RESOLUTION OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council---Second Year 2016

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING A REVOCABLE USE PERMIT FOR MISSION SITE FOR CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN THE VICINITY OF NEWCOMB CHAPTER, NAVAJO NATION (SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)

Section One. Findings

- A. Pursuant to 16 N.N.C., Section 1151(C), the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has authority to give final approval on behalf of the Navajo Nation for permits for mission sites; and
- B. The Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission has applied for Revocable Use Permit for mission site within Newcomb Chapter, as further described in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference; and
- C. The mission site is located on 1.5. acres of trust lands in the Southeast Quarter (SE4) of Section 35, Township 24 North, Range 18 West, in the vicinity of Newcomb Chapter, Navajo Nation (San Juan County, New Mexico). The land description appears on the survey plat attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "B"; and
- D. The District Grazing Official identified one land user, Thomas Joe Yazzie and his consent is attached hereto as "Exhibit "C." The Newcomb Chapter resolution and the signed petition by the local residents are also attached as Exhibit "D"; and
- E. The Biological, Historical, Cultural and Archeological surveys and clearances for this permit were completed including an Environmental Assessment report, and are all attached and labeled as Exhibit "E"; and
- F. On June 16, 2015, the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council (RDCJN-33-15) delegated the Director of Navajo Land Department (NLD), Division of Natural Resources, the power and authority to give final approval of all land withdrawal designations on the Navajo Nation. The Land Withdrawal Designation has been approved for five (5) years for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission attached as Exhibit "F"; and

G. It is in the best interest of Newcomb Chapter and the Navajo Nation that a Revocable Use Permit for Mission Site be approved for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission.

Section Two. Approval

- A. Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves and consents to the Revocable Use Permit for Mission Site for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission subject to but not limited to the attached Terms and Conditions contained in Exhibit "F" which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
- B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby authorizes the President of the Navajo Nation to execute any and all documents necessary to affect the intent and purpose of this resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the Resources and Development Committee of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting at Luepp Chapter, Luepp, (Navajo Nation) Arizona, at which quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstained this 5th day of January, 2016.

Alton Joe Shepherd, Chairperson Resources and Development Committee Of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council

Motion: Honorable Walter Phelps Second: Honorable Davis Filfred

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. <u>6415-15</u>

DATE: December 17, 2015

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING A REVOCABLE USE PERMIT FOR MISSION SITE FOR CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN THE VICINITY OF NEWCOMB CHAPTER, NAVAJO NATION (SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)

PURPOSE: Approving a Revocable Use Permit for Mission Site for Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission on Navajo Nation Trust Lands in the vicinity of Newcomb Chapter, Navajo Nation (San Juan County, New Mexico).

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committees. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review each proposed resolution in detail.

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PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

23rd NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- First Year, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0415-15

AN ACTION

RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING A
REVOCABLE USE PERMIT FOR MISSION SITE FOR CONGREGATIONAL
METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN THE
VICINITY OF NEWCOMB CHAPTER, NAVAJO NATION (SAN JUAN COUNTY,
NEW MEXICO)

Section One. Findings

- A. Pursuant to 16 N.N.C. Section 1151 (C), the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has the authority to give approval on behalf of the Navajo Nation for permits for mission sites; and
- B. The Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission has applied for Revocable Use Permit for mission site within Newcomb Chapter, as further described in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference; and
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- D. The District Grazing Official identified one land user, Thomas Joe Yazzie and his consent is attached hereto as "Exhibit "C." The Newcomb Chapter resolution

- and the signed petition by the local residents are also attached as Exhibit "D"; and
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- G. It is in the best interest of Newcomb Chapter and the Navajo Nation that a Revocable Use Permit for Mission Site be approved for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission.

Section Two. Approval

- A. Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby approves and consents to the Revocable Use Permit for Mission Site for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission subject to but not limited to the attached Terms and Conditions contained in Exhibit "F" which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.
- B. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council does hereby authorize the President of the Navajo Nation to execute all documents to affect the intent and purpose of this resolution.



APPLICATION FOR REVOCABLE USE PERMIT (RELIGIOUS SITE) NAVAJO NATION LANDS

President, Navajo Nation Window Rock, Arizona	Date_ 9/22/14
(Name of Church) Ational Methodost Nai	Mission
P.O. Box 7465; Newcomp, N.	M. 87455
hereby makes application for a religious site covering approximin we do not be the second of the sec	mately acres of Navajo Nation land located County, Arizona/New Mexico, as shown on the
After the local chapter approval of this application and with ap Department, a survey plat and legal description of the site pre submitted to the Navajo Land Department or the Bureau of Ind	pared by a licensed or registered surveyor shall be
In support of said application, the applicant hereby submits the	following information:
Articles of Incorporation Chapter Resolution Petition of Names Land Use Constitution Survey Plat Other Support	
Detailed statement of the purpose(s) for which said Navajo Na body proposes to establish facilities for educational, medical o set forth fully the extent and character thereof: Church State Hold Character State Church State People With Ricanol Druge	
Description of buildings and improvements to be placed on trib Building is half built in weed done: Need Water a electricate	pal land and the estimated cost thereof.
Applicant's plan for development of water and sewer. WE WILL MAKE A WATER LINE AN	nd seaser put in.

All corporations must attach hereto a certified copy of their Articles of Incorporation. If foreign to the state where religious site is to be located, the corporation must supply a certified copy of their authority to do business in the

All corporations must furnish evidence of authority of the person(s) signing this application to execute papers on their behalf. Evidence should ordinarily be in the form of a general resolution of the Board of Directors certified by the Secretary over the seal of the corporation.

For the purpose of conducting business within the Navajo Reservation, all corporations must file their Articles of Incorporation with the Economic Development Commerce Department of the Navajo Nation. The Commerce Department will issue a corporate number to the church organization.

In all cases of applications on behalf of Unincorporated bodies where documents do not explicit give one individual authority to execute necessary papers, a power of attorney executed before a notary public by all associated parties for this purpose should be attached. If this is not supplied, all such persons must personally sign this application and all other documents submitted to the Navajo Agency.

Unincorporated applicants should submit articles depicting their organization, unless none exits, in which case an explanation of the nature of the organization should be listed on a separate sheet.

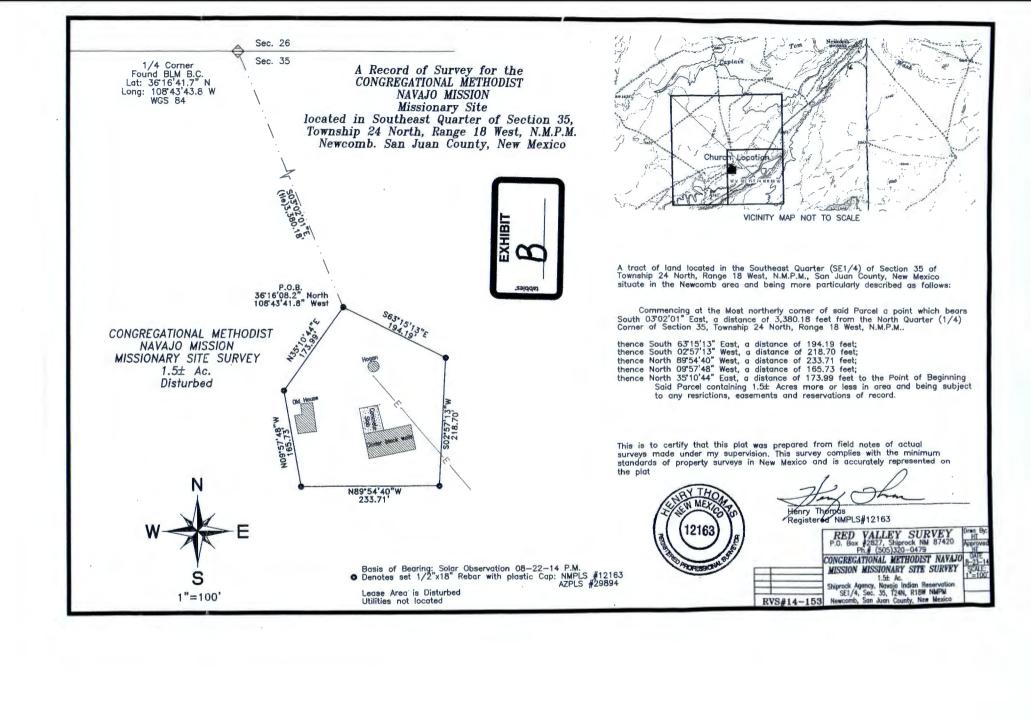
Applicant agrees to give preference to qualified local residents of the Navajo Nation for employment in the construction of any improvement on the church site if the permit is granted.

P. U. BIX 7465 Newword, MM. 87488

Address

506-406-0864 | 505/696-3209

Phone





INTER OFFICE MEMO:

TO

Howard Draper, Program & Project Specialist

Navajo Land Department Division of Natural Resources

FROM

Vera Shurley, Right of Way Agent

Project Review Section/NLD

DATE

April 17, 2015

SUBJECT

Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission

Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission, Post Office Box 7456, Newcomb, New Mexico 87455 submitted an application for a Revocable Use Permit (Religious Lease) to construct, operate and maintain a mission site located in Southeast Quarter (SE4) of Section 35, Township 24 North, Range 18 West, N.M.P.M., Newcomb, New Mexico. The said parcel contains 1.5 acres more or less.

The Newcomb Grazing Officer, Mr. Lawrence Gould identified one land affected land user named, Thomas Joe Yazzie who granted his consent to permit the mission site without any objection.

This completes my field clearance for the above mentioned project.

cc: Project File

CONSENT TO USE NAVAJO TRIBAL LANDS FOR MISSION SITE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:	
and the Bureau of Indian Affairs to permit (, hereby grant consent to the Navajo Nation Longregational Methodist Navajo Mission es from Newcomb Chapter to assigned grazing land for church purposes.
land use and the diminishment of my land we the church liquidate or if the land taken for	ay have to compensation for the taking of my value as a result of the above request. Should religious use is no longer needed, then I shall lect land will be re-incorporated back into my
REMARKS:	
Signature of Permit Holder	12-3 38 07-09-20 4 Census No. Permit No. Date
WITNESSES:	Right Thumbprint
Setty J. Pass Den Dena M. Yazzie	
Lawrence Sould (Print Name) Grazing Official/Farm/Land Board	(Signature) Grazing Official/Farm/Land Board
Newcom b	712 02-08.15
Chapter	District No. Date
Acknowledge	e of Field Agent
	form was read or fully explained to the land user
in Navajdy or English	ure of Land Department Field Agent Date
Signau	are of Land Department Fred Agent Date

Dr. Rena M. Yazzie P.O. Box 340 Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

April 19, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

This statement is a confirmation that I witnessed my husband Thomas Joe Yazzie donate 1.5 acres of land at Newcomb, New Mexico to the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission to build a church.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rena M. Yazzie





NEWCOMB CHAPTER – NAVAJO NATION

P.O. Box # 7946, Newcomb, New Mexico 87455: Phone: 505.686-3300 Fax: 505.696.5475

FY'2015 NWCB-020815-024

Resolution of the Newcomb Chapter

SUPPORTING MR. WILFORD YAZZIE IN RE-ESTABLISHING A MISSION SITE LEASE NAMED, CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION, LOCATED TWO (2) MILES WEST OF THE NEWCOMB CHAPTER HOUSE

WHEREAS:

- The Newcomb Chapter is a duly certified Chapter governmental of the Navajo Nation with delegated 1. authority to adopt ordinances and to adopt plans on matters of local concerns in the best interest of its local community membership; and
- Pursuant to 26 N.N.C Section 1 (B) Newcomb Chapter is vested with the authority to review all matters 2. affecting the community and make appropriate correction when necessary and make recommendations to the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate actions; and
- The Newcomb Chapter community member Mr. Wilford Yazzie is establishing a Mission Site Lease 3. named, Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission, located two (2) miles west of the Newcomb Chapter House and complete construction of a building; and
- The location was previously established for a Mission Site by the Late Kee Joe Yazzie in which an 4. unfinished building still stands; and
- The current permittee is in support of the establishment and has consent 1.5 acres of land withdrawal; and 5.
- The Newcomb Chapter membership fully supports Mr. Will Yazzie effort of completing the required 6. process for a Mission Site Lease.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Newcomb Chapter Membership hereby supports Mr. Wilford Yazzie in Re-Establishing a Mission Site Lease named, Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission, located two (2) miles West of the Newcomb Chapter House.

CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing Chapter Resolution was considered by the Newcomb Chapter membership at a duly called Chapter meeting at Newcomb, Navajo Nation (New Mexico) at which a quorum was present and hat same was passed by a vote of 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 01 abstained this 8th day of February, 2015. Motioned:

Edward Evans

Seconded:

Harry Chee

David Randolph Sr., Chapter President

Donna L. Benary, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Irving Gleason, Chapter Vice President

PETITION OF NAMES

We, the undersigned are citizens, registered voters and residents of Newcomb Chapter living within this community where the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission (Church) is being built. The primary purpose of this religious site is to provide a place to worship and basically have the church conduct religious services on any given days through out the year. Further, we hereby give our signatures on this petition to further the development of the church.

NAME	DATE	WITNESS
01. Thomas Je 955	07-09-2019	' De Cone On Joger
02. De Posa M. 7733	07-09-2014	Betty & Rose
03. Betty & Rass	07.09.2014	De Lena Do Jozni
04. Ofrieda Wesley	7/19/2014	000
05. Henry Wesly	7-19-14	
06. Lyble a. Vermillen	7-19.14	
07. Lenda (jazzie)	7-19-14	
08. Wil 1732	7-19-14	•
09. Them John	7-20-14	
10. Abrana Adawa Sh	7/20/2014	
11. Mylliel Gosie	7/23/14	
12. <u>Pristen Simo</u>	1125/19	
13. Desigette Henry	7/23/14	
14. Phylogene	7/23/14	
15. Lauraine Lansing	7/23/14	
16.0'Linda Shvil	7/23/14	·
17. July Manuelet	7/23/14	
18. Loray Shirley Jr	1112414	

NAME	DATE	WITNESS	
19. Charlene Frank 20. Day D. 99 21. Sherry Gleason 22.	7/23/14		
23			
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THUMBPRINT			
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30.			

^{**} SIGNING FOR ANOTHER PERSON WILL CAUSE THIS PETITION TO BE VOID.



THE NAVAJO NATION HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

PO Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 TEL: (928) 871-7198 / 7134 FAX: (928) 871-7886

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE FORM

EXHIBIT E

ROUTE COPIES TO:	NNHPD NO.: HPD-14-690
☑ NNAD	OTHER PROJECT NO.: NNAD 14-097

PROJECT TITLE: A Cultural Resources Inventory of Re-establishing a Proposed 1.5 acre Congregational Methodist Church Mission Site near Newcomb, San Juan County, New Mexico

LEAD AGENCY: BIA/NR

SPONSOR: Wilford & Linda Yazzie, PO Box 7465, Newcomb, New Mexico 87420

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed undertaking will involve the mission site lease approval and/or construction of a mission along with the installation of associated facilities/utilities within the 1.5-acre lease area. In addition, a 565-ft by 30-ft wide waterline was inventoried to serve the mission. The area of effect is therefore, 1.89-acres. Ground disturbance will be intensive and extensive with the use of heavy equipment.

LAND STATUS:	Navajo Tribal Trust
CHAPTER:	Newcomb
LOCATIONS:	T. 24 N, R. 18 W - Sec. 35; Newcomb Quadrangle San Juan County, New Mexico NMPM

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST:	Lindsey L. Benally		
NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.:	NTC		
DATE INSPECTED:	09/02/14		
DATE OF REPORT:	10/17/14		
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED:	3.82 – ac		

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 15 m apart.

LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:	(1) In-Use Area (IUA)
LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	None
LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	(1) IUA
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 17, 2014

Notification to Proceed

Recommended

Conditions:

Navajo Region Approval

Yes No

□ Yes ☑ No

The Navajo Nation

Historic Preservation Office

Date

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IA - Navajo Regional Office

Date

1.	RECIPIENTS ACCESSION NO.		2. (FOR HPD USE ONLY)	3. HPD REPORT NO.
4.	TITLE OF REPORT A Cultural Resource I	nventory of Re-	5. FIELDWORK DATES September 2, 2014	
	AUTHOR: Lindsey L. I		comb, San Juan County, New Mexico	6. REPORT DATE October 28, 2014
7.	CONSULTANT NAM General Charge: Org. Name: Org. Address: Phone: (928) 871-6540		8. PERMIT NO. NTC Wilford 9. CONSULTANT REPORT NO. NNAD 14-097	
10.	SPONSOR NAME & Ind. Responsible: Org. Name:	Wilford and La Congregationa	d Methodist Church	11. SPONSOR PROJECT NO. N/A
	Org. Address: Phone No.: (505) 696-3	P.O. Box 7465 Newcomb, No 209 Cell: (505)	12. AREA OF EFFECT: 1.89 acres/0.77 ha AREA SURVEYED: 3.82 acres/1.55 ha	
13.	LOCATION: a. Chapter: Newcomb b. Agency: Shiprock c. County: San Juan d. State: New Mex		e. Land Status: Navajo Tribal Trust f. UTM Center: Zone 12, See Supplemental Sh g. Area: See Supplemental Sheet h. 7.5' Map Name(s): Newcomb, N.Mex., 1966 i. Lead Federal Agency: Bureau of Indian Affa	
14.	 Description of Und within a 1.50-acre to by 173.99 feet (53.6 extensive. In addition the inspection of the ha). The water line 	lertaking: The Co act of land. The a 05 m) by 165.73 n, a water line rig e water line. The will start from an	Iditional pages if necessary) congregational Methodist Church proposes to consume of potential effect measures 233.71 feet (71.25 measures (0.61 ha). Ground disht-of-way was requested to service the church site. It proposed water line is 565 feet (172 m) with a 30-fee existing water line (located to the west) to the proposed in and installation of pipeline.	m) by 218.70 feet (66.67 m) by 194.19 (59.20 m) sturbance, both surface and subsurface, will be The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority is assisting in foot-wide (9.1-m) right-of-way or 0.39 acre (0.16)
	records indicated the records check conde (TCP); #55 (Badlar	at no projects have acted at the NNF ads Pinnacles), loc	Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (It we been conducted with no sites recorded within a HPD Traditional Cultural Program files also indicate cated more than 1 mile away and #125 (Grey Mesa) tion form is attached to this report.	500-foot (152-m) radius of the project area. The d that there is two traditional cultural properties
	Captain Tom Wash Vegetation consists	located approxis	ing: The project is located in Newcomb Chapter. I mately 1,241 feet (378 m) to the north. The eleva , prickly pear cactus, rabbitbrush, and oak trees. Soil neludes nearby homes, two-track roads, and power l	tion of the project area is 5642 feet (1720 m). s in the project area consist of sand. The cultural
	Wilford Yazzie, wa feet (10 m) apart ex acres (1.16 ha). It si	s also conducted. tending out to a thould be noted th	A Class III pedestrian survey was conducted by v 200-foot (60.97-m) radius area centered over the pract 412 feet (125.61 m) of the water line right-of-way for a total of 100-feet wide survey corridor. Therefore	valking concentric circular transects spaced 32.8 coposed church site, for a total inventory of 2.88 y segment was inventoried with a 35-foot buffer

b. Evaluation of Significance of Each Resource (above): See Supplemental Sheet

16. MANAGEMENT SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATIONS: A determination of no historic properties affected is recommended for the proposed undertaking since no significant cultural resources meriting protection under any of the current legislation were identified.

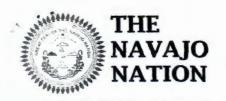
17. CERTIFICATION:

SIGNATURE:

General Charge Name: Linda Laughing, ASO, Acting Department Manager

SIGNATURE: Amollag & Bonally Direct Charge Name: Lindsey L. Benally, Archaeological Aide

DATE: October 28, 2014



NNAD P.O. Box 580 Shiprock, NM 87420 Phone: (505) 368-1214/1507 Fax: (505) 368-1215 Email: ecmason@frontiernet.net



BEN SHELLY PRESIDENT REX LEE JIM VICE PRESIDENT

October 21, 2014

Wilford and Linda Yazzie Congregational Methodist Church P.O. Box 7465 Newcomb, NM 87455

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Yazzie:

Attached for your files is a copy of the Navajo Nation Archaeology Department's report NNAD 14-097. The report details the results of the archaeological inventory of the proposed Congregational Methodist Church mission site located within a 1.5 acre of land. In addition, a proposed water line will also service the church site. One in-use area (IUA) was identified on the proposed mission site. The IUA belonged to your uncle and your family and does not merit protection under any of the current legislation; therefore, a determination of no historic properties affected (archaeological approval) is recommended for your proposed 1-acre homesite.

Please note that receipt of this report does not constitute approval. The report has been submitted to the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) for review on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Once a determination of archaeological approval has been made on your proposed homesite, you will be notified by the NNHPD in the form of a compliance letter. Once you have received the NNHPD compliance letter you will need to take that letter and a copy of this report to the Shiprock Navajo Land Department for further processing.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, contact me at (505) 368-1214.

Sincerely,

Lindsey L. Benally,

Archaeological Aide

Hindrey of Benede

Enclosure

AIR SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET: NNAD 14-097

13. LOCATION:

f. UTM Center: see Table 1 below.

g. Area: see Table 1 below.

Table 1. Legal Descriptions and UTM Coordinates for the Project Area (Zone 12)

	NAD 83 Datum						Principal
Project	Northing	Easting	Township	Range	1/4 1/4 1/4	Section	Meridian
Church Site (center point)	4016122	704077	24N	18W	SE	35	NMPM
Water Line							
Beginning of Line	4016121	704077	**	**	SW	35	33
Bend	4016159	704055	**	11	SW	35	**
End of Line	4016198	703936	79	98	NE	35	.00

15. CULTURAL RESOURCE FINDINGS:

- a. Location/Identification of Each Resource: One in-use area (IUA) was identified during the inventory. The IUA belonged to Thomas Yazzie, the client's uncle, and now belongs to the client and his family. The IUA consists of a mid-1970s to present homestead (burned), a nearby mission structure (burned), and an old church foundation. The project area has been heavily disturbed, but Wilford Yazzie plans to re-establish a Congregational Methodist Church mission site within the IUA. According to, Mr. Yazzie, there are no TCPs or burials located within the area of the proposed homesite. In addition, two TCPs were noted to be located more than 1 mile of the project area and they do not affect the church site.
- b. Evaluation of Significance of Each Resource (above): The IUA possesses integrity of location and setting. The IUA is not eligible for nomination to the National Register under criteria a through d. The IUA does not meet the 50-year eligibility guideline. The IUA is not of archaeological interest and it does not meet the 100-year age requirement necessary for classification as an archaeological resource under ARPA. Thus, it does not merit protection under ARPA. Finally, the IUA does not retain qualities or characteristics that would make it eligible for protection under AIRFA.

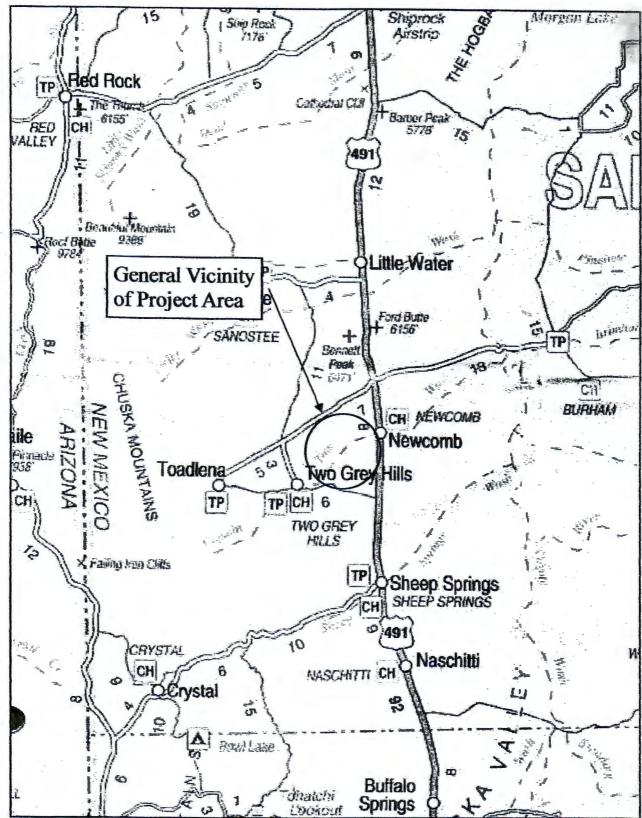


Figure 1. Vicinity map showing general project area. Indian Country Regional Map, n.d. (NNAD 14-097).

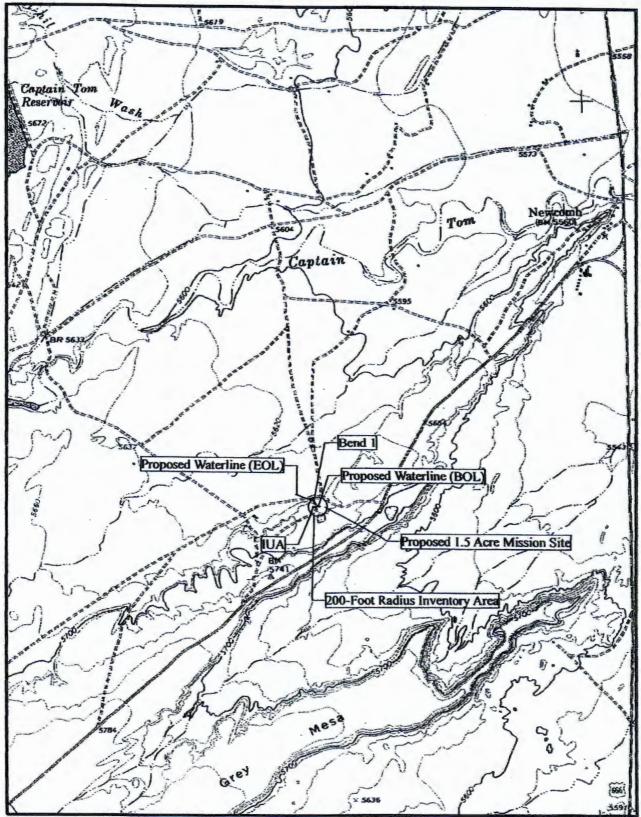


Figure 2. Location map showing project area and identified cultural resources. Newcomb, New Mex., 1966, 7.5' series USGS map; T24N,R18W, NMPM (NNAD 14-097).

THE NAVAJO NATION



BEN SHELLY PRESIDENT REX LEE JIM VICE PRESIDENT



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
PO BOX 339 WINDOW ROCK ARIZONA 86515 Office: 928/871-7188 Fax: 928/871-7996
Website: www.navajonationepa.org

March 6, 2015

Leonard Robbins
Denali Environmental Services
PO Box 1127
Fort Defiance Arizona 86504

Mr. Robbins,

The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) reviewed ¹ and recommends *Conditional Approval* for the proposed mission lease for the existing Congregational Methodist Church lease in Newcomb, New Mexico.

- 1. The proposed mission lease will not significantly impact the Navajo Nation's environmental resources.
- 2. The proposed waterline must meet the following:
 - a. 401- A Section 401 certification is required if any drainage with discernable ordinary high water mark will be crossed/disturbed as determined by Patrick Antonio, Principal Hydrologist, NNEPA Water Quality Program on previous proposed projects.
 - b. 402 –Land surface disturbance in excess of 1.0 acre will require compliance with the federal General Construction Permit requirements for storm water discharges. The project will disturb 1.50 acres of land.
 - c. 404 Boring under the drainage will require a Section 404 as determined by Patrick Antonio, Principal Hydrologist, NNEPA Water Quality Program. Contact the US Army Corps of Engineers.
 - d. The NNEPA Public Water Systems Supervision Program (PWSSP) recommends all proposed drinking water projects to be permitted by the PWSSP and all proposed drinking water projects (extensions, upgrades, new wells, new public water systems, etc.) must also comply with the design review and construction permit pursuant the \$\infty\$1501 and 1601 of the Navajo Nation Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

¹ Denali Environmental Services. <u>Congregational Methodist Church Lease Application Newcomb New Mexico Environmental Assessment.</u> September 2014.

- e. All proposed wastewater projects will be permitted by the Domestic Wastewater Program. Extensions, upgrades, new sewer infrastructure, septic tanks and other wastewater infrastructure must comply with the design review and construction permit requirements pursuant to §201 of the Domestic Wastewater Program.
- f. Contact Yolanda Barney, Environmental Program Manager, NNEPA, Surface & Groundwater Protection Department, PWSSP at 928/871-7755 for questions.
- g. Apply water to control dust to lessen air impacts to community members and public located in or near the proposed action.
- b. Congregational Methodist Church is subject to monitor and prevent invasive and noxious weeds either by manual or chemical control.
- i. Before applying any chemicals, contact the NNEPA Pesticide Program at 928/871-7815/7810/7892 to ensure the product is in compliance and appropriately applied by a certified and licensed applicator.
- j. Pesticide staff will also may need to be onsite to monitor during pesticide/herbicide application.
- k. Solid waste generated from the construction and operation activities will be collected and transported by contractor to a designated trash bins to minimize significant impacts to human and wildlife resources.
- 1. If a sub-contractor will be hired to transport waste, ensure the contractors are certified and licensed with the Navajo Nation Business Regulatory Office.
- m. The contractor must submit a copy of the landfill receipt/ticket to guarantee the construction waste has been properly disposed.
- n. Do not allow public to take construction and operation waste. Cumulatitively NNEPA receives complaints and reports on illegal trash dumpings on rural areas and in the waters of the US and Navajo Nation.
- o. All illegal waste currently on the proposed site is the responsibility of the land user.
- p. No underground or aboveground greater than 100 gallons is expected to be at the proposed site.
- 3. Any utility extensions right-of-way(s) outside the mission site lease will require a complete environmental assessment(s).
- 4. This environmental clearance is only for the 1.50 acre mission site lease.

If there are any questions you may contact Rita Whitehorse-Larsen at 928/871-7188. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rita Whitehorse-Larsen, Senior Environmental Specialist Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency Office of the Executive Director Administration – Office of the Environmental Review

mission lease Congregational Methodist Church Newcomb Page 2 of 3 3/6/15



PRESIDENT
BEN SHELLY
VICE PRESIDENT
REX LEE JIM

NAVAJO FISH AND WILDLIFE

P.O. BOX 1480

WINDOW ROCK, AZ 86515

31 March 2015

14CMNM-01A

Leonard Robbins Denali Environmental Services Post Office Box 1127 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Dear Mr. Robbins,

The Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife (NNDFW) reviewed your request for a Biological Resource Compliance Form (BRCF) for the **Congregation of Methodist Navajo Mission** project. The project description submitted with the Data Request did not include the proposed water pipeline and septic system; therefore, the pipeline and septic system were not evaluated and included in the Data Response to Mr. Yazzie. In addition, the map submitted with your request for biological clearance did not illustrate the proposed 2,500-ft. water pipeline alignment and septic system location. The proposed project was granted a Conditional Approval. The proposed project is approved with the following condition:

[1] The field survey for the proposed water pipeline and septic system was not conducted during the appropriate field season for the Mesa Verde Cactus (*Sclerocactus mesae-verdae*). A re-survey for the Mesa Verde Cactus must be conducted during the appropriate field season. The surveyor must consult with the NNHP botanist on the recommended survey buffer from the edge of disturbance. A survey report must be submitted to the NNHP for review and compliance.

Contact me at 928-871-7065 with any questions that you have concerning the review of the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Kyselka, Wildlife Biologist Navajo Natural Heritage Program Department of Fish and Wildlife

CONCURRENCE

Gloria Tom, Director

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Data

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.: Congregation of Methodist Navajo Mission

DESCRIPTION: The Congregation of Methodist Church Navajo Mission proposes to reconstruct a new church on an existing ± 1.50 -acre mission site. The proposed project includes the construction of a 2,500-ft. water pipeline, septic tank, leach field, and access road.

LOCATION: 36°16'06.0"N 108°43'41.0"W NAD83, Newcomb Chapter, San Juan County, New Mexico

REPRESENTATIVE: Leonard Robbins, Denali Environmental Services for the Congregation of Methodist Navajo

Mission

ACTION AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs & Navajo Nation

B.R. REPORT TITLE / DATE / PREPARER: Request for review & concurrence based on DR/01 OCT 2014/Denali SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: Area 3. The proposed 2,500-ft. water pipeline alignment and septic system location are unknown. The project description submitted with the Data Request did not include the proposed 2,500-ft. pipeline & septic system; therefore, were not evaluated.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

NESL SPECIES POTENTIALLY IMPACTED: NA

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AFFECTED: NA

OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: NA

AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: NA

CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE*: [1] The field survey for the proposed water pipeline and septic system was not conducted during the appropriate field season for the Mesa Verde Cactus (Sclerocactus mesae-verdae). A re-survey for the Mesa Verde Cactus must be conducted during the appropriate field season. The surveyor must consult with the NNHP botanist on the recommended survey buffer from the edge of disturbance. A survey report must be submitted to the NNHP for review and compliance.

FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Pamela A. Kyselka/09 OCT 2014; amended on 31 MAR 2015

COPIES TO: (add categories as necessar	y)	
BIA		
2 NTC § 164 Recommendation: □Approval □Conditional Approval (with memo) □Disapproval (with memo) □Categorical Exclusion (with request □None (with memo)		Date 3/3/15 Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife
*I understand and accept the conditions of the Department not recommending the		

Date

Representative's signature



NAVAJO NATION

Department of Fish & Wildlife Navajo Natural Heritage Program P.O. Box 1480 Window Rock, AZ 86515



Phone: 928.871.6472 • Fax: 928.871.7603 • http://nnhp.nndfw.org

Ben Shelly, President

Rex Lee Jim, Vice-President

19 September 2014

File#14CMNM-01

Wil Yazzie Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission P.O. Box 7465 Newcomb, NM 87455

NAVAJO ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST (NESL) INFORMATION FOR:

PROJECT:

CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION LATITUDE 36°, 16' 06' N, LONGITUDE 108° 43' 41' W

NEWCOMB, SAN JUAN COUNTY, NM

Mr. Yazzie:

The following information on species of concern¹ is provided in response to your 28 August 2014 request concerning the subject project, which consists of the establishment and completion of the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission. The proposed existing project site is located at Latitude 36°, 16′ 06′ N, Longitude 108° 43′ 41′ W, Newcomb, San Juan County, NM.

The project is not expected to affect any federally listed species or significantly impact any tribally listed species or other species of concern.

AREA 3 of The Biological Resource Land Clearance Policies & Procedures

<u>Area 3-Low Sensitivity Wildlife Resources:</u> This area has a low, fragmented concentration of species of concern. Species in this area may be locally abundant on 'islands' of habitat, but islands are relatively small, limited in number and well spaced across the landscape. (For detailed information regarding "Area 3" please refer to our website at nndfw.org).

Potential impacts to wetlands should also be evaluated. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps should be examined to determine whether areas classified as wetlands are located close enough to the project site(s) to be impacted. In cases where the maps are inconclusive (e.g.,

^{1&}quot;Species of concern" include protected, candidate, and other rare or otherwise sensitive species, including certain native species and species of economic or cultural significance. For each species, the following tribal and federal statuses are indicated: Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL), federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and Eagle Protection Act (EPA). No legal protection is afforded species with only ESA candidate or NESL group 4 status; please be aware of these species during surveys and inform the NFWD of observations. Documentation that these species are more numerous or widespread than currently known, and addressing these species in project planning and management is important for conservation and may contribute to ensuring they will not be uplisted in the future. Species without ESA or NESL legal protection (e.g., NESL group 4 species) are only included in responses on a regular basis and may not be included in this response. Please refer to the NESL for a list of group 4 species; contact me if you need a copy.

due to their small scale), field surveys must be completed. For field surveys, wetlands identification and delineation methodology contained in the "Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual" (Technical Report Y-87-1) should be used. When wetlands are present, potential impacts must be addressed in an environmental assessment and the Army Corps of Engineers, Phoenix office, must be contacted. NWI maps are available for examination at the NFWD's Natural Heritage Program (NHP) office, or may be purchased through the U.S. Geological Survey (order forms are available through the NHP). The NHP has complete coverage of the Navajo Nation, excluding Utah, at 1:100,000 scale; and coverage at 1:24,000 scale in the southwestern portion of the Navajo Nation.

This response is based on information in the Navajo Natural Heritage Program database; knowledge of staff biologists about the project area; the scope of the project; the USGS topographic map of the project area; and information you provided. Because the NFWD's information is continually updated, any given information response is only wholly appropriate for its respective request.

For a list of sensitive species on the Navajo Nation in addition to the species listed on the Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL) please refer to our website at www.nndfw.org.

An invoice for this information is attached.

If you have any questions I may be reached at (928) 871-6472.

Sonja Detsoi, Wildlife Tech. Natural Heritage Program

Department of Fish and Wildlife

CONCURRENCE

Gloria M. Tom, Director

Department of Fish & Wildlife

Division of Natural Resources

xc: file/chrono

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.: Congregation of Methodist Navajo Mission

DESCRIPTION: The Congregation of Methodist Church Navajo Mission proposes to reconstruct a new church on an existing ± 1.50 -acre mission site. The proposed project includes the construction of a 2,538-ft. water pipeline, septic tank, leach field, and access road.

LOCATION: SE¼ S35 T24N R18W (mission site), S½ S35 T24N R18W (waterline), Newcomb, San Juan Co., NM

REPRESENTATIVE: Leonard Robbins, Denali Environmental Services (DES)

ACTION AGENCY: Bureau of Indian Affairs & Navajo Nation

B.R. REPORT TITLE / DATE / PREPARER: Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission & Water Pipeline BE for a BRCF/APR 2015/DES

SIGNIFICANT BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES FOUND: Area 3. Field surveys for SCMEVE were conducted on 16 APR 2015 & 19 MAY 2015. SCMEVE was not present in the project area (Robbins 2015).

POTENTIAL IMPACTS

NESL SPECIES POTENTIALLY IMPACTED: NA

FEDERALLY-LISTED SPECIES AFFECTED: NA

OTHER SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES: NA

AVOIDANCE / MITIGATION MEASURES: NA

CONDITIONS OF COMPLIANCE*: AN

FORM PREPARED BY / DATE: Pamela A. Kyselka/09 OCT 2014; amended church name on 31 MAR 2015; update

based on waterline survey results on 03 JUN 2015

COPIES TO: (add categories as necessary)

2 NTC § 164 Recommendation: ⊠Approval □Conditional Approval (with memo) □Disapproval (with memo) □Categorical Exclusion (with request □None (with memo)	Gloria M. To	ame Trulum om, Director, Navajo Nation	Date 43/2015 Department of Fish and Wildlife

*I understand and accept the conditions of compliance, and acknowledge that lack of signature may be grounds for
the Department not recommending the above described project for approval to the Tribal Decision-maker.

Representative's signature

Date

MEMORANDUM

TO

: David Mikesic, Zoologist

Department of Fish and Wildlife

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

FROM

Gloria M. Tom, Department Manager II

Department of Fish and Wildlife

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DATE

June 3, 2015

SUBJECT: DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

I will be on travel on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. Therefore, I am delegating you to act in the capacity of the Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife, effective 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2015. This delegation shall end at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3, 2015.

Your authority will cover the review and signing off of all routine documents pertaining to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, except for issues that you feel should have the attention of the Director.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

David Mikesic, Zooloigst

Department of Fish and Wildlife

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Region P. O. Box 1060 Gallup, New Mexico 87305



MC 620: Division of Environmental, Cultural & Safety Management

MAR 3 1 2015

Mr. Leonard Robbins Denali Environmental Services P.O. Box 1127 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

Dear: Mr. Robbins,

The Environmental Assessment (EA), EA-15-8611, received on December 31, 2014 for Congregation Methodist Navajo Mission, proposed Mission Leases on 1.5 acres of Navajo Nation Tribal Trust Land located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Newcomb Chapter, San Juan County, New Mexico, has been reviewed by the Division of Environmental, Cultural and Safety Management, Navajo Regional Office. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been determined for the proposed action. It will not have a significant impact on the quality of the natural and human environment. An environmental impact statement for the proposed project is not required.

If you have questions, you may contact Ms. Harrilene J. Yazzie, Regional NEPA Coordinator, at (505) 863-8287.

Sincerely,

Regional Director, Navajo

Attachment

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION LEASE EA-15-8611

CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION

Location: Newcomb, NM, Quadrangle, USGS 7.5 Minute Series Map Section 35, T24N, R18W, NMPM Southwest of Newcomb Chapter, San Juan County, New Mexico

The proposed action is approval, by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, of a Mission Lease on Navajo Nation Tribal Trust Land. The approved church lease will allow Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission to lease the tracts of land to construct a new church sanctuary, fellowship hall and water pipeline. The proposed project has an "as built" church building previously constructed and operated by the applicant's family. The project will affect 1.5 acres of Navajo Nation Tribal Trust Lands land located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Newcomb, San Juan County, New Mexico. The project is sponsored by Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission, Post Office Box 7465, Newcomb, New Mexico 87455.

The project environmental assessment (EA) was reviewed by the Division of Environmental, Cultural and Safety Management, Navajo Regional Office. Based on the environmental assessment and the mitigation measures specified in the document, it is determined that the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the natural and human environment. Therefore, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Section 102 (2) (C), an environmental impact statement will not be required.

The following references, incorporated in the environmental assessment, serve as the bases for this decision:

- 1. Agency and public involvement was solicited. Environmental issues relative to mineral lease approval for the proposed project were identified. Alternative courses of action and mitigation measures were developed in response to environmental concerns and issues.
- 2. The EA disclosed the environmental consequences of the proposed and "no action" alternatives.
- 3. In compliance with the Endangered Species Act, informal consultation was held with the Navajo Nation Department of Fish and Wildlife (NNDFW), Natural Heritage Program (NHP). Although the NNDFW has no record of species of concern occurring on or near the project site at this time, it provided a list of species of concern having the potential to occur on the *Newcomb*, *NM*, USGS 7.5-Minute Quadrangles containing the project boundaries (Letter, dated September 19, 2014). The NNDFW issued Biological Resources Compliance Form (BRCF), NNDF & WL Review No. 14MNM-01 indicating Conditional Approval for the proposed project (EA, Appendix-BRCF). The operator shall comply with the Avoidance/Mitigation Measures and Conditions of Compliance cited in the BRCF (EA, Appendix A-BRCF).

- 4. Potential impacts to flood plains and wetlands by the proposed project have been evaluated in accordance with Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 respectively. The lease tracts are not located on a floodplain; nor located in a flood prone area. Federal Emergency Management Agency floodplain maps were reviewed for flood risk. The project area is excluded from any floodplain designation by the agency (FEMA, 2009) (EA, Part 3.1.10).
- 5. Water Resources- surface water drains north and into the Captain Tom Wash, which flows east to the Chaco River and north to the San Juan River. The proposed undertaking will have minimal effect on surface water quality in the area. The operator shall implement and maintain "Best Management Practices" to ensure protection of surface water quality during storm events and no other activity associated with the proposed action will require mitigation to conserve water quality and watershed management (EA, Part 3.3).
- 6. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, Section 106 and 36 CFR 800.9 (b), a cultural resources inventory was conducted on the project area by Navajo Nation Archeology Department (NNAD). The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department (NNHPD) issued Cultural Resources Compliance Form (CRCF), NNHPD No. <u>HPD-14-690</u>, indicating, 'No historic properties affected" (Appendix C-CRCF).

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.

- 7. RCRA, Subtitles C and D, Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Solid Waste- there will be no hazardous waste at the lease area that will be a factor, as the proposed action will not have any surface disturbance.
- 8. Air Resources- the proposed undertaking will have minimal effect on air quality in the area. However, no other activity associated with the proposed lease action will require mitigation to conserve air quality (EA, Part 4.3.4).
- 9. Noise levels—ambient noise would be increased by engine noise created by the motors of cars and pickup trucks for a very short duration. Due to the remoteness of the project area, and low volume of traffic on the route, noise shall not effect on the proposed action (EA, Part 3.1.9).
- 10. Noxious Weeds- If noxious weeds become established in the project area, the operator shall contact the Navajo Nation Department of Agriculture regarding management and control of noxious weeds. The NNEPA, Pesticide Enforcement and Development Program may be contacted regarding pesticide/herbicide applicators.
- 11. Cumulative and secondary effects on soil, water, air, noise, vegetation, cultural resources, and wildlife resources (species and habitat) were considered, and the proposed mitigation measures were found to be acceptable.

12. In accordance with Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, impacts to minority and low-income populations and communities have been considered by the Regional NEPA Coordinator, as have impacts to Indian Trust Resources.

The proposed action would allow the church lease which would provide religious services on Sunday and Christian educational instruction to provide hope and faith for a better quality of life in the community.

Regional NEPA Coordinator

3/30/2015 Date

CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION LEASE APPLICATION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NEWCOMB, NEW MEXICO



PLS: SE/4 S35 T24N R18W, L&L: 36° 16′ 6.8" N 108° 43′ 42.1" W UTM: 704,128 m E 4,015,930 m N

An Application for a Mission Lease in Indian Country

Navajo Regional Director Approval In Compliance With The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Endangered Species Act of 1973

Prepared by:

Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission Post Office Box 7465 Newcomb, New Mexico 87455

September 17, 2014

Denali Environmental Services P.O. Box 1127 Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504

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Appendix A Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission Land Survey

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Appendix C Cultural Resource Compliance Form

Appendix D Biological Resource Compliance Form

CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

1.0 THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission of Newcomb, New Mexico is preparing an application for a church lease. The proposed tract would be used to construct a new church sanctuary, fellowship hall and water pipeline. Reverend Wilford Yazzie intends to make application with the Navajo Land Department in Shiprock, New Mexico, and the Navajo Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Gallup, New Mexico. Appendix A depicts the proposed church lease boundary and water pipeline land survey. The application and approval action will present a long-termed lease for the mission site.

Located approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Newcomb Chapter, the proposed mission project area and pipeline are shown at Figure 1. The Newcomb Chapter has passed a resolution approving the church proposed action, as shown at Appendix B. In the future, the Resource and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council would address a committee resolution for the proposed project. Final approval would be implemented by the Navajo Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

1.1 Description of the Proposed Action.

Onsite, the proposed project area acreage at 1.5 acres would be totally developed. The proposed project site has an "as built" church building, previously constructed and operated by the applicant's family. The proposed lease tract would include a new church building and front porch (partially built), vehicle parking, and infrastructure. The new church building would encompass approximately 60'X60' (3600 square feet). The proposed building would include a sanctuary, fellowship hall, classrooms, kitchen, dining area and office. Restrooms would be located in the lobby area.

Open areas, adjacent to the buildings, would be used for ramada canopy meetings, wedding receptions, picnics, and athletic activities. Playground equipment would be temporary installed for the ministry children. A septic tank and leach field would be constructed on the northeast corner of the tract.

Infrastructure would include a proposed water pipeline, electrical power (as built), waste water septic tank and leach field. Utilities in the Newcomb Chapter area are provided by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority. NTUA would provide electrical power and a water source. A 2,538 feet water line, encompassing 0.583± acre, would be constructed on the northwest side to service the church. The water line would tap into the existing community water system. An existing single phase 14.4 kv service line serves the church tract onsite. Propane gas is planned for heating and cooking.

A vehicle parking area would be included in the lease area. Construction of a new access road to the proposed parcel will not be required, as the church site is located adjacent to the existing main road. A turnout off the main road will provide access to the church site.

1.2 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the land use permit application is to organize and all-lawful religious business

for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission, a nonprofit corporation. Operations of the church would include Sunday religious services and Christian educational instruction for the community congregation. In the future, various incremental improvements would be constructed on the buildings and property. The proposed long-term church lease would support the operations and maintenance of the church. The need of the ministry is to provide teaching and spreading of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in accordance with the doctrines and teachings of the New Testament, and for religious educational, benevolent and charitable purposes, and public worship. The church would provide families religious services on Sunday and Christian educational instruction. The church would provide hope and faith to the congregation and a better quality of life.

1.3 Location

The land boundary survey of the proposed project tract, at 1.5 acres, is shown in Appendix A. Figure 1 depicts the tract location on the USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map entitled *Newcomb, New Mexico.* Table 1 below describes the location coordinates for the proposed project.

Table 1. United States Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quadrangle Map *Newcomb*, *New Mexico* Waypoint Coordinate Descriptions of the Proposed Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission.

Description	Legal Description	Latitude and Longitude NAd 83	UTM Zone 12
Methodist Church	SE/4 S35 T24N R18W	36° 16′ 6.8″ N 108° 43′ 42.1″ W	704,128 E 4,015,930 N

The propose project area, located on Navajo Tribal trust lands, is 1.5 miles southwest of Newcomb Chapter, Shiprock Agency, San Juan County, New Mexico. The proposed project is at an elevation of $5.656 \pm \text{feet}$ amsl.

1.4 Project Authorization

The purposed mission site is authorized by the Navajo Nation Trust Land Leasing Act of 2000, Public Law 106-568 and 25 USC Code § 415(e). Navajo Nation Code at Title 16 Land, Chapter 11 § 1101, Land for Public, Charitable and Religious Purposes, authorizes the Navajo Land Department to participate and manage land use leases on the Navajo Indian Reservation projects in rural Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the lead Federal agency, as authorized by the Synder Act of November 20, 1921, 25 USC Chapter 1 § 13, which establishes appropriation for BIA leasing activity.

1.5 Purpose of Environmental Assessment

The environmental assessment is an instrument required by federal law and regulations to determine if potential impacts of a federal action are of such significant as to require the preparation of an environmental impact statement. The proposed federal action is approval of a land lease permit. The approval of the mission lease will allow the operator to withdraw a tract of land, on which to further construct, operate and maintain a church facility. This document

addresses potential impacts and mitigation for the approval of the permit. The approval of the proposed land use is a trust responsibility of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which has jurisdiction over trust resources of the Diné People, and as managed by the Navajo Nation.

2.0 ALTERNATIVES

2.1 Alternate Site Locations

An alternate site, of sufficient size and at a location as convenient as the proposed location, is not available. Grazing permit holders generally try to retain their grazing permitted areas intact, and not to become fragmented. As permitted, holistic grazing areas are needed to sustain livestock herds. Other land use permits, i.e. church site of adequate size, become impossible to acquire. Open areas in the vicinity are used for family residents, livestock grazing and small dry farming.

Alternate locations were reviewed. Alternate site locations would be subject to the same assessments, approvals and clearance process as the preferred alternative. An alternative site would require a restart of approvals, starting with the grazing permit holder on trust lands, archaeology clearance, and biological resource assessment. When approved, existing grazing permit holders may reverse their decisions and reject the alternate location. The approved chapter and proposed Resource and Development Committee resolutions would become mute.

2.2 No Action Alternative

If the no action is taken, the proposed long-term church lease would not be approved. The existing church site would be without a church lease. Improvements to the church may not be constructed. Religious services and benefits to the local people would be curtailed and not be normally provided. Addition church construction would not go as planned. The existing tract would not be used, and would not be elevated to a higher productive state. The project would not be in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and would continue to be noncompliant to Navajo Nation Environmental Codes. There would be no environmental assessment document, nor associated cultural and biological resource studies.

2.3 Approval of the Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative involves approval of a Federal permit or lease which would allow for the construction, operation and maintenance of a church site for the people of Newcomb Chapter. Details of the preferred alternative and scope are described in Section 1.0, Description of the Proposed Action. The proposed land use permit would be approved by resolution of the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The BIA would provide final approval. The Newcomb Chapter support resolution is attached as Appendix B.

3.0 AFFECTED RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

3.1 Resources Not Considered in Detail (Non-Critical)

Initial evaluation of the alternatives indicated that there would likely be little to no direct, indirect, or cumulative effects on several resources. These resources are discussed in Sections 3.1.1 through 3.1.12 to add to the overall understanding of the environmental setting of the project area.

3.1.1 Climate

Located in San Juan County, New Mexico, Newcomb Chapter has a semi-arid climate, at an elevation of 5,656 feet above mean sea level. The chapter experiences four distinct climatic seasons and has an annual average maximum temperature of 69.2°F and average minimum temperature of 14.0°F. Summer highs reach the mid 90's with lows in the upper 50's to lower 60's. Winter highs in January are at 42.6's with average lows at 14.0. Average annual precipitation is 6.0 inches and average annual snowfall is 0.5 inches with an average snow depth of less than one inch (WRCC 2014). Due to the size and nature of the work, the proposed project would have no effect on climate. Since there would be no effects on climate, no mitigation would be required.

3.1.2 Geology and Seismicity

The mission site is located on the west flank of the San Juan Basin Syncline. The regional geologic structure is stable. Eroded surface sandstone soils are of the Upper Cretaceous Member of the Menefee Formation. Surface soils are alternating beds of tan and brown sandstone and gray and brown claystone and siltstone. There are no regional faults or fissures in the area. The geologic formation dips gently approximately three degrees to the east (Cooley, M.E, J.W. Harshbarger, J.P. Akers, and W.F. Hardt, 1969). Based on the history of the area, geology will not be a factor in this development. There are no surface mineral resources located on the proposed tract. No mitigation is required for any geologic adversity.

3.1.3 Fisheries

There are no fisheries or fishery habitat occurrences in the Newcomb Chapter. Chapter residents would have to travel west to the Chuska Mountains for an afternoon of picnicking and fishing at Berland Lake or Whiskey Lake. Morgan Lake southeast of Shiprock offers a warm water fishery.

3.1.4 Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice

The proposed project would have no effects on the socioeconomics of the area because it would not limit either present-day or future opportunities for agriculture, raising livestock, business, employment, or housing.

Newcomb Chapter is a sparsely populated rural chapter. There are currently 324 homes in the Newcomb community. According to the 2004 census, approximately 738 people reside in the Chapter, which would indicate a population density of 8.3 persons per square mile. Native Americans make up 94.8% of the population (NN DED/LSRI, 2004).

Newcomb Chapter's economy is primarily based on employment with the Navajo Nation (educational, health, social services and public administration). Currently most residents in the Chapter area are wage earners, working a various government and commercial jobs in nearby towns and cities. Major employers in the area vicinity include the BIA Toadlena Boarding School, Newcomb School District, Newcomb Chapter and the Mustang Store.

Federal, state and tribal government services, law and order, schools and major retail outlets are available at Shiprock and Gallup, New Mexico. An Indian Health Service Hospital is located in Shiprock, New Mexico. San Juan Regional Hospital is located in Farmington, New Mexico.

In the past, the economy was primarily based on livestock production, but this is no longer the predominate source of income, and now livestock production makes up a small percentage of the Chapter's economy. While unemployment is high throughout the project area, raising livestock has been a sustainable economy in the past. The retired elderly in the area still carry on the livestock rising life style. Traditional rug weaving provides some families with a source of income. Land use areas are relatively small and not large enough to sustain a viable operating ranch for the entire family. However, the younger family members wish to be with their elders and have moved back into the old homesteads; build their new houses on the ranch land. The area provides a better quality of life, in contrast to apartment living in nearby towns.

Environmental Justice

In accordance with the Environmental Justice, the project would have no disproportionate effects on minorities or low-income populations. Consistent with the project purpose, the project would benefit the community by providing religious services and education. Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice, requires federal agencies to assess projects to ensure there would be no disproportionately high or adverse environmental, health, or safety effects on minority and low income populations. Minorities comprise a large proportion of the population residing in the action area. The church will be for the beneficial use of the Navajo Indian People and residents of the community. The local chapter has approved a supporting resolution, see Appendix B. A similar resolution would be approved by the Resource and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, as federal trustee, would also approve the project.

The project would allow religious services and education to the people, lead better lives in the community, and would further provide a better quality of life for the congregation and community. Environmental Justice-the proposed action will benefit all sectors of society.

3.1.5 Land Use and Zoning

The existing and proposed property would be located on Indian trust land in Newcomb Chapter, Shiprock Agency. The surrounding land use is set aside for livestock rangeland use. The site is currently grazed year-around by domestic livestock, as marginal vegetation exist onsite. A dam and livestock watering hole is located behind the church, on the south side. The livestock watering point is currently dry. For many years the project site was used by the grazing permit holder. Soils in the immediate vicinity of the proposed tract are totally disturbed and nearly devoid of any natural vegetation from existing land uses. Ruins of a stone house and rock hogan remain onsite.

According to the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department, the proposed church site would be located in an Area 3 Low Sensitive Wildlife Resource area, due to habitat requirements wildlife species are not present. The proposed site is located in a Desert Grassland Ecosystem. Vegetation cover is marginal. Site vicinity soils are largely atypical, previously disturbed.

Vicinity properties in all directions contain the following: on the south side, adjacent to the proposed project site, is a dam for livestock watering. The east side is an undisturbed rocky mesa out slope as part of the surrounding mesa. An existing single phase electrical line with transformer is located on the NE side. The hogan ruin and major access road is located on the north side of the proposed lease. The former rock house abuts the mesa out slope on the west site. Atypical disturbed areas adjacent to the proposed church site have been used for various purposes in the past.

A cluster of houses, livestock corrals and vehicles are located ½ mile to the west of the church site. An old community landfill is located approximately 3/8 mile northeast of the proposed church

site. The landfill is buried and no longer in use. Navajo Route N5001 is located one-mile south on the mesa. The ephemeral Captain Tom Wash is located to the north.

Navajo Route N5001, a major dirt road, would provide access from Newcomb to U.S. 491 highway. A dirt spur road off of N5001 provides access to the proposed church lease and residents west of the church site. A short access road off of the spur road would provide access to the church site.

Indian Trust Resources

The mission site would occupy a 1.5 acre parcel and the pipeline right of way at 0.583 acre, 2.083 total acres. This acreage would be withdrawn for the church site use and the pipeline right of way. There are no other bankable assets, such as timber, fossil fuels, fossils, or valuable minerals on the tract, surface or subsurface. Other than surface use, the proposed church lease will not impact any other Indian trust assets of the Diné People.

3.1.6 Prime Farmland

There are no Prime Farmland occurrences in the proposed project area. Due to the arid climate, dry farm land is very limited in the Newcomb area. Individual irrigated fields are located along Captain Tom Wash, however not in the vicinity of the proposed mission.

3.1.7 Recreation

Bowl Canyon Assayi Lake, Wheatfields Lake and Berland Lake in Chuska Mountains would be the nearest fishing lakes from Newcomb. The lakes would offer a cold-water fishery such as rainbow and cutthroat trout. Other outdoor recreation sports such as hiking, picnicking, camping, small and big game hunting is available.

Located northeast of Newcomb, Navajo Lake State Park and Cutter Dam would be a favorite fishing lake for cold water fish. The lakes offers picnicking, hiking and fishing.

Aztec Ruins National Monument, northeast of Farmington, offers well preserved ruins date back to about 1100 AD. Chaco Culture National Historical, 45 miles east of the project area, offers extensive ruins dating from about 1,000 years ago are related to other Anasazi cultures of other well-known sites in the Four Corners region, such as Mesa Verde. The National Park Service administers the two parks. Bisti & De-Na-Zin Wilderness located east of the project area is characterized by colorful land forms and unique geological features; fossils and petrified logs. Both wilderness areas are administered by BLM.

Gathering - approximately every three to five years, vicinity pinon trees in the project area will yield a bumper crop of pinon nuts. Native people would gather this crop for individual consumption. The pinon nuts would also be sold to local traders for cash.

Locally, horseback riding is another source of outdoor recreation, as horses and horse stables were observed. "Chicken Pulls" or rodeos are also a traditional sport and form of outdoor recreation in the region. In addition to the hunting, fishing, and gathering as described above, it is evident that ATV is another source of recreation. ATV vehicles were observed during site reconnaissance.

3.1.8 Traffic

The existing church is located in a rural setting along an unnumbered family access road. The family access road serves a family homes and a small ranch to the west of the proposed lease. The existing church and proposed lease area will not impacted the existing transportation use network; any activity and new construction at the proposed lease area would not be impact the use of any local routes.

3.1.9 Noise

The project area is located in a rural environment, which family homes and small ranches are located. No published noise ordinance for construction activities exists in the Navajo Indian Reservation, including the proposed lease area. Ambient noise would be increased by engine noise created by the motors of cars and pickup trucks for a very short duration. Due to the remoteness of the project area, and low volume of traffic on the route, noise would not have an effect on the proposed action. A backhoe tractor may be used during the day light hours. Noise would not be a factor in the proposed action.

3.1.10 Floodplain

The tract is not located on a floodplain; nor located in a flood prone area. Captain Tom Wash, a broad drainage basin, generally flows east at a moderate slope, which is ample drainage. Floodplain maps were reviewed. The project area is excluded from any floodplain designation by the floodplain study (Morrison Maierle Inc., 1977).

3.1.11 Wetlands and Riparian Habitat

The Toadlena National Wetlands Inventory Map (USF&WS, 1984) indicates structures north of the proposed project area along Captain Tom Wash. The wash is ephemeral; water regime is dry, non-tidal and may be temporary flooded during the monsoon season. A livestock impoundment is located just south of the proposed church site. The purported wetland site (impoundment) do not exhibit hydric soils, nor hydrophilic vegetation, nor does it support a wetland hydrology (U.S. ACOE,1987). There are no wetland or riparian habitat occurrences.

3.1.12 Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste

Other than surrounding scattered housing, and livestock grazing, there are no previous industrial uses of the area. The propose project site currently does not contain any damaged or discarded automotive or industrial equipment. No fill dirt has been brought onto the property that originated from a contaminated site. There is no evidence of leaks and spills of hazardous substance, radiological waste, or spills of petroleum products on the existing tract.

No Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Subtitle C hazardous waste sites, nor RCRA Subtitle D, non-hazardous solid waste sites occur on or near the church site. No Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA) hazardous substance (including radiological waste) occur near the project area. No Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) waste sites occur on or near the existing church site. Hence, there will be no residual hazardous effects on the proposed church lease.

3.2 Topography and Soils

3.2.1 Existing Conditions

The Persayo-Rockland soil association occurs on gently sloping to undulating and rolling hills, tilted ridges and ledges, with sandstone and interbedded shale outcrops and cobble stone (NMSU-AES, 1973). The proposed site is located in a Desert Grassland Ecosystem. Undisturbed mesa out-slope top soils are covered with cobble stone 1" to 8" in diameter. Soils under the cobble stone are clay-shales and fine sandstone. Due to overgrazing and livestock trampling, natural vegetation cover is marginal. Site vicinity soils are largely atypical, previously disturbed. The tract drains north to the Captain Tom Wash. Onsite topography, eroded mesa tops dip approximately three percent toward the east, that allow for ample drainage to the Chaco River. The Chaco River drains north, eventually into the San Juan River, approximately 45 miles north. Project elevation is 5,656 ± feet amsl.

3.2.2 Effects

The topography and soils, as they exists now, will not impact the proposed undertaking.

3.2.3 Mitigation

No mitigation is required for the project topography and soils.

3.3 Water Resources and Water Quality

3.3.1 Existing Conditions

Surface water drains north and into the Captain Tom Wash, which flows east to the Chaco River and north to the San Juan River. The primary discharges of these drainages occur during the spring months, during the spring snow thaw and during occasional intense summer thunder showers in late summer. As a result, the stream flow is erratic and fluctuates widely both seasonally and annually. Torrential thunderstorms can produce flood-stage flows within minutes (Cooley, M. E., J. W. Harshbarger, J. P. Akers, & W. F. Hardt, 1969).

NTUA would provide Safe Drinking water to the church and from the Newcomb Community Water System. Newcomb Community wells are located in the upper Captain Tom Wash watershed.

3.3.2 Effects

Present and future project construction work or other related activities will not have impact on any springs, wells or aquifer recharge areas. The church site plans to construct a septic tank and leach field to collect its sewage. No impacts to the natural ground water in the church vicinity may be expected by the approval of the lease application. The church facility would become part of the Newcomb Community Water System.

3.3.3 Mitigation

The propose undertaking is a church lease application. The proposed project lease area and church is an "as built" facility. The old church has been destroyed and the proposed church has been partially constructed. Future church improvements would be constructed in an incremental manner, as church funds become available. Clean Water Act Section 402 (p) will not be applied for. Previous surface disturbance has stabilized.

3.4 Vegetation and Wildlife- Biotic Resources

3.4.1 Existing Conditions

The Newcomb church site and chapter are located in the Great Basin Grassland Ecosystem of northwest New Mexico. At an elevation of 5,656 amsl, the biome is a sagebrush-grassland

vegetation type, with intermittent juniper, yucca, and prickly pear occurring in the low areas and on the north slopes.

The Great Basin Grasslands mean annual precipitation would range from seven to twelve inches, and the annual growing season would range from 125 – 200 days (April to September). "These transitional grassland areas also receive a larger percentage of their precipitation during the winter and spring months; May through August rainfall averages less than 127 mm (5 inches)". At lower elevations the contact is most frequently with Great Basin desertscrub (Turner, R.M. & Brown, 1994).

Perennial grasses of this biome are represented by the following species: Ring muhly Mulenburgia torreyi, Blue grama Bouteloua gracilis, Galleta Hilaria jamesii, Indian ricegrass Oryzopsis hymenoides, Bottlebrush squirrel tail Sitanion hystrix, Needle and thread Stipa comata, Red-three awn Aristida longiseta, and Sand dropseed Sporobolus cryptandrus. Alkali sacaton Sporabolus airoides can be found in the swales and in the low areas along arroyos and washes (Turner, R.M. & Brown, 1994).

Forbs, although widely scattered in this sagebrush grassland community, are represented as Aster *Aster*, Coneflower *Ratibita*, Indian paint brush *Castilleja applegatei*, Thistles *cirsuimmus* and Groundsel *Senecio*. These forbs will present showy flowers during the wet season.

Shurbs such as Four-wing saltbush *Atriplex canescens*, Sagebrush *Atremisa*, winterfat *Ceratoides lanata*, Cholla *Opuntia*, Soapweed yucca *Yucca glauca*, rabbit brush *Chrysothamus*, and Snake weed *Gutierrezia* would be scattered throughout the biome. Grazing and human activity may alter the distribution of snakeweed, rabbit brush, and sagebrush.

Annual plants (noxious weeds) such as cheatgrass *Bromus tectorum*, Russian thistle *Salsolia kali*, tansy mustard *Descurainia obtusa*, sunflower *Helianthur annus*, and kochia weed *Bassia hyssopifolia* occur on the parcel (De Witt I., Robert, 2006).

Distinct fauna of the Great Basin Grassland include the whitetail prairie dog *Cynomys gunnisoni*, pocket mouse *Perognathus parvus*, Ord's kangaroo rat *Dipodomys ordii*, and the montane vole *microtus montanus*. Other mammals include the coyote *Canis latrans* and black-tailed jackrabbit *Lepus califoricus*. Although rare in the Chapter, Pronghorn antelope are occasionally spotted on the grassland areas 50 miles to the southeast.

Birds, indigenous to the ecosystem, are the Mountain plover *Charadrius montanaca*, lark blunting *Calamospiza milanocorys*, sparrow *Ammodramus*, sage thrasher *Oreoscoptes montanus*, sage sparrow *Amphispisa belli*, and horned lark *Eremophila alpestris*. Other grassland bird species include the Western meadow lark *Sturnella neglecta*, Prairie falcon *Falco mexicanus*, and Burrowing owl *Athene cuincularia* (Turner, R.M. & Brown, 1994). Due to the abundance of forage (ground borrowing rodents), Golden eagles *Aquila chrysaetos*, Cooper's hawk *Accipiter cooperii*, and Redtail hawks *Buteo jamaicensis* are occasionally sighted on the grasslands.

Due to its long cold winters in the Great Basin, reptiles are not well represented. Common species include the sagebrush lizard *Sceloporus gracious*, and the Great Basin spadefoot toad *Scaphiopus intermontanus*, and collared lizard *Crotaphytus collais*. The Northern desert horned lizard *Phrynosoma platyrhinos*, Northern whiptails *Cnemidophorus tigris tigris*, Great Basin gopher snake *Pituophis melanoleucus deserticola* and Great Basin rattlesnake *Crotalus viridis* are a few of the other common reptile species (Turner, R.M. & Brown, 1994).

3.4.2 Effects

The area presently provides suitable foraging and nesting habitat for small mammals and birds. The proposed lease area will have no effect on the biota, as the species are not present. Initial field surveys indicate that species are not present on the proposed lease area, therefore the proposed project would not cause an incremental loss of potential nesting, cover and forage habitat of terrestrial flora and fauna species.

3.4.3 Mitigation

Indirect mitigation is recommended for all fauna and flora on the proposed area. Natural vegetative cover can be restored over time. The proposed undertaking will have minimal effect on vegetation and potential habitat in the area.

3.5 Threatened and Endangered Species

3.5.1 Existing Conditions

Navajo Fish and Wildlife Department indicates the proposed church site would be located in an Area 3 location, an area of Low Sensitive Wildlife Resources, i.e., due to habitat requirements, wildlife species are not present. See the Navajo Nation ESA & NESL consultation at Appendix D. The proposed site is located in a Desert Grassland Ecosystem. Vegetation cover is marginal. Site vicinity soils are largely atypical previously disturbed.

However, reconstruction of the existing church includes the new construction of the proposed waterline. The NDF&W Biological Resources Compliance Form stipulates conditions of compliance requires a field survey for the proposed water line and septic system be conducted during the appropriate field season for the Mesa Verde cactus, which would be usually be conducted during the flowering season in April of the year. Field surveys were conducted in August and September of 2014. The MVC was not found along the pipeline or pipeline right of way during the time.

The NDF&W data request consultation letter was received by the ministry September 22, 2014. The biological land clearance procedure, as stated in the NHP letter, qualifies the church site as an Area 3, an area of Low Sensitivity. The NDF&W data request/response letter also states there is no Federal listed species, or NESL, in the church development tract, nor is there a designation of critical habitat in the region.

3.5.2 Effects

Impacts posed by the existing church and water line can be expected to be minimal. The existing church and proposed water line is in a rural setting, and will not have an effect on the habitat or other elements necessary for the continued survival of T&E species, as these species are generally not found on the project area. The Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife concurs with the finding: no federal ESA or Navajo NESL species would be impacted. See Appendix D for the Biological Resource Compliance Form and biological resource consultations.

3.5.3 Mitigation

The NDF&W recommends prior to construction the proposed activity would require a preconstruction survey of potential Mesa Verde cactus along the waterline right of way and buffer zone during the flowering season. Any MVC plants found during the survey, within the proposed project area, will be reported to the NDF&W biologist for appropriate mitigation prior to construction activities.

3.6 Navajo Endangered Species List (NESL) Special Management Species

3.6.1 Existing Conditions

The Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife's *Biological Resource Land Clearance Policy and Procedures* (BRLCP&P) was consulted. The land clearance procedure qualified the church tract and surrounding area as an Area 3, an area of low sensitivity.

3.6.2 Effects

The proposed lease area will have no effect on the NESL, as the species are not present. Initial field surveys indicate that species are not present on the proposed lease area, therefore the proposed project would not cause an incremental loss of potential nesting, cover and forage habitat of terrestrial flora and fauna species. The Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife concurs with the finding. See Appendix D for the Biological Resource Compliance Form and biological resource consultations.

3.6.3 Mitigation

No mitigation would be required for the Navajo NESL species. See the Biological Resource Compliance Form at Appendix D and biological resource consultations.

3.7 Migratory Birds

3.7.1 Existing Conditions

Migratory birds and their habitats are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC §703-712) and EO 13186. All federal agencies are required to consider management impacts to protect migratory non-game birds. Executive Order 13186 calls for increased efforts to more fully implement the MBTA. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) list of Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) was reviewed, specifically as they pertain to the Colorado Plateau physiographic area. The list indicates there are 27 avian species occurring on the southern Rocky Mountains and Colorado Plateau. See Table 4.

Most priority bird species occur on the USFWS, Division of Migratory Bird Management "Birds of Conservation Concern 2008", (BCC 2008 list). The Service designates the Southern Rockies / Colorado Plateau region as Bird Conservation Region (BCR) 16, in which the Navajo Indian Reservation and the Shiprock Agency are located. Although migratory birds could potentially occur in the area, none were observed during the site visits.

3.7.2 Effects

<u>Basis of Significance.</u> An alternative would be considered to have a significant effect on vegetation and wildlife if it would: 1) result in the substantial loss or degradation of any plant community providing high quality wildlife habitat; or 2) permanently displace substantial numbers of resident wildlife species or migratory bird species.

<u>No Action.</u> This alternative would have no effect on existing vegetation and wildlife, including migratory birds, in the project area. The grassland habitats and associated wildlife species would be expected to remain the same.

<u>Proposed Action.</u> This alternative would result in a short-term and small scale loss of vegetation due to future construction. The remaining project activities are expected to occur in the existing church areas. No permanent loss of native vegetation is anticipated; native seed from the disturbed vegetation would also help to propagate the natural plant species. No long-term loss of vegetation or wildlife habitat is expected. As a result, the proposed action would have no significant effects on migratory bird species.

Table 2. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Bird Management "Bird of Conservation Concern 2008" for the Southern Rockies/ Colorado Plateau (US F&WS, 2008).

SPECIES	HABITAT ASSOCIATION	EFFECTS	EFFECT RATING
Gunnison Sage Grouse Centrocercus minimus Inhabits shrub-steppe dominated by sagebrush that provide canopy cover, shelter, & forage. Inhabits shrub-steppe dominated by sagebrush that present.			
American Bittern Botaurus lentiginosus	Wading bird inhabits wetlands, usually dense marsh reeds, rushes and shedges.	No suitable habitat present.	Zero
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Coast, rivers, large lakes; in migration, also mountains, open country.	No conflict anticipated	Zero
Ferruginous hawk Buteo regalis	Inhabits open grasslands or desert scrub ES. Nest often occurs on rock spires and butte formations. In woodland edge habitat, flat-topped junipers.	No conflict antic- pated	Zero
Golden Eagle Aqulia crysaetos	Open grasslands or desert scrub, In mountainous canyon terrain. Nest on cliffs and trees.	No conflict anticipated	Zero
Peregrine Falcon Falco peregrinus	Inhabits rugged terrain with rocky cliffs and canyons 30 to 1,000 ft. high, adjacent to rivers lakes, or streams. Urban areas with towers and buildings are also inhabited.	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Prairie Falcon Falco mexicanus	Nests and forages in grassland, and open Juniper Savannah.	No conflict anticipated.	Zero
Snowy Plover Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus/tenuirostris	Shore bird inhabits barren sandy beaches and flats.	Suitable habitat not present, no conflict anticipated.	Zero
Mountain Plover Charadrius montanus	Inhabits grassland plains; usually found on grassy or bare dirt fields.	Grass removal would reduce cover & nesting habitat.	Low

Long-billed Curlew Numenius americanus	Nests in wet & dry upland fields. In migration, a shore bird of wetlands and agriculture fields.	Suitable habitat not present, no conflict anticipated.	Zero
Yellow-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus americanus	No suitable riparian habitat present. Inhabits open woods, orchards, and streamside willow and alder groves.	No conflict anticipated	Zero
Flammulated Owl Otus flammcolus	Inhabits pine-oak woodland, ponderosa pine forest.	Suitable habitat not present.	Zero
Burrowing Owl Athene cunicularia	Inhabits grassland shrub-steppe dominated by mixed grasses, Casual vagrant to prairie dog colonies, occupying abandoned holes.	No suitable habitat available for the owl.	Zero
Lewis's Woodpecker Melanerpes lewis	Inhabits woodland forests of pine-oak. Nests in oak cavities and pine snags. Forages and stores acorns and insects.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Willow Flycatcher Empidonax traillii	Inhabits brushy habitats in wet areas; also in pastures, mountain meadows.	No suitable habitat.	Zero
Gray Vireo Vireo vicinior	Found in juniper savannah and open JP woodland, with scrub component. Inhabits mountains and chaparral- juniper scrubland.	No suitable habitat. Little conflict anticipated.	Zero
Pinyon Jay Gymnprjomus cyanocephalus	Juniper Savannah, woodland, pine-oak ecosystems associated with high open habitats w/ openings, scattered trees or shrub components.	A multi ecosystem inhabitant, no conflict anticipated.	Low
Inhabits juniper-pinyon		No suitable habitat.	Zero
Veery Catharus fuscescens	·		Zero
Brushy desert shrub, especially areas of tall vegetation, cholla cactus, creosote bush and yucca. Brushy desert shrub, especially areas of tall vegetation, cholla pated			Zero

Grace's Warbler Dendroica graciae	Inhabits coniferous or mixed forests of southwest mountains, especially yellow pines. Usually forages high in the trees.	No suitable habitat present.	Zero
Brewer's Sparrow Spizella breweri	Inhabits mountain meadows and sagebrush flats.	No suitable habitat present.	Zero
Grasshopper Sparrow Ammodramus savannarum	Inhabits moderately open grass- land habitats, with patchy bare ground (feeds and nests on ground). Avoids areas with extensive shrub cover.	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Chestnut-collared Long- Spur Calcarius ornatus	Inhabits upland grassland, generally found in dense grass; gregarious in fall and winter.	Little conflict anticipated.	Low
Black Rosy-Finch Leucosticte atrata	Inhabits high mountains, rocky summits, alpine cirques and snowfields; winters in open country at lower elevations, spreading onto the plains.	No suitable habitat on the project area.	Zero
Brown-capped Rosy Finch Leucosticte australis	Inhabits high mountains, rocky summits, alpine cirques and snowfields; winters in open country at lower elevations, spreading onto the plains	No suitable habitat on the project area.	Zero
Cassin's Finch Carpodacus cassinii	Woodland Ecosystem. Species inhabits evergreen woodlands.	No suitable habitat in project area.	Zero

3.7.3 Mitigation

NN DF&W policy mandates that prior to construction the proposed activity would require a preconstruction survey of potential nesting birds on the tract, should large-scale construction occur during the breeding season. Any bird nests found during the survey, within the proposed project area, will be reported to the NN DF&W biologist for appropriate mitigation prior to construction activities.

3.8 Air Quality

3.8.1 Existing Conditions

Ambient air quality in the project area may be regarded as good. Primary pollutants in the project area is wind-blown dust from loose topsoil common during times of high wind during the spring and dust from vehicular traffic along unimproved roads in the vicinity. Total suspended particulate matter – TPM (measured as PM2) – has been replaced by the measure of finer particulate matter (PM10) as the federal mandated measure of air borne particulate matter; since

the finer particles of dust at PM 10 has been more closely correlated to negative health effects than TSP, i.e., the finer particles inhaled by humans.

3.8.2 Effects

Air quality will be affected locally by dust and a negligible amount of hydrocarbons generated by other construction equipment. However, these pollutants will not be generated in sufficient concentrations to produce measurable adverse effects to structural metals, paint and fabrics, or damage to vegetation. Construction activities, facilities, and infrastructure, will not have a significant long-term effect on the ambient air quality in the project area.

3.8.3 Mitigation

Disturbed soils during site preparation would be dampened by watering for dust suppression and soil compaction.

3.9 Esthetics and Visual Resources

3.9.1 Existing Conditions

No visibility studies have been conducted in the project area. However, regional visibility in the project area can be considered to be good to marginal, depending on the season.

3.9.2 Effects

Locally, the primary pollutant in the project area is occasional wind-blown dust from loose topsoil common during times of gusting winds during the spring, and dust from vehicular traffic along unimproved roads in the area.

3.9.3 Mitigation

Disturbed soils during site preparation would be dampened by watering for dust suppression and soil compaction.

3.10 Cultural Resources

3.10.1 Existing Conditions

Navajo Nation Archaeology Department of Shiprock, New Mexico conducted the archaeological field survey of the proposed lease area. The archaeologist crafted a field report entitled: A Cultural Resource Inventory of Re-establishing a Proposed 1.5 Acre Congregational Methodist Church Mission Site Near Newcomb, San Juan County, New Mexico. The cultural resource field inventory report recommends "No historic properties affected". In addition, 2,538 feet long waterline rights of way (0.583 acre) was field inventoried to serve the mission. The total area of effect is therefore 2.083 acres total. Ground disturbance would be intensive and extensive with heavy equipment (NNAD, 2014).

3.10.2 Effects

Navajo Historic Preservation Department-Compliance Section has coordinated review of the cultural resource report with the Navajo Regional Office, Division of Environment, Cultural Resources and Safety Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs. A Cultural Resource Compliance Form HPD-14-690 has been created for this undertaking, as shown in Appendix C. A finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" to the cultural resources is determined for the proposed church lease (NNHPD, 2014).

3.10.3 Mitigation

The church management acknowledges the following statement with respect to cultural resources during construction: In the event of the 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 will cease and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department will be notified at (928) 871-7132.

3.11 Native American Religious Concerns

3.11.1 Existing Conditions

As part of the archeological inventory, interviews regarding traditional cultural properties (TCPs) were conducted. No sacred sites or traditional cultural resources were identified within the proposed site.

There are several pieces of legislation or executive orders that are considered in an evaluation of Native American Religious Concerns (i.e., American Indian Religious Freedom Act [AIRFA] of 1978, Executive Order 13007, The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act [NAGPRA] of 1990, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act [ARPA] of 1979).

Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) are a separate class of cultural resources which may occur in the project study area, which may or may not coincide with archaeological sites and artifact loci, and may fall under the purview of one or more of the cited legislation. The National Park Service has defined TCPs as follows:

A traditional cultural property can be defined generally as one (a property) that is eligible for the National Register because of its association with cultural practices of beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community (National Register Bulletin 38).

The field survey did not identify any known TCPs on the existing church tract. Additionally, no TCP have been identified by the local Native American tribes as a result of coordination efforts. Identification efforts for Native American Religious Concerns include interviews with chapter coordinators, home site owners, and local residents were conducted. Results of the interviews indicate there are no known TCPs within the proposed project area. There are no blessed structures, tipi grounds, or other ceremonial features associated with any in-use area.

3.11.2 Effects

<u>Basis of Significance.</u> An alternative would be to have a significant effect on Native American religious concerns if TCPs would have been identified and affected during the cultural resource field survey.

<u>No Action.</u> This alternative would have no effect on existing traditional cultural properties or American Indian Religion in the project area. This alternative would not prevent access to other sacred sites, nor would it interfere or otherwise hinder the performance of traditional ceremonies and rituals.

<u>Proposed Action.</u> This alternative would have no effect on existing traditional cultural properties or American Indian Religion in the project area. This alternative would not prevent access to other sacred sites nor would it interfere or otherwise hinder the performance of traditional ceremonies and rituals.

3.11.3 Mitigation Measures

No site specific Native American Religious Concerns have been recorded. In the event of any discoveries during project implementation, the NNHPD would be notified immediately.

4.0 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR SELECTION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Cumulative effects are effects of the project in consideration with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable projects in the local area.

There are no past projects that resulted in identifiable long-term effects having a cumulative relationship with the effects of the proposed project. In the past 1970s, the previous church building was built by the grazing permit holder, Mr. Thomas Joe Yazzie. The church operated for approximately 45 years, until recently, when the old structure was vandalized and burned down.

Currently, there are no other ongoing or reasonably foreseeable church projects in or near the project area. The proposed action will not have significant impact on the human environment. The approval of the requested use area would have minimal effect on the resource use patterns in the project area. The grazing permit holder has relinquished 2.083 acres of trust land to the development. It is the practice of the Navajo Nation to compensate the traditional land user for the grazing resource loss.

In the future, the Navajo Nation would continue to develop projects to provide religious services and education to the congregation. There are no other church construction plans in the proposed project area. As a result, when the effects of the proposed projects are considered with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the area, no significant cumulative effects are anticipated at this time. Impacts to the socioeconomic will be positive, as a church facility of this nature is expected to improve the quality of life.

With respect to cumulative impacts on regional air quality and climate change, the lack of scientific tools designed to predict climate change on regional or local scales limits the ability to quantify potential future impacts of the proposed project. However, potential impacts to natural resources and plant and animal species due to climate change are likely to be varied, including those in the southwestern United States. For example, if global climate change results in a warmer and drier climate, increased particulate matter impacts could occur due to increased windblown dust from drier and less stable soils. Cool season plant species' spatial ranges are predicted to move north and to higher elevations, and extinction of endemic threatened/endangered plants may be accelerated.

5.0 COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS

Clean Air Act, as amended and recodified (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.) *Compliance.* The project is not expected to violate any Federal air quality standards and would not degrade the attainment of air quality objectives of the air shed.

Clean Water Act § 402 Compliance. The Environmental Protection Agency administers Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (formerly the Federal Water Pollution Control Act). Operators are required to obtain all necessary permits and approvals for projects requiring CWA permits prior to any disturbance activities. The existing church was constructed in increments of less than one acre. Surface disturbance is at a minimum.

Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) *Compliance.* No Federally listed species or special management species (NESL) or their habitats have been identified in or near the project area. ESA requires all federal departments and agencies to conserve threatened and endangered species and the habitats on which they depend, and to consult with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife

Service (USFWS), on all actions authorized, funded or carried out by the agency to ensure that the action will not likely jeopardize the continued existence of any threatened and endangered species or adversely modify critical habitat.

Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management *Compliance.* This order directs all Federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the adverse effects associated with the modification of floodplains, and to avoid support of floodplain development wherever there is a practicable alternative. The proposed project would have no effect on floodplains, because they are not located in the project area.

Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice *Compliance.* The order direct all Federal agencies to identify and address disproportionate adverse effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. No minority or low income populations would be directly affected in the vicinity of the proposed action. Indirect effects could include positive effects due to overall benefit related to the new water system in the area. The proposed action will benefit all sectors of society. The minority and low-income populations in the community are the focus of this project. The project would lead better lives in the community, and would further provide a better quality of life for the residents.

Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.) Compliance. There are no effects on prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance because no such farmland exist in the project area.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.)/ EO 13186 Compliance. Migratory birds and their habitats are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) (16 USC §703-712) and EO 13186. All federal agencies are required to consider management impacts to protect migratory non-game birds. Executive Order 13186 calls for increased efforts to more fully implement the MBTA. The proposed action would have no significant effect on the bird species or their habitat.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) Compliance. The final EA and signed FONSI are in full compliance with NEPA.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) Compliance. The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department would also require NHPA compliance and consultation with all development projects on the Navajo Nation. NNHPD has determined that NHPA § 106 responsibilities are adhered to, as no historic properties would be affected. See Appendix C.

Recourse Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA), or Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Compliance. There are no Recourse Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA), or Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) sites

on the proposed site. The church will conduct their haulage and disposal of solid waste on a weekly basis. Existing restrooms with toilets would be employed during operations.

6.0 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Newcomb Chapter has passed a resolution approving the site. See Appendix B. In the future, a resolution is proposed for the Resource and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council, as well as BIA approval of the permit.

7.0 COORDINATION AND REVIEW OF THE EA

NNAD of Shiprock, New Mexico conducted the archeological survey of the site and crafted a field report entitled: A Cultural Resource Inventory of Re-establishing a Proposed 1.5 Acre Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission Site Near Newcomb, San Juan County, New Mexico.

Congregational Methodist Church conducted consultation with the Navajo Department of Fish and Wildlife, Navajo Nation. This consultation would assure mandated protection of ESA threatened and endangered species and Tribal species of concern. A concurrence letter and a *Biological Resource Compliance Form* is created for the project.

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

The preferred alternative is reasonable. The proposed action should not have significant adverse impacts on the human environment. No significant adverse impacts to the human environment have been identified during the onsite field reconnaissance and in the development of this environment assessment.

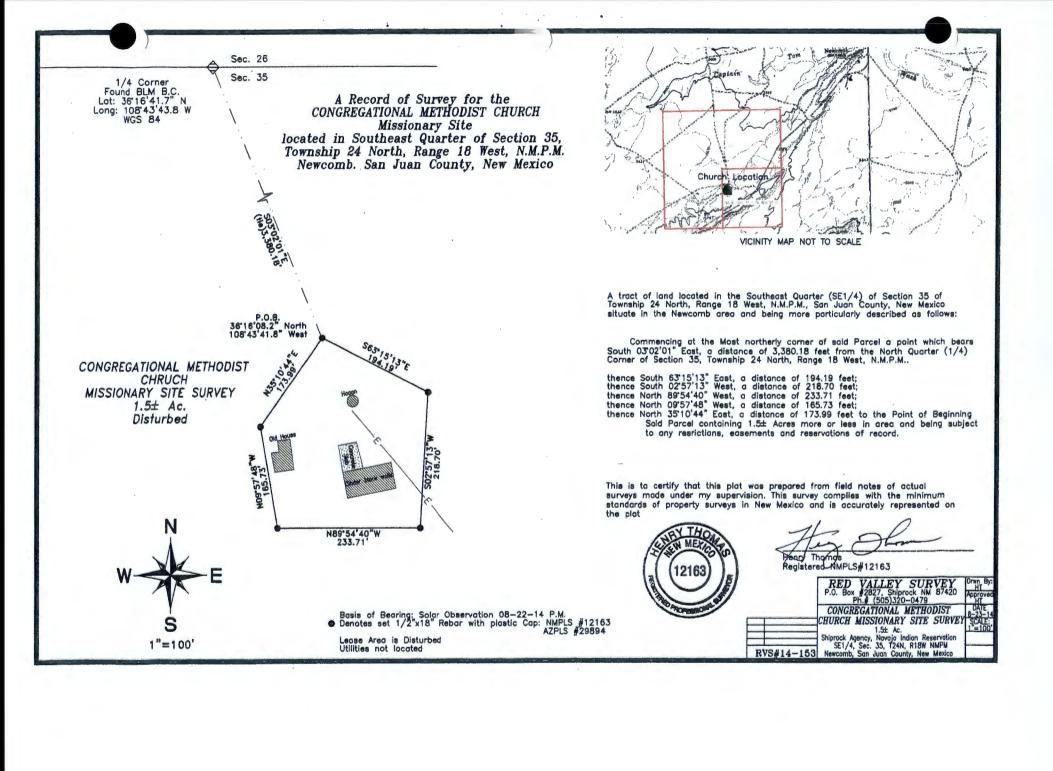
9.0 LIST OF PREPARERS / CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

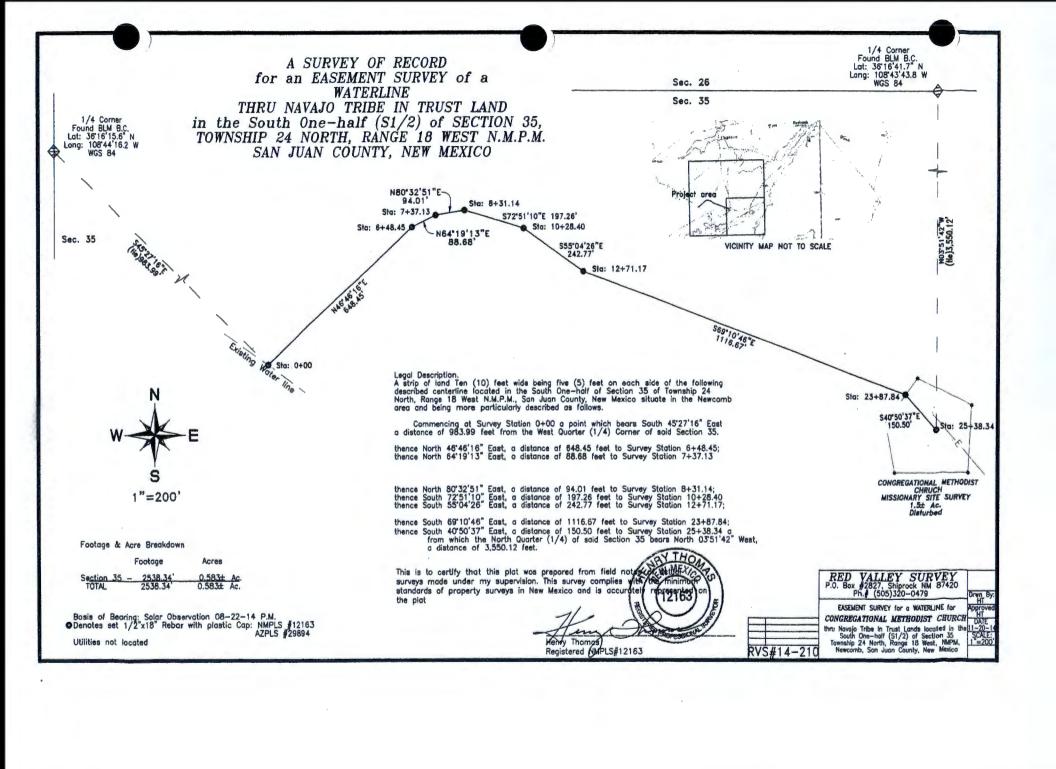
This environmental assessment was prepared by Mr. Leonard Robbins, PES, Denali Environmental Services, P. O. Box 1127, Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504.

10.0 REFERENCES

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NEWCOMB CHAPTER - NAVAJO NATION

P.O. Box #7946, Newcomb, New Mexico 87455; Phone: 505.686-3300 Fax: 505.696.5475

FY'2014 NWCB-081014-100

Resolution of the Newcomb Chapter

SUPPORTING MR. WILL YAZZIE IN RE-ESTABLISHING A MISSION SITE LEASE LOCATED TWO (2) MILES WEST OF THE NEWCOMB CHAPTER HOUSE

WHEREAS:

- The Newcomb Chapter is a duly certified Chapter governmental of the Navajo Nation with delegated authority to adopt ordinances and to adopt plans on matters of local concerns in the best interest of its local community membership; and
- Pursuant to 26 N.N.C Section 1 (B) Newcomb Chapter is vested with the authority to review all matters
 affecting the community and make appropriate correction when necessary and make recommendations to
 the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate actions; and
- The Newcomb Chapter community member Mr. Will Yazzie is establishing a Mission Site Lease located two (2) miles west of the Newcomb Chapter House and complete construction of a building; and
- 4. The location was previously established for a Mission Site by the Late Kee Joe Yazzie in which an unfinished building still stands; and
- 5. The current permittee is in support of the establishment and has consent 1.5 acres of land withdrawal; and
- The Newcomb Chapter membership fully supports Mr. Will Yazzie effort of completing the required process for a Mission Site Lease.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Newcomb Chapter Membership hereby supports Mr. Will Yazzie in Re-Establishing a Mission Site Lease located two (2) miles West of the Newcomb Chapter House.

CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing Chapter Resolution was considered by the Newcomb Chapter membership at a duly called Chapter meeting at Newcomb, Navajo Nation (New Mexico) at which a quorum was present and hat same was passed by a vote of 17 in favor, 00 opposed, 02 abstained this 10th day of August, 2014.

Motioned:

Amanda Bennett

Seconded:

Marlene Etsitty

David Randolph Sr., Chapter President

Donna L. Benally, Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Irving Gleason, Chapter Vice President



Navajo Region Approval

THE NAVAJO NATION HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT

PO Box 4950, Window Rock, Arizona 86515 TEL: (928) 871-7198 / 7134 FAX: (928) 871-7886

CULTURAL RESOURCE COMPLIANCE FORM

PROJECT NO.: NNAD 14-097
and the control of the state of
roposed 1.5 acre Congregational Methodist Churc

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed undertaking will involve the mission site lease approval and/or construction of a mission along with the installation of associated facilities/utilities within the 1.5-acre lease area. In addition, a 565-ft by 30-ft wide waterline was inventoried to serve the mission. The area of effect is therefore, 1.89-acres. Ground disturbance will be intensive and extensive with the use of heavy equipment.

LAND STATUS:	Navajo Tribal Trust
CHAPTER:	Newcomb
LOCATIONS:	T. 24 N, R. 18 W - Sec. 35; Newcomb Quadrangle San Juan County, New Mexico NMPM

PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGIST:	Lindsey L. Benally
NAVAJO ANTIQUITIES PERMIT NO.:	NTC
DATE INSPECTED:	09/02/14
DATE OF REPORT:	10/17/14
TOTAL ACREAGE INSPECTED:	3.82 – ac

METHOD OF INVESTIGATION: Class III pedestrian inventory with transects spaced 15 m apart.

LIST OF CULTURAL RESOURCES FOUND:	(1) In-Use Area (IUA)
LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	None
LIST OF NON-ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES:	(1) IUA
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 17, 2014				
Notification to Proceed Recommended	☑ Yes	□ No	/ Fred Mal	11-24-14
Conditions:	□ Yes	☑ No	The Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Office	Date

TLM 12:12:14



THE NAVAJO NATION



October 14, 2015

Mr. Will Yazzie, Pastor Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission P.O. Box 7465 Newcomb, New Mexico 87455

RE: Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission

Dear Mr. Yazzie:

Enclosed for your information and use is an approved Land Withdrawal Designation for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission The Designation authorizes construction, operation, maintenance and application of a Revocable Use Permit for mission site on 1.5 acres of tribal trust lands. The area is located in Southeast Quarter (SE4) of Section 35, Township 24 North, Range 18 West, N.M.P.M., Newcomb, San Juan County, New Mexico.

On June 16, 2015, the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council (RDCJN-33-15) delegated the Director of Navajo Land Department (NLD), Division of Natural Resources (DNR), the power and authority to give final approval of all land withdrawal designations on the Navajo Nation.

The Land Withdrawal Designation has been approved for five (5) years. Within ninety (90) days prior to expiration, you must notify and request for another (5) year withdrawal from Navajo Land Department.

Sincerely,

W. Mike Halona, Department Manager III

Navajo Land Department

Division of Natural Resources

XC: File



10/01/2014 FORM Mission Site

TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR MISSION SITE PERMIT Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission (PERMITTEE)

- 2. This permit is revocable at the discretion of the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council. The permit shall immediately be revoked for the failure to use the land herein described for religious purposes. It is understood and agreed that this instrument is 'NOT A LEASE" and is not to be taken or construed as granting any leasehold interest or right in or to the land herein described, but is merely a temporary permit, terminable and revocable.
- 3. The Permittee shall be given at least thirty (30) days written notice before this Mission Site Permit is terminated and revoked. Upon termination of the Mission Site Permit, the Permittee shall have ninety (90) days in which to remove from the site to dispose of any and all buildings, structures, materials and equipment and other personal property owned by the religious organization. After the expiration of the ninety (90) days, the Permittee shall peacefully and without legal process deliver the possession of the premises to the Navajo Nation. All improvements not removed after ninety (90) days will become the property of the Navajo Nation, unless the Navajo Nation demands in writing that the improvements be removed.
- 4. This Permit is not transferable, except with the consent of the Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council.
- 5. This Permit shall be reviewed every five (5) years to reevaluate the rent and compliance with the terms and conditions.
- 6. The legal land description of the premises is described as follows:

TRACT DESCRIPTION

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER (SE4) OF SECTION 35 OF TOWNSHIP 24 NORTH, RANGE 18 WEST, N.M.P.M., SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO SITUATE IN THE NEWCOMB AREA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCING at the most northerly corner of said Parcel a point which bears South 03°02'01"East, a distance of 3,380.18 feet from the North Quarter (1/4) Corner of Section 35, Township 24 North, Range 18 West, N.M.P.M.,

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thence South 63°15'13" East, a distance of 194.19 feet; thence South 02°57'13" West, a distance of 218.70 feet; thence North 89°54'40" West, a distance of 233.71 feet; thence North 09°57'48" West, a distance of 165.73 feet; thence North 35°10'44" East, a distance of 173.99 feet to the Point of Beginning.
```

Said Parcel containing 1.5± Acres, more or less in area and being subject to any restrictions, easements, and reservations of record.

- 7. The annual rental is set at \$\frac{\\$}{} per year and is due on or before the first day of January of each year the Permit remains in effect. Pursuant to 16 N.N.C. \\$ 1157, if the Permittee fails to pay the rent when due, this permit shall automatically terminate. The Permittee is responsible to make direct payments to the Navajo Nation Accounts Receivable Section, Post Office Box 3150, Window Rock, Arizona 86515.
- 8. The Permitee may develop, use and occupy the area under the permit for the purpose(s) of Mission Site. The Permittee may not develop, use or occupy the area under the permit for any other purpose without the prior written approval of the Navajo Nation. The approval of the Navajo Nation may be granted, granted upon conditions or withheld in the sole discretion of the Navajo Nation. The Permittee may not develop, use or occupy the area under the permit for any unlawful purpose.
- 9. In all activities conducted by the Permittee within the Navajo Nation, the Permittee shall abide by all laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation and of the United States, now in force and effect or as hereafter may come into force and effect, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Title 25, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 162;
 - b. All applicable federal and Navajo Nation antiquities laws and regulations, with the following additional condition: In the event of a discovery all operations in the immediate vicinity of the discovery must cease and the Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Department must be notified immediately. As used herein, "discovery" means any previously unidentified or incorrectly identified cultural resources, including but not limited to archeological deposits, human remains, or location reportedly associated with Native American religious/traditional beliefs or practices;
 - c. The Navajo Preference in Employment Act, 15 N.N.C. §§ 601 et seq., and the Navajo Nation Business Opportunity Law, 5 N.N.C. §§ 201 et seq.; and
 - d. The Navajo Nation Water Code, 22 N.N.C. § 1101 et seq. Permittee shall apply for and submit all applicable permits and information to the Navajo Nation Water Resources Department, or its successor.
- 10. The Permittee shall ensure that the air quality of the Navajo Nation is not jeopardized due to violation of applicable laws and regulations by its operations pursuant to the permit.
- 11. The Permittee shall clear and keep clear the lands within the permit area to the extent compatible with the purpose of the permit, and shall dispose of all vegetation and other materials cut, uprooted, or otherwise accumulated during any surface disturbance activities.
- 12. The Permittee shall at all times during the term of the permit and at the Permittee's sole cost and

- expense, maintain the land subject to the permit and all improvements located thereon and make all necessary and reasonable repairs.
- 13. The Permittee shall indemnify and hold harmless the Navajo Nation and their respective authorized agents, employees, land users and occupants, against any liability for loss of life, personal injury and property damages arising from the development, use or occupancy or use of the permit area by the Permittee.
- 14. The Permittee shall not assign, convey or transfer, in any manner whatsoever, the permit or any interest therein, or in or to any of the improvements on the land subject to the permit, without the prior written consent of the Navajo Nation. Any such attempted assignment, conveyance or transfer of the permit without such prior written consent shall be void and of no effect. The consent of the Navajo Nation may be granted, granted upon conditions or withheld in the sole discretion of the Navajo Nation.
- 15. The Navajo Nation may terminate the permit for violation of any of the terms and conditions stated herein. In addition, the permit shall be terminable in whole or part by the Navajo Nation or authorized representative for any of the following causes:
 - a. Failure to comply with any terms and conditions of the permit or of applicable laws or regulations;
 - b. Non-use of the permit; and
 - c. The use of the land subject to the permit for any purpose inconsistent with the purpose for which the permit is granted.
- 16. At the termination of the permit, the Permittee shall peaceably and without legal process deliver up the possession of the premises, in good condition, usual wear and tear excepted. Upon the written request of the Navajo Nation, the Permittee shall provide the Navajo Nation, at the Permittee's sole cost and expense, with an environmental audit assessment of the premises at least sixty (60) days prior to delivery of said premises.
- 17. The Permittee shall give written notice to the Navajo Nation Land Department regarding any change to the Permittee's contact information, address, leadership, organizational name, or any other substantial change to the organization. The notice shall be given within thirty (30) days and delivered to the Navajo Land Department at Post Office Box 2249, Window Rock, and Arizona 86515.
- 18. Holding over by the Permittee after the termination of the permit shall not constitute a renewal or extension thereof or give the Permittee any rights hereunder or in or to the land subject to the permit or to any improvements located thereon.
- 19. The Navajo Nation shall have the right, at any reasonable time during the term of the permit, to enter upon the premises, or any part thereof, to inspect the same and any improvements located thereon.
- 20. By acceptance of the grant of permit, the Permittee consents to the full territorial legislative, executive and judicial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation, including but not limited to the jurisdiction to levy fines and to enter judgments for compensatory and punitive damages and injunctive relief, in connection with all activities conducted by the Permittee within the Navajo Nation or which have

a proximate (legal) effect on persons or property within the Navajo Nation.

- 21. By acceptance of the grant of the permit, the Permittee covenants and agrees never to contest or challenge the legislative, executive or judicial jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation on the basis that such jurisdiction is inconsistent with the status of the Navajo Nation as an Indian nation, or that the Navajo Nation government is not a government of general jurisdiction, or that the Navajo Nation government does not possess full police power (i.e., the power to legislate and regulate for the general health and welfare) over all lands, persons and activities within its territorial boundaries, or on any other basis not generally applicable to a similar challenge to the jurisdiction of a state government. Nothing contained in this provision shall be construed to negate or impair federal responsibilities with respect to the land subject to the permit or to the Navajo Nation.
- 22. Any action or proceeding brought by the Permittee against the Navajo Nation in connection with or arising out of the terms and conditions of the permit shall be resolved administratively under the laws of the Navajo Nation, and no action or proceeding shall be brought by the Permittee against the Navajo Nation, in any court of any state.
- 23. Nothing contained herein shall be interpreted as constituting a waiver, express or implied, of the sovereign immunity of the Navajo Nation.
- 24. Except as prohibited by applicable federal law, the law of the Navajo Nation shall govern the construction, performance and enforcement of the terms and conditions contained herein.
- 25. The terms and conditions contained herein shall extend to and be binding upon the successors, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, employees and agents, including all contractors and subcontractors, of the Permittee, and the term "Permittee," whenever used herein, shall be deemed to include all such successors, heirs, assigns, executors, administrators, employees and agents.
- 26. There is expressly reserved to the Navajo Nation full territorial legislative, executive and judicial jurisdiction over the area under the permit and all lands burdened by the permit, including without limitation over all persons, including the public, and all activities conducted or otherwise occurring within the area under the permit; and the area under the permit and all lands burdened by the permit shall be and forever remain Navajo Indian Country for purposes of Navajo Nation jurisdiction.

Date: 16/14/2019	Date:	
By: Wifford Yazzie	By:	
Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission Permittee	President Navajo Nation	

NATURAL RESOURCES

Date Issued: 20/95/07/2015

Document No.	003921

EXECUTIVE OFFICIAL REVIEW

Title	of Document:	RUP for Congregational Methodist-News	comb Contact Name: D	RAPER, HOWARI	D	
Prog	ram/Division:	DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCE	S			
Email: howarddraper@frontiernet.ne		varddraper@frontiernet.net	Phone Number:	928-871-6490		
	Business Site 1. Division:		Date:		Insufficient	
	Office of the (only if Procurer	Controller: ment Clearance is not issued within 30 da	Date: ys of the initiation of the E.O.	review)		
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	Navajo Housin	g Authority Request for Release of Fur	nds			
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	Lease Purchas	e Agreements				
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	(recommend 2. Office of the	ation only) Attorney General:	Date:			
	Grant Applicat	ions				
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	Land Withdrawal or Relinquishment for Commercial Purposes		Sufficient	Insufficient
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	3. HPD	Date:		
	4. Minerals	Date:		
	5. NNEPA	Date:		
	6. Office of the Attorney General:	Data:		
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	ROW (where there has been no delegation of authority to the Nacconsent to a ROW)	vajo Land Department t	o grant the	e Nation's
	1. NLD	Date:		
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NAVAJO NATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DOCUMENT
REVIEW
REQUEST
FORM



DOJ

29-11-15
DATE/TIME

7 Day Deadline

*** FOR NNDOJ USE ONLY - DO NOT CHANGE OR REVISE FORM. VARIATIONS OF THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. ***

CLIENT TO COMPLETE								
DATE OF REQUEST:	9/11/2015	DIVISION:	NATURAL RE	SOURCES				
CONTACT NAME:	VERA or KAYLA	DEPARTMENT:	LAND					
PHONE NUMBER:	6447 OR 6490	E-MAIL:	Click here to en	ter text.				
TITLE OF DOCUMENT: Approving a Revocable Use Permit for a (Mission Site) and to withdraw 1.5 acres of Navajo Nation Trust Lands for the Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission located in Newcomb, San Juan County, NM								
DOJ SECRETARY TO COMPLETE								
DATE/FINE IN VEID SEP 1 1 2015	#- 11-15 REVIEWIN	NG ATTORNEY/AD	VOCATE:	2 . 23 . 15				
DATE TIME OUT OF UNIT!								
DOJ ATTORNEY / ADVOCATE COMMENTS								
Document resul, W. Corrections made to the Proposed RDC Pelu.								
Decrement is	now legally suffer	"cient."						
REVIEWED BY: (Print)	Date Time	SURNAMED BY:		Date / Time				
June	1 52 9/28/15	Veronica Pol	ickhort	929 15 10:13.				
DOJ Secretary Called:	for Documen	t Pick Up on	at	Ву:				
PICKED UP BY: (Print)			DATE / TIME:					
NNDOJ/DRRF-July 2013								





Honorable LoRenzo Bates Speaker 23rd Navajo Nation Council

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Leonard Pete

Chinle Chapter

Whiama) FROM:

Mariana Kahn, Attorney

Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: December 17, 2015

SUBJECT: PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION; AN ACTION

> RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; APPROVING A REVOCABLE USE PERMIT FOR MISSION SITE FOR CONGREGATIONAL METHODIST NAVAJO MISSION ON NAVAJO NATION TRUST LANDS IN THE VICINITY OF NEWCOMB CHAPTER, NAVAJO NATION (SAN JUAN

COUNTY, NEW MEXICO)

As requested, I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge. Please ensure that his particular resolution request is precisely what you want. You are encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

If the proposed resolution is unacceptable to you, please contact me at the Office of Legislative Counsel and advise me of the changes you would like made to the proposed resolution.

THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION

LEGISLATION NO: 0415-15 SPONSOR: Leonard Pete

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources And Development; Approving A Revocable Use Permit For Mission Site For Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission On Navajo Nation Trust Lands In The Vicinity Of Newcomb Chapter, Navajo Nation (San Juan County, New Mexico)

Date posted: December 22, 2015 at 4:35pm

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director Office of Legislative Services P.O. Box 3390 Window Rock, AZ 86515 (928) 871-7590

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Nav, ajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 et. seq.

THE NAVAJO NATION LEGISLATIVE BRANCH INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0415-15

SPONSOR: Honorable Leonard H. Pete

TITLE An Action Relating to Resources And Development; Approving A Revocable Use Permit For Mission Site For Congregational Methodist Navajo Mission On Navajo Nation Trust Lands In The Vicinity Of Newcomb Chapter, Navajo Nation (San Juan County, New Mexico).

Posted: December 22, 2015 at 4:35 pm

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: December 27, 2015

Digital Comments received: No comments received.

Policy Analyst
Office of Legislative Services