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on the near finalization of the Fort Wingate Legislation: Public Law 114-328: Section 2829F to return certain portions of land at Fort Wingate, NM to its original inhabitants. Parcels 4B, 5B, 8, 10A1, 14B and 25A are currently pending official land survey by BLM. These parcels of land will be returned to the Navajo Nation once the land surveys have been completed and certified.

Fee to Trust of Lower Highway 89 – Real Estate Services worked in conjunction with the Department of the Interior’s Office of Indian Gaming and Navajo Land Department on their Fee-to-Trust application for the Lower Highway 89 AZ, in Flagstaff, AZ. On November 8, 2024, the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs issued the Decision letter to the Navajo Nation approving the FTT application for 13.79 acres of land to be taken into trust. The BIA Navajo Region worked with the President of the Navajo Nation to sign the General Warranty Deed and Acceptance of Conveyance which was then recorded with the Land Titles and Records Office and the Coconino County Recorder for the full 13.79 acres.

Gift Deeds – Real Estate Services team worked with numerous individual Indian undivided interest owners and potential heirs about their allotments and the process for securing gift deeds. Through these consultations, there are two (2) pending gift deed applications and one (1) pending gift deed for processing. There were four meetings in October and November in Houck, Whitecone, and Dilkon, Az and one in Gallup, NM.

Fire Management: There have been eight (8) human caused wildland fires that Branch of Fire Management (BFM) personnel have responded to within the First Quarter (Q1). The total number of acres burned in Q1 is approximately ten (10) acres. The BFM is in discussion with NTUA to assist with the falling of high complexity trees along a right-of-way that NTUA is clearing to install fiber-optic lines along the Defiance Plateau.

Farmington Indian Minerals Office (FIMO): FY 2025 First Quarter has been steady for FIMO program. FIMO has implemented the 100% Return to Office for the staff per guidance from the BIA Navajo Region. FIMO continues to meet with allottees at the office, answer telephone inquiries and provide phone-in and in person outreaches to the communities in ENA. Activities continue to increase as FIMO identifies new projects being proposed. FIMO continues to service allottees and fulfill its trust responsibilities to meet mission goals.

Leasing Assignments – No Assignments processed – one (1) Assignment of mining Lease pending review.

Lease Termination/Cancellation – Nine (9) Indian Allotted leases were cancelled at SITTA Wells and M&M wells. These wells have been plugged.

Leases reinstated – Fifteen (15) leases for the Lone Mesa (Fruitland) Unit were reinstated

INDIAN SERVICES: The Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region Indian Services include Facilities Management, Housing Improvement Program, Property Management, Safety Management and Tribal Government.

Acquisitions: Branch of Acquisitions supports the various programs in soliciting, awarding, and monitoring, contracts and agreements for the Navajo Region and the five (5) agencies within Navajo Region, to support their initiative in promoting well-being, equity and justice for the NN. All awards benefit the NN.

Housing Improvement Program: The NN submitted the 2025 Tribal Annual Performance Report (TAPR) for Housing Improvement Program (HIP). On December 4, 2024, BIA Navajo Region submitted the 2025 TAPR to the Housing Program, BIA Office of Indian Services, Division of Human Services.

On January 6, 2025, the NN submitted its P. L. 93-638 Contract Renewal Proposal with CY 2025 AFA to continue contracting HIP. However, currently, BIA Navajo Region does not have any funding for HIP.

Currently, the BIA Navajo Region Housing Services Officer position is vacant. This position also serves as the Awarding Official's Technical Representative's (AOTR'S) to provide technical assistance to the NN's HIP. Currently, there is a hiring freeze for the Department.

Human Services: Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) - This past quarter, the BIA Navajo Region received 34 ICWA Notices which the Navajo Social Services program was not initially informed. Human Services staff provided guidance on the respective BIA region and contact information nearest to where the child is in protective custody. Human Services also worked collaboratively with the Navajo Nation on the remaining ICWA Notices received to ensure proper social services are received. ICWA utilizes an integrated and shared information management system to enhance communication and coordination; thereby, the BIA Navajo Region ensures the protection and well-being of children while reinforcing the sustainability of ICWA principles.

The Branch of Human Services recently hired a new social worker who will work the Navajo Nation on Indian Child Welfare Act cases. BIA Navajo Region remains committed to working with the Navajo Nation by providing technical assistance, training, and support services.

The BIA Navajo Nation collaboratively worked with the Navajo Nation in securing Public Law 102-477 established what is commonly known as the “477 Program,” which authorizes tribal governments to consolidate up to thirteen different programs from the Department of the Interior, Department of Labor, Department of Education, and Department of Health and Human Services into a single plan, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, to foster employment and economic development in Indian Country. This program provides tribal governments with the flexibility to design employment, training, and economic development plans that utilize funding from several federal programs to best meet the needs of their local communities.

Tribal Government Services: Tribal Government Services completed the following:

Tribal Enrollment - For this Quarter, BIA Navajo Region referred thirty (30) requests to the Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records/Enrollment program regarding Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) requests for prospective membership. The CIB requests range from individuals seeking scholarship and benefits to prison inmates seeking membership with the Navajo Nation. Referrals made to the following agencies: ENA 0; Chinle 1; Fort Defiance 2; Shiprock 3; Western 1; and Window Rock 23.

AOTR Activities – BIA Navajo Region Tribal Operations Specialist serves as the AOTR for three (3) P. L. 93-638 contracts. The BIA Navajo Region Awarding Official and the AOTR in coordination with the Navajo Nation, the following transactions were completed this quarter:

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal (Census) Enrollment (TE) program Contract, A16AV00151 - On December 13, 2024, the AOTR processed a Purchase Request in the amount of \$225,325.00 to the Navajo Nation. FY 2025 began under a temporary funding measure known as H.R. 9747/ Public Law 118-83, Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act 2025, which was signed by President Biden on September 26, 2024. Continuing Resolution #1 covers the funding period of October 1 to December 20, 2024.

In coordination with the Navajo Nation Program Manager, Tribal Enrollment (Census) program, the BIA monitoring review was completed on October 8, 2024. The AOTR completed the monitoring review report and sent on to the Indian Self-Determination Office for further processing to the NN.

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal Courts, Contract No. A22AV00151 - On December 13, 2024, the AOTR processed a Purchase Request in the amount of \$412,661.00. FY 2025 began under a temporary funding measure known as H.R. 9747/ Public Law 118-83, Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act 2025, which was signed by President Biden on September 26, 2024. Continuing Resolution #1 covers the funding period of October 1, through December 20, 2024.

Eastern Navajo Agency (ENA) Road Maintenance: For the month of October, the Road Maintenance crew performed the following:

Roadside Mowing - The BORM crew completed roadside mowing on BIA Routes N49 and N11, from Mariano Lake to Pinedale. ENA also began roadside mowing on N48 north; however, the equipment sustained damage so ENA will resume roadside mowing at later time. Vegetation mowing later conducted on N1042 and N1040 in Crownpoint.

Earth Road Grading - The BORM crew performed earth road grading in the Mariano Lake community for routes: N7052, N843, N11, N7113, N7111, N7112, N50, N7009, N492, and N493. The BORM crew repaired some severe erosion on N7122 in Standing Rock; earth road grading on N485 and N486 in Casamero Lake; and fence repair on N7046 in Jones Ranch area.

Cattle Guard Clean-Out - The BORM crew cleaned cattle guards on N7044 in Chichiltah; N7046 in Jones Ranch; and N7140 in Lupton. At Tohajiilee Chapter's request, repaired damaged cattle guard wing bracing and broken right of way (ROW) fencing. The crew also installed new wing braces and fixed the damaged fence line at the intersection of N56 and Tribal Route 57. Cleaned out seven (7) cattle guards on N474 in Ojo Encino at two (2) locations.

Other Road Maintenance - The BORM conducted pothole patching in Crownpoint near the flea market and on N9 West.

The BORM crew installed two 24-inch x 20-foot culverts on Earth Route N52 in Dalton Pass. The BORM crew performed street cleaning consisting of cutting weeds, trimming trees, and cleaning out drainage ways and corrugated steel culverts on N1042 in Crownpoint.

For the month of November, Roads Maintenance crew performed the following:

- Participated in a *Clearing the Path: Navajo Roads Inclement Weather* roundtable discussion at the Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT) complex.
- Graded earth routes N111, N7113, and N7111 in Mariano Lake; N7054 Pinedale; N485 Casamero Lake; N7004 Whitehorse Lake; and N7124 Standing Rock. Installed a Pedestrian walk-through beside the cattle guard on the ROW fence on N56 Tohajiilee.
- Repaired fence and sign replacement were conducted on N9 East from Pueblo Pintado to Tinian; in Littlewater N48 North; and Smith Lake N49. Repaired fence and signs and installed pedestrian walk-through at two (2) locations on N56 Tohajiilee.
- Conducted equipment repairs and winter preparation for the winter season. The BORM crew performed some equipment repair and then traveled to Ojo Encino to inspect cattle guards that were not in use and determine which cattle guards needed to be removed and relocated for proper utilization.
- Performed snow and ice removal on N49 Smith Lake and onto N11 Pinedale, Crownpoint Metro, N9 West Standing Rock, N48 North, and N48 South. Snow and ice removal

continued earth routes N7113, N111, and N483 Mariano Lake community, N7054 Pinedale, and N482 Heartbutte. As part of the snow and ice removal, the BORM spread cinders on the roadway surface on N9 East and N9 West, N7062 Breadspring, N49 Smith Lake through N11 Pinedale, N48 North Little Water Community, and South Casamero Lake Community.

- Roadside mowing performed along N48 (North) Littlewater and N48 (South) Casamero Lake, and earth road grading on N7004 Whitehorse Lake (22 miles) and N7114 Littleboy Road (3 miles).

For the month of December, the Roads Maintenance crew performed the following:

- Removed a cattle guard on N49 Smith Lake since the turnout was no longer in use; hence the cattle guard was re-installed on N7046 Jones Ranch for a client who obtained a turnout permit. Performed cattle guard removal at three locations on N49 Smith Lake and Mariano Lake since the cattle guards were not being utilized. The BORM crew removed a cattle guard on N7062 Breadsprings and installed the cattle guard on N7046 Jones Ranch. Performed fence repair, installed a wing brace repair on the cattle guard on N11 Pinedale and on N7052 Mariano Lake.
- Constructed turnouts at other locations as requested by clients. Constructed two approved driveway turnouts, installed cattle guards on N7046 Jones Ranch and vegetation control on N7140 Lupton, N7044 Chichiltah, and N7046 Jones Ranch. Continued vegetation control on N9 from SR 371 to Tinian. Roadside mowing conducted along N9, which included removing vegetation behind the guard rails.
- Performed equipment repair on a loader, replacing the turbo and head gasket, and transport the equipment from Whitehorse Lake to the BORM yard.
- Performed earth road grading on N473, N7136, N7130, N7017, and N7004 all in the Whitehorse Lake community. Also conducted fence repair and sign installation on N9 East, N46 Pueblo Pintado, and N49 Smith Lake through N11 Pinedale.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2 - Conserve, Protect, Manage, and Restore Natural and Cultural Resources in the Face of Climate Change and Other Stressors

TRUST SERVICES:

Eastern Navajo Agency Real Estate Services:

BRES met with Navajo Region Branch of Forestry to discuss fire prevention in Smith Lake, Mariano Lake and Pinedale Chapters. The abundance of dead trees is a potential fire hazard to the communities. Forestry is attempting to identify measures to restore the environment in these areas. Mitigation efforts are being complicated by land status, consents, NEPA compliances and being referred to different departments to identify a resolution. BRES has recommended that Forestry establish community priority, obligate funding and establish a scope of work.

Eastern Navajo Agency Natural Resources: From September 23 to December 23, 2024, the ENA Natural Resources (BNR) achieved numerous objectives and goals in support of range management decisions in the best interest of the landowners, making it possible for these landowners to receive income from the use of their land and natural resources and ensuring that these resources are managed properly.

2025 Grazing Permit Renewal - ENA Natural Resources addressed 297 range units regarding requirements and compliance to renew grazing permits in 2025 for Land Management District (LMD) 16, 19, and 20, as well as *Authority to Grant* livestock grazing permits, range unit field assessment, conservation plans, range improvements, low carrying capacity range units, outstanding invoices, ineligibility to renew grazing permit, issues related to access and ceremonial grounds, and requests to add available range units and/or Individual Indian Allotment land – along with questions related to Authority to Grant Livestock Grazing letter, form, location map, and name of permittee(s). Staff also issued four grazing permits, received 11 requests for grazing permits, and approved three TAAMS (Trust Asset and Accounting Management System) Range Contracts to issue invoices for payments. In addition, the ENA BNR received five requests to probate grazing permits and two to dissolve trustees established by the Navajo Nation Courts for District 15 administered under the 25 CFR Part 167, Navajo Grazing Regulations.

On October 7, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided a presentation to the RDC on BIA's Annual Grazing Rental Rate for the 2025 Grazing Permit Renewal Project. Staff provided the September 23, 2024 letter which was addressed to the Navajo Nation along with the Office of Appraisal and Valuation's Appraisal Report. Natural Resources staff responded to questions on rental rates in Navajo Nation Title 3; consensus or agreement with the rental rate; District Grazing Supporting Resolutions from Districts 16, 19, and 20 Land Boards; collection of grazing rental rates; authority of the Land Boards on grazing permits; and a flow chart of the collaborations between producers, land board, and the Navajo Nation.

In response, Natural Resources staff conducted outreach efforts at 12-chapter locations and the district land boards on the recommended rate, but no resolutions were secured. Grazing fees collected are held in the Navajo Nation's Escrow Account which is managed and audited by the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA).

RDC proposed a meeting with the Joint Land Board to discuss the proposed rental rate increase and concerns for elders who cannot afford the increase in grazing fees; thus, requested a 30-day extension to respond. At that time, Agency Deputy Superintendent verbally agreed to additional time limit extension. Council Delegate Simpson also requested assistance from the BIA and Navajo Department of Agriculture to aid drafting a proposal for a bond waiver.

On November 1, 2024, Natural Resources provided another presentation to RDC, Tribe's Department of Agriculture, and the Eastern Navajo Land Board on the annual grazing

rental rate determination process; the recommended and minimum rates; and in consultation, the negotiated rate for tribal lands. The Eastern Navajo Joint Land Board and the Districts 16 and 19 Land Boards provided Supporting Resolutions recommending \$2.00/Animal Unit Month as well as Districts 16 and 19 Land Board Resolutions to waive the bonding requirement.

On November 26, 2024, BIA Eastern Navajo Agency received resolutions from: RDC requesting a waiver of the bonding requirement for grazing permits in the ENA for a 10-year period; and the Naabik' iyati' Committee requesting the BIA to approve the annual grazing rental at \$2.00 per animal unit month for tribal trust lands.

Request for Information - ENA Natural Resources responded to the Navajo Nation General Land Development Office's three requests for grazing permit information: Windstream Overhead Fiber Utility Project; Tucson Electric Powers Cousins Microwave; and Whiptail Carson Pipeline. The Windstream Overhead Fiber Utility Project is located on a Counselor Grazing Allotment of the BLM - Farmington Field Office for information. Natural Resources staff provided land ownership maps for both projects.

Natural Resources: This quarter, Natural Resources staff disseminated education and information through various project reports, funding opportunities, and information sharing such as:

BIL Ecosystem Restoration Funding - On October 16, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided information to Navajo Nation's Department of Fish & Wildlife (NNDFW) on the clarification of BIL which was explained as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) which is also known as the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act. BIL Ecosystem Restoration funding amount of \$617,615 was granted to the Navajo Nation for the Wheatfield Lake Recreational Improvement Project to conduct recreational site improvements.

Agriculture Resource Management Plan (ARMP) Contract Status – In October 2024, the BIA Navajo Region Contract Monitoring Team presented budget and contractual information to the Navajo Nation Division of Fish and Wildlife Program (NNDFW) staff. During this meeting, the Navajo Nation was informed the ARMP contract would require a request for a two (2) year extension. BIA Natural Resources Awarding Official's Technical Representative (AOTR) provided important information on the importance of the Nation's contractual agreement to complete the ARMP from a legal standpoint. NNDFW informed the BIA Contract Monitoring Team that a new planner had been hired to work with a potential contractor to complete the ARMP; however, to date, the BIA has not received a request for a contract extension nor any updates or progress reports.

Horse Rescue Program Information – On November 27, 2024, Natural Resources disseminated information to the Navajo Nation Horse Rescue Program on the National Tribal Horse Coalition (NTHC) and its funding opportunities.

Invasive Noxious Weeds on the Navajo Nation – On November 27, 2024, Natural Resources staff disseminated invasive noxious weed information to the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) and the Navajo Nation specifically particular Arizona noxious invasive weed that has infiltrated the State of Arizona and was recently observed just north of I-40 on the Navajo Nation.

Tribal Development Capacity (TEDC) Grant Funding – On November 18, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided webinar information on an Overview of the Tribal Development Capacity (TEDC) grant funding program to the Tribe.

2025 Endangered and Invasive Species and Fisheries RFP - During the week of October 31 through November 7, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided information on the solicitation of Request for Proposals on the 2025 Endangered and Invasive Species and Fisheries funding opportunities.

Draft Agriculture Resource Management Plan Template – On October 18, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided updated information on a template format for developing Agricultural Resource Management Plan provided by the BIA Central Office to the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife program.

USDA-Southwest Climate Hub – On October 3, 2024, Natural Resources staff provided an opportunity to learn more about the USDA-Southwest Climate Hub.

DRAFT Standard Operating Procedures on Grazing and Agriculture Land Use Permit (ALUP) Permit Management – Natural Resource staff continue use the BIA Navajo Region DRAFT Standard Operating Procedures on Grazing and ALUP Permit Management which includes Range Inventory and Monitoring procedures (latest update September 2024). This draft SOP includes a section for Monitoring which provides the Navajo Nation with assessing natural resources, grazing, and grazing permits.

Joint Federal Partnership Meeting – In October 2024, Natural Resources staff participated in a Joint Federal Partners Meeting between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), US Forest Service (USFS), Farm Service Agency (FSA) and BIA on Reciprocity and Cross-training Government wide for BIA and Tribal Natural Resource employees. Natural Resources staff attended two (2) meetings during the week of November 4, 2024 focusing on the need to distribute funding opportunities to Tribes, promoting cross-training opportunities, and feral horses on tribal lands. There was a large interest in the National Tribal Horse Coalition (NTHC) subcommittee meeting with the BIA Natural Resources program emphasizing the need for support via tribal resolution

from the Navajo Nation to aid in improving the Nation's conservation and preservation land efforts.

Other Projects – Natural Resources staff continue to push for the use of the NRCS Cultural Program Application (CPA) 52 under the NEPA protocol and the NRCS 40-hour NEPA training the NRCS provides to its employees. BIA Natural Resources continues to request for the forty (40) hour Planner Certification Training for BIA and Tribal employees. This quarter, Natural Resources continues to work with the Tribe on a solar farm project of ≈3700ac known as the Shepherd Solar Farm. Five (5) monitoring points were developed in Shiprock which assessed Clayey (sodic) upland type soils. The findings report was completed with impact six (6) to seven (7) grazing permits.

2025 Navajo Nation Soil Survey Updates - In November 2024, Natural Resources staff attended planning meetings with NRCS Flagstaff Soil Survey Office (SSO). This meeting discussed plans to update the Navajo Nation Soil Surveys in 2025; sharing SSO grant documents; and upcoming 2025 Projects. NRCS plans to kick start with the Chinle Valley and include Utah and Ute Reservation Soil Survey updates. From October to December 2024, NRCS also provided updates on climate activities. On November 13-14, 2024, Natural Resources staff participated in the State of Arizona climate briefing on the monsoons and water for 2024. There were presentations on the Navajo Nation's current conditions and weather outlook for 2024 Winter as well as a two (2) day virtual drought summit where Navajo Nation, NRCS, US Forest Service, and both New Mexico and Arizona Agricultural Extension Service Centers participating.

Natural Resources staff shared current drought information to the Navajo Nation and surrounding counties with specific information on Grazing during Drought: How Grazing May be Affected by Climate Change to the Drought Learning Network (DLN).

2025 Society for Range Management (SRM) Annual Meeting – Natural Resources staff attended the SRM-Interagency meeting to discuss the upcoming 2025 SRM Annual Meeting from February 9-13, 2025, in Spokane, Washington. Discussion also included: Trainings and Agreements (cross-training and reciprocity); SRM Priority Policy Issues (Leadership, Trainings, Employment, Mentorship); Agency Updates from US Forest Service, NRCS, Agricultural Research Service, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Service, BIA, National Park Service, the National Coalition of Tribal Leaders and the State Department.

Grant Funding Opportunities – BIA and the US Fisheries, Wildlife, and Recreation Programs (FW&R) announced funding opportunities for competitive and non-recurring project within three different program areas in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY 25):

Endangered Species Program - Approximately \$6 million will be awarded by the Bureau in competitive funding for this program.

Hatchery Maintenance Program - BIA will award approximately \$9 million in competitive funding for this program.

Tribal Youth Initiative Program - BIA will award approximately \$1.5 million in competitive funding for this program.

Shiprock Agency Natural Resources: Shiprock Agency conducted a vegetation survey in Hogback regarding the Shepherd Solar One project. This project is approximately 3,736 acres of rangeland removal to business site lease. Four (4) rangeland monitoring cages were established in District 13 near Burnham. Seventy-five (75) head of equine were humanely captured in Two Grey Hills and Burnham and transported to the Navajo Nation Department Agriculture facilities in Window Rock, Arizona.

Fort Defiance Agency Natural Resources: This quarter, FDA Natural Resources worked on the following initiatives:

Vegetation Survey Projects: – The agency has contracted BRIC LLC to complete the District 18 Range Inventory. A balance between stocking rate and range utilization is necessary for the effective conversion of range forage to animal production, whether if it is domestic animal or wildlife. A forage balance is essential in maintaining future ecosystem function. To achieve this balance the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Navajo Nation need information on current forage (rangeland) condition. The re-scheduled pre-work meeting has been decided to perform the Range inventory until summer season or FY 2025 during the vegetation growing season.

Noxious Weed Projects – The Range staff continues to perform COR duties for the Chuska Lake EA project field work has been completed. BRIC LLC has been assigned to the project. The Period of Performance (POP) Extension has been requested to extend the contract to December 31, 2024. The Cultural Resource Inventory Report has been completed and is still pending review and concurrence from NNHPD.

District 7 Noxious Weed Inventory - Fort Defiance Agency Natural Resources contracted BRIC LLC to complete the District 7 Noxious Weed Inventory. The primary objective of the District 7 is to establish a baseline of existing invasive species within the District 7. The contractor rescheduled to start in October 2024 and completed the field work and focusing on the completing the report.

Chinle Agency Natural Resources: This quarter, Chinle Natural Resources worked on the following initiatives:

Retreatment of BIA roads N-4/N-64 ROW - Chinle Agency solicited for bidding & awarded the retreatment of BIA roads N-4/N-64 ROW, which is to commence in the fall

of 2025. Phase II of the N-59 & IR-12 ROW Noxious Weed Control acquired approved BRCF from the NN and this project will commence in the fall of 2025.

Range inventory proposals for LMD 4, 10 and 11 - Chinle Agency submitted three (3) range inventory proposals for LMD 4, 10 and 11, which is still pending funding approval via Central Office. All three (3) LMD are approaching the 10-Year period from previous range inventory to determine the latest carrying capacities and recommended livestock adjustment.

Grazing Permit Transfers – Thirteen (13) grazing permit transfers for Nazlini Chapter are pending approval of Biological Resources Compliance Forms (BRCF), which have been submitted to NN NNDFW. One (1) Agricultural Land Use Permit (ALUP) was approved and returned to BNR for client’s use. Natural Resources staff participated and assisted the NN Division of Resource Enforcement (NNDRE) and Department of Agriculture with two (2) trespass enforcement on October 18, 2024 at Blue Gap Chapter and on November 13, 2024 at Many Farms Chapter.

Range Monitoring – In Chinle Agency, Natural Resources staff installed thirty-three (33) range monitoring cages within the three (3) LMD Range Management Units (RMU). In LMD 4, six (6) cages placed; LMD 10, eleven (11) cages placed; LMD 11, sixteen (16) cages placed.

Western Navajo Agency Natural Resources: This quarter, Natural Resources worked on the following:

Former Bennett Freeze (FBFA) Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP) - Western Navajo Agency (WNA) Natural Resources staff are busy implementing the Former Bennett Freeze (FBFA) Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP). The IRMP supports future management plans for areas impacted by the FBFA. Natural Resources staff completed work on the Land Management District (LMD) 3 Cropland Management Plan (CMP) and the completed Programmatic Environmental Assessment for the CMP which is currently being reviewed by the BIA Navajo Region’s NEPA Compliance Office. The CMP was completed in November 2024 is specific to LMD 3 (Coal Mine Canyon, To'Nanees'Dizi, Bodaway/Gap and Cameron communities) within the boundary of the WNA. The CMP is a planning effort intended to protect trust land for agricultural purposes and contains a clear, step-by-step permitting process that relies on collaborative oversight between the BIA, NN, and farmers and/or farm associations. Adoption of the CMP will provide improved administration, monitoring, and management for existing permitted agricultural lands and future permitted agricultural lands. The CMP recognizes several overlapping areas of responsibility for land use and land management between the BIA and the NN.

Cropland Management Plan (CMP) for LMD 1 – Natural Resources staff completed the LMD 1 Resource Management Plan (RMP) which covers rangeland and cropland areas; and is currently developing the Programmatic Environmental Assessment. LMD 1 consists of Tonalea, Kaibeto, LeChee and Coppermine communities. Two public scoping meetings were held at the Tonalea and Coppermine Chapter Houses on November 16 and 17, 2024. A total of 124 community members attended the two (2) public scoping meetings and 25 comments were received. Due to requests from the public and community leaders, two (2) additional public scoping meetings will be scheduled at the Kaibeto and LeChee Chapter Houses and the public comment period is to be extended. The additional public scoping meetings will be scheduled for January 2025.

Feral Horse Project – Natural Resources staff assisted the LMD Grazing Committee Members for their respective areas with feral horse removal. In the year 2024, a total of 483 (equivalent to 2,415 SUYL) horses have been removed from the WNA rangelands, with 216 unpermitted horses removed from LMD 1 (Tonalea/Redlake, Kaibeto, LeChee and Coppermine), 14 horses removed from LMD 2 (Navajo Mountain), 155 horses removed from LMD 3 (Cameron/Gray Mountain and Tuba City) and 98 horses removed from LMD 5 (Leupp). Due to the winter, the feral horse projects are on hold. With the removal of unpermitted horses, more forage and water resources are available for the permitted animals of Grazing Permit Holders and wildlife.

Conservation Planning Efforts – Natural Resources hosted four (4) one-day workshops on assisting Grazing Permit grantees on developing a Conservation Plan and provided additional information on monitoring grazing lands and conservation practices to improve rangeland resources. The workshops are a partnership between Dine College Land Grant Office (LGO) and the WNA Natural Resources. The Dine College staff assisted with presenting topics on herd health, herd management, breeding practices and basic rangeland monitoring practices as part of the workshop. Natural Resources staff appreciates the help and participation of LGO and for sharing their knowledge and resources to the participants in the workshop. Additional workshops will be scheduled for 2025.

Navajo Partitioned Lands (NPL): NPL Noxious Weed Inventory of the major washes crossing NPL has been completed with the report to be shared with appropriate Tribal Offices and newly elected District Grazing Committee (DGC) and other entities requesting a copy of the report. The eight major waterways that were identified for inventory were Shonto Wash, Moenkopi Wash, Dinnebito Wash, Oraibi Wash, Burnt Corn Wash, Polacca Wash, Jeddito Wash, and Wepo Wash totaling approximately 227 miles. Areas of soil disturbance such as roadways, active and intermittent waterways, stock tanks, and other developments are crucial to the life cycle of noxious weeds as these spaces are unoccupied and often present few hinderances to growth. The interconnectedness of these disturbance features and corridors are what have allowed noxious weeds to expand across the west. The Navajo Region has recognized

the effect of noxious weeds and the importance of controlling the spread throughout tribal lands. The NN IWMP (BIA 2022) describes target noxious weed species, mapping methodologies, important considerations, as well as the best-known practices to prevent expansion and even eradication of certain species. There are forty-six weed species identified as noxious on NN lands. These weed species are separated into three (3) categories (A, B, & C) to align with certain management goals (Table 1). Category A weeds should be prevented from establishment and eradicated where they are found. Category B weed populations should be contained and long-term eradication should be attempted where feasible. Category C weeds are widespread and well established in the west, the goal is to contain infestations and monitor known populations. Development of a treatment plan will be done in consultation with the local chapter and the NN.

Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review (NEPA): NEPA reviewed and recommended 35 Section 106 reports for compliance to Regional Director for the Navajo Nation projects. NEPA also completed fifty-six (56) Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) Section 106 reviews.

Reclamation on Peabody Western Coal Company Leasing Area - On November 12-14, 2024, NEPA participated in reclamation activities to rebury 900 boxes of cultural materials and ground stones on the Black Mesa Peabody Coal Company coalmine lease area. The cultural materials and ground stones were excavated back in the early 1970's to 1980's due to coal mining activities. Participants in the reburial of the cultural materials were completed in a joint effort between Navajo Nation Heritage Historic Preservation Department, Hopi Tribe, Museum of Northern Arizona Museum, and Peabody Coal Company.

On December 2, 2024, NEPA program attended a government-to-government meeting with Navajo Nation Resource Development Committee and BIA Navajo Region on Peabody Coal Company's Reclamation activities.

Poncho House Ruins – On December 3, 2024, NEPA program conducted a field assessment of Poncho House, cliff dwelling ruins, an archaeological site located in Mexican Water, Utah. The field visit was conducted at the request of the Navajo Nation Council Delegate Yanito to assess if there is need for the protection of the archeological site. The field visit was conducted by Navajo Nation Heritage, Historic Preservation Department, Museum of Northern Arizona, Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation Law Enforcement, and BIA Navajo Region Archaeologist. The outcome of the field visit identified next steps to completing an assessment to protect the site.

Crow Canyon Rock Petroglyphs - On December 18-19, 2024, the NEPA program participated in a consultation field visit with Bureau of Land Management (BLM), BIA, Central Office, Division of Environmental Services and Cultural Resources Management, BIA Navajo Region, and Navajo Nation Heritage Historic Preservation Department of the Crow Canyon Rock Petroglyphs located southeast of Farmington, New Mexico, located in

Dinetah, traditional homeland to the Navajos. The site contains a variety of Navajo ruins and rock art (panels) from centuries ago. Recommendations from each of the participating partners was expected for the field visit.

Forestry – BIA Forestry worked on the following projects this quarter:

Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) Field Inspections - On November 27, 2024, the Branch of Forestry submitted a request for the BIA Central Office Timber Team to assist with the Continuous Forest Inventory (CFI) field inspections to the Central Office, Division of Forestry. On December 18, 2024, the Central Office, Branch of Forest Inventory and Planning (FIP) and the Timber Team met to discuss the CFI project on the Navajo reservation. The tribe proceeded with the fieldwork and approximately 22% of the 883 plots has been completed. The raw data submitted by the Navajo Nation is recorded on paper tally sheets and lacks essential information, including field maps, cardinal direction photos, and documentation of the crew leader. It was clarified to the Central Office, FIP and National Timber Team staff that no field inspections have been completed on the data submitted to the Navajo Region and the Navajo Region is unaware if the Navajo Nation has entered data into the error-check program they possess. The Navajo Region Branch of Forestry provided a solution to address these matters was outlined and includes updating the field manual, revising the database, using tablets from the Central Office FIP to complete the remaining plots, and scheduling a training session with tribal crews to follow through in the revised data collection procedures. The Navajo Region, Branch of Forestry will initiate communications in a formal letter to the Navajo Nation to allow for things to continue forward with the CFI Project. On December 20, 2024, the draft CFI manual for the project, the draft inspection and ratings forms, and a comprehensive list of all the plots was provided to the Branch of Forest Inventory and Planning.

Office of Geospatial Services: Geospatial services encompass a range of activities that involve the collection, analysis, visualization, and management of geographic data. These services utilize technologies such as GIS, remote sensing, and spatial analysis to support decision-making, planning, and resource management across various sectors, including natural resources, environmental monitoring, transportation, cadastral and public health. By integrating spatial data with traditional data sources, geospatial services enable organizations to gain insights into patterns, relationships, and trends, ultimately enhancing operational efficiency and strategic outcomes. For the performance period from September 27, 2024, to December 31, 2024, Geospatial Services is pleased to report:

Navajo Region Geospatial Strategic Plan - In July of 2024, the Navajo Region RGC convened managers, supervisors and technical staff to develop a BIA Navajo Region Geospatial Strategic Plan to align data management, technology, and resources to enhance decision-making, improve service delivery, and foster collaboration across various partners, including the Navajo Nation, in a systematic and efficient manner. The previous plan had been revised according to the outcomes of the July strategic planning session. On

September 16, 2024, a comprehensive overview meeting for the revised Strategic Plan was held, attended by Branch Managers and key technical staff. During a follow-up meeting on September 26, 2024, the Navajo Region recognized the need for substantial revisions to enhance the effectiveness of the current Geospatial Strategic Plan. Consequently, the implementation timeline has been extended from 2021 to 2029 to accommodate these critical changes. Additionally, on October 31, 2024, managers and technical representatives provided valuable feedback on the proposed revisions, ensuring that the updated plan aligns with organizational goals and stakeholder needs. The Strategic Plan continues to be developed and revised to ensure a comprehensive plan.

Engineering: Engineering staff performed the following activities this quarter:

Tribal Priority Access 638 Funding - completed the BIA procurement process for the Tribal Priority Access (TPA) Federal Budget Continuing Resolution #1 funding for three (3) NN P. L. 93-638 Contracts: Water Monitoring Contract No. A20AV00139, Amount \$58,121; Water Development Contract No. A23AV00366, Amount \$106,201; and NAPI On-Farm Development and ATRL Contract No. A21AV00158, Amount \$289,691.

Status of Bottle Water Delivery - The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contracts between BIA Navajo Region and the NN's Ramah and Alamo Chapters have concluded all their bottled water delivery orders as of December 20, 2024, thus each contract is now in the close out phase.

2024 Government Performance and Results Act (GRPA) - Engineering staff reported the Fiscal Year 2024 Government Performance and Results Act (GRPA) final completion for measure 2052 for Water Management at 100% completed, meeting all target goals.

PL 93-638 Contracts for Engineering - P.L. 93-638 contracts for the Fruitland-Cambridge (F-C), Hogback-Cudei (H-C) Irrigation Rehabilitation projects, including the Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells projects were all formally extended to December 31, 2029, after the P.L.111-11 deadline extension process was completed. The Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells Projects are still on pause until the Tribe's Project for the Area Regional Water Source is completed. Once finished, the Navajo Nation will need to submit a modification to the current P. L. 93-638 Sub-part J Contract Work Order #1 Chilchiltah Vanderwagon Water System to amend the Scope of Work to complete the work not accomplished under ARPA and the New Mexico Tribal Infrastructure work. The Navajo Nation Technical Construction Operation Branch (NNTCOB) is currently in the process of procuring their construction contractor for the F-C Irrigation Canal's Fish Weir project. This construction is set to begin at the end of January 2025. The F-C Irrigation Canal's Diversion Dam construction project will remain on hold until the Fish Weir construction project is complete with the Tribe identifying a resolution to secure additional funds needed in the amount of \$21M to complete the project. Engineering and the NNTCOB completed the 100% Final Design review process with the NN's Engineering contractor for the H-C

Irrigation Rehabilitation Project's Canal Lining Rehabilitation project. On October 7, 2024, a walk-through inspection was completed for the H-C Canal Lining Rehabilitation Project.

Navajo Nation procured a construction contractor for the H-C Irrigation Rehabilitation Canal Lining project in November 2024. The construction contractor began work in early December 2024 pouring concrete in the areas for rehab.

The H-C Irrigation Rehabilitation project's Helium Lateral Flume construction project is 90% complete, with the new pipe set in place with concrete forms fully cured. The last portion of the project is to complete the groundwork beneath the flume as well as the completion of the flume inlet.

The H-C Irrigation Rehabilitation project's Jim Canyon Siphon is moving along with construction. The old siphon pipe has been demolished and removed, clearing and grubbing is complete. Although, during the construction of the new siphon pipe installation, the construction crew exposed the water table during excavation of the new pillar locations. The NN's Engineering contractor, Rock Gap Engineering is currently working on an updated design to resolve the issue.

The H-C Irrigation Rehabilitation project's Salt Creek Siphon construction contractor is currently clearing and grubbing to begin disassembling the old siphon pipe. The focus is to complete the Helium Lateral Flume and Jim Canyon Siphon projects first before moving on this project.

Annual Dam Inspections - Between October 7-11, 2024, the BIA Central Office's Division of Water and Power, Safety of Dams (SOD) completed the following annual Dam inspections: Cutter, Captain Tom, Many Farms, Round Rock, Asaayi, Todacheene, Blue Canyon, and Window Rock.

NIIP FY 2024 FINAL Government Performance and Results Act - Engineering reported the FY 2024 completed final GPRA measures for 1826 and 20237 for the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project (NIIP) at 100% completed, meeting all target goals.

Dam Elevation Adjustments from NAVD-29 to NAVD-88 – BIA Central Office's Division of Water and Power Safety of Dams Program worked with Navajo Region Engineering and the Tribe's Safety of Dams program to complete Dam elevation adjustments from NAVD-29 to NAVD-88 for eight (8) dams. After the initial meeting on October 16, 2024, a few more adjustments were noted and will be completed in January 2025. This team also met to discuss the Bureau of Reclamation's field work at the Many Farms Dam Spillway in which BOR inserted grout into cracks at the Dam Spillway to eliminate failure. The Tribe captured photos of the grout work at the dam spillway and sent to the Engineering staff and were forwarded to the BIA Central Office for review.

Engineering staff in conjunction with the Tribe's Safety of Dams program will provide a follow up meeting to discuss next steps in January 2025.

Kin Bineola Dam – BIA Central Office is providing funding for the rehabilitation of the Kin Bineola Dam in Lake Valley, New Mexico. Before the final design process commences, BIA will re-assess the flooding inundation data to ensure proper dam specifications are met. Engineering staff plan to meet with the one (1) homeowner who currently resides in the flood zone to discuss their options.

Periodic Review Workshop for Window Rock Dam - From November 4-7, 2024, the Engineering staff conducted a Periodic Review (PR) Workshop for the Window Rock Dam which was completed by the BIA Central Office with the Tribe's Safety of Dam program.

Navajo Indian Irrigation Project Quarterly Meeting – In November and December 2024, the NIIP Project Management Team (PMT) conducted its third quarterly meeting. These meetings discuss policies and procedures for the Block 9 Stage 2 development. BIA NIIP continues its efforts to establish a BIA Policy Team which includes the Navajo Nation. The intent of the Policy Team is to discuss updates of NIIP's current and future developments. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for February 2024 with the Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI) and Bureau of Reclamation. NIIP staff in collaboration with the Bureau of Reclamation Four Corners Construction Office are also drafting an updated Interagency Agreement in FY 2025 which will secure NAPI to provide technical assistance and training on operation and maintenance (O&M). NIIP staff are drafting a new solicitation for an environmental assessment for impacts to NIIP's current and future developments. NTUA Service Drop-Contract was cancelled due to NAPI's preference to remain on WAPA while utilizing the generator for Pinabete Substation. WAPA firm electric agreement 87-SLC-0014 renewal and amendment to 2057 was signed October 2024. G7.5LA Pumping Plant- HVAC Wastewater Drainage E40 Project was sub-contracted to KB-Walkoma, LLC to develop construction specifications, as-built changes and procurement of subcontractors to construct drainage discharge pipeline for the Pumping Plant G7.5LA's evaporative cooler system. Designs mitigated (75) gallons of cooling system discharge water into the pumping plant sump system to be recycled. Upper Fruitland Block 2 Seepage Study is being conducted by Keller Bleisner Engineering (KBE) to investigate potential drainage issues affecting the Upper Fruitland Community. G7.5LA Pumping Plant- HVAC Wastewater Drainage System Install was completed and HVAC Discharge water to the pumping plant sump system for recycled use.

Probate and Estate Services – For this quarter, Probate staff prepared and submitted 119 cases to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) for adjudication. Of the 119 cases, 67 were submitted by ENA, 25 by Fort Defiance Agency, and 27 by Shiprock Agency.

Real Estate Services: This quarter, Real Estate Services Minerals staff worked on the following:

Mining Reclamation Activities - Collaboration between BIA RES, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), BLM and the Navajo Nation's Solid Minerals continue to conduct monthly meetings to discuss updates or issues and status of reclamation and inspections relating to the Navajo Mine (NTEC), Chevron (CMI) and Peabody Western Coal Company (PWCC). No inspections were scheduled for this quarter.

Other Surface Mining Activities - RES also met with BLM, OSMRE, Navajo Nation, and BIA Hopi Agency representatives on the PWCC Quarterly Inspection N9 Bond Release. RES Minerals also plans to meet with Kaibeto Resources Inc to discuss two (2) outstanding reclamation items of the gravel pit. This lease expired in 2018. Regarding the Nazlini (Emma Brown) Gravel Pit, BIA RES has not received any request from NECA to release the bond for this gravel pit. This lease expired April 7, 2024. For the Wheatfield Gravel Pit, BIA RES reports no activity for this lease this quarter. For the Teec Nos Pos Gravel Pit, RES reports no activity and the pit remains undisturbed. The last scheduled inspection was on August 28, 2024, and the application was approved and submitted to NTEC. An inspection for the Apache County Carrizo Sand and Gravel Pit located in Teec Nos Pos, Arizona has not been scheduled for this quarter. The last inspection was on August 28, 2024, was for a weight scale in which the BIA RES was onsite for the installation and calibration of weight scale on August 15, 2024.

Real Estate Minerals assisted with on-site inspections for new proposed wells for new Application of Permit Drill (APD) applications for Oil and Gas leases. The following were conducted: a) October 30, 2024 - NTEC (TACITUS) On site inspection for four (4) new Helium wells; b) November 18, 2024 - Vision Energy – On site inspection for Sundry Notice applications for pipeline between three (3) wells that were approved; c) December 11, 2024 – NNOG (Navajo Nation Oil & Gas Company) – On site inspection for six (6) Final Surface clearance for reclamation in the NIIP field area; d) December 19, 2024 - Enduring Oil & Gas Co. - This location was split Estate land which Navajo Nation has the surface rights where a pipeline is going through.

Real Estate Minerals assisted with on-site inspections for new proposed wells for the Application of Permit Drill applications for Oil and Gas leases. BIA received five (5) APD applications from BLM for ELK Operating Services, LLC for five (5) locations in the Aneth Extension area. The packages were returned to BLM for approval on December 23, 2024. Real Estate Services Minerals continue to attend inspections for Plug and Abandon wells in the BLM Farmington Office for clearances.

Real Estate Services Rights of Way staff worked with several entities for numerous projects: a) Frontier Communication proposes to install fiber optic cabling on existing NTUA poles for Cellular One in Tsale, Arizona; b) Frontier Communication proposes to install new cable within tribal complex in Window Rock, AZ; c) Painted Desert Navajo Power prepared a draft ROW application for dual 345 kV lines connecting to an existing APS/BOR switch yard extending 25,220 feet east-northeast to planned solar farm; c)

Transwestern Pipeline Company renewal of two (2) major existing pipeline alignments crossing New Mexico and Arizona. An update meeting was held on December 9, 2024, with Harvey Land Inc., consultants for Transwestern Pipeline Company. Transwestern Pipeline Company is currently administering landowner consent, Indian allotments and Navajo Tribal Trust lands. One of their easements is expiring December 2024. Transwestern Pipeline Company is new to the federal ROW process with recommended training. BIA was provided with a alignment kmz file and will provide a Title Status Report and Land Index Report assuring all tribal and allotment lands are correct; d) Tallgrass Energy Company is a proposed extensive pipeline project of clean energy near Farmington, NM. A majority of land crosses tribal trust land with negotiations in process with the Navajo Nation President and Council; e) Emery Telecom: Install fiber optic along US Hwy 163 and US Hwy 160 to Indian Route 16 in Navajo Mountain, Shonto, Kayenta and AZ/Utah line. Emery Telecom submitted a major Fiber Optical application crossing southern Utah and northeast Arizona. Several issues were addressed regarding landowner's waiver of compensation, appraisals, and bonding. Emery Telecom was referred to work with the Tribe prior to BIA's involvement; f) Arizona Public Service, (APS)'s renewal of existing 500 kV transmission electrical line crossing northeast Arizona where existing ROW easement has expired; g) Tucson Electric Company (TEP)'s renewal of existing 345 kV transmission electrical line crossing New Mexico and Arizona. Company currently negotiating compensation terms with the Tribe with several extensions to submit renewal application were issued; g) El Paso Natural Gas Pipeline – Kinder Morgan inc.: Renewal of ROW Renewal on two (2) major alignment projects crossing New Mexico and Arizona.

Real Estate Services Rights of Way Other activities. Real Estate Services Rights of Way staff worked on the following: a) NTUA: preparing a meeting with departments regarding planned activities for Cameron Solar; b) On December 10, 2024, a meeting was conducted to discuss the Chinle Administrative Reserve's environmental remediation with NTUA to prevent damage and/or interrupted service to their utilities; c) Utah State University is executing a turnout permit along route N42 with the BOT located in Oljato, Utah where the ROW was referred to the Tribe to use the TAA due to tribal trust lands; d) IHS Project NA-21-G27 for scattered water line and sewer line extensions within the Naschitti, Tohatchi, and Twin Lakes Chapters to serve nine (9) homes on tribal trust and two (2) allotments, IHS Project NA-23-LY8 for scattered water line and sewer line extensions within the Houck Chapter to serve eight (8) homes on tribal trust and two (2) allotments; e) Navajo Generating Station (NGS) - ROW applications are still pending. Secretarial Waivers of certain requirements of 25 CFR 162 have been granted and one declined. Southwest Regional Office of the Solicitor offered technical assistance by revising the ROW instruments to comport with the various waivers granted. No response from the Navajo Nation; f) Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project Reach 3 Water Treatment Plant where the Tribe's revised consent was received November 18, 2024. The revised consent states BOR applied for ROW on behalf of the Navajo Nation. Additional issues affects the term and assignment of ROW; g) New Mexico Department of

Transportation Project CN 5101174 ((US 64 Highway Improvement Project between mile posts 13.8 to 14.3 and 19.4 to 20.8) Grant of Easement for Permanent Parcels, Construction Maintenance Parcels and Temporary Construction Parcels approved November 15, 2024; h) Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) ROW Highway SR-162 from Montezuma Creek to Aneth, Utah. The sections, township and ranges cited in the consent letter do not correspond with the legal description submitted by UDOT. BIA sent a letter dated November 19, 2024 to the Navajo Nation.

Wildland Fire Management: This quarter, the Wildland Fire Management staff report the following:

Prescribed Burns in Chuska Mountains - BIA Fire Management Fuels section awarded contracts to conduct silvicultural assessments on two (2) prescription (Rx) burns in the Chuska Mountains. The purpose of Rx burns is to reduce excess dead and down fuel in the area, improve forage for wildlife, and re-introduce fire back into the ecosystem.

Reducing Potentially Hazardous Conditions in Eastern Navajo Agency - BIA Fire Management Fuels section are working collaboratively with ENA on a project for residences in the community of Mariano Lake and Smith Lake. The project is to assist in creating “defensible space” around homes that are near woodlands areas; reducing the hazardous conditions that may threaten lives and property associated with wildland fires.

Federal Indian Minerals Office: FIMO continues to inspect all Navajo allotted oil and gas leased lands and enforce regulations pertaining to operational, surface, and environmental issues. These duties include: 1) the concurrence or approval of applications for permits to drill, gathering systems, and alternate measurement method; 2) physical inspections of oil and gas sale facilities; and 3) investigation of oil and gas discrepancies, and undesirable events. These duties are performed by BLM Farmington Field Office and FIMO’s BIA Environmental Protection Specialist (EPS).

Inspection & Enforcement – the BLM Inspection and Enforcement (I&E) has not provided their report to FIMO.

Environmental Surface Inspection – FIMO continues to conduct inspections on producing wells, drilling wells, pre-abandoned wells and notice of staking. FIMO EPS continues to contact operators to comply with terms and conditions of APD’s and lease terms. There are four orphan wells that are under pending status and seeking funding to proceed with plugging. FIMO continues to improve its surface inspection program. FIMO works with landowners who report complaints of oil and gas issues and help solve the matters by coordinating with BLM and operators. 63 wells have been inspected by the BIA EPS.

Plugging and Reclamation – FIMO is working with New Mexico Oil Conservation Division to plug and reclaim 10 wells Navajo allotted oil and gas leased lands.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3 - Sustainably Balance the Use of Resources While Supporting Communities and the Economy

TRUST SERVICES:

Eastern Navajo Agency Natural Resources: In coordination with the Navajo Sustainable Agriculture (NSA) and New Mexico State University (NMSU) College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Science (ACES), the ENA BNR is working with NSA to complete five conservation plans.

Shiprock Agency Natural Resources: Three (3) Agricultural Land Use Permits were issued to farmers along the San Juan River Irrigation Project. The Collins Range Management Unit project began in November 2024 with a preliminary vegetation inventory near Burnham, NM.

Fort Defiance Natural Resources: Natural Resources staff worked on the following:

Status of Range Management Units – For District 17, Kinlichee Chapter addressed a proposed Range Management Unit that consists of 1,700 acres that was surveyed/Global Positioning System (GPS). A permitted adjacent land user who objects to the size of proposed RMU will be invited to the next meeting on January 6, 2025 to discuss this matter. Steamboat Chapter will discuss a proposed Range Management Unit that was re-surveyed/GPS and mapped with fencing boundaries during its next meeting. District 18 Grazing Committee met on December 19, 2024, to discuss the recommendation of the agriculture land use permit for approximately 80 acres that was not utilized with recommendation to cancel the permit and reduce the RMU.

Western Navajo Agency Natural Resources: WNA Natural Resources staff received a Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) for the EA for the Cameron Waterline Project. The EA covers the planned Cameron Waterline project and includes a watering point facility in Cameron Arizona. The proposed water line will begin in the Little Colorado River Valley and transverse rugged topography, in a general SW direction, to a pipe-stand location just east of U.S. Highway 89. The completed project will be beneficial to the local community and their socioeconomic development needs with respect to livestock and agricultural operations. With the FONSI received and after some delays due to additional meetings between the contractor and the Tribe's Department of Water Resources' Technical, Construction and Operations Branch (TCOB) and what to do with the temporary waterline that had been installed by TCOB. The temporary water tanks, pipeline, and standpipe were installed to make water available for livestock and other agricultural purposes while the EA was being completed for this project.

Navajo Partitioned Lands: Historically, the NPL grazing permits are used primarily for sheep grazing but the ease of cattle management has resulted in more cattle present on the land. Up to date carrying capacities and stocking rates are needed to ensure a sustainable use of the land, monitor rangeland health, and make informed land management recommendations. Rangeland inventories assist managers in compliance with the American Indian Agriculture Resource Management Act, as amended, including all applicable tribal laws. The study area is located at the heart of the Colorado Plateau, located in northeast Arizona in Navajo and Coconino counties. The Navajo Partitioned Lands are divided into three precincts: Precinct 1 in the south and encompasses the communities of Whitecone, Tees Toh, Tolani Lake, and Jeddito; Precinct 2 is located centrally and serves several communities including Hard Rock, Pinon, Blue Gap, Whippoorwill, and Black Mesa; Precinct 3 in the north is located along highway 160 which includes Chilchinbeto, Tonalea, parts of Shonto, and the western end of Black Mesa. The completed 2023 NPL rangeland inventory covering 907,00 acres and the 15 Range Units completed its analysis of available forage to obtain the livestock carrying capacity and stocking rates. The 2023 inventory does show an increase of carrying capacity relative to previous years from the one year of above normal precipitation.

Forestry: During the quarter from October through December 2024, the Branch of Forestry was requested to review a total of 16 Timber Cutting Permit packets from the Navajo Nation via the Navajo Region, Branch of Indian Self-Determination. On October 16, 2024, the Branch of Indian Self-Determination returned four (4) permits for correction as the numbering scheme for the permits did not follow the protocols established for the permits crafted within the fiscal year. A response with the status of the requested corrections to the four (4) permits is pending. In letters dated November 24, and December 16, 2024, 12 approved permits were forwarded to the Navajo Nation's Forestry Department from the Branch of Indian Self-Determination. One permit was for the harvest of trees to be used for the Navajo Nation's annual Christmas tree display.

All Branch Forestry fiscal year 2025, year-end reports and project proposals were submitted to Central Office for consideration and had the same due date of November 9, 2024. The reports included the following: Forest Development Activities Funding Requests, Forest Development Inventory of Need, Forest Development Activities Report, Update Catalog of Forest Acres, Forest Management Inventory and Planning Funding Requests, Forest Management Inventory Planning Accomplishments, Forest Timber Accomplishment Report and Acres Harvested, Timber Harvest Initiative Funding Requests, Timber Harvest Initiative Accomplishments, Woodland Management Funding Requests, and Woodland Management Accomplishments.

Real Estate Services: RES staff worked on finalizing the field inspection for AZ Silica & Sand Company, once the environmental and reclamation issues are complete the cash bonds will be released to the landowners of four (4) allotments near Houck, Arizona. RES staff are also working on the next steps to be taken on all illegal billboard signs along I-40 near Lupton to Sanders, AZ.

RES Leasing Section is working with the Navajo Nation regarding the Black Rock/Rio Puerco Acres and Fort Defiance Residential Unit A under the Fort Defiance Housing Corporation d/b/a Sandstone. Fort Defiance Chapter is requesting assistance to address abandoned and/or burned

homes, and vacant lots within the subdivisions as they are a safety hazard to the community, i.e. vagrants, drug users, fires, graffiti, etc. Research is ongoing for each respective subdivision. In addition, Navajo Land Department is requesting assistance to address issues created by the master leases for approximately one hundred and six (106) listed owners for these and associated housing subdivisions by the Lessee, Fort Defiance Housing Corporation, doing business as Sandstone Housing or Sandstone Housing Corporation, etc.

RES Minerals Section on October 2, 2024, received one APD application from BLM for Tacitus, LLC (NTEC) for a proposed Helium well No. Navajo Tribal N11A. The package was sent to Navajo Nation on October 3, 2024.

Fire Management - Resource allocation to fires has been effective and safe for Q1.

Federal Indian Minerals Office: Application for permit to drill (APD) – There were no new notices of staking for proposed well pad installation submitted and no Application for Permit to Drill (APD) submitted for this quarter.

Royalty Distribution – BTFA prepared and reviewed withdrawal/transfer Journal Vouchers, submit for approval to appropriate authorizing official and submits for processing, verify availability of funds, prepare work tickets, when necessary, provide technical assistance to other agencies as necessary, maintain logs of daily activities in service manager, provide outstanding customer service to all beneficiaries who contact our office.

Ongoing Projects - Carson Unit- FIMO received a copy of a resolution on the approval of the Carson Unit for DJR Operating. Staff met with ENLC and will be moving forward with a Communization Agreement with DJR to start drilling this year in the Carson Unit.

- Lone Mesa Unit FIMO staff will be meeting with Enduring shortly to discuss the newly developed Communization Agreement process.
- Sandstone Land, LLC – Company expressed interested in leasing allotments. I recently reached out to contact Terry Moores (Landman). He stated that they were in the process of researching other sites other than just our Allotments and would get back to me when they are ready for a pre-leasing meeting with FIMO.
- Alamos Canyon Unit Proposal – will be meeting with Enduring and BLM shortly to continue to discuss this issue.

INDIAN SERVICES:

Acquisitions: Acquisition staff complies with the Buy Indian Act, 25 USC 47, and supports native owned businesses by setting aside requirements for ISBEE (Indian Small Business Economic Enterprises) and IEE (Indian Economic Enterprises) firms. Native owned companies benefit from the awards issued to them and at the same time the supplies and services provided benefit the

communities within the Navajo Nation. Branch of Acquisitions has completed 21 purchase request actions with a value of \$57,278.65.

STRATEGIC GOAL 4 - Serve and Honor the Public Trust

TRUST SERVICES:

Eastern Navajo Agency Natural Resources - On September 26 and October 1, 2024, the ENA BNR and the Office of the Superintendent provided a work session on the 2025 Grazing Permit Renewal Project for the director of the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources, the Office of the Comptroller, and the Department of Justice. The ENA BNR provided the following: grazing permit renewal status lists for LMD 16, 19, and 20; criteria- based on federal regulations and tribal code - for conservation plans, livestock brand, annual livestock inventory, Certificate of Indian Blood, annual grazing fee payment, grazing permit cancellation for non-payment, carrying capacity adjustment, environmental compliance, and appeal process; information on the Authority to Grant livestock grazing for Individual Indian Allotments, rangeland inventory and carrying capacity, bonding requirement, distribution of grazing fees to the Navajo Nation Proceeds of Labor Account; and schedule of key work activities from October 2024 to January 2025 related to invoicing, rangeland inventory, letters to permittees, and annual grazing rental rate consultation and negotiation. There was an extensive discussion of the livestock inventory receipts not received from permittees for 2015-2024, as this requirement could be used as the basis to determining the term of the grazing permit renewal. The grazing permit lists also included the low carrying capacity range units where the ENA BNR recommends not renewing based on the unavailability of forage - and because the grazing permit expires at the end of December 2024, they are not subject to appeal.

Authority to Grant Project – Natural Resources mailed 4,110 Authority to Grant Livestock Grazing letters to landowners who have ownership interest in the Individual Indian Allotment lands involving 94 Individual Indian Allotments located in the Lake Valley, Blanco, Carson, Gallegos, Huerfano, and Otis Grazing Communities.

Alamo/Canoncito Noxious Weed Project - On November 29, 2024, the contractor completed the silviculture prescription, and the ENA BNR completed and provided the contractor with a draft restoration plan.

Rangeland Inventory Project – Rangeland Inventory contract awarded to Eastern Shawnee Professional Services with fieldwork commencing from June through August 2025 and contract ending October 8, 2025.

Mariano Lake Wildfire Prevention Project - Natural Resources staff provided geographical information system shapefile data to the BIA Fire Management team which supplied information on the Mariano Lake Community boundary, infrastructure, and land

status. The program will use this information to prepare a buffer zone to manage dead trees to prevent wildfires.

Shiprock Agency Natural Resources

Rangeland utilization surveys have been on-going and will continue throughout the fall with focus on District 13.

Fort Defiance Agency Natural Resources

The Fort Defiance Agency has contracted ETD Inc., to complete the District 14 environmental assessment. This environmental assessment is for fencing of the district and the district units. The proposed action is to fence the district and district units. The FONSI has been issued and Fort Defiance Agency will begin to seek funding to start the fencing between Tohatchi grazing unit and Naschitti grazing unit.

Western Navajo Agency Natural Resources

The WNA BNR held several educational rancher roundtable events were held for Grazing Permit holders in Compartment 57 of LMD 8-1 at various locations in October and November 2024. These educational and rancher roundtable discussions were requested by the producers in the Compartment 57 area and are due to pending Grazing Permit transfers (2 Grazing Permit Transfers and 1 Grazing Permit of a deceased person) and the requirement for conservation plans for Grazing Permits going through the transfer process. These events were a follow up to the "Tse'Dijooli and Dzil hizdiltsi' (Tyende and Skeleton Mesas) Range Management Plan" that was completed in 2015 by the contractor Ecosphere Environmental Services. This Range Management Plan includes a grazing management plan for the Customary Use Area (CUA) in Compartment 57, an area defined by the BIA for the purpose of vegetation studies. The Land Use Permit Verifications, using the Navajo Region's Permit Verification Form, were part of the activity.

Navajo Partitioned Lands: NPL continue to provide technical assistance for the operation and maintenance of the 85 windmills. The office continues to address vandalism and damages to rangeland infrastructure which are repaired by the staff including welding of bullet holes on windmill water tanks and cattle guard cleanouts. NPL continue to transport livestock for those people without means to transport to sale or auction yards and assist local grazing officials and chapters with transport of feral horses that were roundup and penned. Operation and maintenance of fence repairs and cattle guards' clean outs are completed with incoming referrals. A total of 10 NPL Referrals and 27 HPL referrals were complete in 2024 and historical information from 2019 to 2024 are as follows:

Hopi and Navajo Partitioned Lands Referrals for fence repairs and cattle guard clean out.

HPL Referrals (Year)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL
Total Referrals	86	28	60	12	27	213
Referrals Incomplete	2	0	4	0	0	6
Total	88	28	64	12	27	219

NPL Referrals (Year)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL
Total Referrals	6	0	4	0	0	10
Referrals Incomplete	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6	0	4	0	0	10

Note. No data found for 2020, 2022, and 2023

Forestry: Forestry staff continue to serve and uphold the public trust by continuing to provide oversight and technical assistance to the NN’s Public Law 93-638 Forestry Management Program Contract Number A23AV00367. The NN’s Forestry Management Program has contracted all aspects associated with the Forestry Program and has the responsibility to carry out these functions in relation to forestry.

Office of Geospatial Services: Navajo Region GIS Initiative is actively advancing its GIS initiatives across various sectors to enhance data management and operational efficiency. In collaboration with the NDOT, BIA has integrated GIS data for roads on the NN, providing a crucial transportation data layer that will be accessible to BIA employees via the ArcGIS Portal, a cloud-based ArcGIS Enterprise environment connecting GIS users across an organization. This resource will facilitate field identification of road ownership and maintenance responsibilities. Additionally, the RGC has partnered with the Branch of Fire Management, Fuels Section to develop and implement a GIS framework for effective fuels data management, focusing on prevention and control strategies. In the realm of natural resources, the RGC has engaged with the BNR GIS technical team to explore the application of GIS technology in managing farming plots. Furthermore, the RGC convened with the BRES team to outline goals and objectives for the Realty component of the Geospatial Strategic Plan. In addition, a key objective of this new plan is to establish robust data governance for BIA's geospatial information. To ensure alignment with best practices, the RGC regularly attends meetings of the BIA Data Governance Program to stay informed about guidance and directives in data governance. Through these collaborative efforts and strategic initiatives, the BIA is committed to leveraging geospatial technology to improve service delivery, enhance resource management, and foster a more connected and informed organization.

Introduction to ArcGIS Pro and BIA Portal Training: An introductory course to ArcGIS Pro and Portal for BIA users was successfully conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams from November 18 to November 22, 2024. Seven students participated in the sessions, and feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with attendees appreciating both the content and the pacing of the course. This virtual format not only ensured the continuation of training despite facility challenges but also demonstrated the adaptability of the curriculum with virtual technology.

The RGC plans to increase GIS user capacity and skills for the Navajo Nation and will be coordinated with GIS users at the various programs and offices needing this support.

Other Geospatial Activities -

On October 3, 2024, the RGC attended the New Mexico Mid-Region Council of Governments, 2024 Tribal Summit. The meeting was to understand the role of GIS in local governments and network with tribal GIS professionals.

On October 22-24, 2024, the RGC attended the Tribal Geospatial Data Governance meeting in Reston, Virginia to discuss and consider avenues to improve and enhance federal agency tribal data governance activities to respect and honor tribal data sovereignty with other federal agencies. The outcome was a framework, standards or a toolkit to be developed for guiding federal agencies and tribes to resources and processes to ensure tribal geospatial data governance. This tool can be developed by a subcommittee to be formed under the Federal Geospatial Data Committee (FGDC).

On October 8, 2024, the USGS Coordinators met with all the Regional RGCs to establish partnerships within their respective regions. The RGCs then reached out to the assigned liaison in their respective regions.

Technical Assistance: In December 2024, two (2) Navajo Nation data requests for Navajo Nation Wells data and BIA Navajo Region Agency shapefiles, were received from external entities, the Wells data request was referred to the FOIA requests process and the RGC is still processing the Agency shapefiles request.

Probate and Estate Services: Probate staff prepared cases for individual Indians that hold trust assets by completing the family history of the decedent and compiling all documents required by the OHA. Research is completed by contacting the family members of the decedent by means of home visits, searching the internet, telephone interviews, writing letters and office visits. The majority of family research work is in conjunction with the Navajo Nation Vital Records Office. Probate and Estate Services staff also assisted in Tribal Wills Clinics and outreaches at various chapters.

Real Estate Services: This quarter, RES completed the following:

Utah Water Usage Payments - RES is processing Royalty-In-Kind payments for the State of Utah. Ensured Water Usage payments to the Navajo Nation from Chevron on Navajo Nation Lease No. 14-20-0603-8669. RES is also working to secure a new Interagency Agreement with AZ BLM for BLM Cadastral Surveys.

Fee To Trust - Two (2) Fee to Trust meetings were conducted on December 10, 2024. They presented to the NN RDC discussing the benefits of keeping parcels in Fee status and the benefits of placing parcels in Trust status. On December 20, 2024, they presented to the Eastern Navajo Land Commission regarding the application process for fee to trust.

Outreach on Gift Deeds- RES assisted with Public Outreaches requested by FIMO and/or BTFA. BRES assisted in one-on-one Landowner interaction in reviewing Individual Tribal Interest Report (ITIR) and with general questions regarding Gift Deeds and other options available to Landowners owning undivided interest of Indian Allotments.

- December 05, 2024, Ojo Encino Chapter House, New Mexico; assisted 22 landowners
- December 27-28, 2024, Southern Ute Mountain Casino, assisted numerous Navajo Nation landowners prior to them meeting with the Will Project attorneys.

BIA Fire Management: The Branch of Fire Management continues to develop working relationships with cooperative agencies within and surrounding areas of the Navajo Nation. This includes logistical and operational support, that is reciprocated to the Bureau of Indian Affairs resources as well.

Federal Indian Minerals Office: FIMO has made great strides in continuing our responsibility with the on the ground activities. FIMO staff continues to strive to address the many questions received and service the allottees daily. FIMO has worked to adjust and find creative ways to assist the needs of the allottees. This quarter, FIMO completed the following:

Outreach – FIMO Outreach staff conducted 16 total in-person outreaches with a combined total of 550 mineral owners in attendance. One location, San Juan College School of Energy, was cancelled due to inclement weather. Locations included: Nageezi, Huerfano, Pueblo Pintado, Ojo Encino, Shiprock, Nenahnezad Chapter Houses, and Torreon/Starlake Chapter House. Outreach notices were mailed to mineral owners residing in these locations as well as surrounding communities and towns.

INDIAN SERVICES:

BIA Transportation: The BIA Navajo Region BOT continues to strive and fulfill its to manage the intermodal transportation facilities by maintaining the existing infrastructure for dependability and safety that serves the NN and the traveling public. BIA Transportation accomplishes this by providing transportation related technical assistance and service, working directly with NDOT, as they pursue self-sufficiency and discretion in the administration and operation of the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP).

Road Maintenance: Each Field Office/Agency Road Maintenance Programs, respectively, continue to perform routine maintenance activities on BIA system roads, bridges, and transportation facilities on the Navajo Nation through direct service. Below are some of our Agency Road Maintenance Programs' maintenance activities performed during the 1st quarter.

AGENCY	ROUTINE ROAD MAINTENANCE																
	Road Assessments	Blading	Fence Repair	Sign Repair	Delineator Maintenance	Pothole Patching	Mowing	Guardrail Repair	Crack Sealing	Cattleguard Cleanout	Culvert Pipe Cleanout	Drainage/Erosion	Sidewalk Cleaning Repair	Bridge Repair	Snow/Ice Removal	Blow Sand Removal	Shop Building Maintenance
Fort Defiance	√	√	√	√		√	√	√		√	√	√		√	√		√
Chinle	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	√	√	√		√	√	
Western	√	√	√	√		√	√		√	√	√	√	√	√	√		√
Shiprock	√	√	√	√		√	√			√	√	√			√	√	√
Farmington	√			√		√				√							√
New Lands	√			√	√												√

Ft. Defiance Agency - Road Maintenance Program (FDA-BORM) continues to perform pothole patching on several BIA routes, i.e. N6, N7, N15, N12, N60, N602, & N112. The silt sand was removed from the cattleguards, and the broken wing braces were welded as part of the repairs at three locations on route N15. The silt material at the inlet and outlet of the concrete box culvert (CBC) on route N31 was removed for better drainage and several washouts were repaired for the safety of the traveling public. As part of the safety of the traveling public, the FDA maintenance continues with routine maintenance blading services on earth roads within FDA. FDA performed Snow and Ice Removal during the winter months.

Chinle Agency - Road Maintenance Program's (CNA-BORM) striping contract was approved for routes N8077, N8078, Dine College Circle Drive, the parking lot in front of the main administrative building, N7, N59 and N8066. Although the contractor will begin their striping operation in the Spring 2025. In the meantime, reflective tabs were placed on route N7 and on Dine College campus in Chinle to delineate the driving lanes for safety. The CNA-BORM office with the assistance of Southland Contracting, Inc. removed the silt sand build up along N59 roadway, which was used to build part of the new Chinle Lagoon Project.

Western Navajo Agency - Road Maintenance Program (WNA-BORM) continues to repair washouts from this past year's monsoon like most agencies. The WNA-BORM crew replaced culvert pipes due to corrosion on route N6820 and replaced an old cattleguard

with a new cattleguard at the same location on route N42. Several cattleguards were cleaned out on route N162 and N16 in Navajo Mountain, Utah.

Shiprock Agency - Road Maintenance Program (SA-BORM) reinstalled culvert drainage pipes due to washouts on routes N33, N133, N5007, N5012 and N34 is in progress. Due to deterioration and hazard condition of the previous pothole patchwork on route N57, the SA-BORM removed and cleaned the area as part of their repair work which was completed on November 26, 2024. The CNA-BORM assisted with the snow and ice removal on N13 during the last weather event.

Farmington & New Lands Field Offices – Roads Maintenance crew continue with daily routine road maintenance activities as shown in the table (above) and continue to assist other agencies with various road maintenance activities when requested to ensure a safe traveling route for the public.

Each Agency Road Maintenance Programs continues to perform washout repairs within the Navajo Nation. Other activities during this period such as preventative equipment maintenance/service and general operations (daily reports, vehicle & equipment reports, online trainings, safety meetings, inventory of materials, etc.). Each agency continues to work together, coordinate and collaborate in the spirit of partnership with Navajo DOT (NDOT), Chapters, Apache County, Navajo County, Coconino County, Hopi DOT (HDOT) and the schools to complete their scheduled task(s) for the safety of the local communities, emergency vehicles, and the traveling public.

BIA Facility Management: The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Regional Office - Branch of Facilities (BIA NRO-BOF) continues to work with the Navajo Nation to develop and initiate future projects that in line with our mission goals of providing technical services, related to facility management to BIA buildings that house Navajo Nation programs or facilities that BIA operate and maintain. In addition, the BIA NRO-BOF has several on-going projects working with the Navajo Nation Heritage & Historic Preservation Department, Division of Natural Resource. Projects completed this quarter:

Fort Defiance Agency - Assessment of sixteen (16) buildings to evaluate the archaeological and historical significance of these vacant or abandoned housing units and garage units to be determine demolishment. The results: No Significance Cultural Resources were identified, and research potential has been exhausted. The recommendation of NNHHPD suggest the viable stones be used within the compound for other stone projects. It has been determined that “No Historic Properties Affected” by the proposed undertaking if the demolition activities do not detour from the existing parcels within the compound.

Fort Defiance Agency Building 3 Pest Control & Clean Up Project - Contractor onsite and continues to implement the building exterminated and work to have entry points

sanitized and cleaned with placements of new screens and cracks sealed. Estimated Progress for completion: January 20, 2025. The primary goal is to complete project to provide notification to the Navajo Nation Office of Justice and the Bureau of Indian Education to have their program continue their operation in a safe environment.

Property: BIA Property completed the following activities this quarter:

Annual Inventory – BIA Property is preparing for the Annual Inventory, which will commence in January 2025. Preparation includes identifying items that are no longer in use by the BIA and may be beneficial and possibly be donated to the Navajo Nation. Further, staff have been working with Programs to recycle electronics that are no longer being used.

Assistance to FIMO - Property supports and assists the FIMO with its relocation efforts. The office space FIMO currently resides in will be undergoing a renovation which will cause the building to be closed for a while. FIMO is relocating to the office space which currently houses NIIP and the Shiprock Agency Road Maintenance staff. This relocation will hopefully provide easy access to Navajo IIM accountholders and provide an increase in customer service with a better (faster) internet connection. Anticipated relocation to occur in early 2025.