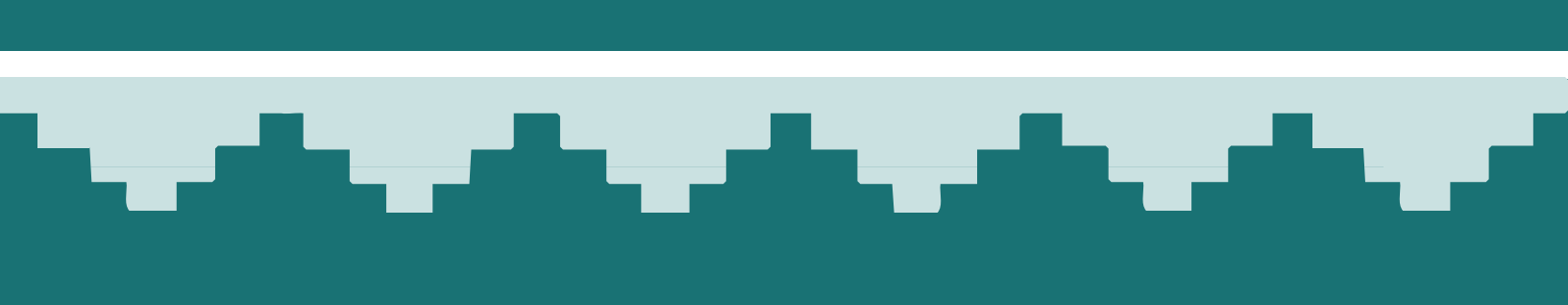




State-Tribal Collaboration Act 2026 Agency Report

NMDA
New Mexico Department of Agriculture





STATE-TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT
2026 AGENCY REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
II. AGENCY OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND.....	3
A. Mission Statement	
B. Agency Overview	
C. Additional Tribal Collaboration/Consultation Policy	
III. DIVISIONS & PROGRAMS THAT COLLABORATE w/NPTs.....	4
IV. AGENCY EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT POLICY	4
V. CURRENT/PLANNED PROGRAMS & SERVICES FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES.....	6
VI. TRAINING & EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION OF STCA	14
VII. KEY NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION	15



STATE-TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT 2026 AGENCY REPORT

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) looks forward to continuing to work with its tribal partners through formal service solicitations and increased outreach efforts.

II. AGENCY OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

A. Mission Statement

NMDA promotes a fair marketplace, food protection, marketing, and economic development; supports the beneficial use and conservation of natural resources; and works cooperatively with the public and private sectors.

B. Agency Overview

New Mexico's food and agriculture industry continues to be an economic driver across the state and is one of the most diverse in the nation. As such, NMDA is responsible for various laws, regulations, and programs that protect the consumer, enhance food safety, and provide unique and creative marketing programs to assist New Mexico's producers and processors (Table 1). NMDA operates under the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Board of Regents and serves on the NMSU President's Cabinet, Vice President's Council, and Administrative Council.

The Director of NMDA also serves as the Secretary of Agriculture on the Governor's Cabinet. The Director/Secretary is the agriculture industry's official representative to the state and federal government. This unique role as a Cabinet-level agency and member of the NMSU community allows NMDA to combine regulatory functions with research and extension initiatives with colleges across the university.

For transparency and accountability to its constituents, NMDA uses performance-based budgeting within the NMSU system and publishes a biennial report posted on the NMDA website: <https://nmdeptag.nmsu.edu>. NMDA advocates for and promotes New Mexico's agricultural industries through approaches that use the latest science, technology, and economic strategies. NMDA collaborates with over fifty-five state and national boards, commissions, and organizations by providing technical assistance, finalizing marketing and promotion assistance, and providing regulatory oversight and service.

C. Additional Tribal Collaboration/Consultation Policy

None

III. DIVISIONS & PROGRAMS THAT COLLABORATE WITH NPTs

Table 1. NMDA's division/industry programs and their primary areas of responsibility

DIVISION/PROGRAMS	PRIMARY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY
Agricultural and Environmental Services (AES) Division	Provide nursery plant inspections, permits, licensing, invasive plant pest surveys, plant pest eradication, and consumer protection services related to pesticides, exports of raw agricultural products, THC compliance in hemp, and plant pests.
Agricultural Programs and Resources (APR) Division	Provide policy analysis to agencies and stakeholders regarding state and federal environmental regulations and natural resource issues. Assist soil and water conservation districts. Administer natural resources-related grant programs.
Agricultural and Production Services (APS) Division	Provide inspections, licenses, and consumer protection services related to dairy, feed, seed, fertilizer, and produce. Advise and administer programs related to agricultural biosecurity.
Laboratory Division	Provide analysis services related to petroleum, metrology, feed, seed, fertilizer, and pesticides.
Marketing and Development (MD) Division	Develop national and international marketing programs for state agricultural businesses, the organic program, market news and the fruit and vegetable inspection program.
Standards and Consumer Services (SCS) Division	Provide inspections, licenses, registers, and consumer protection services related to weights and measures, petroleum, and other consumer items.
Veterinary Diagnostic Services (VDS) Division	Provide diagnostic services related to livestock, domestic animals, and wildlife.
Legislative and Governmental Affairs	Provide support for agricultural-related legislation.

IV. AGENCY EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT POLICY (11-18-4.C (1)(3))

- A. This past year, NMDA continued the outreach initiative between NMDA and all New Mexico tribes, pueblos, and nations. The Tribal Liaison actively participated in Tribal Liaison meetings coordinated by the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD).
- B. NMDA provided tribes and pueblos with contact information linking them to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) disaster assistance and recovery programs.
- C. The Director/Secretary and Government Affairs Manager participated in the annual tribal

summit, which allowed us to interact with our tribal partners while providing education on the services and opportunities available through NMDA.

- D. NMDA's AES Division continues to address tribal members questions regarding pesticide-related testing, certification, and licensing procedures with the EPA, upon request.
- E. NMDA's MD division maintains a longstanding relationship with Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI), continually working with their leadership to develop new markets and enhance existing ones. This past year, the division continued efforts to collaborate with NAPI staff to develop their international and domestic marketing programs. We also funded and supported multiple grants supporting locally produced and processed foods from New Mexico Pueblos and Tribes, including efforts that provide agricultural education, technical assistance, and resources to help producers diversify specialty crop production and strengthen local food systems. The Department and affiliated industry groups have used the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque for food and agricultural events/meetings.
- F. NMDA's SCS Division conducted inspections at the request of Tribal governments, supporting consumer protection and ensuring equity.
- G. NMDA's SCS Division achieved a Memorandum of Agreement with the Pueblo of Zuni, which enabled staff to perform livestock scale and retail device inspections, benefiting local ranchers, retailers, and consumers.
- H. NMDA's VDS Division has a longstanding working relationship with veterinarians serving our tribal partners' animal population. VDS continues to collaborate with numerous tribal entities to diagnose diseases that affect livestock, pets, and wildlife.
- I. In fiscal year 2026 (FY26), NMDA's APR Division implemented the second year of agency funding from New Mexico's Land of Enchantment Legacy Fund (LOE fund). NMDA has two grant programs supported by the LOE Fund open to pueblos, tribes and nations as eligible applicants: it's Healthy Soil Program and Noxious Weeds Management Program. In FY26, NMDA awarded two Healthy Soil Program grants and three Noxious Weed Management Grants to tribal partners. NMDA-funded projects included:
 - Health Soil Program grant to Pueblo of Cochiti
 - Health Soil Program grant to Navajo Nation
 - Noxious Weed Management Grant to Pueblo of Sandia.
 - Two Noxious Weed Management Grants to Santa Clara Pueblo

APR staff attended various tribal events around the state to offer information about NMDA's programs and engaged with tribes, nations, and pueblos on invasive species management, grant administration, technical assistance, training, and natural resource planning. FY26 activities included:

- Attendance of First Nations Development Institute's "NATIVE NOW: Coffee Chat" in Albuquerque on August 6 to promote NMDA programs available to tribal governments and members in New Mexico.
- Meeting with NMSU Tribal Extension agent on September 11, 2025, to seek input on how NMDA can better promote the Healthy Soil Program to tribal governments and tribal members.

- Tabling for NMDA's Healthy Soil Program at Acoma Pueblo Water Summit, Acoma Community Center on September 12, 2025.
- Tabling for NMDA's Healthy Soil, Agricultural Workforce Development, and Noxious Weed programs at the Pueblo of Isleta Agricultural Workshop held in Bosque Farms on September 18, 2025.
- Participation in the Jemez Pueblo Invasive Site Assessment Field Day.
- Coordination of technical assistance and herbicide applicator training for the Santa Clara Pueblo.
- Attendance of Zuni Mountains Collaborative (ZMC) 2025 annual all-partners gathering to reconnect stakeholders, share updates on ecological and economic restoration, and outline community resilience strategies. Partners included the Pueblo of Zuni, the Pueblo of Laguna, the Pueblo of Acoma, and regional Navajo communities.
- Support for invasive species and grant-development efforts with the Pueblos of Nambé, Acoma, Zia, and Sandia; administration of Noxious Weed Management Grant awards and agreements; and collaboration on invasive species data management and resource stewardship initiatives.

V. CURRENT AND PLANNED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR NATIVE COMMUNITIES (11-18-4.C (5))

NMDA will continue outreach to ensure collaboration and access to NMDA programs and resources.

Agricultural and Environmental Services Division

Pueblo: Santa Clara
 Interaction: At the request of Santa Clara Pueblo, AES held a training and licensing event for pesticide applicators. Approximately six applicators attended the training session.
 Type: Training and Licensing
 Contact: Invitation by Pueblo members
 Date: June 29, 2026

Agricultural Programs and Resources Division

Pueblo: Pueblo of Cochiti
 Interaction: NMDA awarded Pueblo of Cochiti Healthy Soil Program grant funding to implement a project involving livestock grazing and cover crops.
 Type: Grant Funding
 Contact: Charles England and Dominique Quintana, Pueblo of Cochiti
 Date: July 15, 2025-September 30, 2026 (Grant Period)

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: NMDA awarded Navajo Nation Healthy Soil Program grant funding to implement a cropland project on Navajo Agricultural Project Industry (NAPI) lands.
 Type: Grant Funding
 Contact: Dave Zeller, NAPI
 Date: July 15, 2025-September 30, 2026 (Grant Period)

Pueblo: Santa Clara Pueblo

Interaction: NMDA awarded Santa Clara Pueblo a spring-cycle noxious weeds management grant to implement the Pueblo's Invasive Plant Species Management Plan.

Type: Grant Funding

Contact: Lawrence Atencio, Santa Clara Pueblo Forestry Department

Date: July 15, 2025-October 31, 2026 (Grant Period)

Pueblo: Santa Clara Pueblo

Interaction: NMDA awarded Santa Clara Pueblo a fall-cycle noxious weeds management grant to implement the Pueblo's Invasive Plant Species Management Plan.

Type: Grant Funding

Contact: Ivan Shije, Santa Clara Pueblo Forestry Department

Date: January 1, 2026-October 31, 2026 (Grant Period)

Pueblo: Pueblo of Sandia

Interaction: NMDA awarded Pueblo of Sandia a fall-cycle noxious weeds management grant funding to treat non-native phreatophytes on Pueblo Bosque.

Type: Grant Funding

Contact: Michael Scialdone, Pueblo of Sandia

Date: January 1, 2026-September 30, 2026 (Grant Period)

Pueblo: Statewide Outreach

Interaction: NMDA APR Staff conducted program outreach at tribal events throughout the state, including Acoma Pueblo Water Summit, Jemez Pueblo Invasive Site Assessment Field Day, Zuni Mountains Collaborative (ZMC) 2025 Annual All-partners Gathering, Santa Clara Pueblo Herbicide Applicators Training. Staff will continue program outreach efforts ahead of FY28 grant cycles.

Type: In-Person Outreach

Date: Ongoing throughout 2026-2027

Marketing and Development Division

Nation: Navajo

Interaction: Staff invited Navajo Agricultural Products Industry (NAPI) to participate and exhibit within the New Mexico Pavilion at the National Restaurant Association Show in Chicago, IL using a cost-share incentive through the New Mexico Taste the Tradition® and Grown with Tradition® Logo Program. NAPI, represented Navajo-grown products and participated in this tradeshow.

Type: Phone, email and in-person

Contact: Vincent Cowboy

Date: 11/5/2025 – 6/4/2026

Nation: Navajo

Interaction: Staff invited Mr. Will Thompson and Chef Liz McKenzie with Prickly Foods to participate and exhibit within the New Mexico Pavilion at the National Restaurant Association Show in Chicago, IL using a cost-share incentive through the New Mexico Taste the Tradition® and Grown with Tradition® Logo Program. Prickly Foods participated in this trade show.

Type: Phone, email and in-person

Contact: Will Thompson

Date: 11/5/2025 – 6/4/2026

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff invited Mr. Will Thompson to participate and exhibit within the New Mexico Pavilion at the Summer Fancy Food Show in New York, NY using a cost-share incentive through a USDA Specialty Crop Block Program Grant awarded to the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. Prickly Foods exhibited at this show.
 Type: Phone, email and in-person
 Contact: Will Thompson
 Date: 5/14/2026

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff visited Logo Program members Flavors of the Hogan and Covenant Pathways/Spirit Farm, toured their farm and facilities, learned about their programs, provided promotional materials, and informed them of Logo Program benefits and NMDA opportunities.
 Type: Phone, email and in-person
 Contact: James and Joyce Skeet
 Date: 7/23/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff executed a booth at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day. Staff networked with NAPI representatives and disseminated information about NMDA grants and programs to producers and indigenous organizations and non-profits. Other attendees, including local students, interacted with the tabletop peanut display and learned about NM agriculture.
 Type: In-person
 Contact: Kevin A. Lombard, PhD, Vincent Cowboy, and Tania Johnson
 Date: 7/24/2025

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff met Ms. Rhoda Adeky with FoodCorps at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day and provided information about the Agricultural Workforce Development Program and the Logo Program. Staff followed up via email, inviting her organization to join the Logo Program.
 Type: In-person, email
 Contact: Rhoda Adeky
 Date: 7/24/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff met Ms. Dorine Lewis, a Navajo grower whose products include Navajo tea at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day and provided information about the Agricultural Workforce Development Program and the Logo Program. Staff followed up via email, inviting her to join the Logo Program.
 Type: In-person, email
 Contact: Dorine Lewis
 Date: 7/24/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
 Interaction: Staff met Mr. Ernest D. Reed, a Navajo farmer whose products include chile and corn at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day and provided information about the Agricultural Workforce Development Program and the Logo Program. Staff followed up via email, inviting him to join the Logo Program.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Ernest D. Reed
Date: 7/24/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
Interaction: Staff met Ms. Lesa Shorthair, a Navajo farmer, at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day and provided information about the Agricultural Workforce Development Program and the Logo Program. Staff followed up via email, inviting her to join the Logo Program.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Lesa Shorthair
Date: 7/24/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
Interaction: Staff connected with Navajo Ethno-Agriculture, a Navajo Education Farm, at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day and provided information about the Agricultural Workforce Development Program and the Logo Program. Staff followed up via email, inviting them to join the Logo Program.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Gloria Lane and Emiliano McLane
Date: 7/24/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo
Interaction: Staff met Ms. Daveishena Red House at the NMSU Farmington Agricultural Center Field Day. Daveishena was screening the Gold King Mine Spill documentary she helped create. Staff followed up by email sharing their contacts with NMSU KRWG Public Media and Aggie Vision, the Museum of New Mexico Foundation, and the United Native American Organization at NMSU in hopes of creating opportunities to screen the documentary.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Daveishena Red House and Kevin A. Lombard, PhD
Date: 7/24/2025 and 8/1/2025

Nation: Navajo
Interaction: Staff met Ms. Hannah Mariano while visiting Logo Program member Covenant Pathways/Spirit Farms. Ms. Mariano has applied for the Logo Program, and staff is assisting her in gathering the documentation needed for membership.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Hannah Mariano
Date: 7/23/2025, ongoing

Pueblo: Jemez
Interaction: Mangum Enterprises dba New Mexico Specialty Foods enrolled in the Logo Program. Staff continue to provide regular updates about program benefits and NMDA/WUSATA opportunities.

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Barbara Mangum
Date: 9/15/2025, ongoing

Pueblo: Acoma

Interaction: NM LA Beef enrolled in the Logo Program. Staff continue to provide regular updates about program benefits and NMDA/WUSATA opportunities.

Type: Email, phone

Contact: Gilbert Louis

Date: 10/23/2025, ongoing

Nation: Navajo

Interaction: Staff met Ms. Kiera McCabe with Skoden Farms at Golden Chile Awards Ceremony. Ms. McCabe was informed about the Logo Program, and her subsequent application is being processed.

Type: In-person, email, phone

Contact: Kiera McCabe

Date: 12/1/2025, ongoing

Tribe/Pueblo: All

Interaction: Staff met Mr. Alan Brauer with the Indigenous Farm Hub at the National Farm to Cafeteria Conference. Mr. Bauer was informed about the Logo Program and follow up emails have been sent, inviting them to join the program.

Type: In-person, email

Contact: Alan Brauer

Date: 12/2/2025, ongoing

Pueblo: Taos

Interaction: Staff met Micah Roseberry who was representing A.I.R.E. Taos at the National Farm to Cafeteria Conference. Ms. Roseberry was informed about the Logo Program. Follow up emails have been sent, inviting them to join the program.

Type: In-person, email

Contact: Micah Roseberry

Date: 12/2/2025, ongoing

Pueblo: Ohkay Owingeh

Interaction: Turtle Mountain Brewing Company enrolled in the Logo Program and participated in the cost-share reimbursement incentive offered to breweries who entered in the World Cup brewing competition. Staff continue to provide regular updates about program benefits and NMDA/WUSATA opportunities.

Type: Email

Contact: Nico Ortiz

Date: March 2026, ongoing

Pueblo: Isleta

Interaction: Staff met Mr. Warren Edaakie at the Joint Stockmen's Convention. Mr. Edaakie was informed about the Logo Program, and his application for Myster E Farms is being processed.

Type: In-person, email

Contact: Warren Edaakie

Date: 12/11/2025, ongoing

Pueblo: San Felipe

Interaction: NMDA-MD staff met Ms. P. LaShon Sandoval Cate with Just Peachy Biscochitos

LLC at the SW Chocolate & Coffee Fest in April 2025. Ms. Sandoval Cate applied to the Logo Program in April 2025. Staff worked with Ms. Sandoval Cate to complete the documentation. While visiting Just Peachy Biscochitos LLC at her National Restaurant Association Show booth in the American Indian Foods Pavilion, staff was able to assist her in completing her application. Staff continue to provide regular updates about program benefits and NMDA/WUSATA opportunities.

Type: In-person, email, phone
Contact: P. LaShon Sandoval Cate
Date: 5/17/2026, ongoing

Nation/Pueblo: Navajo, Isleta

Interaction: New Mexico Grown with Tradition® and Taste the Tradition® Logo Program members can sell and sample their products in NMDA's New Mexico State Fair Country Store. Indigenous owned businesses that participated in this opportunity included Flavors of the Hogan, Behempful, Mangum Enterprises dba New Mexico Specialty Foods, Apple Canyon Gourmet, and Prickly Foods

Type: In-person, email
Contact: Joyce and James Skeet, MJ Balizan, Barbara Mangum, Anna Shawver, Will Thompson and Chef Liz McKenzie,
Date: 9/4/2025 - 9/14/2025

Nation: Navajo

Interaction: New Mexico Grown with Tradition® and Taste the Tradition® Logo Program members can market their products in NMDA's Holiday Lookbook. Indigenous businesses that participated in this opportunity included Flavors of the Hogan, Behempful, and Apple Canyon Gourmet

Type: Email
Contact: Joyce and James Skeet, MJ Balizan, and Anna Shawver
Date: 11/24/2025, 06/10/2026, ongoing

Pueblo: Jemez Pueblo, Isleta Pueblo, and Zuni Pueblo

Interaction: Center of Southwest Culture Conference NMDA-MD Division Director provided opening remarks, and staff executed a booth to promote NMDA programs.

Type: E-mail, Phone, In-Person
Contact: Emma Dewey, Arturo Sandoval, Michael Venticinque, Noemi Davilla, Kateri Zuni, Jose Castro, Tiana Suazo, and Talal Saint-Lot, Center of Southwest Culture, Inc.
Date: March 19-20, 2026; Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Pueblo: Santa Clara Pueblo, Isleta Pueblo, and Taos Pueblo

Interaction: Center of Southwest Culture and NMDA-MD staff met regarding the 2025 Specialty Block Grant Program project.

Type: E-mail, Phone
Contact: Noemi Davilla, Dakota Vigil, Michelle Garcia, Center of Southwest Culture, Inc.
Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Nation/Pueblo: Navajo, Jemez

Interaction: Mr. Nevins and NMDA-MD staff met regarding their 2025 SCBGP project.

Type: E-mail, Phone
Contact: Raphael Nevins, Healthy Futures Inc.

Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Nation: Navajo

Interaction: Ms. John from NAPI and the NMDA F&V supervisor met regarding an unofficial potato grading course for NAPI quality control staff. Two NMDA F&V staff from the Las Cruces area traveled to Farmington, NM and provided unofficial training. A grading note sheet was also jointly developed and implemented after the training was completed.

Type: On-site

Contact: Dineh John

Date: September 17-20, 2025

Nation; Navajo

Interaction: NMDA MD staff met with NAPI regarding export/trade opportunities through the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA). Provided technical market service for commodities, specifically potatoes and pinto beans. “Get Your Fix” promotional materials were supplied to NAPI to market fresh green chile.

Type: Virtual

Contact: Vincent Cowboy and Rae Degroat, Tania Johnson, NAPI

Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Nation; Navajo

Interaction: Mary Ben and NMDA MD staff met regarding their SCBGP project progress and invoicing.

Type: Virtual

Contact: Mary Ben and Zachariah Ben, Bidii Baby Foods

Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Tribe/Pueblo: All

Interaction: Mr. Stimmel, Ms. Restivo, and NMDA MD staff met regarding their proposed USDA AMS Resilient Foods Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) project.

Type: Virtual, Phone, and In-person

Contact: Mr. William Stimmel and Ms. Marianne Billy, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center

Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Tribe/Pueblo: All

Interaction: Through a perspective Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) project, NMDA MD staff worked with multiple grant project partners and supporters including “Native Farmer and Rancher Program” American Indian Business Enterprise Center (AIBE)/Arrowhead Center at New Mexico State University, and the Native American Agriculture Fund that is helping to mentor and train Native American Farmers to create value-added products for improved profitability on their farms.

Type: Virtual, Phone

Contact: Ms. Rachael Ryan of Backyard Farms

Date: Ongoing throughout 2025-2026

Nation; Navajo

Interaction: NMDA MD staff conducted member visits to Flavors of the Hogan, Covenant

Pathways/Spirit Farm, and Elder's Greenhouse and Nursery.
Type: In-person and email
Contact: James and Joyce Skeet
Date: 7/24/2025-Ongoing

Veterinary Diagnostic Services Division

Tribe/Pueblo: ALL
Interaction: NMDA's VDS Division provided services for 417 cases for our tribal partners this past year.
Type: Laboratory
Date: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

Standards and Consumer Services Division

Pueblo: Zuni
Interaction: Memorandum of Agreement was achieved, which enabled NMDA's SCS staff to perform livestock scale and retail device inspections, benefiting local ranchers, retailers, and consumers. The Memorandum also allowed for the inspection of retail fuel pumps for accuracy to support farmers in the marketplace.
Type: Weights and Measures
Date: August 2023 (agreement)

Public Affairs

Pueblo: Santa Ana
Interaction: NMDA-Public Affairs staff toured the Santa Ana Pueblo grain mill in advance of visiting foreign buyers.
Type: In-Person
Contact: Ryan Garcia, Pueblo of Santa Ana Agricultural Director
Date: 7/17/2025

Pueblo: Santa Ana
Interaction: NMDA-Secretary Jeff Witte, along with Marketing and Public Affairs staff toured the Santa Ana Pueblo vineyard with James Roscoe, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., and Jennifer Groover, Senior Policy Advisor for Trade and Agriculture with the UK Embassy, Washington D.C.
Type: In-Person
Contact: Ryan Garcia, Pueblo of Santa Ana Agricultural Director
Date: 9/4/2025

Tribe/Pueblo: All
Interaction: NMDA-Public Affairs staff attended the American Indian Day Reception in Santa Fe in advance of American Indian Day at the Legislature.
Type: In-Person
Contact: Garrett Briggs, State/Tribal Consultation Specialist, IAD Program Services Division
Date: 2/5/2026

Tribe/Pueblo: All

Interaction: NMDA-Public Affairs staff participated in the Stockmanship/Stewardship Training and NM Indian Livestock Days in Farmington.

Type: In-Person

Contact: Kathy Landers, Tribal Extension Program Coordinator, NMSU Cooperative Extension Service

Date: 5/21-22/2026

Table 2. Tribal Outreach Contacts by Pueblo, Tribe, or Nation

PUEBLO/TRIBE/NATION	NUMBER OF CONTACTS	NMDA PROGRAM AREA
Santa Clara	1	AES
Navajo Nation	1	APR
Cochiti	1	APR
Sandia	1	APR
Santa Clara	24	APR
Isleta	4	MD
Jemez	3	MD
Acoma	1	MD
Navajo Nation	19	MD
San Felipe	1	MD
Taos	2	MD
Ohkay Owingeh	1	MD
Zuni	1	MD
Santa Clara	1	MD
All NM Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations	1	PA
All NM Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations	417	VDS
Total Tribal Contact	479	

Table 3. Tribal Services and Support Provided by Pueblo, Tribe, or Nation

PUEBLO/TRIBE/NATION	SUPPORT TYPE	NUMBER OF OCCURRENCES	NMDA PROGRAM AREA
Santa Clara	Training	1 Training Session	AES
Navajo Nation	Grant Funding	1 Grant	APR
Cochiti	Grant Funding	1 Grant	APR
Sandia	Grant Funding	1 Grant	APR
Santa Clara	Grant Funding	2 Grants	APR
Navajo Nation	Diagnostic Testing	417 Specimens	VDS
Santa Ana	Market Development	2 Tours	PA
All NM Tribes, Pueblos, and Nations	Training	1 Training	PA
Total Tribal Support		426	

VI. TRAINING AND EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION (11-18-4 (4)(6))

All NMDA upper management and other employees who communicate regularly with Indian Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos actively participate in cultural training when available.

NMDA's tribal liaison and other NMDA staff regularly attend scheduled Tribal Liaison meetings with IAD.

NMDA notifies employees of the State Tribal Collaborations Act provisions and policy as an ongoing agenda item during its monthly leadership meetings. We also email employees regarding IAD/State Personnel Office training opportunities.

VII. KEY NAMES AND CONTACT INFORMATION (11-18-4.C (2))

Jeff M. Witte, Director/Secretary
Les Owen, Deputy Director

Brad Lewis, Division Director, Agricultural and Environmental Services
Max Henkels, Division Director, Agricultural and Program Resources
Dustin Cox, Division Director, Agricultural Production Services
Jason New, Division Director, Marketing and Development
Roxanne Chepsongol, Division Director, Standards and Consumer Services
Tim Darden, Division Director, Laboratory Division
Aaron Phillips, Division Director, Veterinary Diagnostic Services
Candie Sweetser, Division Director, Public Affairs
Cole Buser, Admin Services Coordinator/Tribal Liaison

Physical Address
1050 Stewart Street, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8005
(575) 646-3007 (office) (575) 646-8120 (fax)

Mailing Address
MSC 3189, Box 30005, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8005