

**T'áá aníltsoh aanihí  
adanit'eego**

**It's up to all of us**





**Retired Chief Justice Herb Yazzie**, J.D., Navajo Nation Supreme Court (2005-2015), rancher and formerly Navajo Nation Attorney General & Legislative Counsel



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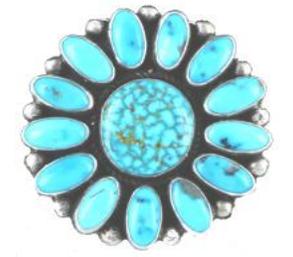
How do you identify “law”?

Even definition of family is **affected**. Law says what family is and controls how one becomes a member of it.

Law defines the “social contract” of a society.

Law that is weaponized and mandates punishments usually spring from an unfair source.

Why positive law is labeled “custom,” but is also called “science.”



T'áá'lá' k'q'dilti'dóó biyaadahoo'a'ígíí



T'ááłá' k'q'diltłi'dóó  
biyaadahoo'á'ígíí

Reclaiming Diné definition of  
family

k'é and hozhò

Can it be this simple?

K'é – our relations

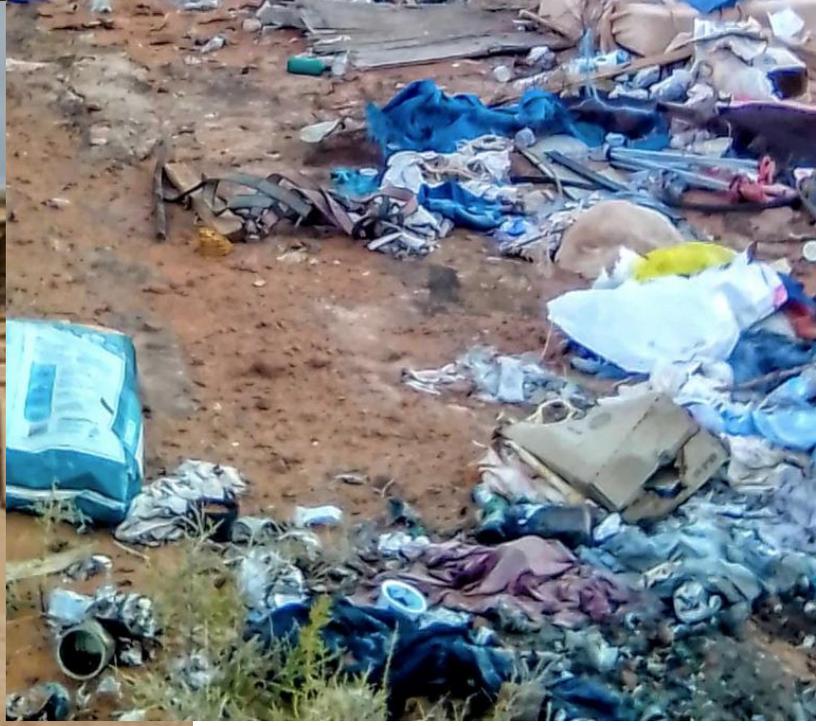
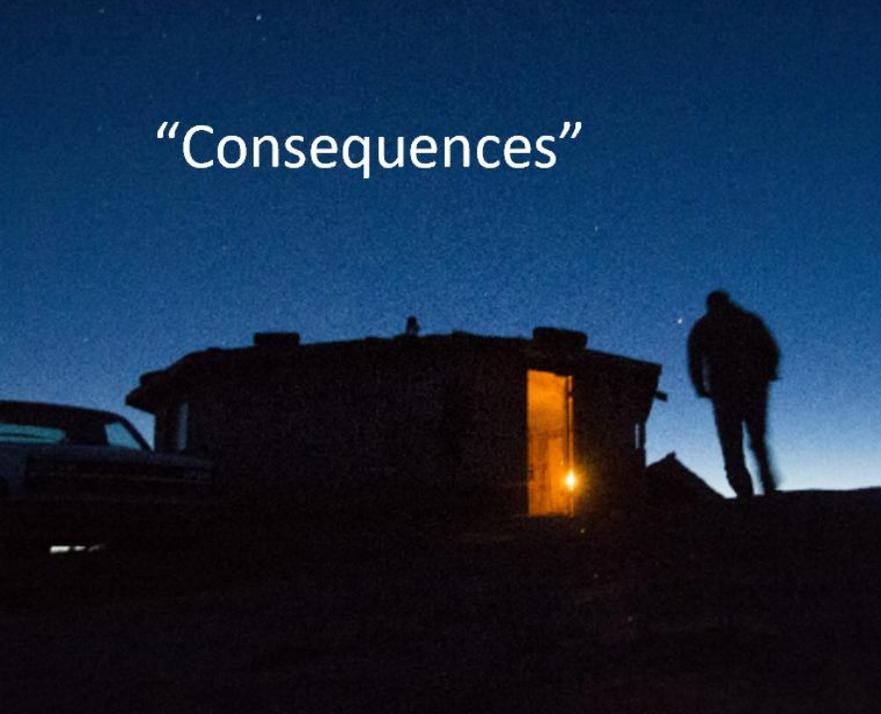
Hozhò – our relational arrangements and  
most of all, their positive consequences



When after the signing of the 1868 Navajo Treaty, thousands of Diné survivors at H'wéeli gathered to begin their return journey to the portion of Dinétah to which they would be confined, Manuelito is said to have raised his arm westward, saying:

See where my arm is extended. We are going back to our ways of life. What we have heard from the federal government is that we are going to learn their ways. We are going to learn their language, and it is written in the Treaty. But one thing I want you to understand, we must never forget our Navajo ways, our language, and our ceremonies. This is what connects us to our Navajo world.

“Consequences”



# RECLAIMING OUR GENERATIONS

Native Nation-building is Self-determination

We make the major decisions

Decisions are made with long-term priorities

Match community beliefs about how authority should be organized

Public-spirited leadership



5/21/2025

# Envisioning Familial Unit Governance for Communities of the Navajo Nation

A CAPSTONE PROJECT  
FOR INDIAN COUNTRY GRASSROOTS SUPPORT

**Naljahih, Hannah J**

*Master of Professional Studies, Indigenous Governance  
University of Arizona*





550

Animas Valley Consolidated Ditch

James Ranch Grill  
Recently viewed

James Ranch Rd

Cemetery

James Rnch Rd

James Rnch Rd

James Rnch Rd

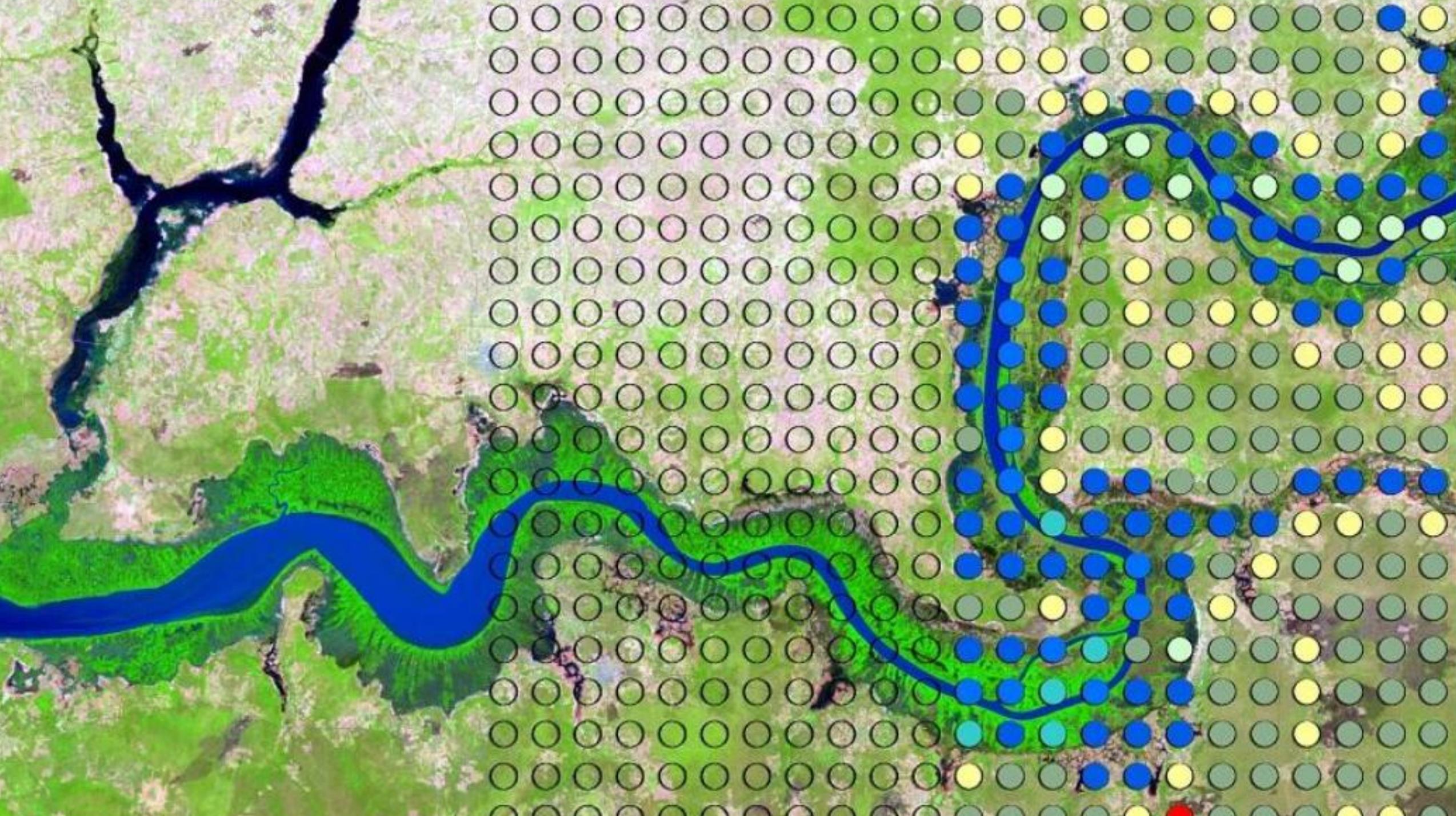
James Rnch Rd

Animas River

Coon Creek Ln

Coon Creek Ln

Coon Creek Ln

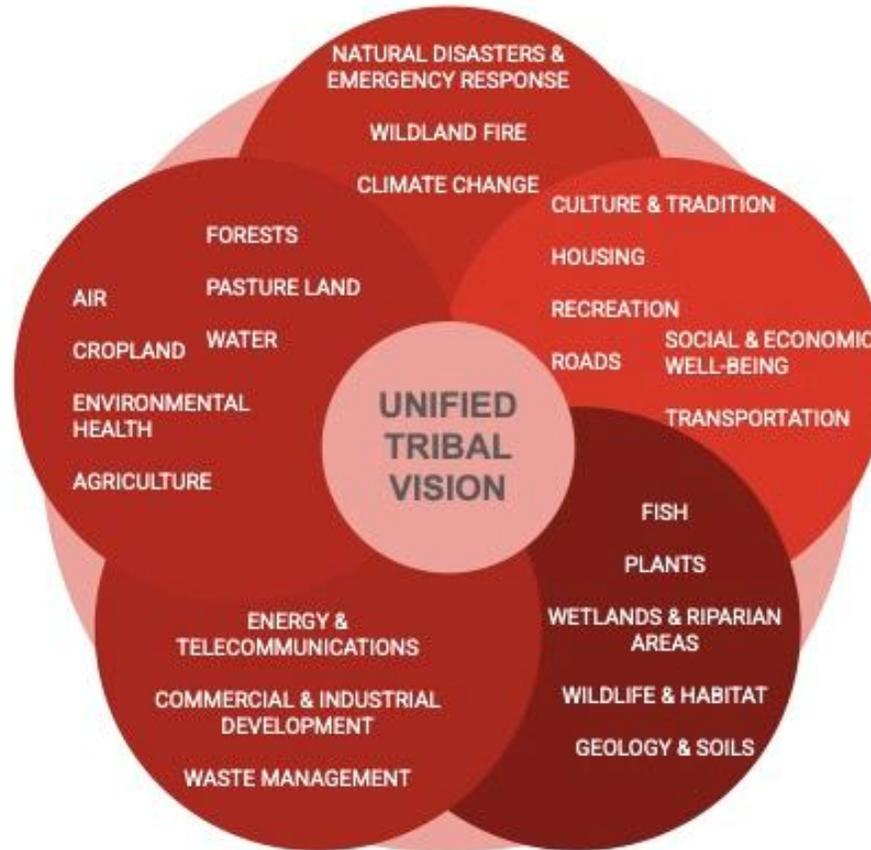


**“Tribal Sovereignty.”** So how come we haven’t reclaimed our family, our familial land use, and our generations?

- Hwéeldi, fragmentation, and the 1868 Treaty.
- Funded delegated federal trust responsibility.
- UNFUNDED permits and lease management taken on because of chasing “self-determination” within limits set by others.
- Entanglements of laws created externally for the benefit of mining, even embedded in the tribal code, due to no restraining GOAL or MISSION.
- Governmental service funding always the issue.

# INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

*Establishing a unified tribal vision would align an IRMP with a larger and future-focused intention for the entire tribe.*





These are critical times.

We humbly ask you to begin envisioning the MISSION OF THE NAVAJO NATION in service of our future generations. Without such a mission, we are not in control of our destiny.

We hope the envisioned MISSION will ensure the continuance of language, culture, and familial units across all Navajo Nation systems, particularly local governance.

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