



25TH NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL

Council Delegate Curtis Yanito

Mexican Water | Aneth | Teec Nos Pos | Tóhikan | Red Mesa

Report to the
Tóhikan Chapter
Tóhikan, Navajo Nation AZ
Monday, August 24, 2026

Proposed Closure of the Navajo Technical University at Teec Nos Pos

The Navajo Technical University, Teec Nos Pos campus, is taking proceedings to close the NTU campus. The University administration states technical problems for inadequate campus facilities. Upon further findings, the University is showing a significantly reduced enrollment of students. The current site administrator has not conducted promotions, recruitment of students, activities with Chapters and communities, or reaching out to high schools and conducting recruitment drives at community events. More emphasis is being placed on the Kirtland NTU campus than the Teec Nos Pos campus. The University has an agreement with the Teec Nos Pos Chapter.

Work with Fiscal Recovery Fund Office

Work made with the Fiscal Recovery Fund Office in requesting for an allocation of \$180,000.00 for the home replacement for a resident in Aneth who suffered the loss of his home due to the tornado in 2025. This work included the efforts of the Office of the President and Vice President Northern Navajo Representative Herman Farley.

Appeal to the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council and Resources and Development Committee

Legislation 0172-26, designating Tooh Ahidiilíni as a Sacred Site, was officially posted on July 8, 2026, as new legislation. This legislation seeks to protect the Confluence of the Colorado River and the Little Colorado River as a sacred site. The appeal to the Speaker was to expedite the process through the legislative committees in getting the full legislation to the Summer Session of the Navajo Nation Council. The Resources and Development Committee, the week before the Summer Session, was on a scheduled trip to Washington, D.C. The following week Legislation 0172-26 was brought before the Resources and Development Committee and the measure was passed unanimously without debate or deliberation. Legislation 0172-26 is scheduled before the Naabik'iyáti' Committee.

Legislation for Bluff Footbridge Farm Project

Legislation for the Bluff Footbridge Farm Project was submitted to the Office of the Legislative Counsel in 2024. The Office of the Legislative Counsel withdrew the proposed legislation from their registry lacking a resolution of Red Mesa Chapter. Repeated requests to Red Mesa Chapter were made and no official (signed) copy of the resolution was found. A new Chapter Resolution was created, presented, included in the planning process, and the measure was tabled.

Navajo Nation Broadband Project

On Tuesday, July 14, 2026, the President signed Legislation 109-26, the Capital Development Financing Fund amendments into law. This enabled the use of more than \$75 million to be used as match funds for the BEAD (Broadband Equity Access Deployment) through the States of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah (\$280 million). The \$75 million match fund is allocated from the Revenue Replacement Reserve (CMY-28-24) created in 2024. By the enactment and signing of this legislation, the deadlines for funding by the States are now satisfied. The Navajo Nation Broadband Office will proceed with the deployment of the 5G service installation as well as the build out of the “last mile” of fiber to communities and homes.

Trump Signs Proclamations on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase

On July 13, 2026, President Donald Trump signed proclamations in reducing the acres of public lands for Bears Ears and the Grand Staircase-Escalante. The reduction to Bears Ears is 91.1 percent from the current 1,360,000 acres to 121,100 acres. His action rescinds an executive order signed by President Joe Biden. Trump’s action also disbands the Inter-Tribal Coalition on Bears Ears. Trump’s action is anticipated to be met with intense legal litigation by multiple NGOs (Non-Government Organizations).

Utah Navajo Health System and Blue Mountain Hospital

A legislative request was submitted to the Office of the Legislative Counsel to include the newly acquired Blue Mountain Hospital under Title V for Self-Governance Funding. This will enable the Utah Navajo Health System to include the Blue Mountain Hospital under contract funds from the IHS agreement for the operation cost. Office legislation is being created for the enactment by the Navajo Nation Council and respective standing committees.

Appeal to the Resources and Development Committee

A written appeal was sent to the Resources and Development Committee Chair Brenda Jesus to appear before the Committee and testify on the efforts of the Natural Resources Conservation Services projects that have been ongoing for the last two years. A slide presentation is created and ready to acquaint the members of the committee of the goals, mission, and implementation of the project. This effort is for the planned water projects of all Chapters within this



legislative district. Mexican Water and Teec Nos Pos Chapters have enacted local legislation in support of this initiative.

[Grant Support for Four Corners Native Business Incubator](#)

A letter of support was written and signed for the support of a significant grant to the Office of Indian Economic Development for the Four Corners Business Incubator. The grant will increase learning in three institutions and provide for increased collaboration. It also builds on the existing strengths of Native businesses for better output and job creation.

[H.R.4712/S.2452](#)

House of Representative Bill 4712 and Senate Bill 2452, seek to increase benefits for all Tribal law enforcement personnel including personnel under P.L. 93-638 contract funding. The Navajo Department of Law Enforcement is included. The Congressional Budget Office estimates the cost of implementing the bill will be as high as \$800 million. The Navajo Nation Washington Office recommends that the Navajo Nation Council officially opposes the passage of both bills. It will create a budget burden on the general funds of the Navajo Nation. The federal government will fund half of the cost, and the remaining half must be consumed by Tribal governments.

[Native American Summit in Orem Utah](#)

The Utah Division of Indian Affairs coordinated and hosted the annual Native American Summit with the participation of State Agencies and Departments along with the Utah Governor and Lieutenant Governor. The meeting included the priorities of the eight Tribe in Utah. Included were updates and exchanges with the State from agencies on Tax, Natural Resources, Transportation, Education, Commerce, and Water Services. This Legislative District made appeals to the Governor and Lieutenant Governor for the acquisition of retired military equipment. Previous efforts with the Federal government through the federal bureaucracy are excessive with no results. The Lieutenant Governor committed to using State resources for the placement of a retired Black Hawk helicopter at Mexican Water Chapter.

[McCraken Mesa Utah](#)

A meeting was held with the Sacks Tierney law firm in Arizona who is contracted by the Office of Legislative Counsel of the Navajo Nation Council. The matter is the Range Land Inventory study conducted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs so the reissuance of grazing permits can be made for livestock owners in McCracken Mesa. Accordingly, the study was completed, according to the BIA's report. But no federal efforts have been made to finalize the study so that land users may re-engage grazing. Sacks Tierney will follow up with the Chief Legislative Counsel in addressing the matter to the Regional Director for the BIA Navajo Area Office.



Utah Energy Development

A meeting was held with the Utah Energy Development Office for the upcoming meeting on Saturday, August 15, 2026, at Mexican Water Chapter. Governor Spencer Cox is working to increase energy output for the State through Operation Gigawatt. It includes geothermal, battery storage, and nuclear energy. This has the potential to expand the processing operation at White Mesa by double the current size. Utah Energy Development is seeking community input the State's energy plans with full consultation. Navajo Nation Chapters in Utah are having difficulty with the involvement of Navajo government agencies in Window Rock. This will remain a priority for Chapters in Utah in expressing their input for the Governor's energy initiatives.

Tourism for Mexican Water Chapter

Of the five Chapters in this Legislative District, Mexican Water Chapter is the single Chapter to support the creation of a Section 17 Corporation to crease business, commerce, business development, and jobs in the region. The creation of a Limited Liability Company to be owned 100 percent by Mexican Water Chapter is recommended. For the last two months, this Legislative District is working on a proposed plan that will be made available to Mexican Water Chapter. This Limited Liability Company will serve for the interim until such time that more support is gained for the Section 17 Corporation.

Community Housing Infrastructure Department

A meeting took place with the Community Housing Infrastructure Department with the Division of Community Development regarding the home replacement and applicants for housing in this Legislative District. Adjustments will be made to the list to ensure that applicants who demonstrate a bona fide need will be added to the list, i.e. homes beyond repair, income level, and displacement due to no current housing availability.

Flock Safety on Navajo Nation

A license plate reader will soon be in use on the Navajo Nation in a partnership with Flock Safety, a surveillance based company that has partnerships with law enforcement in Arizona. The technology will be used by the Police Department as well as Criminal Investigation. With the low number of police officers on patrol the technology will assist the police in monitoring and tracking potentially dangerous criminals. It is anticipated that it will assist in the effort of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Relatives. This Legislative District is in full support of the partnership with Flock Safety, and recognizes San Juan County Commissioner Jamie Harvey for his participation.

