

RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL
25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL - FIRST YEAR, 2023

AN ACTION
RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, NAABIK'ÍYÁTI'
COMMITTEE AND NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL, CONFIRMING WILDER MIKE HALONA
AS NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation and shall confirm the appointments of all division directors upon recommendation from the appropriate oversight committee. 2 N.N.C. §§ 102(A) and (F).
- B. A proposed resolution requiring final action by the Navajo Nation Council shall be assigned to the Naabik'íyátí Committee. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- C. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with oversight authority over the Division of Natural Resources and the responsibility to recommend the appointment of the Executive Director of the Division of Natural Resources to the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. §§ 501(C)(1) and 1905.
- D. The Navajo Nation President appoints the Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources. 2 N.N.C. § 1903.
- E. The appointed Executive Director serves at the pleasure of the Navajo Nation President, *id.*, and shall fulfill the purposes for the Division of Natural Resources set forth at 2 N.N.C. § 1902.

SECTION TWO. APPOINTMENT OF THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Navajo Nation President appoints Wilder Mike Halona as the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director. Mr. Halona's appointment letter and credentials attached as Exhibit A.

SECTION THREE. CONFIRMATION OF THE NAVAJO NATION DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- A. The Navajo Nation Council confirms Wilder Mike Halona as the Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources Executive Director.
- B. Mr. Halona shall serve at the Navajo Nation President's pleasure. 2 N.N.C. § 1903.

CERTIFICATION

I, hereby, certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by the 25th Navajo Nation Council at a duly called meeting in Window Rock, Navajo Nation (Arizona), at which a quorum was present and that the same was passed by a vote of 13 in Favor, and 04 Opposed, on this 21st day of April 2023.



Honorable Crystalyne Curley, Speaker
25th Navajo Nation Council

4/27/23

DATE

Motion: Honorable George H. Tolth
Second: Honorable Steven R. Arviso

Speaker Crystalyne Curley not voting



DR. BUU NYGREN P
RICHELLE MONTOYA VICE PRESIDENT



The Navajo Nation | Yideeskáadi Nitsáhákees

January 11, 2023

Wilder Mike Halona
Post Office Box

RE: Appointment as Division Director of Natural Resources

Dear Mr. Halona,

We are pleased to offer you an appointment to serve as the Division Director of Natural Resources. This appointment takes affect at 12:00 p.m. on January 11, 2023. We are so pleased you verbally accepted this position and have started your new role.

Thank you for agreeing to serve the Nygren-Montoya Administration, the youngest Navajo Nation President elected, and the first woman to be Vice President. Together we will work hard for the Navajo people at the hogan level.

Ahéhee'

Dr. Buu Nygren, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

Richelle Montoya, *Vice President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

PO Box

928-

Window Rock, AZ 86515

m_halona@nnld.org

W. "Mike" Halona

Objective

Contribute to the Leadership and Vision of the Nygren/Montoya Administration in improving services and benefits to the Navajo Nation that will increase production and accomplishing established organizational goals and objectives utilizing my Management/Administrative experience, training, skills, and positive attitude. With a focus on training others to become leaders that's in the best interest of the Dine'. Wholeheartedly support the values: Competence, Compassion, Teamwork, and Commitment.

Experience

1981–2005 Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife Window Rock, AZ

Wildlife Damage Control Program – Section Supervisor

Design and implemented the Wildlife Damage Control training course for the Navajo Department of Fish & Wildlife. Established workshops for chapter members to empower livestock owners to handle livestock damage from wildlife themselves. Over (500) chapter members were trained at (25) chapters.

Administrative/Management directly the Wildlife Control Program that I implemented in 1982 within the Department of Fish & Wildlife,

Responsible for planning, organizing, conducting and implementation of daily control operations to control damage caused by wildlife species that cause damage to livestock, poultry, crops or may cause health and /or safety concerns.

Prepare and administered the program budget, funding/expenditures. Lobby and /or negotiate for additional supplemental funding. Development of objectives to provide direction of program. I coordinated and managed program functions and responsibilities to achieve annual objectives.

Wrote the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the use of restricted pesticide for Wildlife Control. As a result, the Navajo Nation obtained an EPA registered approved label for the M-44 device. The Navajo Nation is only tribe to have accomplished that.

Maintained records pursuant to the Federal, State, Tribal and Environmental Protection Agency restricted pesticides statutes and regulations.

Directly supervise Predator Control Agents (PCA) to ensure compliance with Operation Guidelines and establish policies and procedures for use of firearms, traps, snares, M-44 devices and restricted pesticides for Wildlife Damage Control. Serve as expert instructor for all equipment and firearms utilized by personnel.

I coordinated and cooperated with the public, other agencies, officials and organizations relating to and that is beneficial to the Program.

Wildlife Management and Research Skills

Provided overall direction and supervision of the Navajo Fish and Wildlife Tribal Hatchery.

Aged bobcat and mule deer by the use of annulus on teeth.

Maintained and assisted in wildlife surveys and census.

Recorded wildlife observation from aerial and ground.

Contacted of sportsmen in the field for management and enforcement activity.

Conducted mule deer pellet group transects.

Trained and experience in conducting black-footed ferrets surveys.

Maintained and assisted in wildlife check stations.

Participated in the capture and banning of Canada Geese.

Participated in the capture and radio collaring and tracking of mule deer.

Participated in the capture and radio collaring and tracking of black bears.

Conducted sportsmen meeting to gather input and comments for upcoming hunts and regulations.

Given numerous presentations to Chapters, Schools, Trappers Conventions, and Workshop, Conferences, Grazing Committee Members and interested groups in Wildlife Management.

Radio Telemetry Skills

Instructed in the use and operations of telemetry radio equipment.

Located mule deer and black bear form both aerial and ground locations using radio telemetry equipment.

Fisheries Skills

Plan and directed the expansion of Navajo Fish and Wildlife Tribal Hatchery.

Participated in the design and implementation of a pilot trout-rearing project.

Participated in stocking of lakes with various types of game fish.

Participated in the survey of streams using electro-shocking equipment.

Participated in the taking of creel census.

Participated in the implementation of aerators at high mountain lakes.

1989 - 1996 Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife Window Rock, AZ

Navajo Nation Hunter Education Program – Section Head

- Administered/managed the development and implementation of the Navajo Nation Hunter Education Program.
- Coordinated with the Federal Government and AZ Game & Fish to negotiate and developed a cooperative agreement and memorandum of understanding for the first and only Native American Hunter Education program administered and managed by a Tribe.
- Recognized as Certified Chief Instructor by AZ Game & Fish to plan, organizing, direct and coordinate all Hunter Education classes and maintain records of all participates who completes the Mandated course and were.
- Responsible for supervising Hunter Education Instructors and evaluating classroom performance by all instructors to maintain standards prescribed

by State and Federal agreements. As a result, all states and provinces in Canada recognize and honor the Navajo Nation Hunter Education Program and certification.

- Recruit and provided instructor training and certification classes for new voluntary Hunter Education instructors.
- Certify students and instructors that successfully complete the Hunter Education course.
- Ensure that facility and classroom materials are available, equipment; firearms, ammunition and manuals. Provide direction and coordinate program functions and responsibilities.

1991 – 2005 Navajo Nation Department of Fish & Wildlife Window Rock, AZ

Animal Control Program – Program Manager

Administrative/Manage directly the Navajo Nation Animal Control Program and Responsible for planning, organizing, conducting and implementation of daily Law Enforcement operations by Animal Control Officers

Supervise all the commissioned Law Enforcement personnel, Animal Control Officers and office staff to ensure compliance with Operation Guidelines and establish policies and procedures that I developed and implemented for law enforcement personnel that are responsible for enforcing the Navajo Nation Animal Control Laws.

Prepare and administered the program budget, funding/expenditures. Lobby and /or negotiate for additional supplemental funding. Development of objectives to provide direction of program. I coordinated and managed program functions and responsibilities to achieve annual objectives.

Ensure daily Animal Control Services from all Agency Animal Shelters/Centers to communities of the Navajo Nation, and which minimizes the potential health and safety issues to human and livestock from dogs and cats.

Promote community health education on animal diseases and proper care of domestic animals thru the media, educations, trainings and projects with animal welfare groups.

Review investigations and offensive reports prepared for the Navajo Nation Courts for prosecution by Animal Control Officers. Conduct training for firearms use and other equipment so officers maintain certifications.

Coordinated and cooperate with Law Enforcement Agencies, IHS, OEH, NHA, other agencies and Animal Welfare organizations that can be beneficial to the Animal Control Program in the form of additional funding, supplies and/or services.

2005 – Present Navajo Land Department – Window Rock, AZ

Navajo Land Department – Department Manager III

Administer approximately 17.4 million acres of the Navajo Trust and Navajo Fee land within the state of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. Charged with leasing authority and approval for Homesite Leases; Telecommunication; Service Line Agreements; Applications & Permits to Drill as delegated by the Resources Development

Committee. Manage the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) was to purchase fee lands for additional grazing land and economic development.

Administrative - Responsible for planning, organizing, preparing, and administered the Department budget, funding/expenditures and providing direct leadership and supervision for the Navajo Land Department.

Addressed an eight (8) year audit of the Land Department by developing and implementing a Correctional Action Plan that was accepted by the Auditor General with a favorable review.

Develop with assistance the Division of Natural Resources staff a DNR EXPO's for 4 years that show cased DNR Departments over 1,400 people attending.

Develop and conducted the Navajo Land Department "Land Summit" for 2 years that focus on only the duties and responsibilities of the NLD. Total of 1,200 people attended the 2 1/2-day Land Summit.

Develop a Land Use Planning process presentation for Chapters.

In cooperation with Minerals Department, NLD develop a land use plan for P & M Mine as Chevron begins the closure and reclamation of the Mine area.

Negotiated with New Mexico State Land Commissioner to obtain residential leases for (127) Navajo families that were considered Trespassing on NM state lands. NM issued residential leases the families which allowed families to obtain electric and water.

Develop a ten (10) year plan for Cadastral Surveys with BIA and BLM in growth areas of the Navajo Nation. NLD received a prestige award from the US BLM for completing 4 million acres of Cadastral surveys on the Navajo Nation.

Supported and overseen the development of the GIS capacity and capabilities within NLD that focused on the Navajo Nation.

Focus on the development of the Navajo Land Title Data System. Negotiated with E-Prism Solutions to assist the Navajo Nation in developing a Navajo Title Plant and automating NLD processes. And the establishment of the Sovereignty Cloud that is secure and exclusively for the Navajo Nation. The system was purchased and owned by the Navajo Nation and other Divisions and Department are accessing the Navajo Nation System with customized modules created for their needs that they are trained to maintain.

Drafted the General Leasing Regulation of 2013 that was pass by the Tribal Council on October 22, 2013. The Bill is an enabling legislation requesting the Secretary of Interior to give the Navajo Nation the authorization to approve all Surface Leases and Permits (excluding minerals) Secretary of Interior signed on May 16, 2014. These regulations apply to all leases and permits on Navajo Nation Trust Lands authorized under 25 U.S.C. §§ 415(a) and 415(e) and 635(a), including leases for the development or utilization of natural resources, renewable energy leases for wind and solar and agricultural leases, telecommunications site leases, and leases for public, religious,

educational, recreational, or residential purposes, and business site leases which is authorized pursuant to separate regulations approved by the Secretary.

Drafted the Land Withdraw Designations Regulation to streamline the land withdraw designation process for chapters and Navajo Nation entities. On June 16, 2015, the Resources Development Committee (RDC) of the Navajo Nation Council approved the regulations.

Drafted the Home-site Regulations of 2016 which was approved by Resources and Development Committee (RDC) on Oct 04, 2016 after (9) years of development and public comments/work sessions.

Drafted the Navajo Land Department Plan of Operation which was approved by RDC Oct. 04, 2016.

Developed an agreement with BIA for the Navajo Nation Land Department to officially take over the Home site Leasing Approval Authority from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Secretary of the Interior on April 01, 2017.

Responsible for the management of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund that totaled over \$275,000,000.00 for purchasing land and property for the Navajo Nation. Negotiated and development acquisitions packets for approval from the appropriate committees and council over \$75,050,000.00 of land and property purchased for the Navajo Nation under the appraisal value.

Drafted the proposed Land Acquisition Act amendment which were finalized and approved by the Navajo Nation Council on 8/2/16. Then Rules and Regulations were drafted which were approved by RDC on Oct. 25, 2016. The purpose of the amendments was to streamline the acquisition of land and property process.

Negotiated and purchased the former Navajo Nation Oil and Gas building for the NLD on Dec 01, 2016. After some minor renovations the NLD moved. The NLD was homeless for over (3) years after vacating a temporary building because of health and safety concerns.

Worked directly and negotiated/identified lands for exchange with the New Mexico State Land Office Commissioner in Eastern Navajo Agency with the State of New Mexico. The Navajo Nation received 45,562 acres of State Trust Land and the Navajo Nation exchanged 41,804 acres of Fee Lands. To address trespassing of families on state lands and three unauthorized cemeteries.

Develop the "One Stop Shop" process to streamline the 164 processes for all land development projects on Navajo Nation (Rights-of-Ways, Tribal Access Authorizations, Leases, Land Withdraws, Permits, and Service Line Agreements)

Drafted legislation that supports the One Stop Shop for streamlining the 164 process that changes the approval process which shorten the process and administrative approval for ARPA projects.

Conducted Strategic Planning Sessions annually to develop a Master Plan for the department for each FY.

Education /Training	1972-1976	Tohatchi High School	Tohatchi, NM
	Nov 1984	Colorado State University	Fort Collins, CO.
		Wildlife Management (Certificate)	
	2010 - 2019	ICC Enterprise	Los Angeles, CA.
		Indian Land Associate – Certificate	
		Indian Lands Professional – Certificate	

Fred Pryor Seminars & Training

Managing Multiple Projects
Meeting Deadlines and Achieve Objectives

Morrissey on Planning Training

Strategic Thinking
Long Range Planning
Tactical Planning

American Management Association

Improving Your Project Management Skills

Navajo Nation Training Center

- Performance Appraisal
- Management by Objectives
- Supervisory /Management Training
- Communication
- Customer Service
- First-aid
- Business Writing Skills
- Sexual Harassment

American Training and Technical Assistance

- Leadership Skills for Managers & Supervisors
- Office Management and Administration

Numerous Professional Training, Workshops and Seminars:
Leadership Development, Leadership Styles in the 21st century,
Effective Leadership/Principles, Pillars of Leadership,
Management and Administration, Business Management and
Organization, Time Management,

2013 Founding Board Member for the National Tribal Land Association

1984 - 2001

AZ Commission of Agriculture & Horticulture Phoenix, AZ.
Certified Commercial Pest Applicator

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Albuquerque, NM.

Telemetry, Aerial Hunting, Black Footed Ferret Survey and other trainings

U.S Department of Agriculture - APHIS Alb, NM and Phoenix, AZ.
Pesticide Use, Snaring (Bear & Lion), Conferences

New Mexico State University
Prairie Dog & Gopher Control Workshop

1987 - 2001

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society

Wildlife Management on Indian Lands (Numerous Training/Workshops)

NAVAJO NATION

120

4/21/2023

Navajo Nation Council Spring Session

04:37:30 PM

Amd# to Amd#	Legislation 0061-23: Confirming	PASSED
MOT Tolth, G	Wilder Mike Halona as Navajo	
SEC Arviso, S	Nation Division of Natural	
	Resources Executive Director	

Yeas : 13

Nays : 4

Excused : 5

Not Voting : 1

Yea : 13

Arviso, S
Begay, N
Claw, S
Daniels, H

Jesus, B
Johnson, C
Notah, N

Simpson, D
Slater, C
Tolth, G

Tso, O
Yanito, C
Yazzie, C

Nay : 4

Parrish, S

Begay, H

Nez, A

James, V

Excused : 5

Charles-Newton, E
Crotty, A

Damon, S

Nez, R

Simonson, G

Not Voting : 1

Aseret, L

Presiding Speaker: Curley, C