

SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE HOPI/ADOT/BIA/FHWA/COCONINO, NAVAJO &  
APACHE COUNTIES/NAVAJO DOT/NAVAJO NATION PARTNERSHIP

**Success Stories**

**From the Web Site Task Team:**

**Situation** (provide a brief description/background of the situation):

- Web site task team was charged with creation of a web site for the Partnership to:
  - Provide general information on the Partnership
  - Provide a central location for members to access information about the Partnership such as roster of membership, meetings notes and progress of task teams

**Challenges** (describe the difficulties/issues/obstacles):

- Receiving information to allow updates to be posted to the web site

**Partnering Practices** (what were the behaviors, attitudes & steps taken to promote collaborative teamwork and a win-win-win outcome?):

- Web team met and reviewed alternative formats and information needed for an effective web site.
- ADOT Web Team took information submitted and suggested most effective ways to structure web site.

**Outcomes** (results: what happened as a result of the partnering efforts?):

- The web site was created and is available for support of the Partnership and for informing the public.

**Lessons Learned** (what insights or new information are you taking away from this situation, whether the outcome was the desired one or not?)

- When a team is focused on the desired outcome and not on individual agendas, a positive outcome is likely.

**From the Resources Task Team:**

**Situation** (provide a brief description/background of the situation):

- Choice of law (Tribe vs. County and State)
- Sovereign Immunity

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**Success Stories**

- Dispute Resolution
- Tribal Preference in Employment Act

**Challenges** (describe the difficulties/issues/obstacles):

- In the Chinle Water Use and well drilling MOU the Tribe and Apache County were reluctant to be subjects to one another's legal systems. The document was supposed to be a simple water use and drilling permit from the department of water resources but the Tribes OMB interpreted the condition of appropriation to be an MOU.

**Partnering Practices** (what were the behaviors, attitudes & steps taken to promote collaborative teamwork and a win-win outcome?):

- The Tribes department of Justice took over and for awhile communicated with the County Attorney ceased they stopped communicating. We at the County had to set up a meeting where the Tribe's DOJ, the President's legal Counsel and County Attorney were in attendance. They worked out the language in 20 minutes.

**Outcomes** (results: what happened as a result of the partnership efforts?):

- They did away with the MOU and went with the original water use permit. They said the MOU was too cumbersome because of the added legal language.
- There is an existing water use permit with Apache County District II and with the current review of District I Chinle Well a better "Water Use Permit Modification" was developed.
- Long term it is better for the County to purchase water and gravel from the Nation.

**From the Emergency Response Task Team:**

**Situation:** February 2008 – heavy rains and snow throughout portions of Coconino, Navajo and Apache Counties strained resources and resulted in declaration of local emergencies.

**Challenges:** Limited funding, resources and response time to numerous public works and medical emergencies; continued poor conditions for responders.

**Partnering Practices:**

- Allowing each partner group to give a background of their structure, how they got to where they are, where they see themselves going and what they need to get there.
- Sharing what exists and what examples of how others have succeeded in accomplishing similar goals.
- Identifying the areas of overlap between partner groups' needs and resources

**Outcomes:**

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**Success Stories**

- Improved understanding of others' challenges, what is available to all, how to request assistance, and how we can all effectively communicate during an incident.