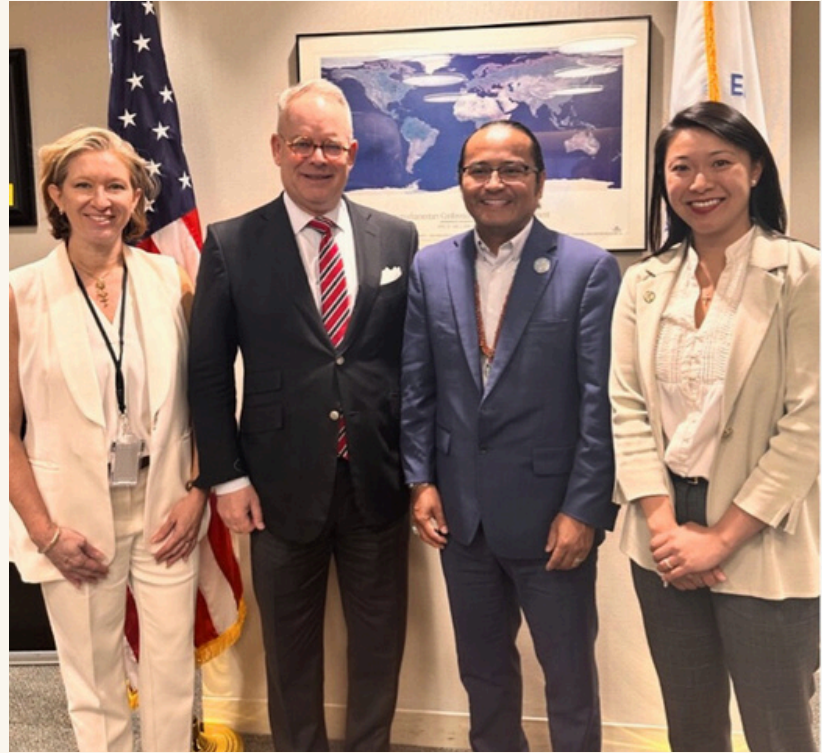


**FEDERAL MEETINGS****JULY 9, 2025****FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

NNWO coordinated a meeting between FEMA leadership and President Nygren to discuss wildfire relief efforts and prevention.

**JULY 9, 2025****ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

NNWO coordinated a meeting between EPA leadership and President Nygren to discuss wildfire relief efforts and prevention.



*President Nygren meets with EPA leadership on July 9, 2025*

**JULY 9, 2025****INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE**

NNWO met with IHS Acting Director Ben Smith to discuss reports that approximately \$57 million in funding had transferred from the proposed Gamarco GIMC project to a non-Navajo IHS construction project in Arizona. Mr. Smith reported that this was due to the funds needing to be applied to shovel ready projects. He also indicated that the Navajo Nation did not receive advance notice of this decision and was therefore not consulted.

**JULY 9, 2025****SENATOR MARTIN HEINRICH (D-NM)  
(STAFF)**

NNWO participated in a meeting coordinated by the Nation's outside counsel on water settlements for President Nygren. The meeting was to provide updates on the status of the Nation's efforts with the other states and to reaffirm Senator Heinrich's support.



## FEDERAL MEETINGS

### **JULY 10, 2025**

#### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (MINORITY STAFF)**

NNWO participated in a meeting coordinated by the Nation's outside counsel on water settlements. This was a strategic meeting concerning the best way to introduce the Nation's water rights settlements in this Congress.

### **JULY 17, 2025**

#### **CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR MR. BILLY KIRKLAND AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

NNWO staff and interns attended the confirmation hearing for Billy Kirkland as AS-IA. The hearing featured questions from the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs leadership, including from Senator Ben Ray Luján who inquired about President Trump's proposed cuts to Indian water settlements. Mr. Kirkland expressed that he was unaware about the number of Indian water settlements and the funding needed, and further that he was unaware of President Trump's position on the Navajo-Gallup water settlement.

### **JULY 16-17, 2025**

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES LISTENING SESSION ON REORGANIZATION**

NNWO prepared talking points with Navajo Department of Health and Navajo Division of Children and Family Services, and virtually attended the listening session regarding the reorganizing of HHS.

### **JULY 18, 2025**

#### **CONGRESSWOMAN TERESA LEGER FERNÁNDEZ (D-NM) (STAFF)**

NNWO met with Congresswoman Leger Fernández's staff to discuss the Gallup Indian Medical Center funds being transferred. The Congresswoman's staff said they would look into this further and let us know if they are able to determine if the funds have already been transferred.

**FEDERAL MEETINGS****JULY 22, 2025****DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

DHS leadership, including the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs, the Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Tribal Affairs, the FEMA Liaison, and the head of Community Relations for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, visited NNWO to discuss concerns regarding bad actors imitating federal law enforcement officers to harass people who appear to be of Latin American descent. The discussion also included the REAL ID program, and some of the challenges tribal members in extremely rural areas face in proving their identity to the standards necessitated by the federal government.

The DHS team was very receptive to these matters and asked the Nation to immediately report any potential ICE imitators to them. DHS further said they would attempt to work with the United States Postal Service to address the issues of rural addressing. They also proposed a review of the acceptable proof of residency means for securing REAL IDs, as even utility bills do not show actual street addresses or widely known community names.



*NNWO Deputy Executive Director DeWayne Crank (left) and NNWO staff Kyle Petersen (right) with DHS staff following meeting on July 22, 2025.*

# SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

## FEDERAL MEETINGS

### **JULY 22, 2025**

#### **SENATOR BEN RAY LUJÁN (D-NM)**

NNWO staff met with staff from Senator Luján's office to discuss the reintroduction of the Indian Programs Advanced Appropriations Act of 2025. The Senator had reached out requesting the Nation to support this legislation. The Nation's concern is that the legislation includes a consultation requirement for tribal organizations, which the Nation has a longstanding position of advocating against. NNWO provided technical assistance on this and is working with Senate Committee on Indian Affairs staff to finalize the language for the legislation.

### **JULY 23, 2025**

#### **SENATOR CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO (D-NV) (STAFF)**

President Nygren and NNWO staff met with Senator Cortez Masto's staff to discuss support for the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act. The Senator's staff indicated that the Senator would likely sign-on as a co-sponsor to the legislation when it drops. This legislation would provide pension and death benefits to tribal law enforcements officers performing federal functions under a self-determination contract or compact.

### **JULY 23, 2025**

#### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS (STAFF)**

President Nygren and NNWO staff met with Senate Committee on Indian Affairs staff to discuss the Nation's request for an update on the Nation's proposed oversight hearing regarding the closure of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation. SCIA staff encouraged the Nation to propose legislation for the transfer of ONHIR's obligations rather than to seek an oversight hearing. Additional updates have been sent to the Navajo Hopi Land Commission.

### **JULY 23, 2025**

#### **SENATOR THOM TILLIS (R-NC) STAFF**

President Nygren and NNWO staff met with Senator Tillis' staff to discuss support for the Parity for Tribal Law Enforcement Act. The Senator's staff indicated that the Senator would likely sign-on as a co-sponsor to the legislation when it drops. This legislation would provide pension and death benefits to tribal law enforcements officers performing federal functions under a self-determination contract or compact.



## FEDERAL MEETINGS

### **JULY 23, 2025**

#### **IHS REALIGNMENT CONSULTATION**

President Nygren and NNWO staff attended the IHS Realignment consultation and expressed his disappointment with the transfer of funds from the GIMC project to another tribe. IHS Acting Director Ben Smith responded with an apology for the lack of notice given to the Nation and assured President Nygren that the GIMC site was still on the priority construction list.

### **JULY 24, 2025**

#### **U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE**

NNWO staff resumed its meetings with the U.S. Marshals Service following a hiatus caused by the Oak Ridge Fire, as well as the departure of the Marshals' primary point of contact. NNWO will help facilitate a meeting between the Marshals and Navajo Chief of Police Ron Silversmith to discuss what support the Nation's law enforcement needs in its effort to track missing children.





## NAVAJO MEETINGS

### **JULY 7, 2025**

#### **NAVAJO HOPI LAND COMMISSION AND NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (WEEKLY)**

NNWO hosts a weekly meeting with NHLCO and NNDOJ to ensure all departments are on the same page regarding our advocacy and efforts related to the likely closure of the Office of Navajo Hopi Indian Relocation.

### **JULY 11, 2025**

#### **OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER AND NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

Speaker Curley requested NNWO provide an update to Council on the status of the GIMC transfer of funds. NNWO conducted a legal analysis on the situation, and drafted a response letter to Speaker Curley and Chair James directed to Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Robert Kennedy.

### **JULY 7, 2025**

#### **NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IHS CONSULTATION AND HHS LISTENING SESSION**

NNWO coordinated a meeting with Navajo Department of Health to prepare talking points for Council Delegates participating in the IHS consultation on realignment, as well as the HHS listening session on restructuring.

### **JULY 16, 2025**

#### **NAVAJO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND DEPARTMENT OF DINÉ EDUCATION**

NNWO joined a meeting with NNDOJ and DODE to present on the current federal funding landscape.

**OTHER MEETINGS**

*NNWO Deputy Executive Director (left) with Governor Hobbs (right)*

**JULY 22, 2025**  
**ARIZONA GOVERNOR KATIE HOBBS**  
**ROUNDTABLE**

NNWO staff attended a roundtable hosted by Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs. The gathering brought together tribal leaders, tribal representatives, and state officials to discuss priorities and challenges facing Indigenous communities across Arizona. The Governor emphasized the importance of government-to-government engagement with tribes and said she would support helpful federal legislation for tribes.

**JULY 8, 2025 and JULY 14, 2025**  
**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH**  
**TRIBAL CAUCUS**  
**IHS STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

NNWO staff attended the NIHB tribal caucus where NIHB provided a space for dialogue regarding issues to raise for the upcoming IHS Strategic Realignment consultation. NIHB later provided template comments for participants.

**JULY 24, 2025**  
**UDALL NATIVE NATION BUILDING**  
**SEMINAR**

NNWO hosted the Udall Center's for its Native Nation Building Seminar for Congressional Interns. The seminar included sessions on Native Nation Building, Strengthening Indigenous Self-Governance, Making Native Nation Economies Work, and more.