

Creative Was to Meet our Expansion Needs While Saving Space for Wildlife

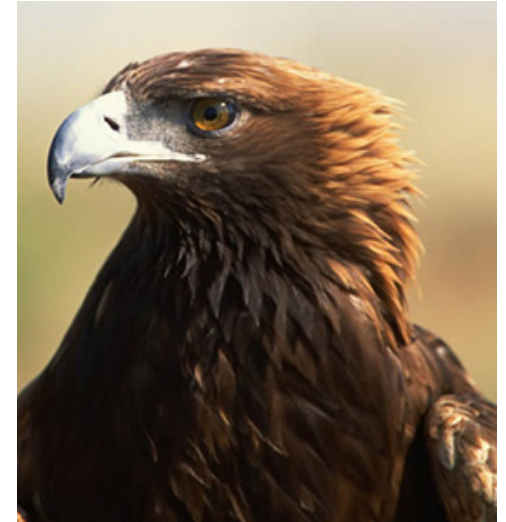
Department of Fish & Wildlife
Navajo Heritage Program

The Wildlife Summit
Twin Arrows Navajo Resort Casino
August 6, 2014



Natural Heritage Program

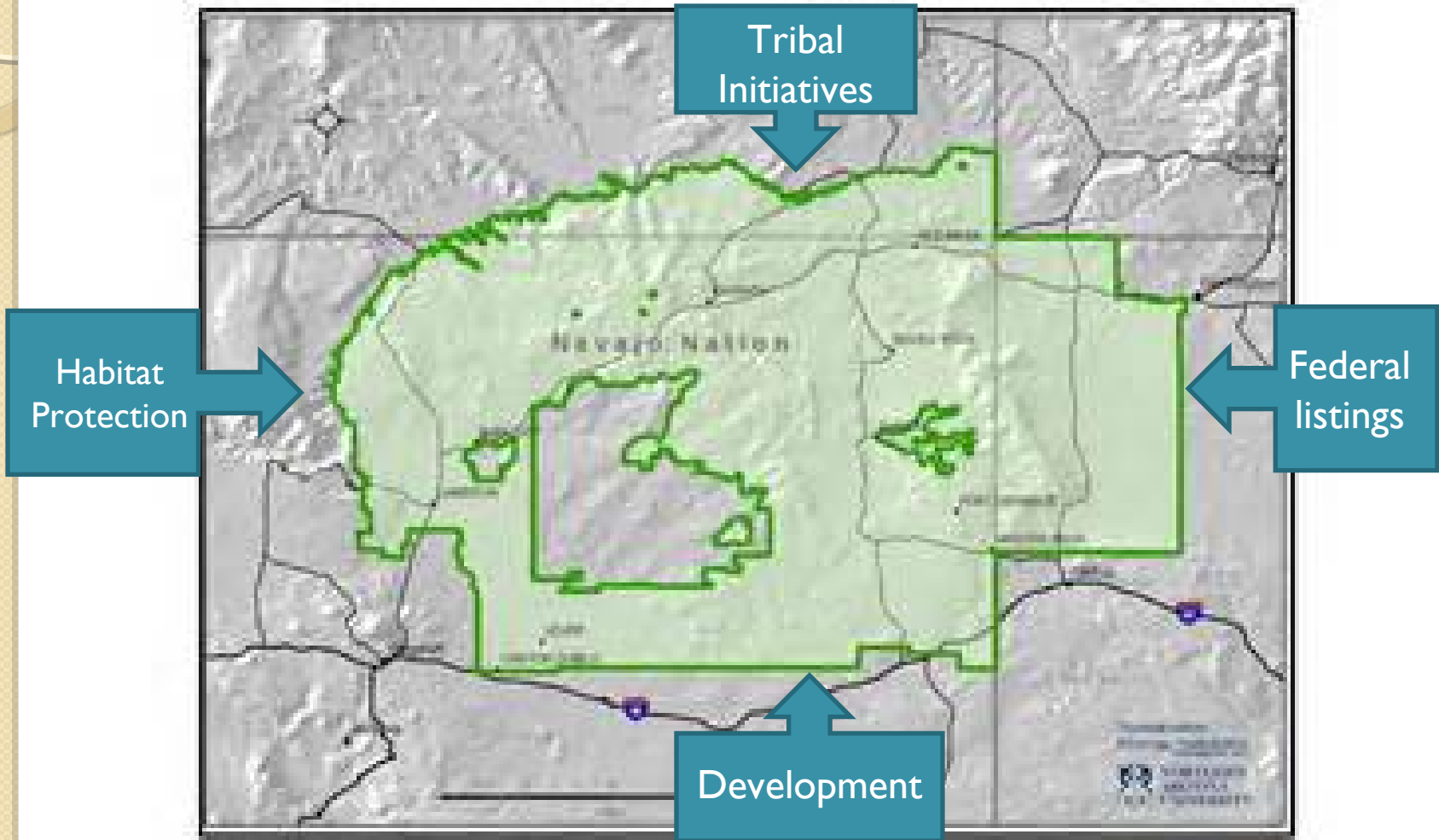
- The Heritage Program maintains information on Plant and animal species and biological communities of concern to the Navajo Nation. Its purpose is to collect, manage and disseminate biological information for land use planning to promote the conservation of biological diversity.
- Late 1980's NNDFW was included in the Project Review Process for Endangered Species Act compliance
 - All Development must have project approval/clearance
- 1991- The 1st Navajo Endangered Species List was approved by the Resources Committee based on recommendations by NNDFW
 - Listed species, habitats and group status
- September 2008 Resources Committee amended approved the RCP



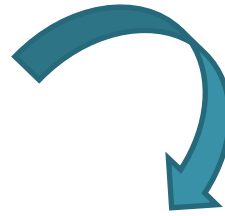
Navajo Nation Code- Protecting Wildlife and Biological Compliance

- Title 17, Section 507
- Makes it unlawful
 - For any person to take, possess, transport, export, process, sell any species of wildlife appearing on the Navajo Endangered Species list
- Insure development complies with Navajo Nation & Federal Wildlife Laws.
 - Navajo Endangered Species Law (NESL)
 - Endangered Species Act
 - Migratory Bird Treaty Act

Impacts to Navajo Nation Lands



Decisions



Biological Resources Land Use Clearance Policies and Procedures (RCP)

Tribal Initiatives



Management

Habitat



- To assist the Navajo Nation government and others to ensure compliance with federal and Navajo Nation laws which protect fish and wildlife species, and their habitats, resulting in an expedited land use approvals.

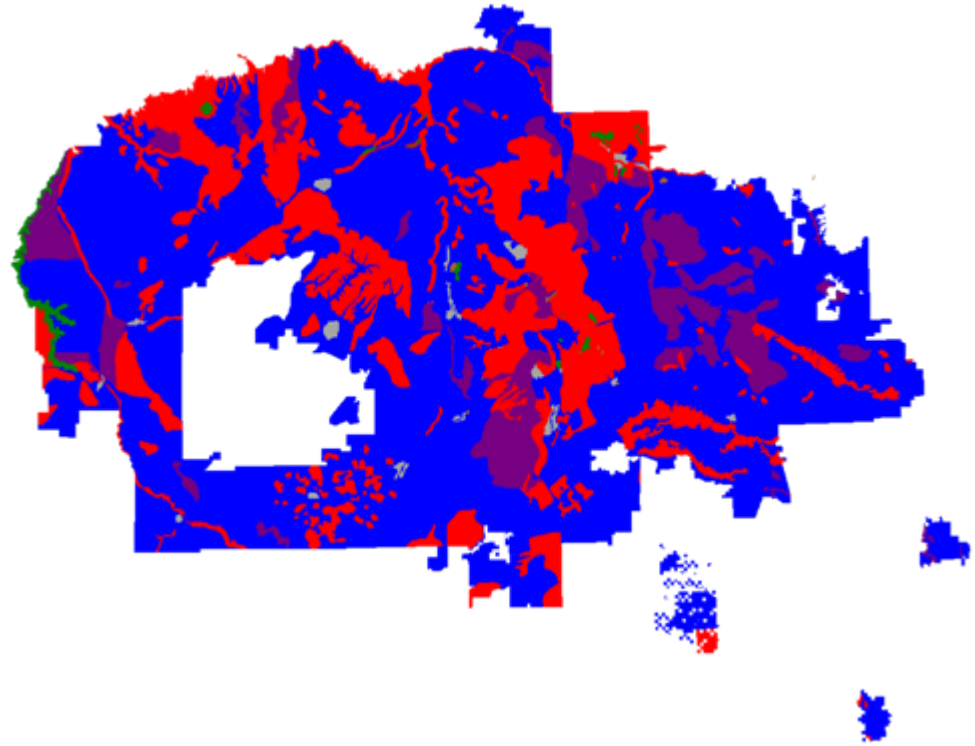
Addressing Impacts

- The NNDFW identified and mapped wildlife habitat and sensitive areas that cover the entire Navajo Nation
- Biological Resource Land-use Clearance Policies and Procedures (BRLC) - now referred to as the Resource Compliance Policy (RCP)- Sept. 2008



How does the RCP expedite approval while protecting wildlife?

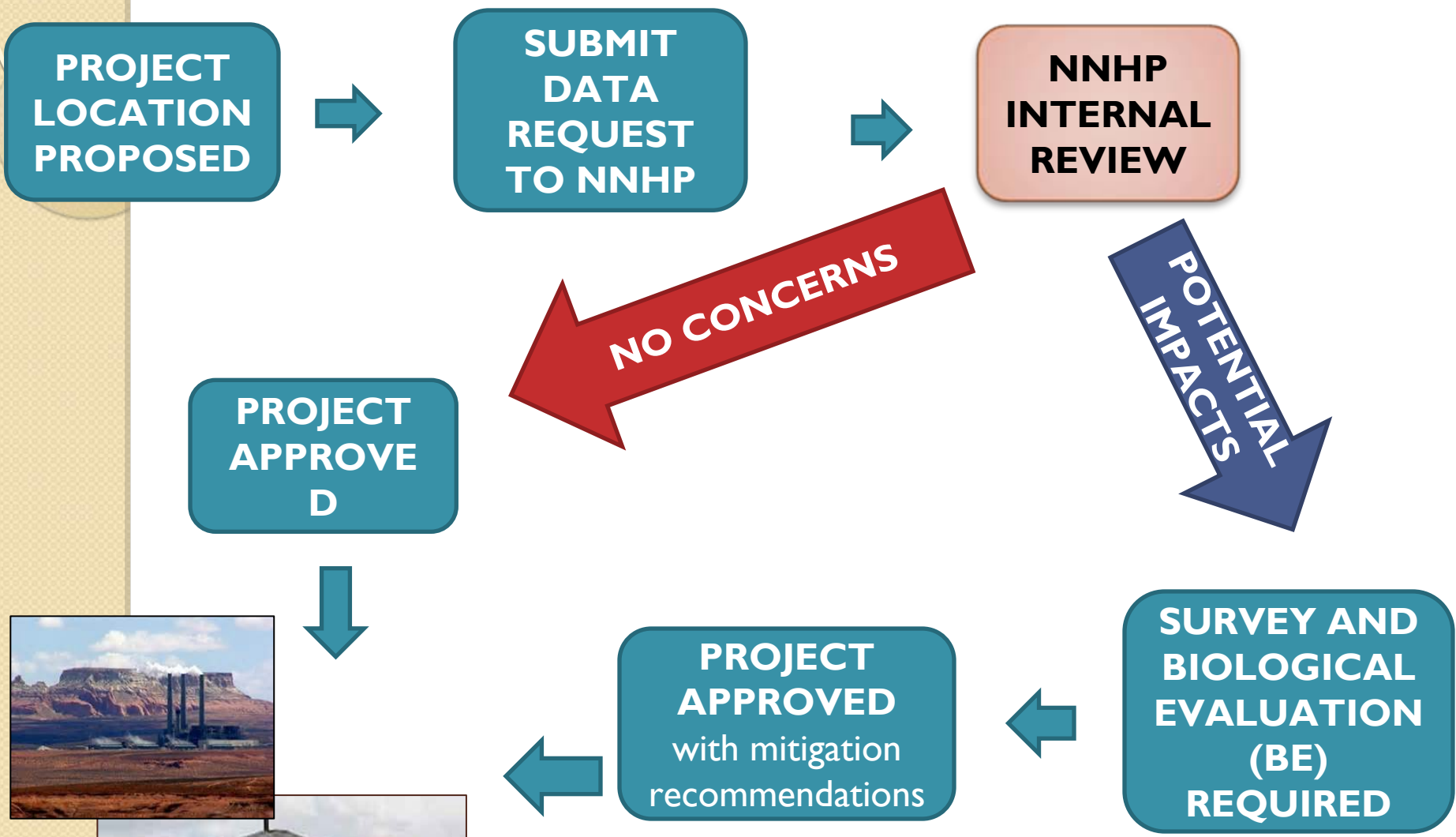
- Divides entire Navajo Nation into 6 types of wildlife areas
- Directs development to areas where impacts will be less significant
- Increase certainty in project approval



Benefits of the RCP

- Use as a tool for planning projects to avoid highly sensitive areas
- Directs and guides development to community areas that are already established
- Project sponsors follow a process rather than making up their own
- Streamlines the approval process and projects are approved in a timely manner
- Endangered and sensitive species including their habitats are protected
- Area 4 does not required a BE so no need to spend money to get an assessment done

REVIEW & APPROVAL PROCESS FOR BIOLOGICAL CLEARANCE



Review and Update Policies

Critical Thinking

Analyze the problem.

Evaluate solutions / Choose one.

Critique the solution.

Implement the solution.

Creative Thinking

Imagine solutions.

Innovate the solution.

Improve the solution.

- Expedited process
- Protect and Manage Resources
- Land use planning

- Programmatic Agreements
- CatX
- RCP exceptions

- Proper planning
- Consultation
- Public outreach
- Improve Computer database

Contact

Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife

P.O. Box 1480

Window Rock, AZ 86515

928-871-6450

Navajo Natural Heritage Program

Sonja Detsoi/ Data Request Information: 928-871-6472

Sam Diswood, Wildlife Manager: 928-871-7062

Pam Kyselka/ Environmental Review: 928-871-7065

Chad Smith/ Endangered Animals: 928-871-7070

Andrea Hazelton/ Endangered Plants: 928-523-3221

Please visit our booth for more information.

