



VISION

Hozhó for Future Generations.



MISSION



RDC-0318-16: The Navajo Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the management and operation of established tribal parks, monuments, recreation areas and the planning and development of visitor services, facilities, and accommodations therein, **recommend the establishment of new parks**, and the planning and undertaking of the Navajo Nation Fair and Fourth of July Celebration.

RDC Legislation No. **0318-16**

PLAN OF OPERATION

OF THE NAVAJO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

I. ESTABLISHMENT

The Navajo Parks and Recreation Department is hereby established as a department of the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources within the executive branch of the Navajo Nation government.

II. PURPOSE

The Navajo Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the management and operation of established tribal parks, monuments, recreation areas, the planning and development of visitor services, facilities, and accommodations therein, recommend the establishment of new parks, and the planning and undertaking of the Navajo Nation Fair and Fourth of July Celebration.

III. PERSONNEL

There is hereby established the position of Department Manager, Navajo Parks and Recreation Department, and such other positions that are deemed necessary by the Department Manager and budgeted for by the Navajo Nation Council.

All personnel shall be hired and compensated pursuant to the provisions and guidelines of the Navajo Nation Personnel Policies.

IV. DEPARTMENT MANAGER; AUTHORITY, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Department Manager, Navajo Parks and Recreation Department, is hereby authorized subject to available funding to:

- A. Develop, implement and enforce overall administrative, fiscal and operating policies for the department;
- B. Supervise, assign and direct all employees within the department and delegate authority as necessary to appropriate and qualified staff within the Department;
- C. Recruit, select and recommend the employment of all staff within the department, and perform annual performance evaluations to ensure qualified and capable staff;
- D. Represent the department at executive level planning;
- E. Develop, implement and enforce policies, rules, regulations, standards, executive orders and other management actions to ensure the protection, conservation and preservation of established tribal parks, monuments, recreation areas;
- F. Establish, implement and accomplish annual goals, objectives, performance measures, long term strategic planning and priorities for the department;

- G. Review and approve any proposed development, improvement or lease within established tribal parks, monuments or recreation areas to ensure such development or improvement does not adversely impact the natural, cultural, recreational and scientific resources or park values;
- H. Represent the department at meetings, conferences, seminars and other public gatherings;
- I. Enforce through tribal law enforcement agencies all appropriate and applicable tribal laws, rules and regulations within the boundaries of all established tribal parks, monuments, and recreation areas;
- J. Approve Filming, Backcountry, Camping, Hiking, Special Use and other permits and authorizations for the use of resources and facilities within established tribal parks, monuments, and recreation areas;
- K. Regulate and control guided tour services operating on the Navajo reservation in accordance with Navajo Nation law;
- L. Regulate and control signs, billboards and advertising devices on the Navajo reservation in accordance with Navajo Nation law;
- M. Establish, approve and collect appropriate fees for the use of visitor and user facilities, and services within established tribal parks, monuments, recreation areas, and the Navajo Nation Fairgrounds;
- N. Market, promote and advertise all Navajo Tribal Parks and Fairgrounds events;

O. Communicate and coordinate any major park plans, developments and improvements which impact customary and traditional land uses with local residents and chapters;

P. Develop and maintain effective partnerships with local, private, state and federal agencies for the benefit of the department and the Navajo Nation.

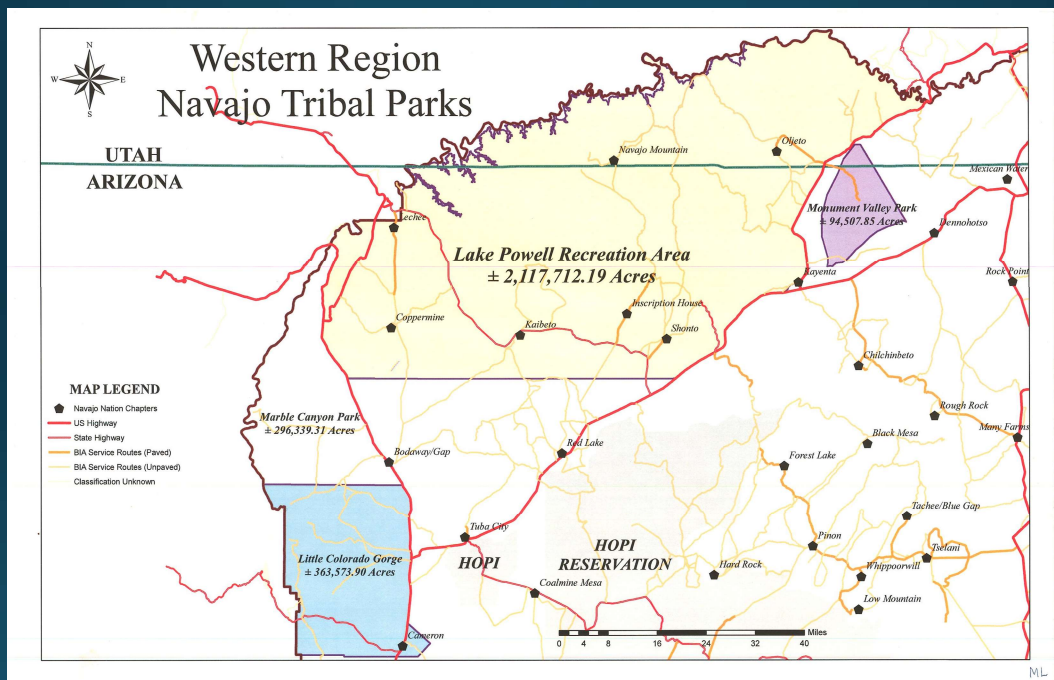
Q. Control and regulate all business uses and activities, including but not limited to tour operators, arts and crafts, recreational activities, and food vendors, within established tribal parks, monuments and recreation areas and the Navajo Nation Fairgrounds through concession or business use permits.

R. Solicit, evaluate, negotiate and recommend contracts and agreements in accordance with Navajo Nation procurement laws, policies and procedures to accomplish the purposes of the Department.

S. Manage and maintain the Navajo Nation Fairgrounds and the planning of the Fairgrounds events.

T. Evaluate, assess and recommend new areas to be established as tribal parks, monuments, and recreational areas.

§ 2. Authority to establish parks, monuments and recreation areas The Resources [and Development] Committee is authorized to set aside and withdraw areas of Navajo land for use as parks, monuments and recreation sites, upon recommendation of the Parks Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department, after proper clearance from the Navajo Land Department and the local chapter area.



EXISTING NAVAJO TRIBAL PARKS, MONUMENTS AND RECREATION AREAS

Monument Valley Tribal Park – ACJ-80-58 – July 11, 1958

Grand Canyon Tribal Park – ACAU-149-66 – August 1, 1960
 Changed to Marble Canyon Tribal Park – ACAP-189-73 – April 17, 1973

Lake Powell Tribal Park – ACMA-35-62 – March 27, 1962

Little Colorado River Tribal Park – ACMA-36-62 – March 27, 1962

Window Rock Tribal Park – ACJ-143-63 – October 1, 1963

Tse Bonito Tribal Park – ACJ-143-63 – October 1, 1963

Kinlichee Tribal Park – ACMY-57-64 – May 4, 1964 (Inactive)

Bowl Canyon Recreation Area – ACJN-89-65

POTENTIAL NAVAJO TRIBAL PARKS, REGIONAL PARKS OR LOCAL PARKS

Shiprock Pinnacle (West of Shiprock)

Coalmine Canyon (East of Tuba City)

Grand Falls (North of Leupp)

Dinosaur Tracks (south of Tuba City)

Painted Desert (Highway 89 toward Bodaway/Gap)

Bisti Wilderness (east of Burnham, NM)

San Juan River (From Farmington, NM to Mexican Hat, UT)

Agathla Peak (North of Kayenta)

Beautiful Valley (North of Ganado)

Buffalo Pass Scenic Road – From Lukachukai to Red Valley



PROCESS TO ESTABLISH PARKS

1. The local chapter(s) prepare and submit a resolution(s) to the Navajo Parks and Recreation Department and recommend Establishment or Withdrawal.
 - a. Establishment – Existing land uses continue such as grazing, homesites.
 - b. Withdrawal – Existing land uses are terminated and management by Navajo Parks and Recreation and area may be fenced.
2. The Parks and Recreation Department shall hold a public hearing (meeting) to obtain feedback from the chapter(s) as to the desired improvements or developments and the acreage to be designated.
3. The Parks and Recreation Department shall employ a Consultant to perform a Feasibility Study using standard criteria and determine the potential status, i.e. tribal park, regional park, local park, or non-park.
4. Definitions:
 - a. Tribal Park – The area is withdrawn and has potential to benefit the Navajo Nation, has economic return, will be sustainable and will contribute to local economy.
 - b. Regional Park – The area has limited potential primarily local economic benefit such as employment. The area may have limited cost benefit potential. Management by staff employed by chapter(s).
 - c. Local Park – The area is primarily for use by local community members and little or none economic return. Operation is by local chapter or organization.
 - d. Non-Park – The area will not support local benefit.
5. Standard Criteria:
 - a. Traffic and Potential Visitation and Use
 - b. Significance such as natural or scenic value, historical, geological, recreation
 - c. Access
 - d. Development Costs
 - e. Operation and Maintenance Requirements
 - f. Economic Return
 - g. Public support
6. Feasibility Study shall determine if withdrawal as a Tribal Park is necessary. The Parks and Recreation Department shall employ a consultant to further study the area and perform environmental studies, boundary survey, infrastructure and other park development steps.
7. If a Regional, Local Park is recommended the proposal shall be delegated to the local chapter(s) for follow-up with the Feasibility Study results.

ASSISTANCE TO CHAPTER(S) FOR VISITOR SERVICES AND FACILITIES

1. The Parks and Recreation Department is authorized to plan and develop visitor services, accommodations and facilities within tribal park areas.
2. The department may be able to provide financial and/or technical assistance to chapter(s) that desire to establish visitor services or facilities to accommodate the tourists.
3. Examples of such services and facilities include visitor center, museum, restrooms, roadside displays, campground, hotel infrastructure.
4. The chapter shall prepare a detailed proposal along with development concept plan and proposed budget/cost.
5. The department shall meet with the chapter to evaluate the proposal and determine the feasibility of the proposal.
6. The proposed project shall be within the boundary of an established or existing tribal park.



Preserve and Protect For Future Generations.



Thank you for your interest.

