

25th Navajo Nation Council

2026 Fall Session Report

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Navajo Region



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ya'at'eeh Honorable Council Delegates of the 25th Navajo Nation Council, Honorable Madame Speaker Curley, Honorable Navajo Nation President Nygren and Madame Vice President Montoya, Honorable Interim Chief Justice Shirley and Our People of the Great Navajo Nation.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Region respectfully submits its Fiscal Year 2026 Fall Session Quarterly Report covering the period of July 1 through September 30, 2026. During the fourth quarter, the Navajo Region continued advancing its mission to provide essential services, strengthen tribal-federal partnerships, and support the Navajo Nation through investments in trust services, infrastructure, public safety, natural resources, human services, and self-determination programs.

A key accomplishment this quarter was the continued administration and oversight of Public Law 93-638 programs. The Navajo Nation and affiliated Tribal Organizations received significant funding support to administer contracted programs and services benefiting Navajo communities. Technical assistance, contract monitoring, and training activities continued to ensure compliance, accountability, and effective service delivery across all contracted programs.

The Region also advanced priority infrastructure and environmental initiatives. Major accomplishments included ongoing environmental remediation and land-transfer projects, progress on water infrastructure development, irrigation system rehabilitation, broadband expansion projects, right-of-way coordination, and continued support for range management, forestry, and natural resource stewardship. These efforts strengthen community infrastructure, improve environmental conditions, and support long-term economic and resource sustainability throughout the Navajo Nation.

Trust Services programs continued to make measurable progress in probate case processing, land title and leasing activities, cadastral surveys, mineral management, and geospatial modernization. The Probate Purge Initiative expanded outreach efforts to families across the Navajo Nation to accelerate probate resolution and improve access to trust asset information. Real Estate Services and Mineral Office staff continued supporting energy, transportation, broadband, and land-management projects while ensuring regulatory compliance and protection of trust assets.

Within Indian Services, the Region supported facility improvements, housing assistance programs, transportation maintenance, safety initiatives, human services, and tribal government coordination. Significant facility upgrades were initiated or completed across multiple agency locations, while transportation crews continued maintenance and repair activities on roads serving Navajo communities. The Branch of Safety achieved substantial progress through workplace inspections, hazard-abatement efforts, training, and technical assistance to Navajo Nation programs and partner agencies.

The BIA Navajo Region also continued modernizing operations through technology improvements, including the transition from traditional desk phones to Microsoft Teams-based

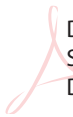
communications, increasing operational efficiency and accessibility for employees and stakeholders.

Through collaboration with Navajo Nation leadership, tribal programs, federal partners, and community stakeholders, the BIA Navajo Region remains committed to strengthening self-determination, protecting trust resources, improving infrastructure, and delivering quality services that support the health, safety, and prosperity of the Navajo people.

We can be reached at the following numbers: 505-870-0242, 505-979-9639, 505-207-5626, 505-870-3068, or 505-887-5973.

Axhe'hee,

**DEBORAH
SHIRLEY**

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Deborah Shirley
Regional Director
BIA Navajo Region

**Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region
Fiscal Year 2026 Fall Session Quarterly Report**

ADMINISTRATION: The BIA Navajo Region's Administration includes Workforce/Staff Updates, Budget, and Acquisition.

Budget Management

Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 - Below is a summary of Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 funding provided to the Navajo Nation under the Public Law (P.L.) 93-638 contracts as of October 5, 2026. For FY 2026, a total of \$49,623,774.10 was made available to support contracted programs and services operated by the Navajo Nation. Of this amount, \$43,837,756.10 has been drawn. This financial status provides a snapshot of funds.

NAVAJO NATION P.L. 93-638 FUND STATUS as of October 5, 2026					
Fund	FA Budget Program	Funds Available	To be awarded	Total Expenditures	Total Distributed
267A2100DD	A0N301010 : IRRIGATION, OPER & MAINT	5,500,000.00	0.00	5,500,000.00	5,500,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N9B1010 : AGRICULTURE PRGRM-TPA	1,305,502.00	0.00	1,305,502.00	1,305,502.00
267A2100DD	A0H603030 : HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	124,909.00	0.00	124,909.00	124,909.00
267A2100DD	A0H901010 : SOCIAL SERVICES-TPA	296,009.00	0.00	296,009.00	296,009.00
267A2100DD	A0H901040 : Domestic Violence	146,000.00	0.00	146,000.00	146,000.00
267A2100DD	A0H901050 : IND CHILD PRO & FAM VIOL	3,484.32	0.00	3,484.32	3,484.32
267A2100DD	A0H913030 : WELFARE ASSISTANCE-TPA	310,355.00	0.00	310,355.00	310,355.00
267A2100DD	A0J304545 : Conservation Law Enforcem	47,000.00	0.00	47,000.00	47,000.00
267A2100DD	A0J908080 : TRIBAL COURTS PROGRMS-TPA	2,155,904.00	0.00	2,155,904.00	2,155,904.00
267A2100DD	A0J908082 : Tribal Crts (TPA) Fac O&M	8,510.00	0.00	8,510.00	8,510.00
267A2100DD	A0N3A0000 : ENDANGERED SPECIES	112,500.00	0.00	112,500.00	112,500.00
267A2100DD	A0N3E1010 : FOREST DEVELOPMENT	400,000.00	0.00	400,000.00	400,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N3E2020 : FOREST MNGMT INVNTRS&PLNS	180,000.00	0.00	180,000.00	180,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N3E3030 : WOODLAND MANAGEMENT	172,000.00	0.00	172,000.00	172,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N3E5050 : TIMBER HARVST INITIATIVE	250,000.00	0.00	250,000.00	250,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N3F1010 : Fish Wildlife & Parks Prj	530,000.00	0.00	530,000.00	530,000.00
267A2100DD	A0N6A3031 : FOREST MARKETING ASSIST	25,543.00	0.00	25,543.00	25,543.00
267A2100DD	A0N9A0505 : NATURAL RESOURCES -TPA	179,020.78	0.00	179,020.78	179,020.78
267A2100DD	A0N9C3030 : FORESTRY PROGRAM -TPA	774,372.00	0.00	774,372.00	774,372.00
267A2100DD	A0N9D4040 : WATER RES PROGRAM -TPA	845,521.00	0.00	845,521.00	845,521.00
267A2100DD	A0N9E5050 : WILDLIFE&PARKS PRGRM-TPA	686,162.00	0.00	686,162.00	686,162.00
267A2100DD	A0R6C4040 : REAL ESTATE SERVICES	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
267A2100DD	A0R9D4040 : ENVRMNTL QLTY PRGRM-TPA	119,681.00	0.00	119,681.00	119,681.00
267A2100DD	A0T602020 : OTHER AID TO TRIBAL GOVT	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
267A2100DD	A0T902020 : OTHER AID-TRIBL GOV -TPA	1,015,435.00	0.00	1,015,435.00	1,015,435.00
267A2100DD	AEE904040 : JHNSN O'MALL A GR TPA BIA	1,883,616.00	0.00	1,883,616.00	1,883,616.00
267A2100DD	AEE931010 : TRIBAL SCHOLARSHI TPA BIA	13,580,558.00	0.00	13,580,558.00	13,580,558.00
267A2240DD	A3T937070 : CSC CONTRACT SUPPORT TPA	16,769,808.00	5,786,018.00	10,983,790.00	16,769,808.00
26XA2100DD	A0H937070 : HOUSING IMPROV PROGRM-TPA	2,181,884.00	0.00	2,181,884.00	2,181,884.00
TOTALS		49,623,774.10	5,786,018.00	43,837,756.10	49,623,774.10

Indian Self Determination (Public Law 93-638)

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Region (NR) Branch of Indian Self-Determination (BISD) worked with Navajo Nation's (Nation) eighteen current non-construction Contracts, five Subpart J Construction Contracts and six Tribal Organizations under Public Law (P.L.) 93-638. This quarter the FY 2026 Contract Support Cost initial allocation and FY 2024 Contract Support Cost Additional Need was distributed at 80 percent and 100 percent need, respectively, for P. L. 93-638 Contracts. The allocation of funding to the Nation and Tribal Organization's P.L. 93-638 Contracts are outlined in Table 1 below. All P.L. 93-638 contractors remain engaged in delivering services to communities and carry out contractual obligations, in accordance with their approved 2026 Scope of Work and budget. All funds awarded entirely benefit the Nation.

Table 1 -Public Law 93-638 Contracts Funding Allocations

	The Navajo Nation	Amount
A21AV00001	Natural Heritage	28,030
A21AV00002	Fish & Wildlife	100,856
A21AV00003	Navajo Department of Family Services Program	928,877.64
A21AV00140	Law Enforcement Criminal Investigations	125,625
A21AV00186	Law Enforcement Patrol Services	611,683
A21AV00383	Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families	8,257
A21AV00384	Navajo Family Assistance Services Program	66,613
A22AV00148	Higher Education/Scholarship	664,612
A22AV00149	Environmental Archaeological Non-Roads	50,398
A22AV00150	Tribal Enrollment (Census) Program	54,864
A22AV00151	Tribal Courts Program	591,021
A22AV00381	Safety of Dams	15,289
A22AV00588	Housing Improvement Program	38,344
A23AV00265	Adult Detention Program	2,190,188
A23AV00267	Juvenile Correction Program	741,066
A23AV00366	Water Development Program	297,743
A23AV00367	Forestry Management Program	1,655,331
A23AV00611	Subpart J Construction Fish Hatchery Modernization	500,000
A24AV00177	Johnson O'Malley Program	42,528
A25AV00489	Water Monitoring and Inventory Program	90,697
A25AV00568	Tribal Enrollment	248,585
A25AV00618	477 Plan (Division of Children & Family Services)	88,193,945.31
A25AV00894	Safety of Dams	121,286
A26AV00011	Housing Improvement Program	2,524,788
A26AV00275	Natural Heritage Program	179,833

A26AV00276	Fish & Wildlife Program	341,622
A26AV00280	Navajo Treatment Center for Children and Their Families	143,143.21
A26AV00340	Law Enforcement Patrol Services	5,310,904
A26AV00341	Law Enforcement Criminal Investigations	1,150,887
	Sub-Total Navajo Nation	107,032,686.16
	Navajo Tribal Organizations	
A19AV00984	Dine Bi Olta School Board Association, Inc.	85,861
A21AV00158	Navajo Agricultural Products Industry	228,465
A23AV00006	Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc. Road Maintenance	14,406
A23AV00007	Navajo Technical University	5,484,979
A24AV00800	Dine Bi Olta School Board Association, Inc.	51,812
A26AV00010	Rock Point Community School	5,162,274
A26AV00232	Navajo Agricultural Products Industry	893,049
A26AV00426	Dine Bi Olta School Board Association, Inc.	17,265
	Sub-Total Tribal Organizations	11,938,111
	GRAND TOTAL	118,970,797.16

Three Tribal Organizations submitted their School Year 2026-2027 Contract Renewal and Successor Annual Funding Agreement proposals and were approved to continue providing services under P. L. 93-638 Contracts.

The BIA NR BISD Awarding Officials (AO) continue to provide technical assistance to the Nation and Tribal Organization's P. L. 93-638 and 102-477 Contracts. BIA Awarding Official's Technical Representatives (AOTRs) continue to conduct contract monitoring for 638 Contracts, except for the Nation's Tribal Courts program. Annual contract monitoring is a regulatory requirement to ensure 638 contracted programs operate as intended and strengthens the Tribal-Federal Partnership. On September 2 and 3, 2026, the BIA NR hosted training by Division of Humans Services to the Navajo Division for Children and Family Services and Office of Management and Budget on the preparation, timely completion and submittal of its Financial Assistance Social Services Report requirement.

On April 28, 2026, and May 21, 2026, the Nation provided responses for FY 2024 Single Audit Report's (SAR) eight findings and questioned costs of \$3,578,025. As the assigned AO's April 3, 2026, dated Management Decision recommended allowing 45 days from the date of the Findings and Determination for the Nation to provide substantive evidence to resolve each finding and questioned costs. The AO is completing the review of the documentation. The BIA NR's July 20, 2026, dated letter reminded the Nation's that under the requirements of 2 CFR 200, which implements the Single Audit Act, a non-federal entity is required to submit its Single Audit report to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse within the earlier of 30 days after receipt of the audit report or 9 months after the end of the period audited. The report for the audit period ended

September 30, 2025, was due by June 30, 2026. The Nation's FY 2025 Single Audit Report is 90 days past due.

On July 30, 2026, the Nation's Office of the Controller (OOC) submitted the Calendar Year 2025 Federal Financial Reports (FFR) for the Nation's P.L. 93-638 Contracts. The FFRs were due 90 days after the ending of the Annual Funding Agreement period, December 31. The OOC requested additional time to complete the FFRs due to the conversion of the financial accounting system. The BIA NR's August 20, 2026, dated letter to the Nation determined that the reports, as prepared, do not sufficiently demonstrate the expenditure activity for each Pub. L. 93-638. Therefore, the BIA NR requested the Nation's OOC to resubmit the FFRs for the period ending December 31, 2025, in the prior year format by each active Pub. L. 93-638 Contract, in accordance with each contract's Annual Funding Agreement Section J. 1.

Branch of Acquisition

BIA Navajo Region's Acquisition staff play a critical role for the Navajo Nation by soliciting and awarding contracts for services, construction, supplies, and specialized needs; thereby ensuring that all awards benefit the Nation. Procurement services focus on road maintenance, construction, equipment, and program operations. The following contracts were awarded during this quarter:

Contract Number	Project Description	Location
140A0926P0021	Security Camera Surveillance System, Gamerco Facility	Gamerco, NM
140A0926P0025	Repair of Stairs/Gutters, Fire Management Office	Ft. Defiance, AZ
140A0926P0047	Fence Project, Gamerco Facility	Gamerco, NM
Multiple Contracts	Repairs for Heavy Equipment for Branch of Transportation	All Agencies – Eastern, Shiprock, Chinle, Ft. Defiance, Western Navajo
140A0926P0054	Repair of Fire Hydrant and Water Leak, Fire Management	Ft. Defiance, AZ
140A0926P0034	Repair of Ramp for Building 40, Ft. Defiance Agency	Ft. Defiance, AZ
140A0926P0031	New Fire Alarm System, Shiprock Agency Headquarters	Shiprock, NM
140A0926P0046	5-Year Monitoring for 34 Landfills within Navajo Region	Various Locations within Navajo Region
140A0926P0019	Baca and Haystack Sheep Dip Vat Project	Baca, NM
140A0926P0040	Structural Assessment for Building 40 and 251, Ft. Defiance Agency Headquarters	Ft. Defiance, AZ
140A0926P0023	Pavement Marking Project for Shiprock Agency, Branch of Transportation	Shiprock, NM

Pre-Work Meetings

Pre-work meetings were held with various contractors for projects for the Navajo Region. The contracts discussed include:

- 140A0926P0062: Flooring Project, Building #3, Window Rock, AZ
- 140A0926P0072: Sewer Line Repair, Chinle Agency Headquarters, Chinle, AZ
- 140A0921P0117: Sewer Line Pumping Services, Chinle Agency, Chinle, AZ
- 140A0926P0031: Fire Alarm System Repair, Shiprock Agency, Shiprock, NM

Contract Monitoring and Administration

Staff continue to monitor and administer ongoing contracts issued in previous fiscal years for construction and services.

Data Calls and Acquisition Requirements

Staff have responded to data calls from Central Office regarding various acquisition requirements.

Purchase Requests for Fiscal Year 2026

A total of 220 purchase requests, valued at \$11,618,414.05, have been awarded for Fiscal Year 2026.

Impact on the Navajo Nation

The work in progress for the construction contracts is benefiting members of the Navajo Nation by maintaining and upgrading deteriorating BIA Buildings. In addition, BIA highways within the Navajo Reservation are also being maintained and repaired for the travel safety of the public, including members of the Navajo Nation and local bus routes, ensuring the safety of the students.

TRUST SERVICES:

The BIA, Navajo Region Trust Service Programs include Branch of Environmental Services, Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review (BEQACR) (NEPA), Branch of Forestry, Branch of Natural Resources, Branch of Real Estate Services, Branch of Probate & Estate Services, Branch of Engineering, Safety of Dams (SOD) Program, Navajo Indian Irrigation Project (NIIP) Updates, Federal Indian Minerals Office and Office of Geospatial Information System and Eastern Navajo Agency.

Branch of Environmental Management (BEM) and Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review (BEQACR)

The Environmental Restoration Program continued advancing several cleanup and land transfer initiatives across the Navajo Region. The Chinle Land Transfer parcels identified as B-1, G-1, and P-1 within the Chinle Chapter, Arizona, successfully completed remediation activities, with the final walkthrough conducted on December 18, 2025. Following completion of cleanup requirements, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is working toward returning the property to the Navajo Nation. At the Rock Point and Rough Rock Chapters in Arizona, cleanup contracts have been awarded for former sheep dip vat sites. Preliminary sampling at both locations identified widespread contamination, indicating the need for additional environmental sampling and increased project funding before remediation activities can proceed further.

At the Former Sanostee Boarding School site in Sanostee, New Mexico, cleanup efforts remain focused on removing buried concrete piers, sidewalks, asphalt roadways, and other remnants of the former facility. Upon completion, approximately 91.4 acres of former trust land will be returned to the Navajo Nation. However, the discovery of significant undocumented subsurface piping and concrete structures has delayed the project, and work is currently on hold pending the availability of additional funding. In Tonalea, Arizona, demolition of the former Tonalea Indian Health Service Building was completed in July 2026. The BIA is currently taking the necessary steps to transfer the property back to the Navajo Nation.

Environmental investigation and remediation activities also advanced at the Baca/Haystack Sheep Dip Vat sites in Prewitt, New Mexico. The BIA contracted Eastern Shawnee Professional Services, LLC, to assess toxaphene contamination in soil and water and to remediate impacted soils at three former sheep dip vats, including Baca #1 (SDV007), Baca (New) (SDV008), and Haystack (SDV060). Field activities began on August 25, 2026, and were scheduled to continue through September 2026. Additionally, the BIA awarded a contract to Ahtna Solutions, LLC, to perform required five-year landfill monitoring activities at thirty-four landfill locations throughout the Navajo Region. The project includes engineering inspections and evaluations to assess landfill cover integrity, verify closure status, document site conditions, and determine compliance with applicable federal and tribal solid waste regulations. Field inspections are anticipated to begin in October 2026.

The Branch of Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review (BEQACR) continued processing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance actions and environmental reviews in support of regional infrastructure and development projects. Environmental Assessments were reviewed for several proposed projects, including the Chilchinbeto Convenience Store and Gas Station Right-of-Way application, the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority right-of-way for the Houck Pumphouse public water system, improvements to Navajo Route 609 in coordination with the Federal Highway Administration, the White Rock–Lake Valley Extension of the Beacon Bisti N9 Lateral Project, a Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association transmission line right-of-

way in McKinley County, New Mexico, and two Navajo Tribal Utility Authority potable waterline extension projects serving Torreon and Lake Valley, New Mexico.

In addition to these reviews, BEQACR processed a substantial volume of compliance actions supporting community development. During the reporting period, staff completed eighty-six categorical exclusions related to housing development and tree-cutting permits, facilitating homesite construction and utility connections for tribal members. The office also processed thirty-four Cultural Resources Compliance Forms in coordination with the Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation Department to support NEPA compliance requirements associated with homesite approvals and utility infrastructure installations throughout the region.

Branch of Forestry

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Branch of Forestry continues to provide technical assistance to the Navajo Nation Forestry Management Program in support of commercial forest inventory efforts through the use of a new tablet-based data collection application. At present, the Branch is awaiting the Navajo Nation's completion and correction of data collected from 178 completed inventory plots before additional analysis and implementation activities can proceed. The Branch of Forestry is also working to secure owner consent from the Navajo Nation to allow the implementation of a full range of forest land management activities on allotments within the Oak Ridge Timber Sale Area where the Nation holds an ownership interest. A formal request for consent through the issuance of a tribal resolution was transmitted to the Navajo Nation on February 4, 2026, with a requested response date of March 23, 2026. As of the end of the reporting period, a favorable response has not been received.

In addition, the Branch of Forestry successfully prepared two large forest product harvest permits in support of an invasive species management project on allotted lands near Alamo and Canoncito, New Mexico. The project is intended to improve rangeland health and ecological conditions through the treatment and control of invasive vegetation. The contractor is scheduled to conduct aerial herbicide applications in early October 2026. To facilitate treatment of adjacent unallotted trust lands located within the project area, the Navajo Nation was presented with two forest product harvest contracts for consideration. The Bureau requested a favorable response by September 24, 2026; however, no response had been received at the time of this report. If a response is not received by October 12, 2026, the planned herbicide treatment will likely be postponed for an additional calendar year, potentially delaying the ecological benefits anticipated from the project.

Branch of Natural Resources

This quarter, the Branch of Natural Resources supported multiple land-based projects across agencies, including assisting NTUA with waterline and power line coordination, compiling livestock tallies, and assisting solar-related land withdrawals. Field operations advanced major range management work, completing extensive Land Management Districts (LMD) inventories

with 869 transects for LMD 18 and 561 transects for LMD 13. LMD 3 rangeland health monitoring and conservation plans development also continues. BNR also awarded contracts for an additional 3 Range Inventories for LMD 14 in Fort Defiance Agency, LMD 10 in Central Navajo Agency and LMD 1 in Western Navajo Agency. Additionally, BNR advanced irrigational and vegetation planning, processed procurement actions, facilitated technical support for Navajo Partitioned Land water infrastructure, and participated in creating a grazing and agricultural land use permit transfer processes with the Navajo Nation grazing committees, land boards, farm boards, and Department of Agriculture to streamline internal coordination and documentation for land, permit, and resource-management actions, strengthening alignment among agencies and improving service delivery.

BIA Central Office awarded the Navajo Nation's "Improving Bighorn Population Survey Methods and Public Outreach" project, the Toadlena Fish Hatchery proposal, and the Natural Resources Internships program.

These achievements strengthened trust responsibilities by ensuring transparent coordination with permit holders, improving rangeland stewardship through updated inventories and RMU data, and enhancing water and infrastructure reliability for communities and livestock. The Navajo Nation Agricultural Resource Management Plan's interagency workshops and NEPA-aligned project planning will improve long-term resource management and compliance by building capacity and reducing delays for Navajo Nation initiatives.

To maintain project momentum, BNR requests continued participation from Navajo Nation departments in District Grazing Committee updates, interdisciplinary planning meetings, Agricultural Land Use Permits and grazing-related coordination sessions and encouraging livestock tallies submission to BIA. Engagement from Chapters and Executive programs remains essential for permit-holder consent for land development, cultural and environmental consultations, and shared planning efforts, especially for waterline extensions, range unit improvements, and resource management plan development. BNR requests continued collaboration with the Navajo Nation on Agricultural Resource Management Plans, water issues, infrastructure, and livestock management.

Relevant federal updates this quarter include revised financial assistance review guidance affecting program planning, along with ongoing records-management reform that will undergo future Federal Register posting following tribal consultation. Year-end financial system constraints (FBMS) also shaped timelines for procurement and reporting. BNR's review identified no additional Federal Register items directly impacting project work this period.

Branch of Real Estate Services

The Surface Leasing and Mortgages program processed a steady workload this quarter, completing four requests for certified Title Status Reports, five leasehold mortgages, four satisfactions of mortgage, fifteen modifications, one assignment of mortgage, two assignments of

lease, three releases of mortgage, and one FOIA request. These activities reflect ongoing leasing activity, mortgage servicing, and administrative support for land, leasing, and lending transactions throughout the Navajo Region.

Within Rights-of-Way activities, the Navajo Region Real Estate Services continued managing fifteen active right-of-way projects across Navajo Nation lands, involving energy infrastructure, broadband and fiber optics, transmission lines, road corridors, and pipeline renewals. Two additional projects were recently approved and are now in the documentation phase. The Realty Services staff provided comprehensive technical support and coordination, ensuring regulatory compliance, conducting inspections, and maintaining necessary records. Recent work included engagement with the Navajo Nation Land Department and Natural Resources staff to address energy permit issues affecting land near the Little Colorado River, which is impacted by a proposed 345 kV Painted Desert transmission line. Sacred Wind coordinated with NTUA on a consent agreement prior to a planned mid-September resubmission for the NNDOE Phase II project. Site inspections for FAST-41 broadband projects involving Gallup McKinley County Schools and the Navajo Nation Department of Education remain scheduled for later in the month, and the BIA is currently reviewing the ROW submission for NNDOE Phase II with a decision pending following the required seven-day review period.

Several major ROW projects remain underway. The Navajo Division of Transportation continues acquiring right-of-way documents for ARPA-funded road projects in Eastern Navajo, including Tse'ya'toh Road, Hunter's Point, Pinehaven CR10 Road, and the Tohajiilee Road corridor, while Realty staff provide ongoing technical support and assist local chapters in securing landowner consent. The Painted Desert and Navajo Power proposal for a dual 345 kV transmission line and associated access road remains in idle status while the NEPA review continues at DOI and BLM headquarters. This project also requires resolution of administrative jurisdiction regarding energy permits along the Little Colorado River, with both BIA and BLM Solicitors actively reviewing the matter. Realty staff also support multiple Sacred Wind broadband projects, including the FAST-41 GMCS broadband corridor, which received a 25-year easement on April 30, 2026, for 38 allotments, 24 Navajo Trust parcels, and two BIA tracts. NNDOE Phase I broadband likewise received a 25-year easement on April 8, 2026; however, NTUA filed an appeal with the IBIA on May 8, 2026, and administrative records were submitted by June. Sacred Wind's NNDOE Phase II broadband project, covering roughly 150 miles of Navajo Nation land, has undergone iterative submissions, including a returned incomplete application on July 30, 2026, followed by a new application received on September 16, 2026, which is now under BIA review. Additional broadband projects include ARPA-funded installations at NAPI sites, NTIA-funded broadband installations in Manuelito, Lupton, Mount Powell, Gibson, and Lybrook, each at various stages of application review, landowner consent, environmental categorical exclusions, and survey plat development. Several large-scale pipeline and transmission line projects also remain active, including renewals for Transwestern Pipeline Company and El Paso Natural Gas/Kinder Morgan, a clean energy pipeline proposed by Tallgrass Energy, transmission line renewals for Arizona

Public Service and Tucson Electric Company, and a new transmission proposal by Invenergy, all of which continue to receive full technical support from Realty Services staff.

Cadastral Survey operations focused on priority projects for FY2026, though progress continues to be affected by significant understaffing in BLM State Offices across Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah. Survey priorities for Arizona (T27N R30E and T27N R31E, G&SRM) and New Mexico (T15N R17W and T15N R16W, NMPM) were completed and are now pending BLM review, while additional survey work for Priority 3 parcels remains ongoing with an anticipated completion in December 2026. On-site survey work was conducted between May 7–10 and June 18–21, 2026, supporting continued progress on outstanding cadastral obligations.

Acquisition and Disposal activities centered on intensive one-on-one landowner education regarding Indian Allotments, undivided interests, and available options for conveyance or consolidation. Nineteen landowner consultations were completed, covering ninety allotments, along with two Gift Deed applications involving five allotments. Title research was conducted for eight cases, though no Gift Deeds were finalized during the reporting period. Significant work continues under the Fort Wingate legislative mandates of Public Law 114-328, which enables the return of specified lands to the Navajo Nation and Pueblo of Zuni following environmental remediation. Two patents have been issued to date—one on October 19, 2018, conveying approximately 1,700.53 acres, and another on August 29, 2024, conveying approximately 906.62 acres. To date, roughly 2,607.15 acres across eight parcels have been transferred to the Navajo Nation, with six parcels remaining pending cleanup and conveyance. Surveys required under the legislation continue to progress, with Priority 1 and Priority 2 surveys completed and Priority 3 surveys still underway.

Branch of Probate & Estate Services

Branch of Probate and Estate Services was able to have twenty (20) cases adjudicated this quarter with the Office of Hearings and Appeals, which are currently being processed to disburse trust assets. As of the end of this quarter, we have a total of 7,708 active cases being processed at some level. Currently, there are 209 cases eligible for closure, of those, one hundred seventeen (117) have finished the disbursement of the trust property and trust personalty (55.98%). Under the Secretary of the Interior's directive, the regional Probate Purge Initiative expanded its efforts to engage families of deceased Navajo Indian Allotment landowners through targeted document collection events. This quarter, three major events were completed at Crownpoint on August 1, 2026, Farmington on August 15, 2026, and Fire Rock Navajo Casino from September 9–11, 2026. Combined attendance across these events included 245 families. Realty and Probate staff collaborated closely to produce outreach materials, secure venues, coordinate media messaging, manage supplies, and host community events across all 110 Navajo Nation Chapters, with the objective of accelerating the processing of probate cases and ensuring that landowners and their families receive timely support and information.

Branch of Engineering

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Navajo Regional Office Branch of Engineering continued supporting several important water infrastructure projects throughout the Navajo Nation. During this reporting period, the BIA secured additional funding for two Navajo Nation water contracts, providing \$37,139 for water monitoring activities and \$67,861 for water development efforts. The Conjunctive Groundwater Use Wells (CGW) contract was also extended through December 31, 2029, ensuring continued support for groundwater and water system improvement projects.

Several CGW projects remain active, although some work has been temporarily delayed while the Navajo Nation completes projects funded through the American Rescue Plan Act and New Mexico Tribal Infrastructure programs. The Cutter Lateral Blending Study has been completed and is awaiting final review by the BIA. The Navajo Nation is also preparing additional work for the Chilchiltah Vanderwagon Water System and finalizing plans for the Cortez Tanks Rehabilitation Project. The Sheep Springs Connection project remains on hold while the Navajo Nation utilizes other available funding sources.

Progress also continued on major irrigation rehabilitation projects in northwestern New Mexico. The Fruitland-to-Cambridge (F-C) Irrigation Canal Fish Weir Project was completed in April 2026 after construction activities began in January 2025. The Yellowman Siphon Phase II Project was also completed in March 2026, with a final inspection conducted in April 2026. Construction of the Diversion Dam portion of the F-C Irrigation Canal project remains on hold while additional funding is pursued. The Navajo Nation has submitted and received approval for a Trust Fund Expenditure Plan that will help request funding needed to complete this important project.

Additional improvements were completed on the Hogback-to-Cudei (H-C) Irrigation Canal system. Construction of the Helium Lateral Flume, Jim Canyon Siphon, and Salt Creek Siphon projects was completed in May 2025, with final inspections conducted in June 2025. Canal lining improvements under a separate H-C rehabilitation project were completed in January 2026 following two phases of construction.

The BIA Safety of Dams Program, working with the BIA Division of Water and Power and the Navajo Nation Safety of Dams Office, completed an inspection of cracks identified at Many Farms Dam in March 2026. Information collected during the inspection is currently being analyzed to determine the best course of action. A follow-up meeting is planned for November 2026 to review the findings and develop recommendations for addressing the cracks. Until corrective actions are identified and implemented, Many Farms Dam will remain under Emergency Response Level One status due to cracking observed in both the spillway and dam embankment.

Previous stabilization work on the dam spillway was completed by the Bureau of Reclamation in September 2025. Following an inspection, the BIA determined that the spillway structure is

stable and structurally sound. In August 2026, the BIA also completed Early Warning System improvements at four dams located on the Navajo Nation to enhance monitoring and emergency preparedness. Additionally, the Navajo Regional Office submitted its Safety of Dams Corrective Action Memorandum to BIA leadership on August 25, 2026, with all identified corrective actions expected to be completed by the end of Fiscal Year 2027.

The annual Safety of Dams monitoring meeting between the BIA and Navajo Nation is scheduled for November 9, 2026. During the recent monsoon season, the Navajo Nation Safety of Dams Office conducted water-level assessments at all fourteen high-hazard dams across the Navajo Nation to ensure safe operations during periods of heavy rainfall and increased runoff.

2026 NAVAJO NATION SAFETY OF DAMS									
DAMS	TOP OF	SPILLWAY	DATE	ELEVATION	WSEL DIFF.	NMC CONTRAIL DATA			NOTES
	DAM		MONITORED		top of dam to wsel	DATE	TIME	WSEL (ft)	
ASAAYI	7534.00	7520.40	EWS 09/24/2026	7520.40	13.60	9/24/2026	14:01 HRS	7520.40	WSEL from both staff gauge and NMC
BLUE CANYON	7142.00	7120.00	ROUTINE 09/16/2026	7052.70	89.30				POND. below p/t at upstream
CAPTAIN TOM	5676.00	5671.70	ROUTINE 09/23/26	5663.80	12.20	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	5663.50	
CHARLEY DAY	4997.00	4988.00	EWS 09/25/2026	4988.80	8.20	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	4988.90	
CUTTER	5980.00	5963.90	EWS 09/28/2026	5962.20	17.80	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	5962.30	
GANADO	6440.00	6433.30	ROUTINE 09/16/2026	6424.10	15.90	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	6425.70	
MANY FARMS	5326.00	5313.10	ROUTINE 09/18/2026	5304.45	21.55	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	5305.30	
RED LAKE	7086.00	7080.00	ROUTINE 09/29/2026	7064.40	21.60	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	7064.40	
ROUND ROCK	5524.00	5519.00	ROUTINE 09/08/2026	DRY	#VALUE!	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	5494.80	no pressure transducer change, WSEL has not reached P/T
TODACHEENE	8785.00	8776.50	ROUTINE 09/23/2026	8767.83	17.17				NMC p/t NO CHANGE, surveyed elevation used
TOHAJILEE	5673.80	5667.00	ROUTINE 09/28/2026	5662.13	11.67	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	5664.30	
TSAILE	7041.00	7033.10	EWS 09/23/2026	7025.90	15.10	9/30/2026	10:01 HRS	7026.10	
WHEATFIELDS	7301.30	7296.60	ROUTINE 09/29/2026	7294.20	7.10				NMC p/t NO CHANGE, staff gauge reading used
WINDOW ROCK	6932.00		ROUTINE 09/24/2026	6904.38	27.62				ews measured 27.62', wsel at 6904.38' on 09/29/26

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Navajo Indian Irrigation Project (NIIP), Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI), and the Bureau of Reclamation continue to work together on planning and development activities for the NIIP. A Project Management Team meeting was held on August 17, 2026, and a follow-up coordination meeting took place on September 16, 2026, to discuss policies, procedures, and future development efforts, including the proposed Block 9 Stage 2 expansion project. The next Project Management Team meeting is scheduled for November 2026.

Progress on future NIIP construction remains dependent on a review of the 1970 NIIP Environmental Statement, which is currently being evaluated by the Department of the Interior

Solicitor's Office. Completion of this review is necessary before Block 9 Stage 2 and other future construction activities can move forward. Discussions regarding the long-term direction of the NIIP and future funding needs were also planned with Navajo Nation leadership and federal partners. That meeting, originally scheduled for March 2026, is expected to be rescheduled for November 2026.

To support agricultural operations and continued development, the BIA provided significant funding to NAPI through its FY 2026 Public Law 93-638 contract. Funding included \$1.3 million for agricultural development, testing, research, and laboratory activities, \$38,432 for water quality programs, and \$5.5 million for operations and maintenance. These investments will help support agricultural production, maintain critical irrigation infrastructure, and strengthen long-term water management efforts across the Navajo Nation.

Office of Geospatial Information System

The Office of Geospatial Support continued to provide critical GIS services to the Navajo Region, supporting natural resource management and program operations. Since September 2025, the Regional Geospatial Coordinator has served as the Acting Branch Manager for the Branch of Natural Resources while maintaining her role as Regional Geospatial Coordinator. This dual responsibility will enable integration of geospatial technology into range inventory projects, permit tracking, and conservation planning efforts.

During this reporting period, the Regional Geospatial Coordinator (RGC) continued supporting Agency and Branch of Natural Resources staff by providing geospatial technical assistance, reviewing data needs, and promoting the use of standardized GIS tools and training resources. This quarter, the RGC supported the Chinle Agency's scanning and digitization project to improve access to and management of agricultural land-use and grazing-permit records, strengthening services for Navajo ranchers, farmers, and producers. The goal is to digitize all hard-copy records held by Navajo Region Agencies and enhance data access, management, analysis, and service delivery.

Federal Indian Minerals Office

During the fourth quarter of FY2026, the Federal Indian Minerals Office (FIMO) conducted outreach, mineral-leasing, environmental-inspection, royalty-distribution, and real-estate activities. FIMO engaged allottees through in-person and telephone outreach in the Eastern Navajo Agency and continued working to address project proposals, stakeholder questions, and the daily service needs of allottees.

Enduring Resources San Juan, LLC, proposed leasing mineral interests from allottee mineral owners on a tract-by-tract basis involving 23 Indian allotment tracts. FIMO Realty staff are reviewing the request and notifying affected landowners to seek the approval of the proposal.

FIMO completed 22 environmental surface inspections, including inspections of plugged wells, to verify that the sites met their final reclamation plans.

Two spills or releases were reported. Both were classified as Category 1 and were minor in nature. Inspections have been conducted, and Environmental Protection staff are working with the Bureau of Land Management and operators to ensure that the affected sites are properly mitigated and cleaned up.

FIMO remained committed to maintaining open communication with stakeholders and ensuring that allottees were informed about ongoing projects and potential changes affecting their mineral interests. These efforts support FIMO's mandate and contribute to the Navajo Nation's economic and environmental well-being. FIMO staff continued addressing questions from allottees and providing daily assistance to respond to the needs of the communities served.

The Indian Energy Service Center (IESC) manages the Mineral Royalty and Accounting Distribution (MRAD) office that process activities related to royalty payments for Navajo Indian allottees. FIMO staff were informed that approximately \$5 million in royalty payments for various leases within the Navajo Regional Office were being held in MRAD suspense. The FIMO team researched the leases in a timely and diligent manner to ensure that the suspense funds were properly distributed.

Eastern Navajo Agency

Probate and Estate Services

The Branch of Probate Services gathers information regarding decedents' families and property and prepares the information for adjudication by the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA). After OHA issues a probate order, the branch works with other trust offices to distribute assets to designated heirs or beneficiaries.

During the fourth quarter, Probate and Estate Services submitted 33 probate cases, of which 2 were accepted by OHA. These cases involved:

- \$373,356.07 in Individual Indian Money accounts;
- 370 allotments; and
- 159 probable heirs.

The branch completed 43 disbursements and case closings. Staff were assigned 5,510 cases, received 21 new death notices, and assisted 730 clients through various service channels.

Staff also assisted with three Document Collection Events hosted by the Navajo Region. The events involved collecting documents and informing clients about case status, land ownership, and estate matters.

Real Estate Services

The Branch of Real Estate Services provides customer service and processes applications related to rights-of-way, gift deeds, and residential leases.

Rights-of-Way

A BIA right-of-way is a legally approved easement allowing passage or use across trust, restricted-fee, or allotted Indian land. Rights-of-way are granted under 25 U.S.C. §§ 323–328 and 25 C.F.R. Part 169, typically with landowner consent.

The following right-of-way applications are pending:

- Continental Divide Electric Cooperative Sundance #2 Power Line Project;
- Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources Tribal Waterline Project;
- Navajo Nation Water Management Reach 10.3.1 Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project; and
- Lybrook MDWCA Lybrook West WL Waterline Project.

Gift Deeds

A landowner of a restricted Native allotment may apply to gift the allotment to a relative or another person with whom they have a special relationship. Once a gift deed is completed, signed, and approved, title is transferred to the beneficiary. Gifts are permanent and cannot be retracted at a later time.

- 14 new gift deed cases were opened;
- 13 applications were approved; and
- 10 deeds were approved and recorded, with title updated to reflect the new owners.

Residential Leases

Residential lease applications are submitted for approval of leases on individually owned Indian land, commonly known as allotted land.

- 114 residential lease applications are submitted;
- 12 residential leases were approved; and
- 16 residential lease consent forms were sent to applicants.

Natural Resources:

The Branch of Natural Resources continues to advance major range and vegetation projects. And under the 2025 Grazing Permit Renewal Project, updated listings were provided to the District Land Boards, that included individual's ineligible for renewal and records of permits canceled or expired since 2014.

2025 Grazing Permit Renewal Project.

Land Management District	# Range Units	# Permittees	# Permits Approved	# Pending	Not Eligible	
					Cannot Renew*	Could Renew**
16	167	194	178	16	75	27
19	69	92	88	4	6	13
20	173	228	206	22	27	63
Total	409	514	472	42	108	103

* This data indicates the number of range units with low carrying capacity and the only way to issue a grazing permit is to add the unit to another unit.

** This data indicates that if the individual submits all compliance documents and/or pays all outstanding invoices, the grazing permit could be reissued.

2025 and 2026 Annual Grazing Rental Payments

As of September 17, 2026, 95 permittees had outstanding annual grazing and administrative fees totaling approximately \$13,145 from 2025 and 2026. The ENA BNR will prioritize sending payment reminders during the next quarter.

Coordination with New Mexico State University (NMSU) and Native Sustainable Agriculture (NSA). ENA BNR will continue to collaborate with NMSU Cooperative Extension and NSA to support permittees in amending and completing their conservation plans.

Rangeland Inventory and Monitoring. This project involves assessing vegetation attributes—including production, cover, density, frequency, and utilization—across 873 transects or study plots. The BIA has reviewed the initial draft, and the contractor will submit six separate district-specific drafts by the end of January 2027.

INDIAN SERVICES: The BIA Navajo Region's Indian Services include Facility Management, Housing Improvement Program, Human Services, Property, Safety, Transportation, and Tribal Government Services.

Branch of Facilities

The Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Regional Office – Branch of Facility Management (BIA NRO-BOFM) remains committed to its mission of providing safe, functional, and well-maintained facilities in support of programs serving the Navajo Nation. Consistent with the principles of Pub. Law 93-638 and our ongoing partnership with the Navajo Nation, NRO-BOFM continues to collaborate closely with tribal programs to assess facility needs, improve building conditions, and enhance the safety and efficiency of occupied spaces.

To support these goals, NRO-BOFM conducts comprehensive site assessments for current and future renovation projects and performs Operations and Maintenance (O&M) services for BIA-owned facilities that house Navajo Nation programs.

Fort Defiance Agency – Building 3, currently occupied by the Navajo Nation Department of Justice (NNDOJ), is undergoing a flooring upgrade in which existing carpet and wood flooring are being replaced with laminate, water-resistant materials. Project completion is anticipated by the end of October 2026. NRO-BOFM is coordinating with NNDOJ to minimize impacts to daily operations during installation.

Window Rock, Arizona – Building 50, which houses Navajo Nation social service programs, submitted a request to replace aging carpet due to deteriorating conditions. Following an on-site assessment, the Regional Director approved the upgrade. A contract was awarded on September 24, 2026, and installation is scheduled to begin in October 2026.

In addition, BIA NRO-BOFM is coordinating closely with Navajo OSHA to address facility concerns raised by the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture. The program was directed to vacate its three office buildings due to identified hazardous conditions and subsequently requested BIA assistance to support safe reentry. In response, BIA NRO-BOFM is developing a comprehensive Plan of Action to mitigate the hazards, ensure compliance with applicable safety standards, and restore the buildings for program use.

Fort Defiance, Arizona – Building 39 and Trailer 122004, previously used by the Navajo Nation Social Services Program, were vacated in 2015 with records, supplies, and equipment left on site. With authorization from the Navajo Nation, BIA NRO-BOFM completed the removal of all materials. Records from these facilities are now being cleaned and archived appropriately.

Crownpoint, New Mexico – Navajo Tribal Enrollment Program, operating under Pub. Law 93-639 Contract, recently relocated to the BIA Eastern Headquarters Building in Crownpoint, New Mexico, occupying several office spaces. To accommodate the volume of program records, installation of space saver units is scheduled for completion by the end of October 2026. NRO-BOFM remains dedicated to supporting office space requests, facility improvements, and the operational needs of Navajo Nation programs. Through collaboration built on trust and the shared responsibilities outlined in Pub. Law 93-638, we continue to strengthen our partnership and enhance the quality and safety of facilities serving the Navajo people.

Housing Improvement Program

The Nation's Housing Improvement Program (HIP) Fiscal Year 2026 Successor Annual Funding Agreement was awarded on July 21, 2026, in the amount of \$2,177,749. In addition, the Nation received \$1,382 in Paycost funding, \$127,661 in one-time supplemental FY2026 funding and \$217,995 in FY2026 Contract Support Cost. The Nation's HIP timely submitted its Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) 2026 Third Quarter Report on July 6, 2026. The 2026 Fourth Quarter GPRA Report is due by October 5, 2026.

On August 6, 2026, Mr. Herby Larsen, Deputy Regional Director Indian Services was designated as the Awarding Official's Technical Representative for the HIP Pub. Law 93-638 Contract.

Branch of Human Services

The Branch of Human Services completed five Administrative Restriction Letters (ARLs) for Navajo Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders referred by the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) for comprehensive assessment and evaluation. Additionally, conducted seven home visits and met with two IIM account holders and their families to discuss account-related matters.

Human Services issued two letters to the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) placing an IIM account on hold since the account holder has been nonresponsive to several attempts to contact to complete an assessment, which were uploaded to the Beneficiary Case Management System (BCMS) for processing; this is to safeguard the trust assets of the account holder. Distribution plans for two Navajo IIM account holders were prepared to support essential purchases, medical expenses, and utility bills that promote their health and welfare. Processed one major purchase request.

Coordinated with the Office of the Solicitor to review nine powers of attorney, court orders, and related documents concerning Navajo IIM account holders. Human Services continues to work on IIM cases providing training and technical assistance on IIM and Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) cases.

Human Services continues responding to telephone calls regarding Navajo IIM account cases, census office locations, and assistance with ICWA matters. These contacts provided individuals with information, referrals, and guidance regarding available services and case-related resources.

In coordination with the Indian Self-Determination Office's Awarding Officials and Central Human Services staff, we developed and finalized the agenda for Family Assistance for Self-Sufficiency and Responsibility (FASSR) training. It was a two-day FASSR training with Navajo Nation Social Services, three FASS case management system training sessions, and five ICWA training sessions. Also met with a Navajo Social Services accountant and provided technical assistance on the FASSR data form.

Branch of Property

The Branch of Property has finalized and submitted the FY2026 Annual Inventory. The reconciliation of assets assists in identifying items that are no longer in use by the BIA and may be beneficial for donation to the Navajo Nation. Additionally, staff have been collaborating with various Programs to recycle electronics that are no longer being used.

Property staff completed the documentation for the transfer of two rafts from the New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office, of the US Fish and Wildlife Service to the Navajo Nation.

Property continues to work with Fire Management during their transition to US Wildland Fire Service, by supporting continued operations so that there are no disruptions to basic daily continuity of operations and needs.

Property is assisting other Programs with the clearing and cleaning of facilities at the agencies. Chinle Agency staff were able to provide excess furnishings to Navajo Nation programs and area chapter houses. Eastern Navajo Agency, rooms were cleared and space provided for the Tribal Enrollment Program. Excess furniture was also made available to area chapter houses.

Branch of Safety

Workplace Safety Progress and Inspection Overview: The Branch of Safety continues to advance its mission of strengthening workplace safety and supporting employee well-being throughout the Navajo Region. As part of our annual inspection initiative, safety assessments were completed at 26 Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) facilities and 3 Office of Justice Services (OJS) locations. Results for this quarter include:

- OJS facility inspection reports are 100% complete
- BIA facility inspection reports are at 100% completion.
- Abatement plans associated with identified findings have been completed at a rate of 96%.

Inspections function as a primary compliance tool for identifying hazards at their point of origin and enforcing accountability through documented corrective actions, performance oversight, and required follow-up verification. The Branch also delivers safety training and disseminates regulatory guidance to reduce occupational injuries and illnesses. Together, these measures advance the organization's duty to safeguard employee well-being and maintain a resilient, compliant work environment across the Navajo Nation.

Technical Assistance and Program Support: Throughout the quarter, the Branch offered safety guidance and technical assistance to a range of Pub. Law 93-638 programs and Navajo Nation offices, including:

- Navajo Detention Centers
- Navajo Animal Control
- Navajo Scholarship Office
- Navajo Enrollment Office
- Navajo Department of Transportation
- Navajo communities and members of the public
- Navajo Fair and Parade
- Navajo Department of Emergency Management
- Navajo Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- Navajo Department of Agriculture
- Navajo Department Water Resources

Support for the Great Plains Region: Through an active Service Line Agreement for FY 2026, the Branch of Safety provided technical assistance to the Great Plains Region, completing 100% of all 44 scheduled inspection sites. More than 100 facility safety inspections were conducted across Great Plains Agency locations, strengthening interregional collaboration and ensuring consistent safety standards across all Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) serviced sites.

Navajo Region Branch of Safety supported Great Plains Agencies:

- Aberdeen Headquarters Regional Office
- Cheyenne River Agency
- Ft. Berthold Agency
- Ft. Totten Agency
- Pine Ridge Agency
- Rosebud Agency
- Yankton Agency

- Sisseton Agency
- Standing Rock Agency
- Turtle Mountain Agency
- Winnebago Agency
- Crow Creek Agency
- Lower Brule Agency

The Branch of Safety is dedicated to cultivating a safe, healthy, and secure workplace for all employees and visitors. We maintain a strong commitment to continuous improvement within BIA's Safety and Occupational Health Program, ensuring our processes remain effective, compliant, and aligned with best practices. The Branch will continue to champion safety across all agencies, providing advocacy, technical expertise, and collaborative support wherever it is needed to strengthen workplace protection throughout the organization and the Navajo Nation.

Branch of Transportation

Transportation staff continue to provide technical assistance and services related to transportation. While collaborating with Navajo Division of Transportation, they pursue self-sufficiency in administering and carrying out the Tribal Transportation Program (TTP).

Road Maintenance: Due to staffing shortages, the BIA Road Maintenance Program has realigned its services and staffing levels to support mission operations. The Shiprock Agency Roads Engineer provides management and oversight over staff in Shiprock, and Eastern Navajo Agencies, Farmington Field Office and parts of Fort Defiance Agency to provide routine maintenance services BIA roads. BIA Navajo Region's Acting Regional Roads Engineer provides management and oversight for parts of Fort Defiance, Chinle and Western Navajo Agencies and New Lands Field Office all while continuing to provide routine maintenance services on BIA roads, bridges, and transportation facilities that serves the Nation.

AGENCY	ROUTINE ROAD MAINTENANCE																	
	Road Assessments	Blading	Fence Repair	Sign Repair	Pavement Striping	Delineator Maint.	Pothole Patching	Mowing	Guardrail Repair	Cattleguard Clean	Culvert Pipe Clean	Crack Seal	Drainage/Erosion Repair	Sidewalk Clean/Repair	Bridge Repair	Snow/Ice Control	Blow Sand Removal	Shope Building Maintenance
Ft. Defiance	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Chinle	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Western	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Shiprock	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
Farmington	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓			✓			✓					✓
New Lands	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓				✓
Eastern	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓

Branch of Road Maintenance performed the following road maintenance activities:

Shiprock Agency - Culvert, Erosion, Fence, Signs on N57, N8008, N8009, N35, N9, N104, N55, N69, N5, N13, N18, N5094, N36, N63, N33, N365; Pothole, Vegetation, Cattleguard on N551, N552, N553, N5, N13, N9, N104, N55, N512, N5007, N5094, N33, N63; Blading, Sand Removal on N5060, N5000, N8070, N8008, N8009, N69, N18, N5094, N181, N353, N8014; and Washout Repairs: N8008, N8009, N69, N5002, N5010, N192, N5007, N34, N353, N30, N36, N5092, N5029, N5020, N693, N35, N5005, N5012, N5014, N364, N132.

Ft. Defiance and Eastern Navajo Agency - Culvert, Erosion, Fence, Signs on N9, N48, N49, N56, N7046, N7144; Pothole, Vegetation, Cattleguard on N448, N9, N48, N7119, N49, N7057, N7120, N709, N11, N7046, N7062, N1042, N1040, N7042, N7144, N15, N321, N12, N7044, N7039; Washout Repairs on N11 and Striping on N15.

Western Navajo Agency - Culvert, Erosion, Fence on N15, N16, N21, N600; Pothole on N24, N15, N16, N59, and Tuba City streets; Washout Repairs on N213, N6011, N6486, N6487, N42, N16, N6310, N2, N71, N6920, N6921, N6923, N6922, N594, N42, N6450, N6430, N6420, N6133, N6134, N6135, N6210, N6120, N6122; and Bridge, Sand Removal, others: N71, N6720, N59, N6465.

Chinle Agency - Culvert, Erosion, Fence, Signs on N4, N15, N3003, N12, N13, N27, N8033, N8027, N8029, N8062, N15; Pothole, Vegetation, Cattleguard on N3003, N15, N65, N12, N4, N64; Blading, Road Assessments on N8027, N8029, N8033, N15; and Bridge, Sidewalk, Others on N667, N15,

Fort Defiance Agency - Surface patching, vegetation control, cattleguard cleanout, fence repair on N321, N6, N12, N15, N112, N60, and N602.

New Lands and Farmington Offices - Pothole, vegetation control and washout repair on N7046, N7062, N7044, N7140, N12, N9010, N112, N15, N69, N5094, N8008, and N8009.

Office of Tribal Government Services

25th Navajo Nation Council Coordination Activities:

On September 4, 2026, Dr. Andy Nez, Council Delegate, inquired about the former Office of Dine Youth Building, (Blue building) across the Ft. Defiance chapter, in Ft. Defiance Arizona, if this building is still under the BIA.

On September 30, 2026, Dr. Andy Nez, Council Delegate, inquired about potential space for ICWA program staff occupying Ft. Defiance Senior Center. OTGS referred the matter to BIA, ISDO, on office space requests with the P.L. 93-638 contractual programs.

On September 4, 2026, Mr. Vince James, Council Delegate, regarding road maintenance and unsafe crossing at Ganado High School. OTGS referred the matter to Deputy Director, Indian Services and Regional Director.

Tribal Enrollment – This quarter, BIA Navajo Region referred (9) Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) requests to the Navajo Nation Office of Vital Records/Enrollment. Requests were made by individuals seeking scholarships, benefits, or membership, including prison inmates.

Awarding Official Technical Representative Activities – The Tribal Operations Specialist is the AOTR for three P.L. 93-638 contracts. This quarter, the BIA Navajo Region Awarding Official and AOTR, in coordination with the Navajo Nation, completed the following transactions:

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal (Census) Enrollment (TE) program Contract, A16AV00568:

This quarter, the AOTR worked with the Program Manager on the following:

On September 16, 2026, at the direction of the Regional Director, the AOTR, Tribal Operation's Specialist, followed up on the Nation's status of potential layoffs due to the 2027 comprehensive Budget that remained unapproved. This would have impacted 3,000 employees with the Nation. On September 28, 2026, the AOTR, Tribal Operation's Specialist informed the Regional Director that the Navajo Nation Council passed a resolution on Legislation 0207-26 and avoided the potential layoffs.

On August 12, 2026, the AOTR the Program Manager regarding the revocable license agreement and the office space numbers at the Eastern Navajo Agency building. Concerns regarding the

language surrounding the sovereign limited waiver were discussed including office space numbers. AOTR informed the BIA ISDO on requests.

On June 6, 2026, the Program Manager informed the AOTR of implementing salary adjustments and minimum wage increases. On September 22, 2026, the AOTR provided recommendations to the BIA Awarding Official regarding the Nation's request on funding shortfall of \$90,176.46 for personnel salaries.

On July 29, 2026, the AOTR processed the Program Electronic Purchase Request for Tribal Enrollment in the amount of \$20,000 to assist BIA, BPES in the Probate Document Collection Event, as the Nation's TE program is an integral part of the probate process.

These funds are made available pursuant to H.R. 6938 / Public Law 119-74 Commerce, Justice, Science; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (140 STAT 106). This is a one-time distribution of funds.

The \$20,000 will be used for 638 Tribal Enrollment staff's overtime, for travel expenses to and from staff worksite to the event and to cover the cost of the mileage and daily use rate of a program vehicle. The Probate Document Collection Event locations were:

- August 1, 2026, 10am–3pm MST Navajo Technical University Campus, Crownpoint, New Mexico
- August 15, 2026, 10am–3pm MST Farmington Civic Center, 200 West Arrington Street, Farmington, New Mexico
- September 12, 2026, 10am–3pm MST Gallup Community Service Center, 410 Bataan Veterans Street, Gallup, New Mexico

P.L. 93-638 Contractual Program, Tribal Courts, Contract No. A22AV00151:

On August 5, 2026, the AOTR processed the Program Electronic Purchase Request for Tribal Enrollment in the amount of \$48,954.00. These funds are made available pursuant to H.R. 6938 / Public Law 119-74 Commerce, Justice, Science; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (140 STAT 106). This is a one-time distribution of funds

Navajo Nation Attorney Fees, Agreement No. A25AC00314.

On August 18, 2026, the NN DOJ submitted invoices to the BIA and OTGS approved and made recommendations for payment with the BIA Acquisition's office. These invoices are regarding the NHLC settlement discussions.

The Agreement funds reasonable attorney fees and litigation support to the Navajo Nation, as authorized by 25 U.S.C. §§ 640d-7(e), 640d-27(a), and applicable laws.

Freedom of Information Act:

The Tribal Operations Specialist processed and closed 35 FOIA requests this quarter, using the first-in, first-out method.