



MONTHLY BRIEF

STAY UPDATED ON NNWO'S WORK IN WASHINGTON DC

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Brief overview of key developments in the policy areas NNWO monitors

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Highlights from significant meetings held with federal agencies, congressional offices, and Navajo Leadership

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Federal consultations NNWO participated in, along with upcoming consultation opportunities and comment deadlines

4. Executive Orders

Summary and analysis of recent executive orders with potential impacts for the the Navajo Nation

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Yá'át'ééh,

As we launch our monthly Report on Federal Activities, I want to thank you for your continued trust and engagement with the Navajo Nation Washington Office. Our goal with this report is to deepen transparency and communication between our office and the Navajo people. Each month, we will provide timely updates across our monitoring areas, share insights from federal meetings, and outline developments in tribal consultations and executive actions.

Over the past month, our team has remained vigilant in tracking federal policies that impact the Navajo Nation, as well as engaged directly with congressional offices, federal agencies, and intergovernmental partners. These efforts ensure we are positioned to respond to emerging legislation and advocate effectively on behalf of our communities.

We hope this monthly update serves not only as a summary of our work in Washington, DC, but also a bridge to keep our communities informed. Thank you for your continued support as we advocate for the future of the Navajo Nation.



PORTFOLIO UPDATES

PUBLIC SAFETY

Congressman Mark Green (R-TN), Chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security, announced his plan to retire later this summer. The current front runner for Chair is Congressman Michael McCaul (R-TX-10), who previously chaired the committee from 2013 to 2019. Speaker Johnson allegedly met with Green and McCaul Thursday for a meeting Green requested and the group discussed McCaul taking over the role to avoid a messy, mid-session fight.

Senator Daines (R-SD) and Senator Smith (D-MN) introduced Protection for Reservation Occupants against Trafficking and Evasive Communications Today (PROTECT) Act of 2025 to address the growing drug crisis by enhancing the ability of Tribal courts to issue warrants and expand Tribal jurisdiction for certain drug, firearm, and related offenses

Senator Wyden (R-OR) and Senator Budd (R-NC) introduced S. 2015 to expand prescribed burns to manage federal lands utilizing indigenous knowledge and practices.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Senator Jon Ossoff (D-GA) introduced S. 784, Rural Veteran Transportation Grant Program. The legislation would expand and make permanent the Department of Veterans Affairs grant program that provides transportation options to veterans for medical purposes.

The FY26 appropriations bill for Veterans' Affairs and Military Construction was released on Thursday. This is the first appropriations bill released for FY2026, and NNWO has begun review.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

Congressman Eli Crane (R-AZ) introduced H.R. 3713, the Legacy Mine Clean up of 2025. The bill establishes the Mountains, Deserts, and Plains in US EPA. The department will coordinate, establish and disseminate best practices on the cleanup action of the EPA at a covered mine site, including a covered mine site in Indian Country.

Administrator Lee Zeldin proposed repealing rules passed under the former President Biden Administration that curb emissions of carbon dioxide, mercury, and other air pollutants from power plants. This comes from President Trump's broader efforts to unwind environmental regulations he views as unnecessary barriers to industrial development and expanded energy production.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Congresswoman Emily Randal (D-WA-06) introduced H.R. 3654, the Tribal Emergency Response Resources Act. The bill would streamline funding for tribes that are impacted by climate change.

FEMA's 10th Annual Tribal Nations Training Week is rumored to be rescheduled for late September this year, potentially the week of Sep 20-27, but this is not yet official. The training was originally scheduled for late spring but was suddenly cancelled with no input from Tribes despite numerous registrants, among a list of other Tribal event cancellations for which we wrote a letter for President Nygren to send to the acting head at FEMA requesting answers.

President Trump and DHS Secretary Noem outlined changes for FEMA. Beginning after the 2025 hurricane season, Trump intends to begin shifting more responsibility to states, and have FEMA hand out less money.



GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIP

The Nation continues to make in-roads with agencies and members of Congress. Director Redhouse met with Speaker Johnson and also with leadership from EPA, including Administrator Zeldin. Since the meeting with EPA, the Administrator's team has already reached out to NNWO for assistance on legislative matters.

Senator Hawley (R-MO) has requested support from the Nation on his RECA legislation being included in the reconciliation package; and Senator Luján (D-NM) reached out for support on his legislation to make mandatory appropriations for BIA, BIE, and IHS.

We strengthened our connections with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs majority and minority leadership, as well as the Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources minority staff.

OFFICE OF NAVAJO HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

NNWO was successful in preventing President Trump from immediately closing ONHIR; however, ONHIR has been informed that it will likely close at the end of the current fiscal year (September 20, 2025), with its remaining funds likely to be transferred to the Department of the Interior.

NNWO—working through Senator Gallego's (D-AZ) office—submitted a letter requesting an oversight hearing should ONHIR close, and submitted separately a request for consultation on behalf of the NHLC and President Nygren to ONHIR on their closure activities.

The Nation is working on various strategies to either prevent ONHIR's closure or to ensure that its statutory obligations are and continued to be performed.

TAXATION & FEDERAL BUDGET

Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced the Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2025 that would create parity for Tribes by expanding tribes' ability to issue governmental bonds, create \$175 million in annual tax credits for tribal community development, and clarify tax rules around Indian lands.

The Senate continued to debate the reconciliation bill. The Senate has made substantial changes to the House version of the bill that was passed earlier in the month. For the legislation to move to President Trump's desk, both the House and Senate have to approve the same text. Once the Senate approves the bill, it will go back to the House. President Trump has called for this to be completed by July 4, 2025.

TRANSPORTATION

USDOT announced the availability of \$5.4 billion in bridge funding to get "America building again." Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) stated up to \$500 million for repairing or replacing bridges in rural areas through the Competitive Highway Bridge Program. USDOT has lifted restrictions on the program.

Congressman Tom Barrett introduced H.R. 3055, the Transitioning, Retiring and New Service Members to Port Ocean Rail and Truck Jobs Act (TRANSPORT) Jobs Act, which directs the Secretary of Transportation to develop an action plan on member of the Armed Forces eligible for preseparation counseling and veterans becoming supply chain employees.



HEALTH

NNWO continued to advocate for an exemption for tribal members from the proposed Medicaid work requirements and enrollment verification requirements, as well as securing no cuts to the 100% FMAP for tribes. As of June 30, 2025, our efforts, along with those of our partners, were successful in securing an exemption from work requirements and securing no cuts to the 100% FMAP for tribes. **As of the Senate's passage of the bill, our efforts with regard to work requirements and 100% FMAP were successful.**

The Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2026 Department of Health and Human Services Budget, and Secretary Kennedy was the witness. The hearing was full of tension and showed deep bipartisan divides, however, it is important to state that Secretary Kennedy once again mentioned his commitment to improve health in Indian Country.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (NMDWS) has committed \$500,000 to the Northern New Mexico Youth Fund, marking the agency's first formal partnership with the fund to expand workforce training for underserved youth across the region. This investment—channeled through the Community Benefit Fund established by Senate Bill 48—targets job training in renewable energy, grid modernization, and climate change mitigation. With this contribution, the Youth Fund now totals \$1.6 million, combining support from 12 philanthropic partners and coordinated by the LANL Foundation. Prioritizing Opportunity Youth (ages 16–24), Native youth, and other underserved populations, the initiative supports internships, pre-apprenticeships, and career pathway programs across multiple counties and Tribal communities. The grants are awarded through a participatory process involving youth leaders, Tribal reps, and public officials—including NMDWS Deputy Secretary Marcos Martinez.

NNWO is working to advance advocacy for the inclusion of tribal-specific Opportunity Zone (OZ) enhancements within the Senate's reconciliation bill. With guidance from Native American Finance Officers Association, NNWO is pushing for the bill to explicitly reference Tribal Nations and allow tribal governments to designate their own census tracts as Opportunity Zones, rather than relying on state governor's use of rural census tracts. This recommendation stems from our analysis identifying 13 poorly placed OZs across the Navajo Nation—zones that were designated in 2017 and are approaching their 10-year maturity threshold. Additionally, our efforts are informed by the House's reconciliation bill, which includes rural investment incentives such as a 30% basis increase (compared to the current 10%), further reinforcing the need for equitable treatment in tribal areas.

To support our outreach, NNWO has been in communication with Senators Warren and Cassidy's offices. While initial feedback from Senator Cassidy's office raised concerns about the potential impact on the Senate bill's score and the importance of having state-level support, our consistent message has been that this policy would expand economic development potential across Indian Country, not solely within the Navajo Nation's individual states.



AGRICULTURE

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is proposing to rescind a December 2023 final rule that eliminated the practice of "visual observation" by State agencies when collecting race and ethnicity data for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) participants. The Intertribal Food Assistance Initiative (IFAI) has provided a template letter for tribal comments, which are due by June 16, 2025 (Docket No. FNS-2025-0006). The draft letter argues that reinstating visual observation would perpetuate misclassification of American Indian and Alaska Native participants and revive outdated, harmful bureaucratic practices. For the Navajo Nation, this issue also presents an opportunity to build legislative documentation in support of preserving and strengthening FNS programs—including SNAP and other nutrition services—as critical infrastructure for rural and remote Navajo communities.

ProPublica reported that the USDA has terminated the Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) Cooperative Agreement Program, a key Biden-era initiative that provided funding to dozens of Tribal communities to procure fresh, locally grown food. Despite the Trump administration's stated commitment to health and traditional diets in Indian Country, the program—credited with supporting Tribal food sovereignty and cultural restoration—was cut in March 2025. Advocacy organizations have called on USDA to reinstate the program, citing its role in honoring Tribal sovereignty and improving access to culturally relevant, nutritious foods.

The Coalition for Tribal Sovereignty has issued an action alert urging Tribal Nations and organizations to contact Congress regarding the reconciliation bill, which currently includes no exemptions to new SNAP work requirements for Native peoples or Tribal Statistical Areas. This poses a threat to food access in Indian Country, where up to 80% of residents in some communities rely on federal food assistance. The Coalition and the Native Farm Bill Coalition are calling for advocacy to ensure Native peoples are exempted from work requirements and to promote Tribal authority in administering SNAP. **NNWO assisted in this advocacy and helped secure an exemption for tribal members from the SNAP work requirements in the Senate's version of the bill.**

RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT

A version of Senator Hawley's bill is currently included in the draft text for Senate Judiciary's portion of the megabill.

While it doesn't include everything in S.3853, it covers the majority of the Navajo's priorities: coverage is extended to miners through December 31, 1990, core drillers and remediation workers are included, compensation is increased to \$100,000, additional kidney diseases for miners are covered, and combined work histories are allowed.

The extension would only be through December 31, 2028. The bill would not expand the use of affidavits for employment history, allow previously successful claimants to resubmit for the difference under increased compensation, and it would forego the grant program to study epidemiological impacts of uranium mining/milling GAO study/report on unmet medical benefits.

NATIONAL PARKS & MONUMENTS

the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), Association of National Park Rangers (ANPR), and Coalition to Protect America's National Parks (CPANP) submitted strong opposition to the Office of Personnel Management's proposed rule, "Improving Performance, Accountability and Responsiveness in the Civil Service" (90 Fed. Reg. 17182, Docket ID: OPM-2025-0004). The groups argue the rule would undermine over 140 years of civil service protections, politicize staffing within the National Park Service (NPS) and Department of the Interior (DOI), and enable politically motivated dismissal of career staff. They warn this could erode science-based resource management, reintroduce a "Spoils System," and harm recruitment, retention, and morale across the NPS workforce. The proposed changes could also negatively impact tribal-federal partnerships and the integrity of DOI programs that serve tribal communities.

A new legal opinion from the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel (OLC), dated May 27 and released June 10, asserts that the Antiquities Act of 1906 grants presidents not only the authority to designate national monuments but also the power to revoke or eliminate them entirely—reversing nearly 90 years of legal precedent. The opinion, authored by OLC head Lanora Pettit at the request of the White House, paves the way for former President Trump to dismantle or reduce monuments established by prior administrations, including Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni-Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon, and others. The move has been described by legal experts as a radical departure from conservation norms, potentially reducing monument protections to the length of a single presidential term. Tribal nations and conservation groups are expressing growing concern, especially as this interpretation threatens hard-won protections of culturally and spiritually significant lands.

NNWO worked closely with Mr. Richard Begay to develop a draft response to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) request for written comments regarding the potential partial revocation of the Chaco-area mineral withdrawal. A preliminary draft was shared with legal partners at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck and received input before being finalized. The letter was then reviewed internally and sent to Director Vince Redhouse for clearance, followed by distribution to Mr. Leonard Tosie (Eastern Navajo Land Commission) and Mr. Begay for their review prior to formal submission. NNWO will next engage Navajo Nation Attorney General Heather Claw to finalize and submit the comments on behalf of the Nation.

The Trump administration has proposed a 30% reduction to the National Park Service (NPS) budget, sparking concern, including from Republican lawmakers. The proposal includes significant cuts to visitor services, facility maintenance, and resource stewardship, alongside a controversial plan to transfer some lesser-visited historic and cultural sites to state control. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum has defended the cuts as efforts to reduce "overhead" while prioritizing frontline park staff, but critics argue the loss of support personnel could harm disaster response, climate planning, and visitor safety. Lawmakers like Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), and Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT) have voiced concerns, noting the proposed cuts contradict the administration's stated commitment to economic growth through public lands



FEDERAL MEETINGS

JUNE 3, 2025

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE OFFICE OF TRIBAL RELATIONS

NNWO met with Josiah Griffin from USDA's Office of Tribal Relations to discuss initiatives around the following: USDA resources for mobile and community meat processing (technical assistance via Intertribal Agriculture Council and Value-Added Producer Grants), potential financing tools (Business & Industry Loan Guarantees, Community Facilities Program), and existing partnerships at Diné College. Discussion also covered leveraging Opportunity Zones, USDA youth loans tied to NAPI initiatives, and support for year-round sheep breeding and sheep herder programs.

JUNE 4, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

NNWO staffed President Nygren, Navajo Department of Transportation Director Tom Platero, Deputy Division Director Shelby Dayzie, and staff in a meeting with Deputy Assistant Secretary of Tribal Affairs, James Crawford. President Nygren and Director Platero discussed concerns with the transportation bill that is expiring next year. Mr. Platero was able to discuss TTP formula funding changes, the need for the bus route program to continue, and how the US DOT plans to work with BIA and states on road maintenance issues. Further discussion will need to happen as the Deputy Assistant Secretary settles into his role, a role previous filled by Arlando Teller.

JUNE 5, 2025

CONGRESSMAN MIKE JOHNSON (R-LA)

The NNWO Executive Director was invited to a small gathering with Speaker Mike Johnson and was able to discuss the Nation's efforts regarding energy, as well as the Nation's critical water needs and how passage of our settlements would be beneficial for all parties.

JUNE 10, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NNWO met with the Department of Treasury Office of Tribal and Native Affairs to discuss recent developments in opportunity zones. Under the reconciliation bill, there is a provision to extend opportunity zone tax benefits from 10% to 30% in rural areas.



FEDERAL MEETINGS

JUNE 10, 2025

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT, GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE WEBINAR

NNWO attended a webinar on NAGPRA hosted by the GAO. This session, originally anticipated to provide insight into the status of the NAGPRA Review Committee nominations—including the Navajo Nation’s nomination of Sherwin Curley—focused instead on GAO’s ongoing study into NAGPRA implementation and future congressional reporting.

The conversation centered on data protections, excavation oversight, and public comment feedback, with no direct updates on committee appointments. GAO is continuing its NAGPRA assessment through the end of 2025 and encouraged tribes to share examples and feedback. The GAO team will accept written input on issues like sensitive data protections, civil penalties, and inter-agency coordination.

JUNE 10, 2025

UNITED STATES FORESTRY SERVICE

NNWO attended a meeting with the USFS to discuss reclaiming small tracts (up to 40 acres) of the Nation’s land back under the Small Tracts Act. The discussion covered pathways for land transfer, legal authorities, co-stewardship tools, and emphasized a shared desire for increased tribal-federal coordination rooted in mutual respect and sovereignty. NNWO will prepare maps, coordinates, and justifications for parcels meeting Small Tracts Act criteria. The Forest Service committed to sharing transfer examples, defining key regulatory terms (“forest character,” “isolated,” “inaccessible”), and consulting their LANDS and legal teams. A follow-up meeting will be hosted at the NNWO office.

JUNE 10 - 11, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

NNWO met with political leadership at the EPA to discuss abandoned uranium mines and funding gaps on the Navajo Nation. This meeting led to an invitation for President Nygren to participate the next day in an event with EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin for the proposed rescission of the Clean Power Plan, which according to our partners at NTEC would assist the Nation’s efforts to keep the Four Corners Station operating.



FEDERAL MEETINGS

JUNE 11, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

NNWO was alerted to a possible interaction between a Navajo student and DHS ICE officers in Salt Lake City, Utah. We spoke to our contacts at DHS regarding the incident. At this time, they believe the interaction was not with an ICE officer, but rather with an individual pretending to be an ICE officer. We are continuing to gather more facts and work with DHS to understand what happened.

JUNE 12, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

NNWO participated in a meeting with the U.S. Treasury and the Navajo Controller, Sean McCabe. The meeting was conducted by Jennifer Parisien and was joined by James Colombe and Patrick Orr. Jennifer provided updates on the progress of the ARPA funds, which the Navajo Nation has expended \$ 1.2 billion (75%) of the funds allocated to the Navajo Nation.

Mr. Orr discussed the HAF program and expressed his desire to see more progress with the funds being expended. Controller McCabe indicated that the Program has been updating the red tape that was self-inflicted by the program's administrators. The approval rate for the program was 40% (estimated).

Mr. Colombe updated on the expenditures for the SSBCI program, noting that no funds have been reported as expended. However, the program is only required to submit annual reports, and a report is due to be provided to the Treasury soon. Mr. Colombe stated that they can provide technical assistance to the SSBCI program and discuss other options for using the program to fund entrepreneurs and small businesses (fewer than 500 employees).

JUNE 16, 2025

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC WHIP STAFF

NNWO met with Laila Goharioon, Health Policy Advisor, for the House Democratic Whip staff to discuss the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act reauthorization in the reconciliation bill, as well as its importance to the Navajo Nation.

JUNE 16, 2025

SENATOR WARREN'S STAFF

NNWO met with Senator Warren's (D-MA) tax staff to discuss opportunity zones in the reconciliation bill and the possibility of amending the language to provide explicit authority for tribes to designate their own opportunity zones.



FEDERAL MEETINGS

JUNE 16, 2025

SENATOR SHEEHY'S STAFF

NNWO met with staff from Senator Sheehy's (R-MN) office to discuss the importance of Medicaid exemptions for tribes, including maintaining the work requirement exemption as well as an exemption from any enrollment verification requirements.

JUNE 18, 2025

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

NNWO met with Senate Finance Committee majority staff to discuss amending the reconciliation bill to authorize tribes to designate their own census tracts as opportunity zones.

JUNE 16, 2025

SENATOR HAWLEY'S STAFF

NNWO met with Senator Hawley's (R-MO) staff on the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act reauthorization to coordinate our activities to ensure that the Nation's RECA priorities survived the reconciliation process in the Senate and House.

JUNE 23, 2025

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

NNWO met with Senate Committee on Indian Affairs majority staff to discuss our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits. The TELGP and IRA tax credits are set to be rescinded under the reconciliation bill, and the LPO is set to be closed in the FY2026 budget.

JUNE 23, 2025

SENATOR GALLEGO'S STAFF

NNWO met with Senator Gallego's (D-AZ) staff to discuss our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits. The TELGP and IRA tax credits are set to be rescinded under the reconciliation bill, and the LPO is set to be closed in the FY2026 budget. We also discussed Medicaid exemptions for tribes and expressed support for NAFOA's opportunity zone amendment to provide tribes with the authority to designate their own census tracts as opportunity zones.

JUNE 24, 2025

SENATOR CANTWELL'S STAFF

NNWO met with Senator Cantwell's (D-WA) staff to discuss opportunity zones in the reconciliation bill and the possibility of amending the language to provide explicit authority for tribes to designate their own opportunity zones.

JUNE 25, 2025

SENATOR SMITH (D-MN)

NNWO coordinated a meeting between President Nygren and Senator Tina Smith to discuss the Nation's reconciliation priorities, including our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits.



FEDERAL MEETINGS

JUNE 25, 2025

SENATOR SCHATZ (D-HI)

NNWO coordinated a meeting between President Nygren and Senator Brian Schatz to discuss the Nation's reconciliation priorities, including our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits.

JUNE 25, 2025

SENATOR HAWLEY (R-MO)

NNWO coordinated a meeting between President Nygren and Senator Josh Hawley to discuss the Nation's reconciliation priorities, including our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits, as well as the Nation's joint advocacy for the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act reauthorization.

JUNE 25, 2025

SENATOR CURTIS (R-UT)

NNWO coordinated a meeting between President Nygren and Senator John Curtis to discuss the Nation's reconciliation priorities, including our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits, as well as the Nation's advocacy for the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act reauthorization.

JUNE 26, 2025

SENATOR ROUNDS' STAFF

NNWO met with staff from Senator Rounds' (R-SD) office to discuss the Nation's reconciliation priorities, including our support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits.

JUNE 26, 2025

US MARSHALS SERVICE

NNWO coordinated a meeting for the Navajo Department of Public Safety and the Navajo Police Department to meet with the US Marshals Service leadership to continue discussions on a partnership for the Marshals to assist the Nation in its MMIP efforts as they relate to missing children. The Marshals proposed to meet us next in Window Rock to get a sense of our current law enforcement capabilities and where they could provide technical assistance.

JUNE 29, 2025

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

NNWO met with BIA leadership to discuss wildfire updates, probate issues, Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation, and other matters of importance to the Nation.

JUNE 22-30, 2025

SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES MINORITY STAFF

NNWO has met daily with minority staff on the Senate Subcommittee on Energy and Natural Resources to strategize our advocacy on support for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program, the Loan Program Office, and the Inflation Reduction Act clean energy tax credits.



NAVAJO MEETINGS

JUNE 3, 2025

DIVISION DIRECTOR MEETING

NNWO Executive Director traveled to Red Mesa, Utah, for President Nygren's monthly division director meeting.

JUNE 4, 2025

ANCESTRAL FOOTPRINTS NATIONAL MONUMENT COORDINATION CALL

This call outlined topics around proactive tribal strategy to protect the Ancestral Footprints National Monument, in anticipation of potential administrative rollbacks or changes to monument protections. The group discussed preparation of joint Tribal letters to DOI Secretary Bringham and USDA Secretary Rollins, finalizing a coalition op-ed for submission to the Arizona Republic, and holding a potential June 18 press conference to showcase broad Tribal support for the monument.

Additional agenda items for June 18 will include outreach planning for congressional offices, coordination for an upcoming DC advocacy trip, and engaging Arizona Attorney General Chris May's office regarding state-level positions on the monument. Delegate Casey Allen Johnson has indicated that he will represent the Navajo Nation on this Coalition.

JUNE 4, 2025

NAVAJO LEADERSHIP PREPARATION FOR BIA CONSULTATION WRITTEN COMMENTS

NNWO attended the event virtually. Council would like the Navajo Nation to have a unified voice when submitting the written comments for the Indian Affairs reorganization consultation. All stakeholders for Navajo education were present at the meeting to discuss their priorities and to work on a single set of comments. Stakeholders are to submit their comments to Delegate Nez who will organize them into a NABI resolution for council to vote on. After the comments are voted on and submitted, Council would like to have an advocacy event in Washington, DC. NNWO will schedule principal meetings with Department of Education leadership and members of the HELP committee after the legislation is passed.

JUNE 5, 2025

NAVAJO HOPI LAND COMMISSION

NNWO Executive Director presented to the NHLC in executive session regarding next steps on the potential closure of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation.

Following approval from the NHLC, NHLCO, and President Nygren, Director Redhouse submitted a letter to ONHIR requesting consultation on the potential closure.



NAVAJO MEETINGS

JUNE 9, 2025

RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

This meeting featured an extensive presentation from Kayenta Township on local governance as the members waited for quorum, then discussed infrastructure, and safety initiatives with Mr. Williams as he plans for the future and sets the precedent for the township model of governance on the Navajo Nation. Later, the committee heard public testimony on oilfield mismanagement in Aneth, which prompted strong committee discussion on regulatory enforcement and environmental health concerns. Committee members committed to organizing a site visit to Aneth, encouraged stronger interagency coordination with the Office of Labor Relations and Business Regulatory Department, called for lease agreement reviews and labor law enforcement, expressed support for expanding Kayenta Township's local authority over housing, infrastructure, and safety services, and recommended sharing successful township models across the Navajo Nation to strengthen regional self-governance and service delivery.

JUNE 9, 2025

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

The HEHSC meeting included several key reports regarding the reauthorization and technical coordination challenges of Hunter's Point Boarding School, updates from Arizona Complete Health on crisis services and affiliated programs, and a public health update on a confirmed measles case in Farmington, NM and what was being done in prevention of further cases. The Navajo Department of Health was present and provided updates on the Division of Aging and Long-Term Care Support. Another action the Committee took was to review school board background check requirements and discussed a draft response to a federal "Dear Tribal Leader" letter.

JUNE 10, 2025

NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

This meeting addressed Navajo Nation's agricultural staffing challenges, infrastructure needs, and coordination opportunities with NRCS. Emphasis was placed on replacing short-term EQIP fixes with long-term watershed-level planning, restoring USDA office presence on Navajo lands, and creating new contribution agreements for shared staff and technical support. NRCS and USDA will revisit land lease and utility setup at the Window Rock fairgrounds; issue escalated to Chief Betancourt.



NAVAJO MEETINGS

JUNE 20, 2025

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NNWO met with DED Director Tony Skrelunas to discuss our advocacy efforts and priorities related to opportunity zones and the Small Business Administration Director Skrelunas.

JUNE 27, 2025

TEEC NOS POS CHAPTER MEETING

NNWO Acting Executive Director attended the Teec Nos Pos Chapter meeting, where a resolution was passed in support of his nomination as Executive Director of NNWO, and to discuss the needs of the community with Chapter members and Delegate Curtis Yanito.

JUNE 16, 23, & 30, 2025

NAVAJO HOPI LAND COMMISSION OFFICE & NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NNWO hosts a weekly meeting with the NHLCO and NNDOJ to ensure that we are all on the same page regarding our advocacy and efforts related to the potential closure of ONHIR.

OTHER MEETINGS

JUNE 10, 2025

CONSTITUENT MEETING WITH DR. JOSHUA SHEAK

NNWO met with Dr. Sheak to learn about funding cuts affecting his work as a neonatology fellow. Doctor Sheak is a Navajo Board-Certified Pediatrician, currently based at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital in Ohio. He was conducting research on the effects of antenatal corticosteroids on animal-based cells to identify potential benefits and improve survival rates for preterm infants. His research was funded by NIH and K12, before the Trump Administration cut these programs. He is no longer able to continue his research.

JUNE 10-12, 2025

CONSTITUENT MEETING WITH PHIL HARRISON REGARDING RECA

NNWO assisted Mr. Harrison's RECA advocacy this week on the Hill by planning meetings over the course of three days as well as accompanying Mr. Harrison to his meetings.

JUNE 16, 2025

RECA WORKING GROUP

NNWO attended the RECA Working Group meeting to assist with strategy on social media for RECA reauthorization and expansion, as well as other advocacy efforts related to the reconciliation bill.



OTHER MEETINGS

JUNE 18, 2025

NATIVE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION LUNCH

NNWO hosted college students from around the country who are interning in Washington, D.C., at offices and law firms relating to Native American advocacy. The interns learned about the work that NNWO does, the importance of working for their tribes, and opportunities to someday work at NNWO. The organization we partnered with is the Native American Bar Association, which provides services and outreach to Native attorneys

JUNE 23, 2025

ARIZONA TRIBAL ID CARDS

NNWO attended an update meeting on Arizona Tribal ID Cards, where we learned more about the Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Sacred Path program and how tribes can meet the REAL ID requirements with their own tribally-issued IDs.

JUNE 24, 2025

LEGISLATIVE TRAINING

NNWO attended a legislative training session hosted by Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker, LLP, for the NNWO Government & Legislative Affairs Associates and interns.



CONSULTATIONS ATTENDED

JUNE 13, 2025

US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION TRIBAL CONSULTATION ON 8(A) BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM ISSUES AND BEST PRACTICES

SBA held a tribal consultation in Anchorage, AK, to gather feedback on improving the 8(a) and Mentor-Protégé programs, particularly for ANC- and tribally owned firms. Topics included protecting the statutory foundation of the 8(a) program, marketing challenges due to affiliation assumptions, mentor dominance in joint ventures, and GSA-related procurement access issues. SBA committed to reviewing all comments for future rulemaking. NNWO attended the consultation, observed strong support for maintaining tribal sovereignty in SBA programs, and gathered notes for potential follow-up on letters or op-ed engagement.

JUNE 24, 2025

CONSULTATION WITH OFFICE OF NAVAJO HOPI INDIAN RELOCATION

NNWO coordinated a consultation between the Navajo Hopi Land Commission, the Navajo Hopi Land Commission Office, Navajo Nation Department of Justice, and the Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation (ONHIR). The purpose of the consultation was for the Land Commission to gather information about the likely closure of ONHIR.



UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation Program

Consultation on July 8 & 9, 2025 | No deadline given for Written Comments

The U.S. Department of the Interior is seeking Tribal feedback and recommendations on a draft grant solicitation entitled “Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (AHMR) Program Tribal Grant Directed Announcement, May 2025.” Learn more [here](#).

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES - SLTPS Policy Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting held on July 9 at 10am ET

The National Archives is announcing an upcoming meeting of the State, Local, Tribal, and Private Sector Policy Advisory Committee (SLTPS-PAC) in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and implementing regulations. Learn more [here](#).

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION - Tribal Consultation Regarding NEPA and NHPA Processes

Consultation on July 15, 2025 | No deadline given for Written Comments

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau's Office of Native Affairs and Policy (ONAP) announced an upcoming opportunity for federally-recognized Tribal Nations and Native Hawaiian Organizations to consult with Commission staff regarding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE - Tribal Access Program Application

Written Comments due July 7, 2025

The Department of Justice (DOJ) will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review: Tribal Access Program Application. Learn more [here](#).



UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Ensuring Lawful Regulations and Unleashing Innovation to Make America Healthy Again

Written Comments due July 14, 2025

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is requesting a 3-year extension of the Native Employment Works (NEW) Plan Guidance and NEW Program Report (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) #0970-0174, expiration August 31, 2025). There are minor changes requested to the NEW Plan Guidance. Learn more [here](#).

THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Native Employment Works Plan Guidance and Program Report

Written Comments due July 14, 2025

The National Archives is announcing an upcoming meeting of the State, Local, Tribal, and Private Sector Policy Advisory Committee (SLTPS-PAC) in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and implementing regulations. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Major Reconstruction of the Department

Consultation on July 16 & 17, 2025 | Written Comments due July 18, 2025

The Department of Health and Human Services has announced a Tribal listening session on its reorganization efforts. The consultation is from 12:00-5:30 on July 16 - July 17, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS - Nominations for the Appointment to the Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs

Nominations due July 18, 2025

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Tribal Government Relations, is seeking nominations of qualified candidates to be considered for appointment as a member of the Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs to represent the following Indian Health Service Areas: Great Plains, Portland, Phoenix, Oklahoma City, Alaska, Albuquerque, Native Hawaiian, Urban Indian, and Member At-Large. Learn more [here](#).



UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT - Nominations for Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee

Written Comments due July 18, 2025

The Department of Housing and Urban Development seeks nominations for HUD's Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR - Employment and Training Program Year 2025 WIOA Section 166, Indian and Native Programs Grantee Allotments

Written Comments due July 23, 2025

The Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration is announcing allotments for PY 2025 for the Indian and Native American (INA) Programs. The PY 2025 INA Program allotments become effective for the grant period that begins July 1, 2025. Learn more [here](#).

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION - Executive Order 14191: Expanding Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families

Consultation on July 14 & 15, 2025 | Written Comments due July 25, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Education is hosting additional Tribal consultations on Executive Order 14191 - Expanding Educational Freedom and Opportunity for Families. The EO Section 7 directed the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) within 90 days to review any available mechanisms under which families of students eligible to attend Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools may use their Federal funding for educational options of their choice, including private, faith-based, or public charter schools. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - FY 2026 - 2030 Strategic Plan

Consultations on July 17, 18, 24 & 26, 2025 | Written Comments due July 25, 2025

The Department of the Interior (Department) is preparing to release its Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2030 Strategic Plan in October 2025. The strategic plan outlines the Department's strategic goals and objectives for the next four years. These objectives will be supported by performance measures that define the outcomes the Department seeks to achieve. These goals are measured annually to ensure transparency and accountability. The Department is committed to working in partnership with Tribal Nations to develop performance measures and improve how progress is measured, ensuring the outcomes are meaningful and valuable to Tribal communities. The FY2026-2030 Strategic Plan may look a bit different from years past, as it will be more streamlined in terms of length. The Department is streamlining the Plan to support the administration's goal of providing clear and concise documents to the American public. The Department invites Tribal participation. Learn more [here](#).



UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES - Federal Agency Collaboration with State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments

Written Comments due July 28, 2025

The Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS) is requesting public input on Federal agency approaches and processes for collaborating with State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments when administering Federal programs. Learn more [here](#).

THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - TANF Data Report, Tribal Annual Report, and Tribal Reasonable Cause/Corrective Action Documentation Process

Written Comments due July 28, 2025

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is requesting a 3-year extension of the Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Data Report, Tribal TANF Annual Report, and Tribal TANF Reasonable Cause/Corrective Action Documentation Process (Office of Management and Budget (OMB) #0970-0215, expiration June 30, 2025). There are minor changes requested to the form. Learn more [here](#).

THE ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - Office of Child Support Services Tribal Consultation

Consultation on June 30, 2025 | Written Comments due July 31, 2025

The Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Services, will host a virtual Tribal Consultation on June 30, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. ET. During the session, OCSS leadership will seek input on the following topics: (1) Implementing Public Law 118-258 – Supporting America's Children and Families Act; (2) Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) systems and data including the Federal Case Registry (FCR); (3) Systems Security and Safeguarding; (4) Employment and Training Services Final Rule. Learn more [here](#).

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION and the DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - Joint BIE and Education Department Tribal Stakeholder Consultation

Consultation on July 1, 2025 | Written Comments due August 1, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Education and the Department of Education are hosting a joint consultation. Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Education (DOI/BIE) and the U.S. Department of Education (ED) are required to enter into an agreement for the distribution and use of certain ESEA funds for Covered Programs under terms that the Secretary of Education determines best meet the purposes of those programs. 20 U.S.C. § 7824(a)(2)(A). Learn more [here](#).



UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS - Indian Affairs Public Health Needs Assessment

Written Comments due August 8, 2025

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is proposing to renew an information collection titled Indian Affairs Public Health Needs Assessment. Learn more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY - Implementation of the Supporting America's Children and Families Act

Consultation on July 17 | Written Comments due August 18, 2025

The U.S. Department of the Treasury is hosting a Tribal consultation on the implementation of the Supporting America's Children and Families Act. Learn more [here](#).

THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE - Strategic Realignment

Consultations on July 8, 10, 15, 23 & 28, 2025 | Written Comments due August 28, 2025

The Indian Health Service has issued a Dear Tribal Leader Letter with announcing consultations on a proposed realignment. Specifically, the IHS is seeking feedback on three areas: (1) Delivery of Direct Patient Care; (2) Enterprise/Operational Management; and (3) Supporting Tribal Self-Determination. There will be four in-person consultations for Tribes and one virtual Urban Conference. It does not seem that the in-person sessions have a virtual option. Learn more [here](#).



Executive Order 14304 - Leading the World in Supersonic Flight

Issued June 6, 2025

This order launches a national initiative to restore U.S. leadership in supersonic aviation by repealing outdated FAA regulations, setting new noise-based standards, and accelerating research and development. It directs federal agencies to coordinate efforts, support international regulatory alignment, and promote safe, sustainable, and commercially viable supersonic flight over land.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

This order should not impact the Nation, but supersonic flight testing in the 1960s and 1970s was conducted over Navajo lands, causing disruptions to livestock, and, in at least one instance, damage to an archeological site in Canyon de Chelly. We may want to monitor the changes if it makes tests more likely to return to Navajo lands.

Executive Order 14305 - Restoring American Airspace Sovereignty

Issued June 6, 2025

This order establishes a federal task force and directs sweeping actions to secure U.S. airspace from threats posed by unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including those used by cartels, terrorists, and foreign adversaries. It mandates new drone flight restrictions, enhanced enforcement and detection capabilities, and expanded support for state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies to protect critical infrastructure, mass gatherings, and national security interests.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

This is primarily a national security issue, but the inclusion of tribes in instructions for grant programs should make it easier to apply for grants to protect Navajo airspace.

Executive Order 14308 - Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response

Issued June 12, 2025

This order aims to overhaul the federal government's approach to wildfire prevention and response following the devastating Los Angeles wildfires, emphasizing streamlined governance, expanded use of technology, and deregulation to empower local and state preparedness. The order directs agencies to consolidate fire programs, encourage prescribed burns and fuel reduction, promote high-tech detection and response tools, and reduce bureaucratic barriers, including those impacting electrical utilities and firefighting resources.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

There may be opportunities to secure additional resources for Navajo firefighters. The streamlined federal response should also assist if the Nation ever faces a major wildfire outside of our ability to contain.



EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Executive Order 14309 - Implementing the General Terms of the United States of America- United Kingdom Economic Prosperity Deal

Issued June 13, 2025

This order strengthens national security and economic relationships between the United States and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

The UK agrees to reduce or eliminate several non-tariff barriers against American products, which would include products shipped from the Navajo or by members to the UK.

Executive Order 14311 - Further Extending the TikTok Enforcement Delay

Issued June 19, 2025

This order further delays President Trump's January 20, 2025, Executive Order calling for regulations to promulgated on TikTok. This order delays any action on TikTok until September 17, 2025.

This order MIGHT impact Navajo

While this should not impact the Navajo government, the extension means that Navajos who enjoy TikTok will be able to continue to access it unimpeded.



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