Engaging Navajo Nation Chapters in Historic Preservation and Survey Research
Navajo Nation Government Structure

- As a sovereign nation, the Navajo Nation has a central government

- Three Branch Government
  - Executive - President & Vice President
    - 11 Divisions including Division of Natural Resources
  - Legislative - Speaker of the Council, 24 Delegates representing 110 local Chapter Communities
  - Judicial - Navajo Courts

- The Navajo Tribal Government is located in Window Rock, AZ
Research on the Navajo Nation

- The Navajo Nation Cultural Resources Protection Act (1988) created a cultural resources investigation permitting system.
  - Heritage and Historic Preservation Department oversees research-archaeological and ethnographic

The Navajo Nation also created an Institutional Review Board (IRB) to oversee research involving human subjects and Navajo tribal members
IRB Research Protocol Application Guidelines

- The IRB is located Under the Division of Health
- Research proposals must be submitted to the IRB Chair:
  - Letter of Interest
  - Application to Chair
- Researchers are then scheduled for the next IRB meeting
IRB con’t

• Abstract of the research project
• Community involvement
• Benefits to the Navajo Nation
• Research Project Description
• Informed Consent Description
• Certifications by the Private Investigators
Approving Resolutions from Agency Councils of the Navajo Nation (5 Agencies: Chinle, Eastern, Ft. Defiance, Shiprock, Tuba City)

Support letters from the CEO’s of NAIHS service units and NN Program Directors

Copies of other approved IRB letters

Copy of written letter to the NNHHPD Office for ethnographic interviews (if applicable)
Certificate of Confidentiality (if necessary)

- Budget Outline
- Class C Permit from HHPD-THPO

All audio or videotaped interviews with individuals or focus group(s) will need to submit a Class C Permit Application with the Heritage & Historic Preservation Department

Submission of seventeen copies of proposal to the Navajo Nation IRB

Address:
Attn: Navajo IRB Coordinator
Navajo Division of Health
Window Rock, BLVD, Admin. Bldg. #2
P.O. Box 1390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
Navajo Perspectives on Colorado River Resources

• Tohatchi Chapter
  Eastern

• Bodaway-Gap Chapter
  Western

• Indian Wells Chapter
  Ft. Defiance

• Coalmine Chapter
  Western
Thank you

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Navajo Nation Heritage & Historic Preservation Department-Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program
Division of Natural Resources