

**NAVAJO NATION
FAMILY BURIAL &
CEMETERY
REGULATIONS
RDCF-07-24**

April 28, 2026




Scan Me



Checklist for Burial Plot Lease Applicants

To begin a land withdrawal for family plots, a representative (sexton) must submit:

- ✓ A brief project summary for **0.5 acres**,
- ✓ GPS coordinates or legal land survey,
- ✓ a chapter resolution,
- ✓ grazing-permittee consent, and
- ✓ required environmental clearances Biological (BRCF) and Cultural (CRCF).



GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 69 • ST. MICHAELS, AZ 86511 PHONE: (928) 871-6447 • WWW.GLDD.ORG

Navajo Nation Private/Family Cemetery Lease Checklist

- Cover Letter/Letter of Application/ Family Plan of Operations**
 - i. Define the proposed project undertaking(s) including construction, operation, and whom will be the main familial oversight.
 - ii. Provide in writing who the family plot/cemetery sexton (spokesperson) and alternative sexton will be as well as who will be eligible to be buried at the proposed location. Many of the defining variables may include but are not limited to; surname, clan, residential proximity, at the written discretion of the sexton, etc.)
 - iii. Define to the best of the familial knowledge the history of the site, this may include but not be limited to; when the cemetery was started, who may be buried there, and what the future intent of the site may be.
- GPS Coordinate Map and/or Legal Land Survey**
 - i. Provide the coordinates of each corner and the total acreage of the proposed lease area.
 - ii. If the applicant needs assistance, GLDD can aid in generating the map or the applicant may request help from the Grazing Official.
 - iii. Otherwise, the applicant may hire a private legal land surveyor. This option is much more accurate and Nation's preference, but the decision lies with the applicant.
- Supporting Chapter Resolution**
 - i. A resolution from the respective chapter in support of the proposed undertaking, and where the project will be developed. This is not an approval from the chapter.
 - ii. The Chapter Resolution must include legal language that specify the development as either community or industrial. This is required by the Land Withdrawal Designation Regulations. The legal language is found in RDCJN-33-15 Section 7(b)
 - a. "The _____ Chapter hereby supports and recognizes this land withdrawal for community development, which may include, but is not limited to, the following purposes: housing, education, economic development, healthcare facilities, public use, or governmental use. Industrial development is not supported for this area."
- Grazing Permittee Consents**
 - i. Collected consent from impacted land users and those holding a valid grazing permit, and a verification letter signed by the respective Grazing Official. If there are no valid grazing permittees, a signed verification letter from the Grazing Official is still required.
- Navajo Nation Environmental Determination Documents**
 - i. Biological Resource Compliance Form (BRCF) obtained from the Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife.
 - ii. Cultural Resource Compliance Form (CRCF), Archeological Inventory Report (AIR) Form obtained from the Navajo Nation Heritage & Historic Preservation Department.
 - iii. Environmental Compliance Determination (ECD) from the General Land Development Department (GLDD).

SUBMIT ELECTRONIC PACKET TO: GLDDProjects@navajo-nsn.gov

RDCF-07-24 | June 2024

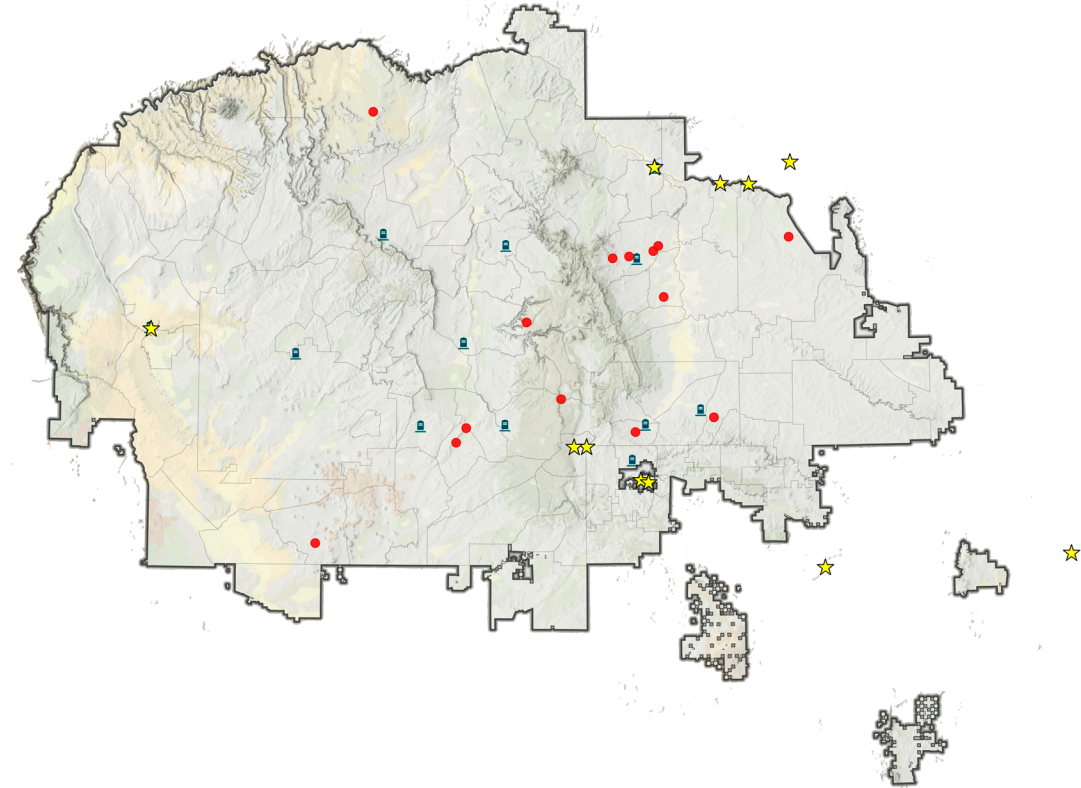
SUBMIT: GLDDProjects@navajo-nsn.gov



Cover Letter / Plan of Operations

Sexton - means the person(s) authorized to sign legal records and responsible for managing operation, maintenance of the cemetery.

- I. Define the proposed project undertaking(s) including construction, operation, and whom will be the main familial oversight.
- II. Provide in writing who the family plot/cemetery sexton (spokesperson) and alternative sexton will be as well as who will be eligible to be buried at the proposed location. Many of the defining variables may include but are not limited to; surname, clan, residential proximity, at the written discretion of the sexton, etc.)
- III. Define to the best of the familial knowledge the history of the site, this may include but not be limited to; when the cemetery was started, who may be buried there, and what the future intent of the site may be.

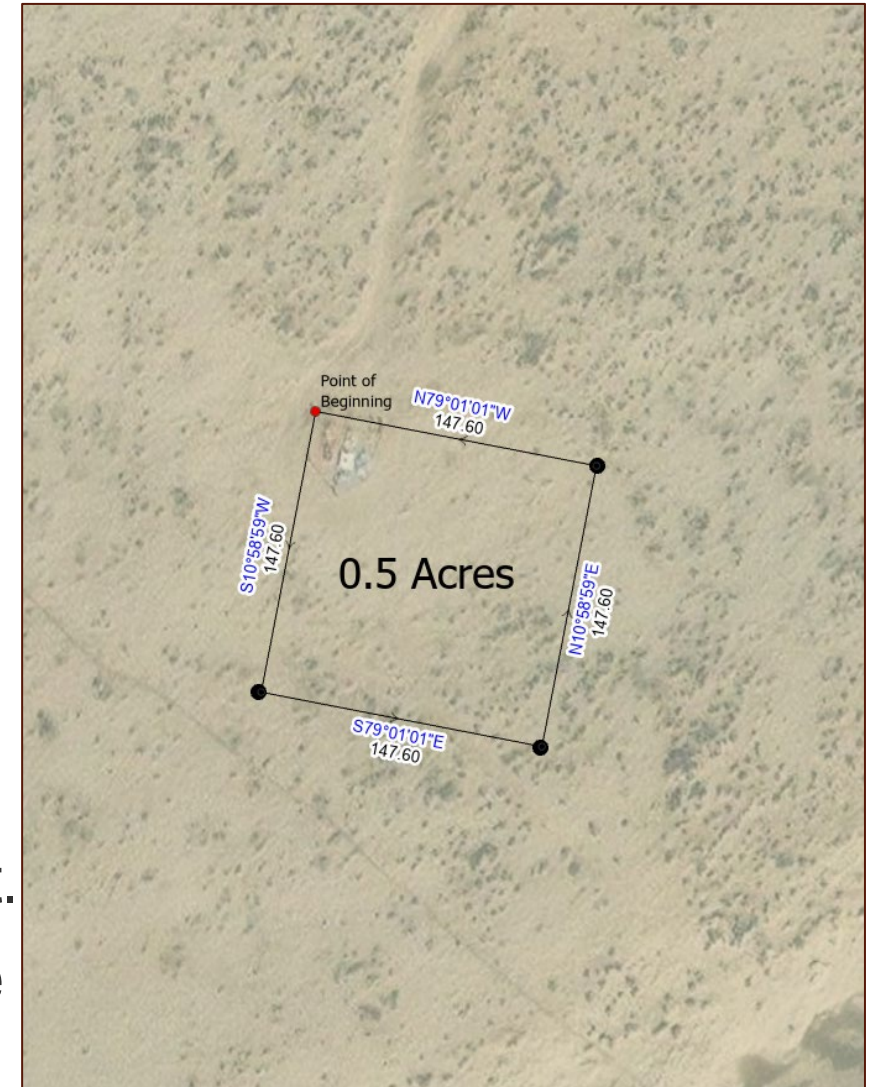


GPS Coordinate Map/Legal Land Survey

- I. Provide the coordinates of each corner and the total acreage of the proposed lease area of 0.5 acres.
- II. If the applicant needs assistance, GLDD can aid in generating the map or the applicant may request help from the Grazing Official.
- III. Otherwise, the applicant may hire a private legal land surveyor. This option is much more accurate and Nation's preference, but the decision lies with the applicant.

Note: a perfect half-acre has equal length/width of 147.6 feet.

- I. The best method, a corner coordinate could become the Point Of Beginning (POB)



Supporting Chapter Resolution

- I. A resolution from the respective chapter in support of the proposed undertaking, and where the project will be developed. This is not an approval from the chapter.
- II. The Chapter Resolution must include legal language that specify the development as either community or industrial. This is required by the Land Withdrawal Designation Regulations.
- III. The legal language is found in RDCJN-33-15 Section 7(b) a.

"The _____ Chapter hereby supports and recognizes this land withdrawal for community development, which may include, but is not limited to, the following purposes: housing, education, economic development, healthcare facilities, public use, or governmental use. Industrial development is not supported for this area."

Environmental Determination Documents

I. Biological Resource Compliance Form (BRCF)

Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife

II. Cultural Resource Compliance Form (CRCF), Archaeological Inventory Report (AIR) Form

Navajo Nation Heritage & Historic Preservation Department

III. Environmental Compliance Determination (ECD)

General Land Development Department (GLDD)

NNDWF Review No. 21ndot110

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM
 NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
 P.O. BOX 1480, WINDOW ROCK, ARIZONA 86515-1480

It is the Department's opinion the project described below, with applicable conditions, is in compliance with Tribal and Federal laws protecting biological resources including the Navajo Endangered Species and Environmental Policy Codes, U.S. Endangered Species, Migratory Bird Treaty, Eagle Protection and National Environmental Policy Acts. This form does not preclude or replace consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service if a Federally-listed species is affected.

PROJECT NAME & NO.: Proposed Beclabito Community Heliport, Beclabito Chapter, New Mexico.
DESCRIPTION: Navajo Department of Transportation (NDOT) proposes to construct a heliport and access road to be used by several Air Medical Flights near the Beclabito Chapter House. Total disturbance will be 12.84 acres.
LOCATION: BECLABITO CHAPTER, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, T30N, R20W, AND R21W
REPRESENTATIVE: Geraldine Jones, Navajo Division of Transportation
ACTION AGENCY: Navajo Division of Transportation (NDOT)
B.R. REPORT TITLE / DATE / PREPARER: Biological Evaluation of a Heliport, Beclabito Chapter, San Juan County, New Mexico / 1/28/2021 / Geraldine Jones
SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: RCP Area

POTENTIAL IMPACTS
NESL SPECIES POTENTIALLY IMPACTED: NA
FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AFFECTED: NA
OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: None
AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: recommend follow section VII (pg 8) to develop and follow plans for sedimentation, potential spills and leaks of fuels or other hazardous materials, and other operations.
CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE*: NA
FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Nora E. Talkington/29 NOV 2020

General Land Development Department
 Post Office Box 69 | St. Michaels, AZ 86511
 (928) 871-6447 | www.gldd.org

Environmental Compliance Determination

Project Information

LWD: Hallelujah Trail Cemetery 0.5 acre
 ± 0.50 acre

Sections 24 of Township 17 North, Range 18 West, New Mexico Principal Meridian, Twin Lakes, McKinley County, New Mexico.

Environmental Compliance Determination

Nation will lawfully grant the proposed permit under the authority of 25 U.S.C. §415(e) and on Council Resolution No. CO-53-13, which has been codified at 16 N.N.C. §2301.

Environmental Compliance Determination (ECD) issued by the General Land Development Department in compliance with the referenced Land Withdrawal Designation (LWD) application complies with the clearance requirements set forth in the Navajo Nation General Leasing Regulations (16 N.N.C. §2301). The proposed LWD is determined to have no significant adverse effects on the cultural, natural environments of the Navajo Nation.

ins, or other cultural resources. The permit will consult with the permittees (4 N.N.C. §2301) if a violation occurs possible cancellation of

ce" specified in the "Revised Cultural Resources

April 28, 2026

THE NAVAJO NATION
 Heritage & Historic Preservation Department
 P.O. Box 4950 • Window Rock, Arizona 86515
 (928) 871-7198 (tel) • (928) 871-7886 (fax)

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE FORM

NNHHPD NO.: HPD-21-1591 **CONSULTANT REPORT NO.:** NNDOT-20-010

PROJECT TITLE: A Cultural Resource Inventory for a Heliport and an Access Road in Beclabito, San Juan County, New Mexico.
LEAD AGENCY: BIA/NRO
SPONSOR: Garret Silversmith, Division Director, Navajo Division of Transportation, PO Box 4620, Window Rock, AZ, 86515
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Navajo Department of Transportation is proposing a heliport and access road. The heliport measures 748.16-ft by 280.22-ft and an access road measures 1,693-ft by 150-ft wide. The area of potential effect is 9.5-acres. Construction activities include extracting materials, backfilling, grading, cement an asphalt placement. Ground disturbance will be intensive and extensive with the use of heavy equipment.
PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST: Lindsey L. Benally
NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.: NTC396 **TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED:** 11.5
DATE INSPECTED: 2/24/2021 **DATE OF REPORT:** 11/23/2021
METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 15 m apart
LAND STATUS: NN Tribal Trust Land **CHAPTER:** Beclabito
NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES: 0 **NUMBER OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:** 0
NUMBER OF UNEVALUATED PROPERTIES: 0 **NUMBER OF BURIALS:** 0
NUMBER OF TCPS: 0 **NUMBER OF ISOLATED OCCURRENCES:** 0
NUMBER OF IN-USE SITES: 0 **EFFECT/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE:** No Historic Properties Affected
PROCEED RECOMMENDED: Yes **CONDITIONS:** No

In the event of a discovery ("discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources including but not limited to archaeological deposits, human remains, or locations reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices), all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease, and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified at (928) 871-7198.

FORM PREPARED BY: Tamara Bille **FINALIZED:** 12/29/2021

NAVAJO NATION HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

Richard M. Begay, Department Manager/THPO 12/30/2021
 Date

NAVAJO REGION APPROVAL

Navajo Regional Director 1/28/22
 BIA-Navajo Regional Office Date

- DOCUMENT IS VOID IF ALTERED -



GENERAL LAND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

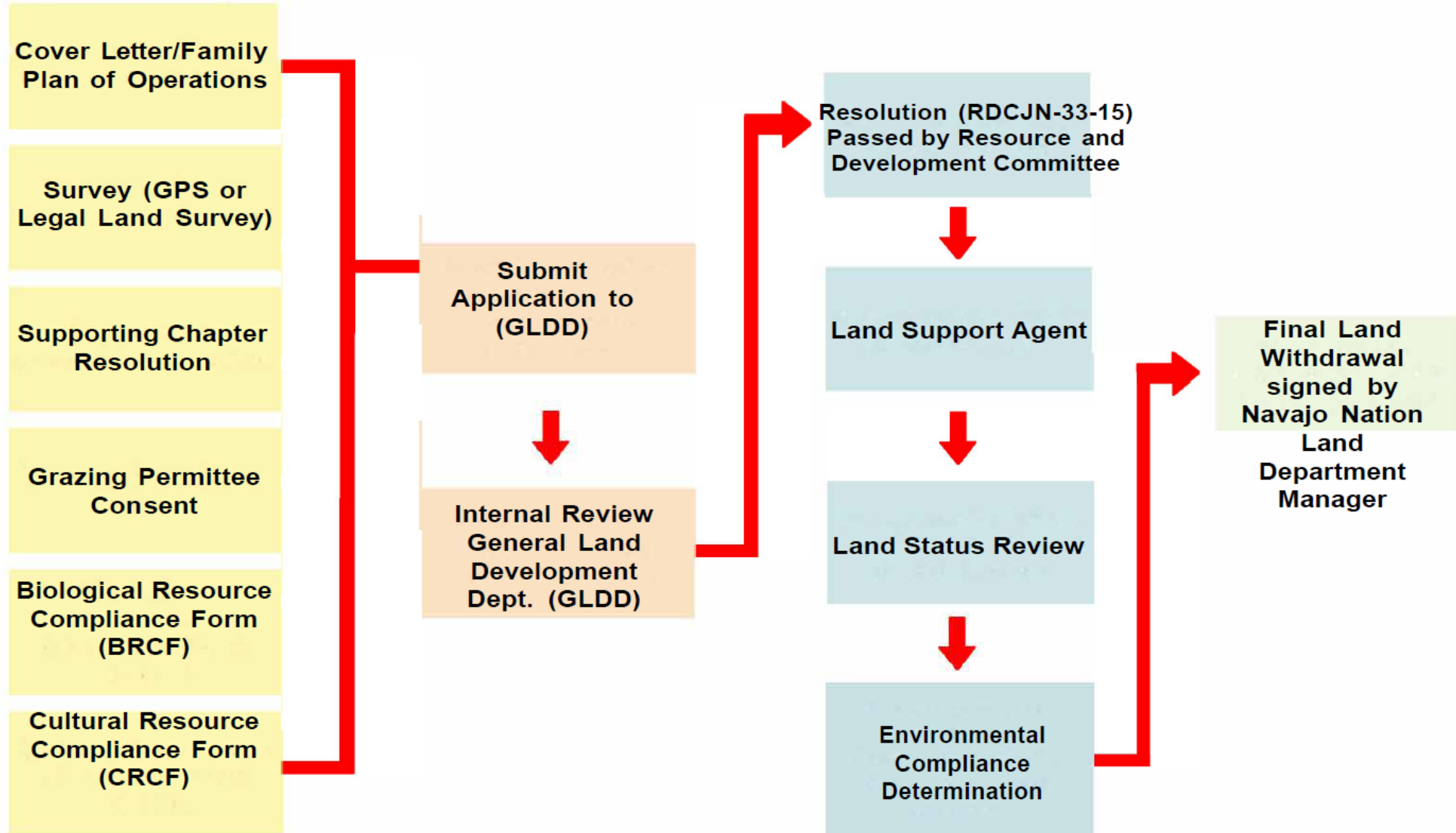
P.O. BOX 69 ST. MICHAELS, AZ 86511



PHONE: (928) 871-6447 • WWW.GLDD.ORG

NAVAJO NATION PRIVATE / FAMILY CEMETERY FLOWCHART

EXISTING PRIVATE CEMETERY APPLICANT



BURIAL SITE CLEARANCE FORM



Burial Site Clearance Form

- ✓ Sexton submit a written statement requesting for a Burial Site Clearance Form
- ✓ Navajo Nation Land Status – NN Fee & Trust
- ✓ GPS Coordinates Latitude and Longitude
- ✓ Navajo Nation Land Department will create a map
- ✓ No approvals on new burials and no Indian Allotments
- ✓ Allotments are referred to BIA – depending on site location, contact the local agency



Burial Site Clearance Form



Date: _____ Time: _____ AM / PM

Next of Kin: _____ Phone No. _____

Email address: _____

Secondary Contact: _____ Phone No. _____

Email address: _____

Name of the Deceased: _____

Family Plot Location: _____

Family Plot Coordinates – Latitude and Longitude: _____

Sexton – Person to administrate the family cemetery (Name): _____

Phone No. _____

Mortuary: _____ Phone No. _____

Date of Service: _____

Along with this form, you are required to submit a written statement stating that you are requesting a Burial Site Clearance along with the language below to our office:

“My family and I intend to appear before the Navajo Land Department / General Land Development Department within 90 days to formally initiate the Land Withdrawal Process, in full compliance with the laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation.” – Compliance with the NN regulations. (revised: 02/14/2024)

Navajo Land Department requires you to finish this process within 90 days to be in compliance with Navajo Nation law. If you have any questions, you can contact **(928) 871 - 6401**

Burial Site Clearance Form and Written Statement can be submitted via email to the following individuals:

Byron Bitsoie, Sr., Department Manager III, bbitsoie@nnd.org

Arlene Brown, Office Specialist, abrown@nnd.org / Jessica James, Office Specialist, jjames@nnd.org

Approved Not Approved, Reason _____

Navajo Land Department Manager

Date

Written Statement & Burial Site Clearance Form

- Provide a written statement requesting for a temporary clearance for a burial site & BSC form
- The legal language shall include:

“My family and I intend to appear before the Navajo Land Department / General Land Development Department within 90 days to formally initiate the Land Withdrawal Process, in full compliance with the laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation.”

Compliance with the NN Burial and Cemetery Regulations RDCF-07-24 (revised: 02/14/2024)

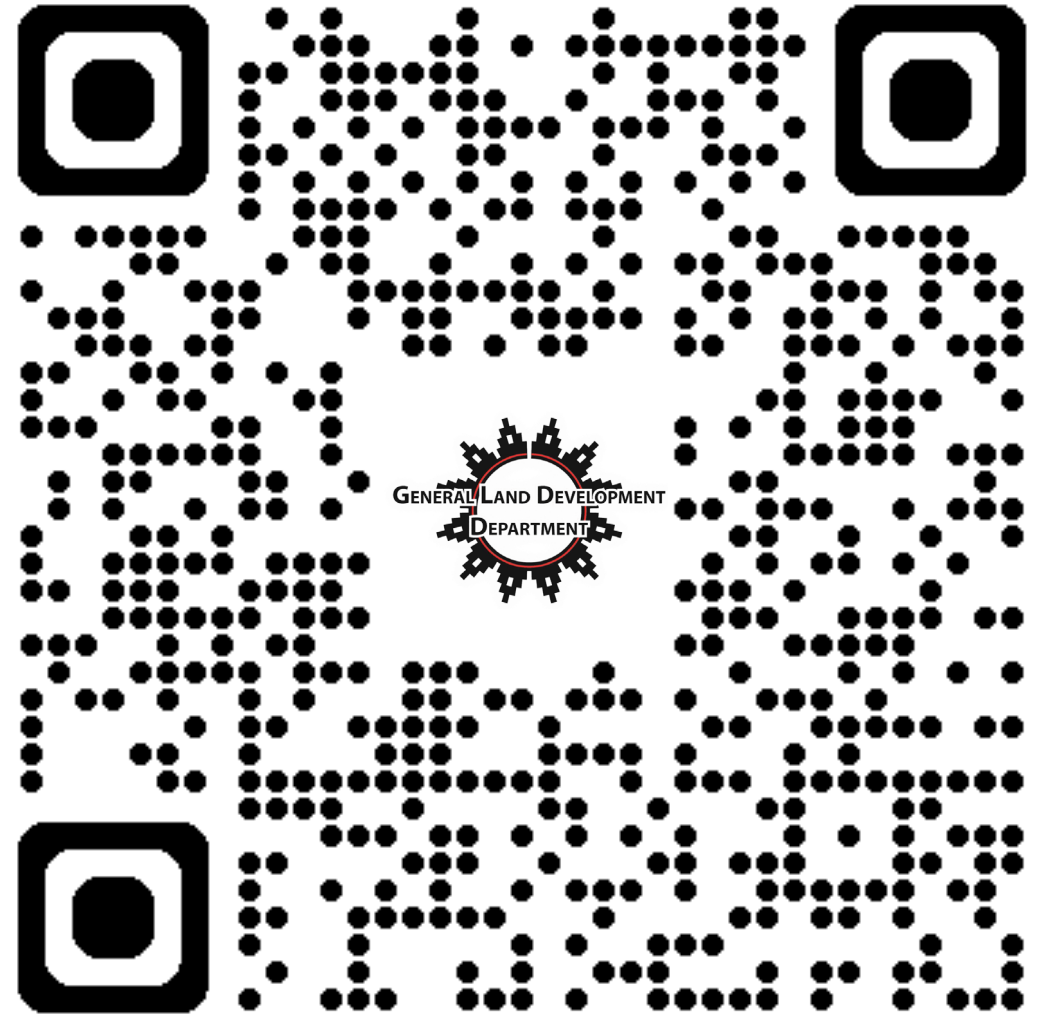
- Navajo Land Department requires you to finish this process within 90 days to be in compliance with Navajo Nation laws and regulations
-

Contacts

Burial Site Clearance Form and Written Statement can be submitted via email to the following individuals:

- Byron Bitsoie, Sr. bbitsoie@nnld.org
Department Manager III
- Arlene Brown abrown@nnld.org
Office Specialist
- Jessica James jrjames@nnld.org
Office Specialist (NLTDS)

(928) 357-6965



Take Home Message



- *Protection of the Family Cemetery*
- *Organization to Burials on NN*
- *Respectful and Compliance to laws & regulations*
- *Proper Authorization for Land Use*
- *Submit to GLDDProjects@navajo-nsn.gov*

AHXE'HEE'



Ahxe'hee

928-357-6969

GLDDProjects@Navajo-nsn.gov

www.gldd.org