

# NAVAJO NATION PLANT & ANIMAL SUMMIT

"Restoring Beauty to Strengthen Resilience"

Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort, Flagstaff, Arizona



## TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

### ONSITE REGISTRATION

8:00 AM - 8:15 AM

Color Guard Flag Ceremony

Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife

National Anthem

Amy N. Begaye, Miss Navajo Nation 2023-2024

8:15 AM - 8:30 AM

Invocation

Keith Howard, Programs & Projects Specialist, CCP

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Welcome Address

W. Mike Halona, Division Director, Division of Natural Resources

Honorable Chair Brenda Jesus, 25th Navajo Nation Council/RDC

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Keynote Address

Honorable Rickie Nez, 25th Navajo Nation Council/RDC

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Introduction/History of DFW

Gloria Tom, Department Manager, Department of Fish & Wildlife

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

### BREAK

Sponsored by: Climate Change Program

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM

"Rez Paw Patrol"

Norman Begay, Program Manager, NNAC

10:45 AM - 11:15 AM

"Wildlife Research/Management and Zoo Programs: Historical & Management Overview"

Jeff Cole, Wildlife Manager, Wildlife Management

David Mikesic, Zoologist, Navajo Nation Zoo

11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

"Navigating Our Changing Climate"

Keith Howard, Programs & Projects Specialist, CCP

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

### LUNCH

(On Your Own)

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

Moderator Coleen Bitsie

#### "SMALL ANIMAL DISEASE & PREVENTION"

Dr. David Manuelito, Veterinarian  
Navajo Veterinary Program

#### WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Moderator Roxie June

#### "ALL ABOUT THE NAVAJO NATION ZOO & EAGLE REPOSITORY"

Terence Mull, Zookeeper  
Navajo Nation Zoo

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Moderator Shundeen Livingston

#### "LIVE, WORK, GOVERN, USING DINÉ FUNDAMENTAL LAW"

Josey Foo, Executive Director/Project Attorney  
Retired Chief Justice Herb Yazzie, Navajo Nation Supreme Court  
Michael Hamersky, Esq., Climate Change and Land Use Policy Fellow, Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University, Indian Country Grassroots Support

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

#### "NAVAJO NATION ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCES & RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP"

Stacey Daw, Sr. ACO  
Navajo Nation Animal Control

#### "BIG GAME RESEARCH & CURRENT STUDIES"

Jessica Fort, Wildlife Biologist  
Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife

#### "WEATHER STATIONS"

Dr. David DuBois, New Mexico State Climatologist  
New Mexico State University

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**B R E A K**

Sponsored by: Navajo Nation Animal Control Program

**Moderator Gregory Pahe**

**Moderator Riley Etsitty**

**Moderator Shundeen Livingston**

3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

**"TRADITIONAL ASPECTS OF PETS"**

Richard M. Begay, Department Manager  
*Navajo Nation Heritage & Historical Preservation Department*

**"OPERATION GAME THIEF"**

Harold Moses, WCO  
John Silas, WCO  
*Wildlife Law Enforcement*

**"CLIMATE CHANGE AND NAVAJO GOVERNMENT"**

Damon Clark, Policy Analyst  
*Office of Navajo Government Development*

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

**"BASICS OF DOG BEHAVIOR"**

Kathy Abbott, Behavior and Training Specialist  
*Best Friends Animal Society*

**"NAVAJO RESTORATION PROJECTS"**

Jesse Mike, Forester  
*Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife*

**"EPA COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANT"**

Drew Cooper, Utah Organizer  
United Today, Stronger Tomorrow,  
Rural Utah Project,  
Navajo Utah Commission  
TJ Ellerbeck, Executive Director,  
Rural Utah Project,  
Navajo Utah Commission

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2024**

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM

**ONSITE REGISTRATION**

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

**ANIMAL CONTROL**  
Moderator Patrick Leo

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**  
Moderator Roxie June

**"ONCHOCERCA LUPI"**  
*Zoonotic Parasite*

Chandler Roe, Data Scientist  
*Tgen*

**"HUMAN/WILDLIFE CONFLICT"**

John Montjoy, WLE Manager  
*Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife*

**"MINOR SOURCE REGULATIONS (METHANE REDUCTION)"**

Eugenia Quintana, Air & Toxic Department Manager  
*Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency*

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

**"BENEFITS OF SPAY/NEUTER & ADVANCEMENTS IN FERTILITY CONTROL"**

Dr. Carly Bennett, Veterinarian,  
*High Country Humane Society*  
Dr. Loretta Mayer, Co-Founder,  
*WISDOM God Works,*  
Joni Lapahie, Specialist, Navajo Nation Team  
*Best Friends Animal Society*

**"FOREST MANAGEMENT"**

Riley Etsitty, Wildlife Biologist  
*Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife*

**"FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN THE ERA OF CLIMATE RESILIENCY"**

Delegate Cherilyn Yazzie, Council Delegate  
*25th Navajo Nation Council*

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM

**B R E A K**

Sponsored by: Navajo Department of Fish & Wildlife

	<b>Moderator Dominic Francis</b>	<b>Moderator Riley Etsitty</b>	<b>Moderator Shundeen Livingston</b>
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	<b>"TICKBORNE DISEASES"</b> Dr. Crystal Hepp, Associate Professor <i>Tgen</i>	<b>"DINÉ NATIVE PLANTS"</b> Jesse Mike, Forester <i>Navajo Nation Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>	<b>"COMMUNITY-BASED CLIMATE ADVOCACY"</b> Melinda O'Daniel, Executive Director <i>Seeds of Harmony</i>
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM	<b>"COMMUNITY COLLABORATION"</b> Sonya Begay, SPSS/Coordinator <i>Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources</i> Brandy Tomhave, Executive Director <i>Native American Humane Society</i> Joni Lapahie, Specialist, Navajo Nation Team <i>Best Friends Animal Society</i>	<b>"NN DFW SPORT FISHING"</b> Glenn Selby, Wildlife Biologist <b>"NATIVE FISHERIES ON THE SAN JUAN"</b> Jerrod Bowman, Fish Biologist <i>Navajo Nation Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>	<b>"THE INEVITABILITY OF TRANSITION: CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NAVAJO NATION"</b> Erika Pirotte, Senior Attorney <i>Navajo Nation Department of Justice, Natural Resource Section</i>
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	<b>LUNCH</b> (On Your Own)		
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	"A Day in the Life of a Navajo Nation Animal Control Officer"		Joe Begay, Sr. ACO, NNAC Olivia Holiday, ACO, NNAC
1:45 PM - 3:15 PM	"Feral Horse Impact on the Navajo Nation Environment"		Panelist Below
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Navajo Fish and Wildlife 2016 Population Survey, the 2019 foal survey trend data from aerial surveys &amp; ecological impacts in general" BY Jessica Fort, Wildlife Biologist, Management and Research, NNDFW</li> <li>- "Feral Horse Removal Activities" BY Olin C. Begay, Senior Extension Agent, NNDA</li> <li>- "Horse Management Team challenges, improvements to increase the efficiency of horse removal methods &amp; meeting customer needs." By Jesse Jim, Department Manager, NNDA</li> <li>- "(1) Pending &amp; re-issuance of grazing permits per region across the Navajo Nation; and (2) the number of sheep unit and/or AUM as it related to the Forage Assessment" BY Dr. Calvert Curley, Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist, Navajo Region Office, BIA</li> <li>- "How horses affect the environment. Current environmental condition of the NN" BY Leonard Notah, Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review, BIA</li> <li>- "Eastern Navajo Agency's efforts, accomplishments &amp; challenges, to manage the horse population" BY Effie Delmar, Natural Resources Manager, Eastern Navajo Agency, BIA</li> <li>- "Overview of past research &amp; current research on estimating horse population sizes on tribal lands." BY Jacob Hennig, Assist. Ext. Spec., School of Natural Resources &amp; the Environment, University of AZ</li> </ul>		
	Audience: Question and Answer Session		
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>BREAK</b> Sponsored by: Best Friends		
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM	"How to Get Involved"		Best Friends Navajo Nation Team Members
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Closing Remarks		Gloria Tom, NNDFW, Department Manager
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing Prayer/Retire Colors		Joe Begay, Sr. ACO, NNAC

**Plant and Animal Summit Complete. Safe travels home!**