

## **News Release – December 17, 2009**

The Navajo Nation (NN) Division of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, NN Ranch Program invites all NN enrolled members to bid on a NN Ranch! The NN Ranch Program is offering, for the first time, an opportunity for all enrolled Navajo individuals to bid on twenty-eight (28) NN ranches, the highest bidder will ensue occupation.

The NN Ranch Program leasing process was developed and established pursuant to Navajo Nation Code, 3 N.N.C., 501-511. The program has a long history of continuing to provide services to traditional ranchers and currently works to develop and implement innovative methods of Agricultural practices.

Historically, members of the Navajo Nation have raised livestock as a way of life with Agriculture being a foundation of Navajo culture. However, traditional cultural aspects of Indigenous people's lives have changed especially with respect to Agriculture. The Navajo Nation population continues to grow causing a reduction in land-base available for Agriculture thus adversely impacting productive and efficient Agricultural practices.

The NN Ranch Program has been scrutinized in the past therefore the Program is implementing this new competitive bid process that provides fairness for all NN enrolled members. We hope a majority of the Navajo Nation population will participate.

With the support of the NN Council Resources Committee, the NN Ranch Program will make twenty-seven (27) NN ranches available for bid. For a copy of the Application and information regarding the process, including the requirements, please come by the NN Ranch Program office within the Department of Agriculture building, Navajo Nation Fairgrounds, Window Rock, AZ. If you have any questions, please call 928-871-6605 and ask for Fritz, Kathy or Prunell.

***Note: Use the following links to download the Application and find more information as it becomes available under the "Tribal Ranches" tab.***

**[Proposed Navajo Nation Ranches Out for Bid](#)**

*Application for Lease of Navajo Nation Ranches*

*Checklist for Filing a Navajo Nation Ranch Bid Application*

*Ranch Management Plan - Suggested Format*