

Memorandum

To: File

From: S. Kubic

Date: 4/21/2026

Re: Summary of ARMP Public Input Meeting on 4/14/2026

Wilson Facilitators: Liliana Domenici, Schylon Kubic, Marlene Hoskie

Location: Leupp Chapter House

Number of Attendees: 29

Sign-In Sheet Attached. Yes

Key Themes from Attendees:

- Wild horses are a problem; lack of money and workers
 - o Feral cows
 - o Chapter can do 'roundup' – equine rescue
 - o Some chapters have to renew yearly to do rescues
- Probate is not being done by Navajo Nation (NN); ongoing excuse for BIA
- What about having chapters develop the ARMP? We know what's going on – water, horses, lack of grazing
- Conservation plans are best for permit holders; makes individuals responsible for grazing structure and land management; reductions
 - o Let Navajo write plan
 - o New generation won't have proper tools without education
- Attach enforcement to the plan
- Open range won't work
 - o People are educated but not using it
 - o Need to follow conservation and rotate the land
- NN is middle person to talk to BIA; causes delays
 - o Processes are confusing; no one knows who's responsible
 - o NN has too many rules; BIA set but not helping
- Issue w/Department of Agriculture people showing favoritism; no enforcement to make people accountable
 - o Grazing officials don't have enforcement power
 - o Conflicts with installing fencing can be a problem with neighbors
- Return to BIA 638 contract
 - o Help grazing officials get pay raise - \$800 a month is not enough
- Paige, AZ – District 1 Area
 - o Open mining issues
 - o Renewable energy is taking away grazing land
 - o Livestock and farming federal funding going down (gas, food, groceries)
 - Encourage farming – economic benefits; past generations farmed and had food through winter; exchanged it for gas, other goods; not reliant on grocery stores or Walmart
 - o 90% of money goes to Wind Rock – only 40% to chapters
 - 110 chapters only get 6% each; don't get our share of funds
 - A lot of have carryovers; can't help with livestock issues
- Woman from District 5

- Grazing permits being transferred and fraction it to large population
 - Received notice from Rangers Department in 2025 to request transfer of probate status; cannot sell livestock and worried they will be taken away
- Animals neglected
- Water issues; no source and have to haul water for animals
- Illegal dumping near Colorado river
- Department of Ag gives people more rules to live by making it confusing and hard to live
- Illegally dumped plastic kills cows; hay bailing wires
- Grazing Official
 - Permit manual is Red Book; NN Standard operations program and Title 3 for permit holders
 - Enforcement is downfall
 - Use tally count; overlook farming water, land and homesite lease
 - Citations give multiple times, but rangers don't step.
 - Windmill and solar in grazing areas; companies don't let people know what's happening and decisions made by others above them
- Grazing Official – Part of Western Agency, Tuba
 - Make resolutions for improvements
 - Lack of communication between Dept of Ag and RDC; no calls returned; phone number changed
 - Lack enforcement; implementation is needed
 - Natural resources and water department should be providing water and maintenance of windmills in need of repair
 - People still use traditional culture (look at Amish)
 - Bring back native language to maintain culture
 - Kids move away from land
 - Culture must be part of the plan – language, traditions, prayers
 - Growing elk population; illegal grazing of land; increase equine rescue to \$500 per horse
 - Chapter got ARPA funds, but unsure where it is being used; could be designated to use on some of these issues
- Woman from different chapter
 - Want to see BIA, Dept of Ag at these meetings
 - Enforcement needed – What's BIA part in process?
 - NN people need to comply with grazing permit rules
 - We should be able to do our own thing; "As a Nation, we don't have a voice."
 - Hands-on teaching for youth; programming and education topics, eating right, branding, plant identification; livestock maintenance programs; FFA type programs; require permit holder classes
- "We can't use an old solution; must change to make it better."
- Want livestock auctions in area to return
- Water rights need to belong to NN
 - Haul water on daily basis
- Fencing, high winds, sand dunes; dams filling up with dirt – need to be cleaned
 - Cattle get out and cross into Hopi; we have to pay to get them back. Why doesn't Hopi pay when their animals come onto NN land?
 - NPL fencing needs repair.
- Suggested doing away with "state brand"; should live outside NN if want it.
- Emmerson Begay
 - People put trash in houses; cattle eat blowing plastic bags

- Alfalfas straw is costly; prefer to buy hay bailing wires
- Issues – enforcement, tally count, dry farming, homesite lease, business site leasing
 - Example: Issues citations; 30 days to respond; still no compliance; Department of Agriculture steps in; need enforcement
- Practicing and living our lives; language, prayers need to be in our plan.
- State brands need enforcement.
- Wildlife and elk are a problem.
- Boundaries are not expanding, increasing within with no room to expand; HSL, roads, and lessens forage.
- Increase equine rescue to \$500
- Is data center going to happen? RMU to take control over tribal ranches – need them available for sheep.

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. Area grazing official & Leupp chapter, Kelvin Long mentioned they are updating CLUPC.
2. Multiple officials and people from different districts and chapters attended the meeting – each had similar concerns and issues.
3. People learned about the meeting from Chapter Facebook post, flyers, and announcements at grazing meetings.
4. Some questioned who will enforce the ARMP – NN or BIA?

Of-Interest:

N/A