

Report to Western Navajo Agency Council

Report Provided By:
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 Executive Director, NHLCO



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Project Purpose

To develop nine Chapter Recovery Plans and one Navajo Thaw Regional Plan to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze. The Community and Economic Development Plans will create a sustainable economic future while providing funding for priority housing, economic development, community development and infrastructure projects.

Project Status

The Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan (NTIP) is off to a very fast start with strong engagement with the Chapters. The table below provides the status for all nine Chapters.



Chapter	Plan Week Dates	Recovery Plan Status
Bodaway Gap	December 11-12	Document Being Drafted
Cameron	December 9-10	Document Being Drafted
Coalmine Canyon	November 19-20	Document Being Drafted
Coppermine	November 11-12; December 10; December 19	Document to be Drafted
Kaibeto	October 17-18	Document nearly Complete
Leupp	October 10; November 22; December 17	Document Being Drafted
Tolani Lake	November 14-15; December 16	Document Being Drafted
Tonalea Red Lake	November 17-18	Document Being Drafted
Tuba City	Scheduling Now	Scheduling Plan Week

Observations about Plan Week

In general, we are getting good turnout for the planning activities, and the participants are highly engaged. Despite 53 years of the “Bennett Freeze effect,” the **people still have hope** that something can be done.

Briefing Congressman O'Halleran

Ultimately, this planning work will seek large-scale funding from the federal government to address the impacts of the Bennett Freeze. Congressman O'Halleran is very interested in this effort and his staff is attending some meetings and being briefed by the Navajo Thaw Support Team.

Scheduling a Regional Summit

We are looking for a time in late January or early February to hold the Navajo Thaw Regional Summit at Twin Arrows. We are requesting that President Nez, Congressman O'Halleran and the 24th Navajo Nation Council convene the Summit.



Timing of Regional Plan

It is still our goal to have the Navajo Thaw Regional Plan to the NHLC, NNC, OPVP and Congressman O'Halleran by March 1, 2020. Having a successful Navajo Thaw Summit is the key!

Dear Friends in the Navajo Thaw Region:

Like so many of you, I have lived my life in the Navajo Thaw Region. We are not calling it the Bennett Freeze anymore, because we are now focused on moving positively for our "Navajo Future."

I would like to thank all the Chapters for opening their doors to our planning process. Since President Nez announced the Navajo Thaw Implementation Plan on October 14, we have already conducted eight of the nine Plan Week sessions. Every one of you has been so positive, and I really believe that, by working together, our voices will finally be heard.

I can tell you that President Nez, Vice President Lizer, our Council Delegates and Executive Director Robert K. Black really care. They would like to see this happen.

I would also like to thank Congressman O'Halleran and his staff, Jack Jackson, Jr. and Luther Lee, for their interest and involvement in all the planning.

We are focusing now on putting together a very important Regional Summit for all of us.



Please visit our website and sign up for future updates.

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For More Information
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