

Memorandum

To: File

From: D. Kidder

Date: 4/13/2026

Re: Summary of ARMP Public Input Meeting on 4/9/2026

Wilson Facilitators: Tiffany Martin, Jesse Shuck, Dalton Kidder

Location: Nenahnezad Chapter House

Number of Attendees: 9

Sign-In Sheet Attached. Yes

Key Themes from Attendees:

- "We really need water". "We only use 25% of our water". They are trying to get funding to rehabilitate their canal, but still in talks.
- Have a lot of farmland laying idle (because canal can't deliver water well). Individual was at the Chapter House for probing; thought it was happening there
- Attendee doesn't graze animals at all, just "keeps them in". Good grass in some places. It's expensive to bring them feed. Need grazing representative to put in writing what "We go through". Grazing is very hard, but "I take a lot of pride in my tradition."
- Attendee having issues with feral horses. Need the bosses in Navajo departments to make changes. Lots of administrative red tape that makes things complicated (specifically with horses).

- Aging of people is an issue. Makes it harder to maintain herd.
 - o They have people stealing their cows, but it's hard to defend them, and there is no enforcement. There's not any trust in any proceedings.
 - o Updates to procedures are not always good.
- Lots of seminars and help sessions exist, but not much fulfillment of basic needs (better tools, for example).
- The people of the community are the best for deciding what is best for it. Very strong traditional ties. Using the land well is more valuable than money.

- "Instead of moving forward, we move backward". "I really wish we had the land board officials and and grazing officials here."
- They don't have any young folks involved in the community, which really hurts morale and ability. "How do we empower our own people?"
- A wash flooded some farms, they are still dealing with the damage of that. "We need to be adaptive and sustainable."
 - o Some people don't understand environmental impacts, so a lot of things get overlooked. This is mostly due to lack of education, and people not wanting to hear it.
- Changes have to be at the chapter and community level. A lot of farms are in idle mode.
- Funding is one of the biggest concerns.
- There are no vets in the area.
- There are too many dogs.
- People dump their trash. All from lack of education, empowerment, and funding.

- Attendee would prefer more traditional medicines and diet (than what is most common). There is a lot of blame, but there is still a lot that Navajo individuals can do.
- It would be very nice to have grazing officials at these meetings; they are hard to contact. Attendee lost 3 horses to wild dogs. Does not think that officials are there to help
- There's a big problem with public dumping. Very frustrating, because it doesn't feel like anything is being done.
- Can't leave animals out for fear of theft. Attendees mention issues, officials say "I'll make a note of it", then don't do anything.

- Traditions are being threatened.
- BIA won't transfer permits because they're worried they will get sued again. Stray dogs kill livestock.
- Attendee has concerns that the ARMP is too big in scope; plans should be more local scale. Conservation plans (individual grazing permit level) take a lot of work, not a lot of people have the resources to do them. Attendee advocates for smaller government, sexual assault and suicide prevention. Big advocate of smaller government.
- Grazing meetings give a sense of silencing. Meetings are for the officials, not for the people. "Navajo Nation" is often benefitted without the individuals being benefitted.

Key Messaging by Wilson staff:

- The ARMP is to be the Nation's Plan.
- BIA will approve the ARMP but it will be the Nation's Plan
- Proposed Project Area is based on Nation's mapping and being part of the Nation.
- A draft ARMP will be made available for "your" review "to see if we got it right".

Observations:

1. The last paragraph in the Key Themes from Attendees was made by a woman who claimed she was running to be a chapter official.
2. Attendees filtered in late for nearly the entire duration of the meeting. Two attendees (a former grazing official and former farm board official) left the meeting early.

Of-Interest:

N/A