Navajo Nation Grazing Committee Executive Board

Challenges in Enforcing Grazing Laws



Navajo Nation Resources and Development Committee Public Meeting Fire Rock Casino, Church Rock, New Mexico July 14, 2012

<u>DGCM Executive Board</u>

Wilbert Ben Lee, Chairperson (Northern)

Eugene Tso, Vice Chairperson (Chinle)

Leslie Williams, Secretary (NPL)

Calvin Begay, Member (Western)

Willis Nez, Member (Ft. Defiance)

Duties and Responsibilities

- > Livestock Inventories, and follow ups .
- > Livestock vaccinations and Branding.
- > Range, windmill, spring, and earthen dam assessments
- > Range dispute resolution.
- > Investigate trespass and disputes.
- > Homesite lease Field clearances.
- > Land withdrawal field clearances.
- > Easement and rights of way field clearances.
- > Recommend grazing permit transfers.
- > Recommend Land use permit issuance and transfers.
- > Recommend probates on grazing permits and LUP's.
- > Monthly Grazing Meetings for Permittees and Land users.
- > Monthly Agency Grazing Meetings for Agency issues.
- > Monthly Planning Meetings.
- > Monthly Chapter Meetings.

Navajo Nation 16,363,837.91 Acres

Northern Agency

2,695,089.46 Ac.

20 Members

134,754.473 Acres / member

Western Agency

6,032,083.16 Ac.

18 Members

335,115.73 Acres / Member

Chinle Agency

2,272,932 Ac.

14 Members

162.352.29 Acres / Member

Fort Defiance Agency 3,596,672.71 Ac.

26 Members

138,333.57 Acres / Member

Easter Navajo Agency 2,267,540.58 Ac.

20 Members

113,377.03 Acres / Member

Funding Challenges

(Grazing Officials are not fully funded at the beginning of every fiscal Year)

Bi-weekly	stipend (twice a month)	\$339.78
District Grazing Meeting Agency Grazing Meeting Agency Council Meeting Chapter Planning Meeting Monthly Chapter Meeting Mileage		0 0 0 0 0
Annual	(\$339.78 x 24)	\$8,154.72

Breakdown by Acreage compared to Budget

Average Acreage of a Western Agency Chapter 335,115.73 Acres.

Annual Compensation \$8,154.72

Compensation per acre / year \$0.024

Breakdown by hours

Annual Compensation \$8,154.72 8 hours /5 days \$4.25 10 hours/5days \$3.40

Grazing Officials work on weekends and holidays

2012 supplemental Appropriations

Chapter Planning Meeting \$250.00 Regular Chapter Meetings \$250.00 Agency Council Meetings \$250.00 District Council Meetings \$250.00

- Some Agencies do not have District Councils and funds are lost or or carried over.
- > DGCM's, ENLB's and Farm Boards had no funding to attend meetings the first half of the year resulting in carryovers.
- Supplemental Funding still does not include mileage or Bi-Weekly Stipend, Officials continue to use their own funds for Day to Day Operations.

History of Bi-weekly and mileage funding

	<u>Bi-weekly</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
2003	\$511.80	<i>\$0</i>
2004	\$400.00	\$111.80
2005	\$400.00	\$111.80
2006	\$400.00	\$95.21
2007	<i>\$396.16</i>	<i>\$0</i>
2008	\$395.06	<i>\$0</i>
2009	\$394.90	<i>\$0</i>
2010	\$396.97	<i>\$0</i>
2011	<i>\$339.96</i>	<i>\$0</i>

Solutions

- > Funding at local chapters.
- > Full funding according to the Plan of Operation.
- > Accountability to Chapter and constituents.
- > Establish a Grazing Management Department under DNR.
- > Grazing Committee establishment under Title 26.
- Funding for equipment and operations.

<u>Illegal Dumping</u>



<u>Solution</u> Establish a Regional Land Fill and Recycling Centers

<u>Illegal Development</u>

Rodeo Arenas, Dance Halls, Bingo Halls, Mobile Homes, and Ceremonial Grounds



Solutions

- > Increase fines for illegal developers.
- > Require Homesite lease on importation of mobile homes.
- > Cancel permits to those that develop on cultivated lands.
- > Business site leases on Bingo Halls, Arenas, and auto shops.
- > Mandatory education for HSL applicants at grazing meetings.
- > Mandatory fencing of Homesite Leases.
- > No corrals outside of homesite lease without a Grazing Permit.
- > Designate areas for ceremonial grounds.

Overpopulation of Feral Horses



Solution

Declaration of a State of Emergency,
and allow the use of Emergency funds for Round-ups







Support for reservation wide feral horse round-ups



Voluntary Horse Sales



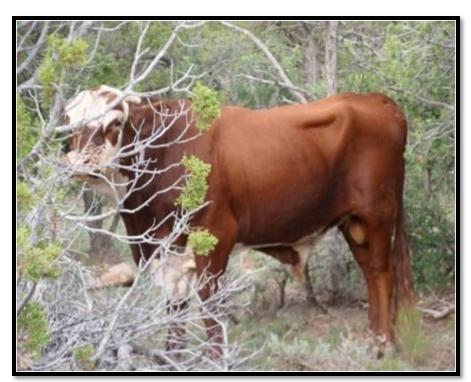
Water Shortages







Non compliance





Solution

- > Treat livestock inventory / citation as a legal citation
- > Establish a court system for natural resources
- > Enforcement of Title III on Rodeo Stock
- > No compliance no consent on development and RMU

Livestock in Rights of ways







Solutions

- > Mandatory Rights of ways For all Road Development.
- > Turn all State Routes over to NDOT.
- > Fund our Deputy Livestock Inspectors to seize animals.
- > Brush and weed control along all improved roads.
- > Warning signs on open range.
- > No gates on state Highways.
- > Frontage Roads to limit turnouts, and school bus safety.
- > Demand schedules of road maintenance.
- > Specifications on fencing, range fence no barbwires.



Questions?

Thank You

Roland Tso, Secretary, Chinle Agency
Many Farms Chapter
Ph# (928)349-8080
roland_tso@yahoo.com