

# 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

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM

Keynote Address

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

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Introduction/History of DFW

Honorable Rickie Nez, 25th Navajo Nation Council/RDC  
Gloria Tom, Department Manager, Department of Fish & Wildlife

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

### BREAK Sponsored by Navajo Nation 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, Management & Research

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

#### ANIMAL CONTROL

*Moderator: Coleen Bitsie*

#### "CANINE DISEASE & PREVENTION"

Dr. David Manuelito, Veterinarian  
*Navajo Veterinary Program*

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

Stacey Daw, Sr. ACO  
*Navajo Nation Animal Control*

#### WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

*Moderator: Roxie June & Rachel Livingston*

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

Terence Mull, Zookeeper  
*Navajo Nation Zoo*

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

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

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

*Moderator: Shundiin 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*

#### "WEATHER STATIONS"

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

1:00 PM - 1:45 PM

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM		<b>BREAK</b>			Sponsored by: Navajo Nation Animal Control Program		
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	Moderator: Gregory Pahe		Moderator: Riley Etcitty Rachel Livingston		Moderator: Shundiin Livingston		
	<b>"TRADITIONAL ASPECTS OF PETS"</b> Richard M. Begay, Department Manager <i>Navajo Nation Heritage &amp; Historical Preservation Department</i>		<b>"LEAD TOXICITY IN RAPTORS &amp; SCAVENGING BIRDS - HOW HUNTERS CAN HELP"</b> Brent Powers, Wildlife Manager <b>"OPERATION GAME THIEF"</b> Harold Moses, WCO John Silas, WCO <i>Wildlife Law Enforcement</i>		<b>"CLIMATE CHANGE AND NAVAJO GOVERNMENT"</b> Damon Clark, Policy Analyst <i>Office of Navajo Government Development</i>		
	<b>"BASICS OF DOG BEHAVIOR"</b> Kathy Abbott, Behavior and Training Specialist <i>Best Friends Animal Society</i>		<b>"NAVAJO RESTORATION PROJECTS"</b> Jesse Mike, Forester <i>Navajo Fish &amp; Wildlife</i> <b>BIOLOGICAL CLEARANCE &amp; OVERVIEW OF ARPA PROJECT REVIEW PROCESS"</b> Verna Tsosie, Wildlife Biologist and Samantha Toledo, Wildlife Tech <i>Navajo Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>		<b>"EPA COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANT"</b> Drew Cooper, Utah Organizer <i>United Today, Stronger Tomorrow, Rural Utah Project, Navajo Utah Commission</i> TJ Ellerbeck, Executive Director, <i>Rural Utah Project, Navajo Utah Commission</i>		
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM							

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2024**

7:00 AM - 12:00 PM		<b>ONSITE REGISTRATION</b>					
		<b>CONCURRENT SESSIONS</b>					
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b> Moderator: Patrick Leo		<b>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT</b> Moderator: Roxie June		<b>CLIMATE CHANGE</b> Moderator: Keith Howard		
	<b>"ONCHOCERCA LUPI"</b> <b>Zoonotic Parasite</b> Chandler Roe, Data Scientist <i>Tgen</i>		<b>"HUMAN/WILDLIFE CONFLICT"</b> John Montjoy, Wildlife Law Enforcement Manager Tytus Sandoval, Wildlife Conservation Officer <i>Navajo Nation Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>		<b>"MINOR SOURCE REGULATIONS (METHANE REDUCTION)"</b> Eugenia Quintana, Air & Toxic Department Manager <i>Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency</i>		

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	<b>"BENEFITS OF SPAY/NEUTER &amp; ADVANCEMENTS IN FERTILITY CONTROL"</b> Dr. Carly Bennett, Veterinarian, <i>High Country Humane Society</i> Dr. Loretta Mayer, Co-Founder, <i>WISDOM God Works</i> , Joni Lapahie, Specialist, Navajo Nation Team <i>Best Friends Animal Society</i>	<b>"REINTRODUCTION OF BLACK FOOTED FERRET (INCLUDES PRARIE DOG)"</b> Brent Powers, Wildlife Manager <i>Navajo Fish &amp; Wildlife</i> <b>"FOREST MANAGEMENT"</b> Riley Etcitty, Wildlife Biologist <i>Navajo Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>	<b>"FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN THE ERA OF CLIMATE RESILIENCY"</b> Delegate Cheryl Yazzie, Council Delegate <i>25th Navajo Nation Council</i>
9:45 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>BREAK</b> Sponsored by: Navajo Department of Fish & Wildlife		
10:00 AM - 10:45 AM	<i>Moderator: Dominic Francis</i> <b>"TICKBORNE DISEASES"</b> Zach Barrand, Research Assistant <i>Tgen</i>	<i>Moderator: Riley Etcitty</i> <b>"DINÉ NATIVE PLANTS"</b> Jesse Mike, Forester <i>Navajo Fish &amp; Wildlife</i>	<i>Moderator: Keith Howard</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, SPPS/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 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

- "Navajo Fish and Wildlife 2016 Population Survey, the 2019 foal survey trend data from aerial surveys & ecological impacts in general" BY Jessica Fort, Wildlife Biologist, Management and Research, NNDFW
- "Feral Horse Removal Activities" BY Olin C. Begay, Senior Extension Agent, NNDA
- "Horse Management Team challenges, improvements to increase the efficiency of horse removal methods & meeting customer needs." By Jesse Jim, Department Manager, NNDA
- "(1) Pending & 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
- "How horses affect the environment. Current environmental condition of the NN" BY Leonard Notah, Environmental Quality Act Compliance Review, BIA
- "Eastern Navajo Agency's efforts, accomplishments & challenges, to manage the horse population" BY Effie Delmar, Natural Resources Manager, Eastern Navajo Agency, BIA
- "Overview of past research & current research on estimating horse population sizes on tribal lands." BY Jacob Hennig, Assist. Ext. Spec., School of Natural Resources & the Environment, University of AZ

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, Dpt. Mgr.
4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Closing Prayer/Retire Colors	Joe Begay, Sr. ACO, NNAC