

NAVAJO NATION HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT (NNHHPD)

Compliance Overview for
Division of Natural Resources
Expo 2026

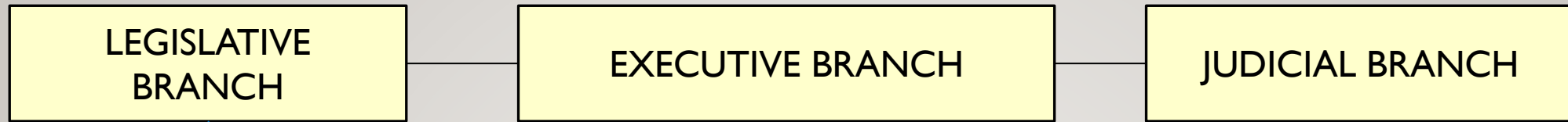
Rolf J Nabahe, Sr. Archaeologist

Olsen John, Archaeologist



NAVAJO NATION CULTURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION ACT (CMY-19-88)

- Established the Historic Preservation Department
- 2016 HPD and NNAD became the Heritage and Historic Preservation Department
- 1988 Navajo Nation took over BIA's Archaeological Services by a P.L. 93-638 contract
- April 4, 1997 NNHPD was designated as a Tribal Historic Preservation Office, (NHPA 1992 amendments)



RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

NAVAJO NATION HERITAGE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

Cultural Resources Compliance Section
Traditional Cultural Program
Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program
Geographic Information System Section (GIS)
Field Services

(Hataalii Advisory Council-HAC)

HHPD'S PURPOSE AND FUNDING:

Purpose

- Protect and manage the Navajo Nation's cultural resources located on the Navajo land;
- Promote respect for encouraging Navajo heritage and tradition;
- Seeking guidance and support of the Navajo people, tribal/federal agencies to preserve, protect and manage the cultural resources of the Navajo Nation;
- Meet the community and economic development needs of the Navajo people by ensuring the harmonious co-existence of the Navajo Way with the “present world”.

Funding

- General Funds
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (638 Program)
 - CRCS and one-time funding
- BOR-Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (Page, AZ)
- BOR-Navajo Gallup Water Supply Project
- BLM-USFS Bears Ears Cooperative Agreement
- ***HHPD does not do archaeological surveys for the public**

LAWS AND POLICIES WE WORK WITH

Navajo Nation Laws and Policies

- Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act (NNCRPA), CMY-19-88, 1988
- Policy for the Disposition of Cultural Resources Collections, 2008
- Policy for the Protection of Jishchaa': Gravesites, Human Remains, and Funerary Items,

Federal Laws

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966
 - 1992 Amendments
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1978
- Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY PROCESS

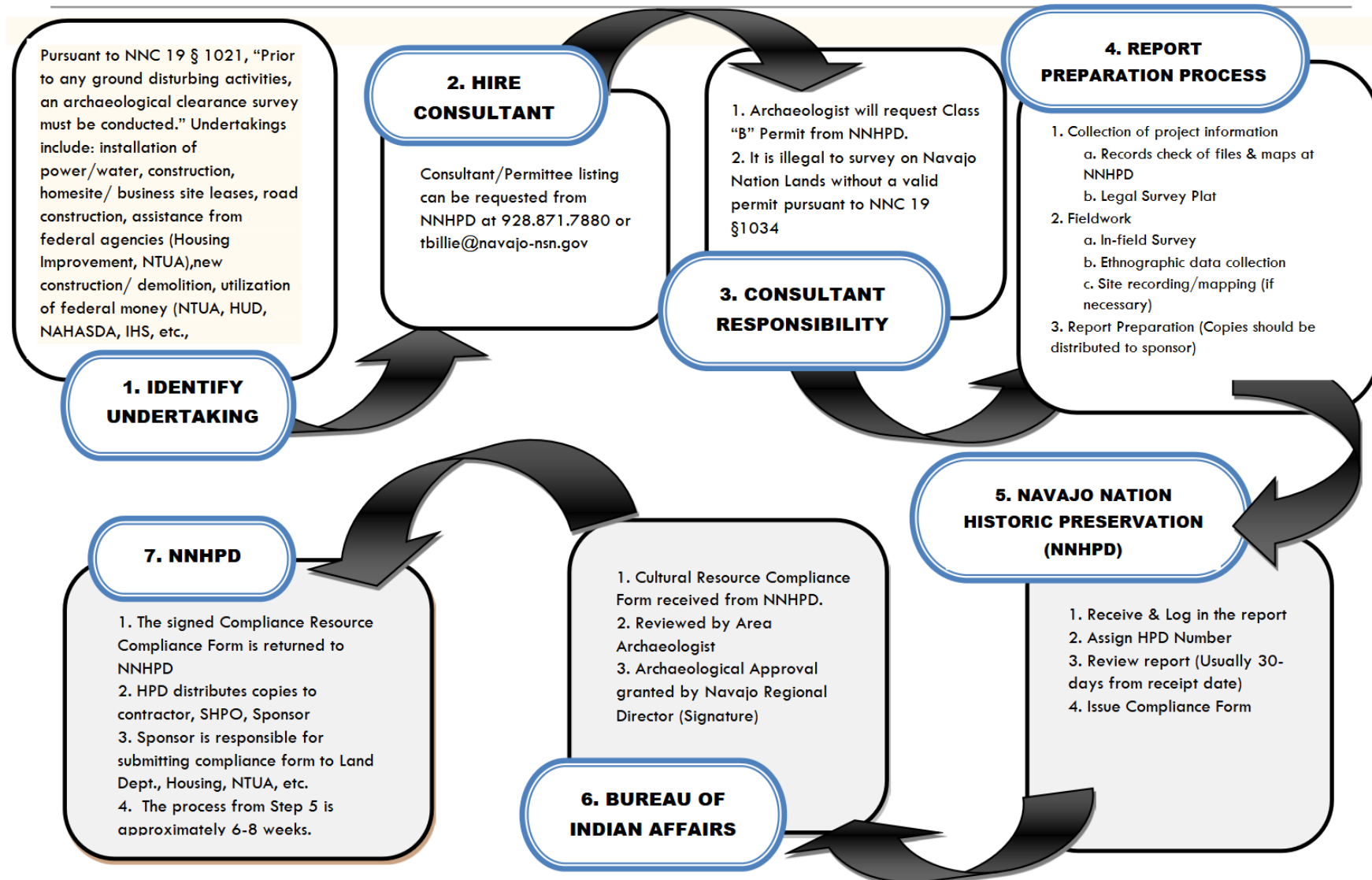
- Why do we require it...
 - Identify and protect cultural and archaeological resources, as well as traditional use areas
 - Avoid potential adverse effects and mitigate harm
 - Ex: plant gathering areas, burials, sites, etc.
- How do you determine if you need it?
 - Federal Funds
 - CRPA
 - Project areas not surveyed for cultural resources
- Monitoring – what is and why?

COMPLIANCE...

- Archaeologists must be Permitted to do work on Navajo Nation
 - Standards for fieldwork and reports (CRPA)
- What is “archaeological clearance?”
- What are conditions of clearance?
- Who enforces it?
- What is the Chapter’s role?
- Who do you contact if you find resources within your area?



“ARCHAEOLOGICAL CLEARANCE” PROCESS ON THE NAVAJO NATION



FIELDWORK & REPORT PROCESS (HOMESITE & RESIDENTIAL LEASES)

- *Collection of project information (Class I Research)*
 - a. Records check of files & maps at NNHHPD
 - b. Legal Survey Plat
- *Fieldwork*
 - a. Survey (Class III ground survey of APE & BZ)
 - b. **Ethnographic data collection** (Interviews with customary land users, and other knowledgeable individuals that live within a one mile radius of the project area to identify and document any sacred areas)
 - c. Site recording/mapping (if necessary)
- *Report Writing & Preparation (Copies should be distributed to sponsor)*

NNHHPD PROJECT REVIEW

- Receive & Log in the report
- Assign HPD Number
- Review report (Usually 30-days from receipt date)
- Issue Compliance Form



THE NAVAJO NATION
HERITAGE & HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT
PO Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona 86515
TEL: (928) 871-7198 FAX: (928) 871-7886

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE FORM

ROUTE COPIES TO:	NNHHPD NO.: HPD-17-676
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DCD1	OTHER PROJECT NO.: DCD1 17-003

PROJECT TITLE: A Cultural Resources Inventory of the Erick Alfred Shorty and Renee Leann Benjamin Homesite, Shiprock Chapter, San Juan County, New Mexico

LEAD AGENCY: The Navajo Nation

SPONSOR: Renee L. Benjamin, PO Box 3086, Shiprock, News Mexico 87420

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed undertaking will involve the construction of a homesite with associated facilities within the 1.0-acre area homesite lease. Ground disturbing activities will be intensive and extensive with the use of heavy equipment.

LAND STATUS:	Navajo Tribal Trust													
CHAPTER:	Shiprock													
LOCATION:	T.	30	N.	R.	18	W-	Sec.	02:	Shiprock	Quadrangle.	San Juan	County	New Mexico	NMPM
PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST:	Denise R. E. Copeland													
NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.:	NTC													
DATE INSPECTED:	05/19/17													
DATE OF REPORT:	08/04/17													
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED:	6.49 - ac													
METHOD OF INVESTIGATION:	Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 15 m apart.													
LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:	None													
LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	None													
LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	None													
LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:	None													

EFFECT/CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE: No historic properties affected.

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 Billie
FINALIZED: November 13, 2017

Notification to Proceed
Recommended

Yes No

Conditions:

Yes No

Richard M. Begay, Dept. Mgr./THPO
The Navajo Nation
Heritage & Historic Preservation Department

Date

CULTURAL RESOURCES COMPLIANCE SECTION (CRCS)

- Section 106 Review: Principal role is to protect, preserve and manage the Navajo Nation's cultural resources heritage under the authority of the NNCRMP and NHPA-Section 106 Process.
- Issue Cultural Resources Investigations Permit pursuant to NNCRMP:
 - Class A-Site Visitation
 - Class B-Archaeological Survey/Inventory
 - Class C-Type 1: Excavation or ethnographic purposes or Type 2: Personal or professional research
- Protects Burials
- TCP's – Sacred Places
- Discovery Situations

CRCS CON'T

- Accomplishments
- Review approximately 1,700 archaeological inventory reports annually
- Estimated 1,000,000+ acres of Navajo lands have been surveyed
 - 31,000 archaeological sites, and over 2,500 Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs)/Sacred Places, and approximately 250 historic burials (pre-1960)



COMMON CULTURAL RESOURCES IDENTIFIED THROUGHOUT THE NAVAJO NATION

- Cairns
- Plant/mineral gathering areas
- Ceremonial activity sites
 - “second night”
- Archaeological sites
 - Anasazi, Navajo
 - Historic structures
 - Trading posts, old houses, ...
- Ancestral roads and trails
- Offering sites



WHAT ABOUT BURIALS?

- Historic burials (all protected)
 - Should not be disturbed
 - 50+ years
 - Formal graves, crevice burials, tree burials, etc.
- Prehistoric burials
 - Common occurrence
 - Discovery situations

AHÉ'HÉÉ

Contact Information:

Navajo Nation Heritage & Historic
Preservation Department

PO Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona
86515-4950

Telephone: (928)871-7198

Fax: (928)871-7886

Physical Location: Window Rock Boulevard,
Building W008-247, Building 4

