



STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
Department of Military Affairs  
10 Bataan Boulevard  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508-4695

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
*Governor*

**Miguel Aguilar**  
*Major General*  
*The Adjutant General*

July 25, 2025

Ms. Josett D. Monette  
Wendell Chino Building  
1220 S. St Francis Drive  
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Ms. Monette:

Enclosed is the 2025 State Tribal Collaboration Report for the Department of Military Affairs. Any questions or feedback on this report can be directed to the Department of Military Affairs Tribal Liaison, Ms. Sabrina Rodriguez-Harte at (505) 695-4987 or [Sabrina.Rodriguez-Harte@dma.nm.gov](mailto:Sabrina.Rodriguez-Harte@dma.nm.gov).

Sincerely,

Signed by:  
  
EDE47DD84173475...

Miguel Aguilar  
Major General, NMNG  
The Adjutant General

# STATE TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT

## 2025 AGENCY REPORT



Department of Military Affairs  
47 Bataan Blvd  
Santa Fe, NM 87508

July 31, 2025

Prepared By:

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1. Agency Overview

- a. The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) operates pursuant to Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution of the United States and Article XVIII, Sections 1 and 2, of the Constitution of New Mexico. The department is established and governed by the New Mexico Military Code ([Chapter 20 NMSA 1978](#)). Although the governor is commander in chief of the state military forces, the Adjutant General (TAG) directs DMA and is appointed by the governor to a five-year term.
- b. Under DMA, the New Mexico National Guard (NMNG) is a trusted and competent community-based organization that develops enduring relationships with our Guard family and partners to meet the emerging needs of our state and nation. The NMNG is comprised of the Air National Guard (ANG) and Army National Guard (ARNG).
  - i. *State Mission*: Capability and preparedness of NMNG to the community
  - ii. *Federal Mission*: Capability and preparedness of NMNG to higher command
  - iii. *Community Outreach*: Active, embedded pillars within our municipalities
  - iv. *Culture*: Grounded Principles that guide our daily decisions
- c. TAG has created the following structure for the Tribal Liaison Program within DMA:
  - i. State of New Mexico, Tribal Liaison Officer
  - ii. Air National Guard, Tribal Liaison(s)
  - iii. Army National Guard, Tribal Liaison(s)

### 2. Mission Statement

#### a. *Department of Military Affairs*

To provide administrative, financial, and logistical support to the Office of the Adjutant General, ARNG, ANG, State Defense Force, Civil Air Patrol and the State Armory Board.

#### b. *New Mexico National Guard*

The NMNG is a sustainable force that is ready to support the community and execute all Federal and State missions.

c. *Department of Military Affairs (DMA)/New Mexico National Guard Tribal Liaison Program*

The mission of the DMA and NMNG Tribal Liaisons is to foster strong, respectful, and collaborative relationships between the National Guard and the Native American Nations, Pueblos and Tribes of New Mexico. We are dedicated to promoting mutual understanding, cultural awareness and effective communication to support the unique needs and interests of tribal communities. Our commitment is to ensure that the voices of our tribal partners are heard and valued, while facilitating meaningful engagement and cooperation in areas of mutual interest and benefit. Through this partnership, we aim to enhance the well-being and security of all communities across New Mexico.

**3. State & Federal statutes applicable to DMA's Tribal Liaison Program**

DMA complies with federal and state laws and regulations, Executive Orders, and Presidential Memoranda governing interactions with Nations, Pueblos and Tribes including those listed below:

- i. [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966](#)
- ii. [National Environmental Policy Act of 1970](#)
- iii. [The American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978](#)
- iv. [The Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979](#)
- v. [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990](#)
- vi. [Department of Defense Instruction \(DoDI\) 4710.02 Department of Defense Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes](#)
- vii. [DoDI 4715.3 Environmental Conservation Program](#)
- viii. [New Mexico State Tribal Collaboration Act \(STCA\)](#)
- ix. [The New Mexico Army National Guard \(NMARNG\) Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan \(ICRMP\)](#)
- x. [Army Regulation \(AR\) 200-1 Environmental Protection and Enhancement](#)
- xi. [Air Force Instruction \(AFI\) 90-2002 Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes](#)

#### **4. State Tribal Collaboration Act Requirements**

##### *a. Effective Communication & Collaboration*

The Department of Military Affairs Tribal Liaison Program is focused on building and developing long-lasting relationships as well as conducting consultation with federally recognized American Indian / Alaska Native tribes, bands, nations, pueblos, or communities as required by federal laws and regulations. This promotes beneficial collaboration and effective communication between the NMNG and Tribal communities, engaging in regular and meaningful consultation.

In addition, the NMNG remains dedicated to being readily accessible for meetings with Nations, Pueblos and Tribes or [New Mexico Indian Affairs Department \(IAD\)](#) to address state-tribal matters, recommendations, and priorities. The NMNG's commitment to open communication and resolving issues is demonstrated through partnership with IAD.

##### *b. Promote Positive Government-to-Government Relations*

The NMNG strives to support government-to-government (G2G) relations within the State of New Mexico and the 24 federally recognized Nations, Pueblos and Tribes. This priority is demonstrated with our presence during annual events such as American Indian Day and the State Tribal Leaders Summit. Participation at these key functions reflects our dedication to strengthening and enhancing relations with the federally recognized Nations, Pueblos and Tribes of New Mexico (NM) as well as address issues of mutual concern. Additionally, the NMNG aims to inform Nations, Pueblos and Tribes of its steadfast commitment to responsible stewardship of the lands and works. The team facilitates and encourages state agency collaboration by engaging tribal partners and leaders in the expansion of services and resources.

##### *c. Promote Cultural Competency in Providing Effective Services*

While we are working diligently to revitalize the Tribal Liaison Program at DMA, the team has been actively involved in the Memorandum of Understanding for military low-level overflights of tribal lands, Innovative Readiness Training, New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy, recruitment & retention efforts, and collaborating with the New Mexico Department of Veteran Services. These efforts will be further discussed in this report.

##### *d. Agency Efforts to Implement Policy & Employee Notification about STCA*

The NMNG adheres to the STCA which provides the framework for the state and tribes to work together to develop successful programs and

services to benefit New Mexico's Native American citizens.

The Adjutant General (TAG), Major General Aguilar, revitalized the NMNG Tribal Liaison Program by appointing new Tribal Liaisons (State and NMNG) and implementing a process that facilitates tribal communication and collaboration. He also designates Tribal Liaisons to oversee the coordination and execution of the policy's implementation. This meeting ensures STCA and other IAD priorities are disseminated to employees in a timely manner.

*e. Training*

DMA Tribal Liaisons possess the State Tribal Collaboration Act Certification, indicating their proficiency in adhering to the guidelines and requirements outlined in the Act.

Additionally, DMA ANG Tribal Liaisons have taken the *Effective American Indian Communication and Consultation Course* held by Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC). This training covers compliance with Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 4710.02, DoD Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes, and Department of Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 90-2002, Interactions with Federally Recognized Tribes. The course trains personnel on the creation of an installation Tribal Relations Plan and how to organize Government-to-Government meetings.

The team will continue to attend regular training to further develop and enhance the program. This will aid in proficient Tribal consultation and further strengthen relationships.

*f. State Tribal Leaders Summit: June 10, 2025*

DMA Tribal Liaison attended the State Tribal Leaders Summit at the Santa Fe Indian School in Santa Fe, NM. Topics discussed include:

1. 2025 Federal Actions Impacting the State of New Mexico and Tribes
2. Economic Development in Indian Country
3. Capital Outlay and the Tribal Infrastructure Fund (TIF)

**5. Collaboration and Consultation with Nations, Pueblos and Tribes**

*a. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Military Low-level Overflights of Tribal Lands*

This Memorandum of Understanding between the NM Indian Affairs Department (IAD) and the NM National Guard (NMNG) was created to address the on-going concern of military over-flights within Native

American communities in the State of New Mexico. The objective of the MOU is to increase and improve dialogue between federal and state agencies and federally recognized Native American communities for the respect, protection and preservation of lands and culture in New Mexico.

An Indian Affairs Notice to Airmen (IA NOTAM) request can be submitted by any New Mexican Nation, Pueblo or Tribe for regularly scheduled events, non-publishable and/or unscheduled events up to 30 days before the effective start date of the request. This MOU can also serve as a national template to show that collaboration between state agencies, military personnel and tribal nations can be achieved.

**MOU between Native American communities & all military installations in NM**

Tribe	Agency	Agreement Name	Current Status	Signatures
All NM Nations, Pueblos and Tribes	Dept. of Military Affairs	Low Level Flying MOU	Current until Superseded	NM IAD NMNG, The Adjutant General (TAG) 49 <sup>th</sup> Wing Commander 58 <sup>th</sup> SOW Commander 377 <sup>th</sup> Wing Commander 27 <sup>th</sup> SOW Commander

The forms on the IAD website are available to the entities who are listed in the MOU. This MOU only covers all known military flyovers in the State of New Mexico.

Please refer to the [NM IAD website](#) for guidance to submit a No Fly-Over request. The team helped coordinate the following Military Low-Level Flyover requests spanning from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025:

- 1. Pueblo of Acoma – July 9-14, 2024
- 2. Pueblo of Laguna – September 19, 2024
- 3. Pueblo of Laguna – October 5-6, 2024
- 4. Pueblo of Laguna – October 12-13, 2024
- 5. Pueblo of Laguna – March 1-2, 2025

**b. Innovative Readiness Training**

Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) is a Department of Defense (DOD) military training opportunity, exclusive to the United States and its territories, that delivers joint training opportunities to increase deployment readiness. Simultaneously, IRT provides key services such as healthcare, construction, transportation, and cybersecurity with lasting benefits for our American communities.

IRT is a collaborative program that leverages military contributions and



community resources to multiply value and cost savings for participants. Communities typically provide materials and basic services (e.g. facilities), while military units contribute personnel and training resources. IRT missions produce mission ready forces, civil-military partnerships, and stronger communities.

The NMNG is interested in participating in IRTs, however, Nations, Pueblos and Tribes will need to go through the process of applying to be considered under this program [here](#). While IRT is a federal program, NMNG leadership is interested in participating in smaller scale efforts locally. We encourage New Mexican Nations, Pueblos and Tribes to reach out to DMA's Tribal Liaisons to further discuss future collaborations.

c. *State Missions*

The New Mexico National Guard demonstrated our commitment to supporting Nations, Pueblos and Tribes in New Mexico. We provided support to the [Mescalero Apache Tribe](#) during the devastating Salt and South Fork Wildfires. In addition, we provided assistance for flooding, resulting from the ongoing monsoon season.

During these emergencies, New Mexico Soldiers and Airmen delivered over 150,000 filled sandbags, 24,000 empty sandbags, two sandbag machines, 2,800 linear feet of HESCO barriers for flood mitigation and over 240 cases of water and food supplies from the Salvation Army to the Tribe. This support crossed over from last years report to this one.

Additionally, the New Mexico National Guard leaned forward to directly support the Mescalero Apache Tribal Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the request of Tribal leadership. Ten Citizen-Airmen were embedded at the EOC to augment the local emergency manager in the areas of operations, communications, and logistics. The Airmen proved to be essential in supporting Tribal members and daily operations through:

- Water and food distribution
- HESCO (rapidly deployed barrier) placement for flood mitigation
- Sandbag operations
- Clothing, relief and medical supply distribution
- Establishing local radio communication networks
- Transmitting response requirement to the State EOC

This is the first time in recent memory that the New Mexico National Guard deployed into a Tribal Emergency Operation Center to serve at the direction of Tribal leadership. This action was indicative of the trust built between Mescalero Apache Tribal Leadership and Major General Aguilar in his role as the Commander of the New Mexico National Guard and

interim Secretary for the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Major General Aguilar met with the Mescalero Tribal Leadership early in the response to ensure their requirements were heard and understood. He established liaisons as well as daily coordination meetings to ensure clear lines of communication throughout the declared emergency to ensure all Mescalero requirements could be actioned in a timely manner. These efforts should be considered benchmarks for future emergencies that involve Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes in New Mexico.

This support has continued and in fact the New Mexico National Guard currently has Airmen and Soldiers on site in Mescalero assisting flood mitigation and response from this year's monsoon.

d. *Cultural Resources Management*

The NMNG is actively engaged in consultations with interested tribes regarding training, land surveys and clearances. NMNG installations make informed decisions regarding the cultural resources under their control in compliance with public laws, in support of the military mission, and consistent with sound principles of cultural resources management. The NMNG consults tribal governments before taking actions that affect federally recognized tribes. We assess the impact of NMNG plans, projects, programs, and activities on tribal trust resources and ensure that tribal government rights and concerns are fully considered. The NMNG has established a process for early coordination between staff elements, tenants, proponents of projects and actions, and other affected stakeholders to allow for proper identification, planning, and programming for cultural resource requirements.

This year, the DMA Environmental Department conducted an archaeological survey of a newly acquired 101-acre parcel located on the west side of DMA Headquarters in Santa Fe. The survey identified three separate sites containing cultural artifacts, one of which has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

We collaborated with DMA Environmental Department to host representatives from the Nambé Pueblo and Pueblo of Tesuque on separate occasions. During our meetings, the Environmental Department provided a brief on the survey and asked for consultation about the articles found on the site. We then accompanied the tribal representatives to the location to survey the land and check out the artifacts. We look forward to hosting more meetings with other Nations, Pueblos and Tribes to understand different perspectives and thoughts concerning the land and artifacts

e. [New Mexico Youth ChalleNGe Academy](#)

The NMNG provides opportunities to the youth of NM (16–18-year-olds) through the New Mexico Youth ChalleNGe Academy (NMYCA) located in Roswell, New Mexico. The mission of the NMYCA is to provide training, discipline, mentorship, education, leadership, character development, and life coping skills to New Mexico's youth so they may become productive citizens.

This free 17 1/2-month program starts with a demanding 22-week quasi-military residential phase in which Cadets will live in the NMYCA Barracks located on our Roswell campus. This is followed by a year of mentoring support to help graduates maintain positive lifestyles.

Once a Cadet graduates from the Residential Phase, the 12-month Post-Residential Phase begins. This phase requires Cadets to keep monthly contact with the trusted adult who has been chosen as a Mentor and their NMYCA Case Manager. The Mentor helps the Cadet stay on track and remain focused on their life goals during the Post Residential Phase while also making monthly contact with their Cadet's NMYCA Case Manager.

Although this program is offered to all youth in NM, many of our graduates are Native American youth. The NMYCA gives opportunity to Native American graduates and allows them to thrive and capitalize on the resources and opportunities available from the state. Completing the NMYCA not only provides students with high school equivalency diplomas but also equips them with strong leadership and discipline they can use throughout their lives.

The New Mexico Job ChalleNGe Academy's inaugural cycle begins 27 July. We will ensure that that Job and Youth ChalleNGe opportunities are communicated to Nations, Pueblos and Tribes.

6. [New Mexico National Guard](#)

This section is divided into three categories of service for Native Americans in New Mexico. We want to ensure we recognize those service members of the past who have paved the way, current service members in the NMNG and future generations who will raise their hand to take the oath.

a. *PAST: Veterans*

[Veteran's Symposium at Isleta Casino \(June 20, 2025\)](#)

The NMNG partnered with the [Native American Training Institute \(NATI\)](#) and the [NM Department of Veterans Services \(DVS\)](#) for a one-day Veterans Symposium. The event's goal is to ensure veterans have access

to the many benefits, entitlements and services provided by DVS, [Veterans Administration \(VA\)](#) and [Indian Health Services \(IHS\)](#). Veterans had the opportunity to voice their issues, concerns and needs directly to government officials, agencies and service providers. The NMNG provided a Flag folding ceremony to highlight the significance of the practice and to call to action the need for Honor Guards to assist with Veterans memorial services especially those taking place within Nations, Pueblos and Tribes in New Mexico.

### New Mexico Military Museum Documentary “Honor Song”

DMA Tribal Liaison and NMNG Tribal Liaisons collaborated with [Sovereign Mind Productions](#) to create the short documentary film "Honor Song." This film honors the rich heritage and contributions of Veterans, particularly those from Native and Indigenous backgrounds in the New Mexico region.

"Honor Song" highlights the fierce and beautiful tradition of protecting the land and people, a legacy carried through years of military service by Native Americans of the Southwest. It features stories from Veterans spanning from World War I to Operation Enduring Freedom, offering unique perspectives on military service and cultural experience.

The documentary also showcases the ongoing dedication of current service members, including the increasing involvement of Native American women and the integration of cultural traditions into military life.

The film aims to illuminate the extensive legacy of military service within Native American communities, honoring their enduring contributions, and exploring their culturally rooted service. Our collaboration included presenting our intentions to the All Pueblo Council of Governors (APCG), filming on the Navajo Nation, Pueblo of Acoma, and Pueblo of Zuni, as well as conducting interviews during the Native American Training Institute (NATI) Veterans Symposium at Isleta Resort and Casino.

The documentary debuted at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial in Albuquerque on November 2, 2024 and included the following Distinguished Guests: New Mexico Cabinet Secretary Designee – Economic Development Department, Rob Black and New Mexico Cabinet Secretary – Department of Veterans’ Services, Jamison Herrera.

In preparation for the film’s debut, the team participated in virtual and in-person meetings and assisted in the coordination of military ground assets and a private flyover. During the debut, one NMNG Tribal Liaison served as a flag bearer during the National Anthem and the other NMNG Tribal Liaison served as Master of Ceremonies.

The documentary has been featured at local libraries, Indigenous schools, and during drill weekend with the NMANG as well as at the Santa Fe Film Festival, Big Sky Film Festival, and Military & Veteran Entertainment Awards where it won Best Short Documentary by Veteran. We hope to collaborate again with Mr. Begay to feature members of the NMANG.

b. *PRESENT: New Mexico National Guardsmen*

Career Opportunities

Nations, Pueblos and Tribes in the State of New Mexico have an esteemed history of honorable military service. The NMNG continues to provide career opportunities within the Air and Army National Guard. It is an avenue for NM men and women to become a part of an organization that not only defends, protects, and serves the Nation but also the state of New Mexico. The professionalism, discipline, and highly skilled training that comes through our part-time military members is highly sought after by companies who recognize the value of having a NMNG member on their team. NMNG members can leverage their formal military and technical training, fostering job skills that would significantly benefit their community.

Native American Heritage Month (November 2024)

The New Mexico National Guard led a month-long effort focused on strengthening relationships and fostering collaboration across local communities. In partnership with Kirtland Air Force Base, the NMNG co-hosted a community event at the New Mexico Veterans Memorial Park in Albuquerque, NM.

NMNG members worked closely with local organizations, tribal communities, and partner agencies to coordinate and deliver a well-organized and meaningful gathering. The event featured opening remarks, a formal recognition ceremony honoring military service, and opportunities for local vendors and small business owners to connect with attendees and share their work with the greater Albuquerque community.

As part of the month's activities, NMNG also hosted local youth for a guided tour of Kirtland AFB, providing them with a first-hand look at military operations and career paths. Young participants were encouraged to share their talents and build confidence through public speaking and creative presentations — reinforcing our commitment to mentoring and inspiring the next generation. This joint effort between the New Mexico Army and Air National Guard, the 377th Air Base Wing, the 58th Special Operations Wing, and Sandia National Laboratories reflects a shared commitment to building lasting partnerships and engaging with the

communities we proudly serve.

c. *FUTURE: Native American Youth & Young Adults in NM*

New Mexico Air National Guard (NMANG), in coordination with Army National Guard partners, conducted a series of recruiting engagements across various tribal communities and schools. These efforts were part of a broader initiative to strengthen community relationships and expand awareness of joint Army and Air National Guard career opportunities. The outreach aimed to address longstanding recruiting challenges by directly engaging students, families, and school leadership.

Guard members shared personal stories and provided information on education benefits, technical training, and career advancement across both Air and Army National Guard service paths. Through open dialogue, representatives answered questions, highlighted the mission of the National Guard, and emphasized the value of military service in building leadership skills and future opportunities. The involvement of service members with local ties helped reinforce a sense of trust and demonstrate that Guard service is both accessible and compatible with community-centered values. This initiative reflects the New Mexico National Guard's ongoing commitment to building strong partnerships in rural and tribal areas, enhancing recruiting efforts through collaboration, and maintaining a trusted presence across the communities we serve.

This year we had the opportunity to participate in the following events geared toward Native American youth and young adults in NM:

i. Little Library Dedication @ Ojo Encino Chapter – Navajo Nation (September 20, 2024)

The New Mexico National Guard (NMNG) partnered with the Ojo Encino Chapter House (Navajo Nation) to complete the first installation of a Little Library, an initiative aimed at increasing access to books in rural areas during National Literacy Month. Cordell Jones of Simply Solid LLC donated materials and built the Little Library while members of the 150<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing, Holy Ghost Catholic School and Osuna Elementary School contributed over 1,700 books during its first official NMANG book drive.

This collaboration reflects NMNG's continued efforts to engage with local communities and support initiatives that promote education and long-term development. The project included coordination with the Ojo Encino Day School, which brought 145 kinder through eighth grade students to participate in the event.

The NMANG Book Drive campaign is part of a broader effort to expand access to reading materials in areas where traditional libraries may not be available. By supporting projects like this, the NMNG is investing in the future of New Mexico communities and helping foster a culture of learning and connection. This project serves as a model for future partnerships aimed at delivering meaningful, community-focused outcomes.

ii. Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) Indian Education Department – College, Career and Tribal Resource Fair (September 21, 2024)

DMA Tribal Liaison, NMNG Tribal Liaison, some Airmen volunteers, and NMARNG Recruiting represented the NMNG at this recruiting event that was held at the APS' Bernia Facio Professional Development Center.

iii. Show & Tell/Job Shadow @ Kirtland AFB (November 14, 2024)

DMA Tribal Liaison, NMNG Tribal Liaison and members of the 250<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron joined the 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing to welcome middle and high students from Pueblo of Zuni to Kirtland AFB. During their visit, the students had the opportunity to try on military gear, learn how to perform CPR and how to use a tourniquet, how to use a fire hose, and viewed some aircraft on the flight line. After exploring these different military specialties, they joined military members and civilians during lunch time and had conversations about their futures and what they wanted to do once they graduated from high school. The students had an amazing time, and we hope to host more schools in the future.

iv. Mescalero Apache Youth Development Day (December 5, 2024)

Last summer, NMNG successfully collaborated with the Mescalero Apache Tribe when they were experiencing natural disasters. After that collaboration, they reached out to leadership to invite the NMNG to participate in Youth Development Day where we spent time with the Tribal youth communicating opportunities including the New Mexico National Guard, Youth ChalleNGe Academy, and Job ChalleNGe Academy.

The NMNG coordinated assets including UH-60 Black Hawk, Humvee, LMTV, an obstacle course as well as representatives from Recruiting, Youth ChalleNGe Academy, and Job ChalleNGe Academy. We also invited US Air Force Veteran, Mr. Ryan Begay to show his documentary, Honor Song, featuring Native American Veterans and Native American individuals currently serving in the military. Speakers included Mescalero Tribal Member, SSG

Janessa Shendo and Commandant Richard Martinez as well as a few cadets from the Youth ChalleNGe Academy. The Elementary, Middle, and High School students enjoyed the different activities offered for the day so much that the Tribe has invited us to come out next year and do it again. We look forward to this event and possibly coordinating it for other Nations, Pueblos and Tribes in the future.

v. Career Fair @ Santa Fe Indian School (March 21, 2025)

DMA Tribal Liaison, NMNG Tribal Liaison, and NMNG Recruiting represented the NMNG at this recruiting event.

vi. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tribal Youth Summit (June 20, 2025)

DMA Tribal Liaison attended the First Annual Tribal Youth Summit held at the Berna Facio Professional Development Center in Albuquerque, NM. The Summit's focus was: *Rooted in Tradition, Rise as Leaders*. She had the opportunity to engage with a network of fellow youth leaders, mentors, educators, and tribal representatives with the purpose of honoring their roots while paving the path forward. It was an amazing opportunity to listen and hear from our Tribal youth.

## 7. Additional Events

- a. On September 30, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison participated in Orange Shirt Day. This day opens the door to global conversation on all aspects of Residential Schools and their impacts on Native American and First Nations children, families, and communities.
- b. On October 16 – 17, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison participated in the Government-to-Government Tribal Education Summit.
- c. On October 28 – 30, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison attended the World Indigenous Business Forum (WIBF) in Albuquerque, NM. This Forum brings together leaders of host countries representing Indigenous communities and Indigenous leaders and supporters from around the world to discuss Indigenous Economic Development.
- d. On November 15, 2024, NMNG Tribal Liaison served as a Keynote Speaker for Native American Heritage Month at the Pentagon in Arlington, VA. His presentation highlighted the ancestral roots of Air Force Native American members, sharing stories of resilience, heritage preservation, and the enduring traditions that have shaped his identity.
- e. On November 18, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison and NMNG Tribal Liaisons



attended a Tribal Leaders Meeting with leadership from Kirtland and Holloman AFB. Military leaders presented what their respective areas do and had open dialogue with Tribal Leaders.

- f. On November 21, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison attended the All Pueblo Council of Governors Meeting virtually.
- g. On December 12 – 13, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison attended New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy Cycle 47 Cadet Awards Banquet and Graduation in Roswell, NM to support cadets from Mescalero Apache Tribe and Navajo Nation.
- h. On December 28, 2024, DMA Tribal Liaison and NMNG Tribal Liaison attended holiday celebrations at the Pueblo of Acoma per invitation of the Governor. We toured the Pueblo and watched the dances.
- i. On February 7, 2025, NMNG Tribal Liaison took part in American Indian Day at the Legislature, hosted at the State Capitol in Santa Fe. The purpose of the event was to highlight the importance of problem-solving and to promote unity between the State and Native American communities.
- j. On March 14 - 15, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison and Commander of the 150<sup>th</sup> Medical Group volunteered for the Remote Area Medical (RAM) non-profit event in Gallup, NM held at Gallup High School. The event provided medical, dental and vision services at no cost. While our goal was to shadow and get more information about RAMs for an upcoming one in Albuquerque, our contribution also helped 259 patients and provided a little under \$163K in services to the surrounding community members who are experiencing a medical drought (lack of medical professionals in a particular area). We look forward to coordinating NMNG members for future RAM events in the state.
- k. On April 2, 2025, Kirtland Leadership and DMA Tribal Liaison conducted a meeting with the Pueblo of Isleta leadership and police at their tribal office. We discussed low level flyovers specifically what steps would be taken if there were a military crash or emergency landing on their lands. Kirtland Leadership looks forward to collaborating with the Pueblo of Isleta to create an official emergency plan.
- l. On April 9, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison attended the Bataan Ceremony in Santa Fe, NM.
- m. On April 16, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison and NMNG Tribal Liaison attended a Tribal Liaison In-person Meeting at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.
- n. On May 3, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison attended the Department of

Veterans' Services Veteran's Conference in Santa Fe, NM.

- o. On May 5, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison attended an event for National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Day, dedicated to honoring those affected by the disappearance of a loved one. It is a day of solidarity, support, and remembrance for families, friends, and relatives impacted by these tragedies. The event was hosted by [IAD](#) and the [Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women \(CSVANW\)](#) at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center. The event featured presentations from Secretary Monette, Tiffany Jiron (Executive Director of CSVANW), David Adams (Partner, Parnall & Adams Law), Hozho Total Wellness and the Pueblo Action Alliance.
- p. On May 15, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison and NMNG Tribal Liaison attended the Tribal Veterans Symposium hosted by the Santa Clara Pueblo.
- q. On May 16, 2025, DMA Tribal Liaison attended the Native American Sub-Committee Behavioral Health Summit held at the Isleta Resort and Casino.

#### **8. Goals for State Fiscal Year 2026 relating to Nations, Pueblos and Tribes**

- a. DMA Tribal Liaison Program (TLP) aims to further enhance its relationships with Nations, Pueblos and Tribes of NM by proactively seeking avenues to engage and facilitate meaningful discussions regarding knowledge of our capabilities, collaborative activities, and opportunities for membership in the NM Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and State Defense Force.
- b. DMA TLP looks forward to using the State Tribal Consultation Guidebook and State Tribal Consultation Toolkit in the field once the Indian Affairs Department makes a final copy available for use.
- c. DMA TLP plans to work with IAD and Nations, Pueblos and Tribes to review and update the Memorandum of Understanding - Military Low-level Overflights of Tribal Lands.
- d. DMA TLP would like to collaborate with all military installations within the state. This will ensure effective communication and strengthen processes as it relates to the State Tribal Collaboration Act. This strategic approach aims to establish a comprehensive framework that optimizes the potential of all stakeholders involved to be a more synergetic asset to NM.
- e. DMA TLP will continue to facilitate stronger government to government collaboration, uphold tribal sovereignty, and promote community well-being. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with the Department of Veterans Services as well as other agencies and

community groups.

- f. DMA TLP would like to engage with the Indigenous Youth Council as well as participate in STREAM (science, technology, reading, writing, engineering, arts and mathematics) events for Native American youth.
- g. During our Key Leader Engagement (KLE) on July 7 -11, 2024 in Costa Rica, TAG learned about indigenous populations that are struggling with challenges similar to those of our Native American communities in New Mexico: protecting and preserving indigenous languages, connectivity in rural areas, bringing remote education to these areas, and fostering female indigenous entrepreneurship. DMA TLP looks forward to participating in the next KLE to establish relationships with our Costa Rican partners and share our best practices regarding these topics.
- h. DMA TLP looks forward to working with leadership to formalize our program, develop a charter, create TAG approved objectives as well as a strategic plan. We believe this program is the best in the nation and we would like to press forward with formalizing it so it can be exported to other communities that really need what our team has built.



Photo 1: Mescalero Apache Emergency Operation Ctr

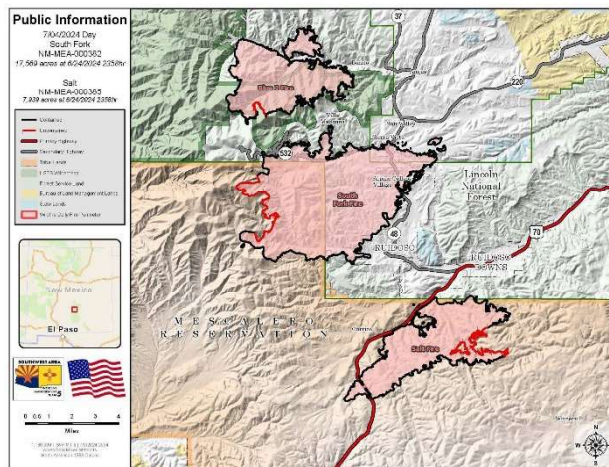


Photo 2: Map of Salt and South Fork Fires

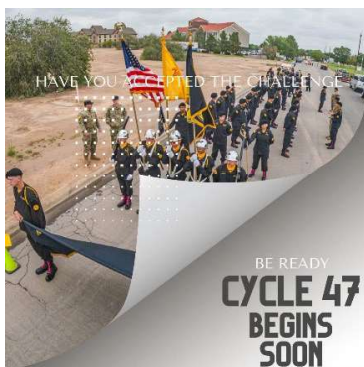


Photo 3: New Mexico Youth Challenge Academy: Cycle 47



Photo 4: NMYCA assisting during Roswell flood (photo - J. Halvorson)



Photo 5: Cadet Clah graduating from NMYCA - Cycle 47



Photo 6: Remote Area Medical Truck - Gallup, NM



Photo 7: Remote Area Medical - Triage Area





Photo 8: Native American Heritage Month – Unity Day



Photo 9: Native American Heritage Month – Unity Day



Photo 10: Heritage Month Flyer

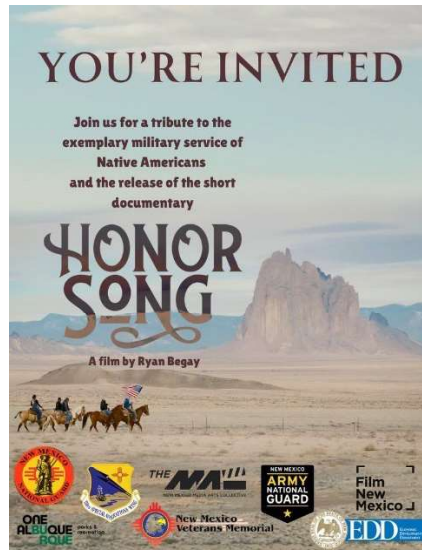


Photo 11: Honor Song Invitation

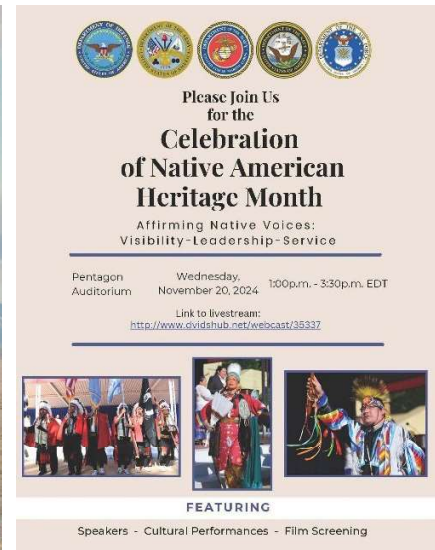


Photo 12: Heritage Month – Pentagon



Photo 13: Honor Song Documentary – Flyover



Photo 14: Honor Song Documentary





Photo 15: Little Library Dedication – Ojo Encino Chapter



Photo 16: Little Library Dedication–Ojo Encino Day School



Photo 17: Zuni Show & Tell/Job Shadow @ KAFB



Photo 18: Career Fair – Santa Fe Indian School



Photo 19: Mescalero Apache Youth Development Day



Photo 20: Mescalero Apache Youth Development Day

## 9. Key Names and Contact Information

- a. **NMNG The Adjutant General (TAG)**  
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[ng.nm.nmarng.mbx.cmd-workflow@army.mil](mailto:ng.nm.nmarng.mbx.cmd-workflow@army.mil)
- b. **State of New Mexico – Department of Military Affairs**  
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- c. **NMNG Tribal Liaisons**  

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- e. **New Mexico National Guard Director of Public Affairs**  
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- g. **New Mexico Army National Guard Recruiting & Retention**  
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- h. **New Mexico Air National Guard Recruiting & Retention**  
Chad Peterson, Senior Master Sergeant, NMANG  
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## 10.ACRONYMS

- a. **DMA**: Department of Military Affairs
- b. **TAG**: the Adjutant General
- c. **NMNG**: New Mexico National Guard
- d. **ANG**: Air National Guard
- e. **ARNG**: Army National Guard
- f. **DoDI**: Department of Defense Instruction
- g. **STCA**: State Tribal Collaboration Act
- h. **NMARNG**: New Mexico Army National Guard
- i. **ICRMP**: Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan
- j. **AR**: Army Regulation
- k. **AFI**: Air Force Regulation
- l. **IAD**: Indian Affairs Department
- m. **G2G**: government-to-government
- n. **NM**: New Mexico
- o. **AFCEC**: Air Force Civil Engineering Center
- p. **DAFI**: Department of Air Force Instruction
- q. **MOU**: Memorandum of Understanding
- r. **IA NOTAM**: Indian Affairs Notice to Airmen
- s. **IRT**: Innovative Readiness Training
- t. **DOD**: Department of Defense
- u. **EOC**: Emergency Operation Center
- v. **NMYCA**: New Mexico Youth ChalleNGe Academy
- w. **NATI**: Native American Training Institute
- x. **DVS**: Department of Veteran Services



- y. **VA:** Veterans Administration
- z. **IHS:** Indian Health Services
- aa. **APCG:** All Pueblo Council of Governors
- bb. **NAHC:** Native American Heritage Council
- cc. **BAWG:** Barrier Analysis Working Group
- dd. **INET:** Indigenous Nations Equality Team
- ee. **DAF:** Department of Air Force
- ff. **AFB:** Air Force Base
- gg. **CSVANW:** Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women
- hh. **SWIF:** Southwest Indian Foundation
- ii. **TLP:** Tribal Liaison Program
- jj. **KLE:** Key Leader Engagement

## State Tribal Collaboration Act Compilation Report Template

### Department:

Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

### Mission:

#### *a. Department of Military Affairs*

To provide administrative, financial, and logistical support to the Office of The Adjutant General (TAG), Army National Guard, Air National Guard, State Defense Force, Civil Air Patrol and the State Armory Board.

#### *b. New Mexico National Guard*

The NMNG is a sustainable force that is ready to support the community and execute all Federal and State missions.

#### *c. DMA/NMNG Tribal Liaison Program*

The mission of the DMA and NMNG Tribal Liaisons is to foster strong, respectful, and collaborative relationships between the National Guard and the Native American Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes of New Mexico. We are dedicated to promoting mutual understanding, cultural awareness and effective communication to support the unique needs and interests of tribal communities. Our commitment is to ensure that the voices of our tribal partners are heard and valued, while facilitating meaningful engagement and cooperation in areas of mutual interest and benefit. Through this partnership, we aim to enhance the well-being and security of all communities across New Mexico.

### Divisions and Programs that Collaborate with Tribes:

1. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): Military Low-level Overflights of Tribal Lands
2. Innovative Readiness Training (IRT)
3. State Missions
4. Cultural Resources Management
5. New Mexico Youth ChalleNGe Academy (NMYCA)
6. New Mexico National Guard (NMNG)

### FY 2025 Top 3 Accomplishments related to Tribes:

1. Little Library Dedication at Ojo Encino Chapter (Navajo Nation) – September 20, 2024.

2. Mescalero Apache Youth Development Day – December 5, 2024.
3. Remote Area Medical Event in Gallup, NM – March 14 -15, 2025.

FY 2026 Top 3 Goals/Objectives related to Tribes:

1. DMA Tribal Liaison Program (TLP) aims to further enhance its relationships with Nations, Pueblos and Tribes of NM by proactively seeking avenues to engage and facilitate meaningful discussions regarding knowledge of our capabilities, collaborative activities, and opportunities for membership in the NM Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and State Defense Force.
2. DMA TLP would like to engage with the Indigenous Youth Council as well as participate in STREAM (science, technology, reading, writing, engineering, arts and mathematics) events for Native American youth.
3. DMA TLP looks forward to working with leadership to formalize our program, develop a charter, create TAG approved objectives as well as a strategic plan. We believe this program is the best in the nation and we would like to press forward with formalizing it so it can be exported to other communities that really need what our team has built.