

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Semi monthly report.
Water development.

Tuba, Arizona.

September 16, 1912.

The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Valentine, Robt

Copy to Mr. Davis 9/17/12



Sir:-

I have the honor to report the the drought that has prevailed throughout the greater portion of this country since last November still prevails, although the time for the rainy season is past. The Flagstaff station reports a precipitation of 61 hundredths of an inch for August, the lowest since the station was established some twenty years ago, and about one fifth of the normal rainfall. The precipitation at Tuba was as follows:- June-.15 inches; July .98 inches; August .35 inches first half of September .03 inches; total for three and one half months 1.51 inches.

With the exception of a few restricted areas where showers fell during the summer, there is no green grass to be found on the Western Navajo, Moqui or Leupp reservations. There is plenty of dry grass but mostly where there is no water.

Erind As yet, the Navajos are suffering no hardships, but, if the drought extends into next year, active steps should be taken to induce the Indians to reduce their flocks and herds to correspond to the amount of feed and water available, and not leave the stock to perish as it did during the drought that prevailed from 1897 to 1904.

According to the traditions of old settlers, this country is subject to alternate periods of good and bad years of seven years each. I know that the last 14 years have been so divided, but the records of the Weather Bureau does not bear out the theory that it is uniform.

But if we are entering upon a period of protracted drought, the Government should be prepared to induce the Indians to reduce their stock by first getting rid of their surplus ponies, then their sheep and cattle, retaining the best animals for breeding purposes. Then, when favorable seasons return, the Government can introduce stallions, bulls, and rams of better grades and the Indians can readily breed up their stock, as the proportion of well bred animals would be much larger than it would be if the attempt should be made now. I understand there is a move on foot to introduce better blood among the Indian stock this year, but, I believe it would be unwise to do so at the present time.

A protracted drought would not be an unmixed evil by any means, as the Indians are much more amenable to reason when times are hard with them. Besides getting rid of worthless ponies and reducing the number of other low grade animals, the Navajos could be readily induced to settle in communities where land and water can be provided for cultivation, and where day schools can be established for them.

The Navajos cultivated more land during the dry years from 1897 to 1904 than they have cultivated in recent years, as they find it less trouble to sell wool or other animal products and buy grain than to raise it.

As stated in previous reports, this is an excellent time to prospect for underground water, and if my request for authority to take up that work has not been granted the matter should receive attention as soon as possible.

It takes considerable time to get Indians to change any of their established customs, so I respectfully suggest that farmers and other employees who come in contact with the Indians be instructed to talk over the plans to be followed in case the present drought continues.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Farming.

Summary of Weather August

The month of August, just passed, was an unusually cold month. The average temperature was 61 degrees, 4.3 degrees below normal, which is as low an average temperature recorded for this month, there being two other years in which the recorded average is the same, 1915 and 1916.

The rainfall for the month was only .61 inches, the lowest on record. The previous low record was 1.51, in 1901, and the normal is 3.30.

We had 13 clear days, 15 partly cloudy days, and 3 cloudy days. There was a measurable amount of precipitation on 7 days.

SRP000250

C. Sept. 1912

108979-1911
50045-12
57382-12
C.L. D.

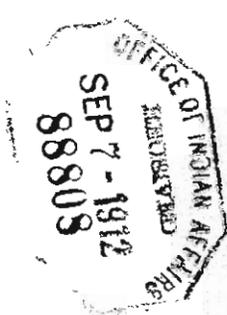
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Water development. UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C. *valentine*

*to Mr. Davis
9/24/12
copy*



Sir:-

I have the honor to state in reply to Office letter of August 20, 1912, that the request for a guarantee of protection, from the Indian Office, made on behalf of the Indians of this reservation, in my letter of May 14, 1912, was to guard the Indians against adverse legislation on the part of Congress; the encroachment of the whites; and the colonization of other Indians among them, all of which these Indians fear.

They want a guarantee that will practically amount to a private ownership over the water developed as well as the lands that can be grazed from such water supply.

The Indians now claim such ownership over land and water and will continue to do so whether The Office gives the guarantee or not, and they will contend for these claims when the final adjustment of their claims is made.

The whole Navajo country is divided among the 46 clans of which the tribe is composed, and most of the country is subdivided among the families that compose the clans. Every spring and every water hole in the Navajo country is under private ownership. Disputes often occur as to who has the best right to the use of certain lands and water. Some clans hold much larger tracts than they can possibly use but they are

End

FILED BY E. N. W.

seldom willing to share their lands or water with members of other clans.

The common belief that the Navajos wander at will over the country is erroneous. Each clan, and usually, each family has well defined boundaries beyond which it can not go without trespassing upon the rights of others.

So circumscribed are the rights of families, that it is seldom that one can find a Navajo who ^{is} familiar with the topography of the country fifteen miles from where he was born and raised. Relatives living within a few miles of each other sometimes do not meet for years.

The clans on the Western Navajo Reservation who control the largest areas of country are most willing to build tanks or do any thing else that will strengthen their claims. This is the case in the Badaway section where the Indians fear that the whites will try to take that country away from them.

In view of the fact that great dissatisfaction prevails among white stockmen over the way in which the Indian country is managed, pressure is likely to be brought to bear upon the delegations in Congress from Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah to have the Indians allotted and the surplus lands thrown open to settlement.

The Navajos are not ready for such a move at present, and I believe that the matter can be delayed if the Department will take the matter up and formulate a definite plan looking to the breaking up of the nomadic habits of the Navajos and their settlement into permanent communities.

The development and storing of water should be an ^{SRP000252} adjunct

of the general plan for the developing of the resources of the reservations.

There are large tracts of both grazing and agricultural lands throughout the Navajo ^{country} that are not being utilized, but, which can be made productive at a reasonable expense. The Navajos' methods of farming and stock raising are so primitive that they would be utterly incapable of competing with white men on equal terms.

The placing of farmers among the Indians will be some help but these farmers should have a uniform plan to follow.

Under the most favorable circumstances, it will require years to prepare the Navajos for citizenship, but I doubt if they will ever make much progress under the conditions that now prevail throughout the greater portion of the Indian country.

As stated in my reports, many of the Indians of this reservation expressed a willingness to construct dams and reservoirs at their own expense, but the drought that has prevailed throughout the greater portion of this country since last November, has rendered it impossible to do any thing along that line.

It is, however, an excellent time to prospect for underground water, and I have asked for a small amount of money to be used for that purpose.

very respectfully
Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Farming.

Water
development **DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**
Western Navajo. **UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE**

Western Navajo School

Tuba, Arizona, August 30, 1912.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Since my assignment at this place I have taken some interest in the development of water on this reservation. I have discussed the matter thoroughly with Superintendent Jefferis and supervisor of farming Murphy, as well as with disinterested persons, and also from personal observations I feel that I have some knowledge of conditions here. I have also read some of the correspondence that has passed between the Office and supervisor Murphy. I observe that the Office in its letters insists that reservoirs should be constructed or water otherwise developed by labor contributed gratis by the Indians.

Mr. Murphy informs me that this policy has been a serious handicap to him in prosecuting his work expeditiously.

I invite attention to a copy of a letter enclosed herewith, written to me by Mr. Murphy at my request, after a consultation had with him. His letter sounds the keynote of the water situation in a very thorough manner. Facts,

*Filed - You
Recd in Ind. Oct 14/12*

88807
SEP 7 - 1912
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
me

FILED BY F. N. B.

not theories, are stated.

I call your attention to that part of his letter in which he states that he has constructed only one reservoir under the present policy; that the Indians worked when they felt so inclined; that a sufficient number of Indians could not be induced to work at the same time. Some of them did not get to work until after noon; some days none of them worked. He will undoubtedly experience the same difficulties with the construction of the other proposed reservoirs. This, of course, means the loss of much valuable time of a high-salaried official, besides seriously delaying the completion of projects which will tend to bring to an end the present migratory habits of these people.

One of the most important phases of this situation is as Mr. Murphy states. That where an Indian contributes his own labor in the development of water, he naturally expects, and certainly should have, a personal guarantee from the Government that the fruits of his labor will be entirely his own. But to give an Indian title to water thus developed means that he would have and assert absolute control for his exclusive benefit, not only over the water but over a large scope of country adjacent thereto. Should some other Indian nearby be without water he would have no privilege of using the water belonging to his neighbor. Whereas, if water

Commissioner - 3

was developed at Government expense it would then be common tribal property and the right of every Indian to its use would be equal and thus would be prevented troublesome controversies to be settled in the future.

Mr. Murphy states that the Indians have asked for personal guarantees and he has requested that the Office give them this assurance in the protection of their water rights when construction work has been done by them, but he states the office has made no reply. After much careful thought I feel convinced that it would be a great mistake to give Indians title to water on this reservation, in their present state of civilization, and under existing circumstances.

The plan of developing water with Indian labor furnished gratis might not be so objectionable some years hence, when the Indians are allotted and are located permanently on their own land. Since water is developed on other reservations, principally by Indian labor, which is paid for from Government funds, I cannot understand why a different policy should be pursued here.

I rather doubt whether it is reasonable to expect any tribe of Indians to contribute their labor gratis toward a project which would be for the ultimate good of the tribe in general.

The building and repair of roads and bridges on

Commissioner - 4

Indian Reservations is for the common welfare of the tribe, but the Indian laborers usually receive wages for their services.

Why could not some of the funds appropriated for the purpose of developing water on Indian Reservations be made applicable here for expenditure, as in the case of the Moqui Reservation for instance, where wells and springs are being developed under the supervision of the Irrigation branch of the Service with paid Indian labor?

Why could not a re-imbursable appropriation be secured for developing water on the Western Navajo Reservation, hypothecating, if necessary, the vast coal fields found in this region, which would be ample security for the repayment of any funds appropriated for the purpose.

Because of Mr. Murphy's long residence and valuable experience in these parts, and from my own very limited knowledge of this situation, I heartily concur in the statements he has made, and I recommend that the Office give serious deliberation to the points raised in his letter and mine.

Respectfully submitted,


Special Indian Agent in Charge.

(Copy)

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
SEP 7 - 1912

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Water Development,
Western Navajo.

88807

Tuba, Arizona, August 17, 1912.

Hon. C. C. Early,

Special Indian Agent in Charge,
Tuba, Arizona.

Sir:-

Replying to your inquiry in regard to the progress being made in the developing and storing of water on the reservation, I have the honor to report that very little has been done beyond locating sites for a number of dirt dams and concrete or stone dams in different parts of the reservation.

The total cost of the work outlined would be about \$50,000 including the developing of springs and prospecting for under-ground water and the sinking of wells. Of this sum about two-thirds would go to the Indians for labor and teaming, the balance being required for the employment of skilled white labor and the purchase of material.

The principal reasons for the lack of progress in this work, are the scarcity of water in the sections where dams are needed, and the lack of proper assurance on the part of the Government that individual Indians will be protected in their claims to the water developed by them and to the lands covered by the dams they may construct.

In a letter to the Indian Office dated May 14, 1912, I called attention to the demand of the Indians for personal guarantees, from the Government, but no reply has been received to date.

There are many other reasons that tend to discourage the Indians or make them indifferent about water development, some of these are here enumerated:-

- (a) The large extent of this reservation enables the Indians by shifting their habitations from place to place at different seasons of the year to get along with the natural water supply.
- (b) The Indians on this reservation are well aware that large sums of money have been spent on the Moqui, San Juan, Navajo, and Zuni reservations for irrigation projects and water development, and they feel that they are being discriminated against.
- (c) It is very difficult to get any number of Indians to work on a dam at the same time, when they are not being paid for their labor. They have an undoubted right to work or not under such conditions.
- (d) The demand for labor at good wages at this time, both on and off the reservation, makes it still more difficult to induce the Indians to work on dams for which there is no pressing need.

One dam has been constructed under my supervision by the Indians, and while they carried out my instructions in every detail and were highly pleased with the job when finished I could exercise no control over their movements so they worked only when they felt inclined. Some did not get to work until afternoon and some days none of them worked.

Every water hole, spring and stream on the reservation is claimed by a head man, and of course he claims the land tributary thereto. Some of these holdings, in fact, most all of them are much larger than the fol-

lowers of the head men can use, but they will not permit other Indians to come in and occupy the land. In this way some 200 Indians have left the reservation and have taken up their abode west of the Little Colorado river, and some 600 have gone south on to the public domain. These Indians who have been forced off the reservation by these land-grabbers are causing friction with the white stock men and settlers, who are now in a position to retaliate by demanding that their representatives in Congress advocate the throwing open of the reservation to settlement.

The Indians are not ready for allotments as it would be impossible in the present undeveloped state of the reservation where or how an Indian could make a living.

If the Indians are given the guarantee they demand, the more enterprising Indians will acquire large holdings and thus increase the present difficulties.

In 1907, while superintendent in charge of this reservation, I constructed five reservoirs in the Badaway district with funds acquired from fees charged white men for trailing sheep across the reservation. These reservoirs have proved a success, and the Indians have used them in common, with no one claiming or exercising a prior right.

I believe this would be the proper course to pursue in the developing the resources of the reservation.

If water for stock and for irrigation is developed at government expense the Government can exercise control over both land and water, and when the reservation is finally allotted, the Government will be in a position to care for all the Indians with the least possible amount of friction.

In this way the resources of the reservation can be developed in

months, where if left to the Indians, years would be required, if the desired end were ever obtained, which is very doubtful.

If the government will retain control of the coal deposits on the reservation, they will prove ample indemnity from which to reimburse the treasury for all expenditures needed.

The Navajos will never make much progress toward civilization as long as they are permitted to keep up their present migratory habits, and it is not to be expected that they will settle down in communities until land and water are provided. The development of stock water is the first step towards permanent abodes. This can be followed by providing land and water for irrigation where permanent homes and schools may be located.

All of these things can be accomplished within a reasonable time and at a comparatively small expense.

I do not apprehend that any bad results will accrue to these Indians by paying them to develop the resources of the reservation.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) MATTHEW M. MURPHY,

Supervisor of Farming.

Education-
Industries
108979-1911
50045--1912
57382--1912
O L D

Water development.

AUG 20 1912

Mr. Matthew H. Murphy,
Supervisor of Farming,
Tuba, Arizona.

Sir:

The Office has before it your letter of April 1, 1912, transmitting plans and estimates prepared by you, covering your work on the Western Navajo Reservation, looking to the development of water for stock and domestic purposes; your letter of May 14, 1912, submitting certain questions wherein the Indians ask for assurance; and your letter of May 31, 1912, in which you make suggestions concerning irrigation possibilities, location of schools, etc.

In Office letter of December 9, 1911, you were advised that your work would be the conserving of surface waters by means of tanks and small reservoirs suitably located throughout the grazing districts of the Western Navajo Reservation. You were directed to map the reservation sufficiently to show the approximate location of the site selected and to make a careful estimate of the cost of each tank, submit your report to the Superintendent of the reservation for his concurrence or any suggestions he might care

to make, all of which would then be forwarded by him to the Office.

In your letter of December 28, you recommend the division of the reservation into four districts, each district to be presided over by a farmer or stockman located therein, to look after the upkeep of the reservoirs and tanks and to supervise range matters in general. You are advised that arrangements are now being made to provide Superintendent Jefferis with farmers sufficient to carry out this plan.

In your letter of March 15, 1912, you submit a resume of the work done by you in which you show the area, population and livestock by districts (eight in number), and your estimate of what each district might probably carry.

With your letter of April 1, 1912, you transmit certain tracings of the reservations, purporting to show the location of proposed dams and reservoir sites, indicating thereon certain statistical information relative to population, livestock, etc. You also submit brief estimates of the cost of construction of 48 dam and reservoir sites, the summary of which would seem to mean that 15 of these are concrete dams to cost in aggregate \$25,129.85 and 19 dirt dams to cost \$3,260, all in the Badaway Section; one concrete dam to

cost \$3,185 in the Horse Valley Section; three concrete dams to cost \$3,681.50 and seven dirt dams to cost \$754.50 in the White Mesa Section; and two concrete dams to cost \$904.50 in the Kaibeto Section. Your estimate is not wholly clear as to how the cost of this work is to be covered, but, from such estimate and your letter of April 15, 1912, it would appear that you intend that the Indians shall perform the labor except skilled labor and that the Government shall provide the necessary material and skilled labor, probably to be reimbursed later.

In this estimate you seem to give the individuals for whom the several dams or reservoirs are intended, a summary of which would seem to show that thirteen of the number, to cost something over \$16,000, are intended for Ghishy-yezzy and four, to cost over \$2,500, are intended for Etah-bega.

At the time you were assigned to this work it was believed that a great deal could be accomplished in the conservation of water for domestic and stock use by the utilization of Indian labor, by merely supplying such practical oversight as might be necessary in the location of the sites for dams and reservoirs and in inducing the Indians to undertake the tasks of their construction. On other reservations similar work has been carried on and is now being carried on

under the Engineering Department of the Indian Service with very satisfactory results, but funds therefor are too limited to cover the entire Navajo Country and it was hoped that, through your assignment, this work could be carried on on the Western Navajo Reservation as just indicated above, accomplishing the same results with a much less outlay of money.

The plans and estimates submitted by you are so wanting in detail and definite recommendations that they are of very little use to the Office except as a source of information. Neither is it believed that these plans and estimates are of such character as would enable another person to follow up your work and carry out a part or all of the actual construction without virtually doing over what has been done by yourself. If your work so far accomplished is to become of any material benefit to the Indians it would therefore seem necessary, as set out in Office letter of May 8, 1912, that you now take up the actual construction of this work and thereby not only utilize the work that you have already done but, as stated in the letter just referred to, demonstrate by actual construction the wisdom and feasibility of your recommendation.

The Office fully recognizes that in undertakings of this kind there is much more required than the ability to make selections of locations and point out what could or should be done. Indians usually put forth objections to about any new plan proposed and particularly where they are expected to assume the burden of carrying out these plans themselves. It is, therefore, not unexpected that these Indians would set up objections of some kind to carrying out your suggestion. The person charged with the undertaking must, therefore, be expected to exercise tact and discretion in overcoming these objections and in inducing the Indians to undertake the tasks. This latter qualification is quite as essential and probably more so that the mere ability to point out what should be done.

In your letter of May 14, 1912, you present four questions wherein you ask assurances be given to the Indians as follows:

(1) That they will be protected in their rights to all dams and reservoirs, earth or concrete, constructed by them.

(2) That they will have the same protection in regard to springs or wells developed by them.

(3) That they will be entitled to the lands covered by the dams, springs or wells, so developed.

(4) On what terms the Government will supply cement and water pipe.

You do not offer any explanation whereby the Office can determine on what grounds the Indians base their fears, consequently the Office can take no action looking to the compliance with their request. It is pointed out that their fears may be based on future legislative possibilities regarding the Navajo Reservation in general. It may be that the individuals furnishing all or the major portion of the funds and labor to construct these dams or reservoirs would expect an assurance such as would give them virtually a private ownership in the structures and the territory covered thereby. It is also possible that they may want assurance that, after these structures are put in, other Indians will not be permitted to bring in their flocks and enjoy the benefits of the fruits of the labor of the Indians doing the work.

Before submitting these questions you should have carefully studied the legal phase of the question with a view of determining somewhat in your own mind the range of possibility open to the Office in answering such questions; in other words, you could readily see that, if the fears of the Indians are based on future legislative possibilities, any assurance extended to them Indians would be liable to be overturned at any time by an act of Congress.

The question naturally arises whether or not these are questions to be tactfully and diplomatically handled by the man on the ground rather than ones to be presented for official determination by the Office or the Department. After considering the suggestions made just above, if you feel that these questions are vital ones in connection with the work to be done and that there are assurances that the Office can properly make, you should resubmit them with a full report and recommendations.

In view of all these conditions, it is believed that you should continue on that reservation and proceed immediately to carry out your own recommendations by inducing the Indians to undertake such construction work as require nothing more than labor and to submit detailed estimates of material and skilled labor necessary in a few of the most needy cases presented by you where concrete work will be required, bearing always in mind that in doing this the probabilities of Indian assistance should be taken into consideration. You should also, in submitting requests for authority to expend money, take into consideration the greater needs of the greater number, and should not confine yourself to a limited area or where the fruits of your labors will go very largely to certain individuals or to members of a certain band.

Indians owning large flocks should generally be expected to look after their own interests and the Government should extend its helping hand more to those not so fortunate.

In case you feel you cannot do this work or that it can be as well or better done by Superintendent Jefferis and his employees, you should report such facts, submitting them to Superintendent Jefferies, so that his recommendation in the premises may come to the Office with yours.

Respectfully,

(Signed) R. G. Valentine.
Commissioner

6-PML-12

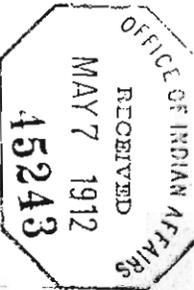
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Semi-monthly report.

Tuba, Arizona

April 30, 1912



The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs, *Valentine*
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to state that nothing has been done during the last half of this month in the development of water on this reservation.

As already stated, in previous reports, where the Indians are not paid for the work, we have to await their pleasure.

In view of the fact ^{that} the delegations in Congress from the states of Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona will probably make a determined effort to have the Navajo reservations allotted at an early date, it would be advisable to prospect for well water on the different reservations, as water is one of the most expensive items in connection
E. C. ...

FILED BY F. H.

with the surveying and allotting of this country.

This work would have to be done at Government expense, as the Indians will have to be shown that there is underground water, before they will go to the trouble of putting down wells.

The expense would be trifling. Any school blacksmith can make a prospecting rig at a trifling cost, and two Indians and a farmer can work it.

The cost of watering sheep by means of earth dams is about 6 cts per head a year.

The initial cost of concrete dams is much greater, but the ultimate cost is less, while the cost of watering from wells is less than either.

Superintendent Jafferis feels that he is competent to handle the water proposition on this reservation, as stated in my telegram of April 26, and I believe the work should now be placed under his supervision.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Family.

TELEGRAM
Western Navajo

Education-
Industries
47320-1912
L W A

MAY 18 1912

Indian School,
Flagstaff, Arizona.

Your telegram May eleventh. Unadvisable for
Murphy to come to Washington now. Follow instructions
in Office letter May third.

FOR FILE

Send by Postal.

Government
Night Rate

C. H. Hauke

5-HMS-13

Second Assistant

FILED BY L. B. B.

4
Education-
Industries.
108979-1911
E W S

Water development,
Western Navajo.

MAY -3 1912

Mr. Matthew M. Murphy,

Supervisor of Farming,

Tuba, Arizona.

FOR FILE

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your several progress reports concerning your work on the Western Navajo Reservation. I am particularly pleased with the one dated April 15, in which you report the construction of a dam by Indians in the Badaway District. You say that the Indians cheerfully carried out every detail and are very proud of the work, which fact is very encouraging.

In your letter of April 1, 1912, you reported that your work on the reservation was finished and that maps would be forwarded by the next mail. The maps referred to have been received. Also in your telegram of April 26 you state that Superintendent Jefferis feels competent to handle the water development from now on. From this I am led to think that you misunderstand the extent of your work there. The intention is for you to remain at Western Navajo and supervise the work of water development along the lines indicated in the correspondence

FILED BY J. B. B.

since your appointment, using the farmers or the forest guards, or other employees as the occasion may require and their other duties will permit. Do not let the work stop, however, in any instance where an employee can not be obtained to look after a particular project, but if you can persuade the Indians to take up the improvement of a spring or the building of a dam, whether dirt or concrete, you should personally supervise their work. In all your enterprises with the Indians you should at all times preach the doctrine of conserving and improving their water resources, as this is as much a part of your duty as the work of actual construction.

The books of the Office show an unencumbered balance of over \$2,000 in the Western Navajo apportionment from "Support of Indians in Arizona and New Mexico", and as this must be used before the first of July or revert to the Treasury, or be used on some other reservation, you should at once take up with Superintendent Jefferis the matter of estimating for such construction material, implements, etc., as you can care for properly pending the time when you will put it into actual use on some of the projects. There is also some money in the reserve from this appropriation, so that you may estimate for say \$3,000 worth of material and implements all together with fair assurance that it would be granted, provided your estimate comes through very promptly.

In conclusion I wish to say that thus far your work on the reservation seems to have been carried on with as much dispatch as the conditions would warrant; it now remains for you to demonstrate, by the actual construction of some of these dams and reservoirs and by the actual development of some of the springs, that your judgment in the selection of the sites and the possibility of spring development is well founded. As you say in one of your reports, the work will no doubt be slow and tedious and will require patience and a diplomatic handling of the Indians, but the task of developing the water resources of the Western Navajo Reservation is up to you, with the hearty cooperation of Superintendent Jefferis. I assure you that the Office will do all it can to assist both of you in making it a success.

Respectfully,

(Signed) C. F. Hauke.

S-HMS-1

Second Assistant Commissioner.

Carbon to Western Navajo.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

RECEIVED AT
NATIONAL HOTEL
Phone Main 5012

TELEGRAM

DELIVERY No.

The Postal Telegraph Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank

DESIGN PATENT No. 40029

Wk 25 Coll GR

Flagstaff Ariz April 26 1912

Comr Of Indian Affairs

Washington DC

Superintendent Jeffers feels competent to handle the water development
on this reservation from now on.

Murphy

Supervisor of Farming 1050 PM

Erind
10 35
11 45

1484
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
APR 27 1912

FILED BY 113

28886-1912
Education -
Industries
H W S

APR -2 1912

Development of
water.

FOR FILE.

Mr. Matthew M. Murphy,
Supervisor of Farming,
Tuba, Arizona.

Sir:

The Office is in receipt of your report of March 15, and is pleased to note the optimistic tone as regards the future possibilities of the Western Navajo Reservation. It is hoped that the future development work will bear out what you have said.

You state that the flow of nearly all the springs on the reservation might be doubled or trebled at a small cost and that most of the work can be done by the Indians with the assistance of a farmer. When you speak of the work being done by the Indians do you mean that the Indians would expect to be employed at wages or that they will contribute the work and pay for the material provided the farmer gives them assistance in the way of showing them how it should be done? It is very essential that, from the very beginning of the development work,

E----#2

the Indians learn that they must do things for themselves and as stated in my former letters the Office cannot pay for labor except in extreme cases and then only on very conclusive showing of the necessity. You must not fail to keep this principal^U before the Indians at all times, assuring them, of course, that the Office is ready and willing to show them where to do the work, when to do it and how to do it, and, as stated before, it will assist in the purchase of materials where the Indians themselves are shown to be unable to purchase them. In short I want Mr. Jefferis and you to conduct this business in such a way that it will be a campaign of self help for the Indians and will leave them feeling self reliant and independent.

In submitting your map or maps of the various districts, please indicate thereon the sections in which you believe that orchards or vineyards might be planted and also the portions where you think barley, rye, and wheat could be raised without irrigation. Copies of the maps must, of course, be retained for Mr. Jefferis' file and later the matter of experimenting along the lines indicated by you will be taken up. Divide your general report into sections devoting a section to each district and give all the information possible that would have any

E-----#3

bearing on the industrial upbuilding of the Indians of each district. This report should be a joint report signed by Mr. Jefferis as well as yourself, unless you disagree on any essential features, in which case Mr. Jefferis should immediately submit his views in a separate letter. It is believed, however, that no such contingencies need arise as both of you are working in the interests of the Indians and should be able to come to such conclusions as can be indorsed by both.

Your telegram of March 20, states that you will have maps and estimates completed by April 1. As soon as the report and estimates are mailed you should start the work of building such dams and reservoirs as will not require any outlay of money. In your letter of January 18, you stated that the Indians of the Badaway district were willing to defray all the expenses of both dirt and concrete dam and this would seem a good place for you to begin actual operations.

Respectfully,

(Signed) F. H. Abbott.

Carbon to
Mr. C. R. Jefferis,
Sup't. Western Navajo School.

Assistant Commissioner.

3-198-26

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

25,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA. INCORPORATED CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid thereon, nor in any case beyond the sum of Fifty Dollars, at which notice otherwise stated below, this message has been valued by the sender thereof, nor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission. This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

BELVIDERE BROOKS, GENERAL MANAGER

COR. 7TH & F, N. W.
TELEPHONE MAIN 3288

RECEIVED AT

40 w = 27 coll gvt

Flagstaff, Ariz., March 20, 1912.

MAR 19 1912

Indian Office,

Ernest Washington, D. C.

I have finished field work on Western Navajo and will have maps and estimates completed by April first.

Murphy, Supervisor of Farming.

100
33

11:49a.

File in file
W.D.
W.D.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
MAR 20 1912
97555

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Resources

UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Western Navajo Reservation.

Tuba, Arizona.

March 15, 1912.

The Honorable,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that while my instructions were only in regard to the development of water on the Western Navajo Reservation by means of tanks and reservoirs, I have endeavored to note every thing that might be of use to the Office. In this connection I wish to say there is scarcely a spring on the reservation whose flow might not be doubled or trebled at a small cost. Most of this work can be done by the Indians with the assistance of a farmer.

There are large areas lying idle that would be very productive if planted to orchards or vineyards, and the trees and vines would not require irrigation. there are many thousands of acres that would produce corn and other crops, that are not being used. I believe that barley, rye, and wheat can be raised, in average years, on large areas of this reservation, without irrigation. The last assertion has never been tested, but I believe it should be. If land, that requires 5 acres to support a sheep, can be made to produce 10 to 20 bushels of wheat, it would revolutionize conditions on this reservation, and I believe it can be done. In addition, what has been stated above, cotton-wood and soft maple trees will



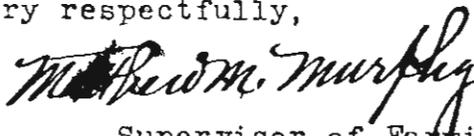
(2)

grow almost every where, and would exercise a most beneficial influence by breaking the force of the wind, prevent the drifting of sand, and by checking evaporation.

I believe it would be a good plan to have the farmers, when placed in charge of the several districts into which the reservation is to be divided, to experiment along these lines.

The greatest hindrance to the progress of the "avajos on this reservation is the great amount of territory they have to roam over.

very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. B. Murphy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Supervisor of Farming.

Semi-monthly report.

5-1142

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Tuba, Arizona.

The Honorable,

March 15, 1912.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that I have finished the field work of my assignment on the Western Navajo reservation, and will have the maps prepared by April 1.

The Indian ponies are very weak at this season of the year and it is not likely that the Indians will be able to do much in the way of tank construction before the latter part of May.

In the parts of the reservation not already reported *there is* little need of reservoirs; the country is either watered by springs and streams or there is indication that well water can be obtained.

The reservation is so thinly settled that there is little need for the Indians to trouble themselves about storing water.

I divided the reservation into 8 sections and these are combined into 4 grazing districts as follows:-

District No. I- Badaway and Horse Valley Sections. Combined area- 1577 sq. miles; population- Navajos- 591; Pah-Utes 31

Total 622; sheep-22832; goats- 11088; cattle- 239; ponies-1920; total reckoned in sheep-45593; number district is capable of supporting- 125897; number of tanks and reservoirs necessary- 11 concrete dams to cost \$12,246,00 in



In addition to what the Indians could contribute in labor, and 20 dirt dams that the Indians could build.

District No. 2- Population- Navajos- 57; Moquis-186; total-243. Sheep-3985; goats-1990; cattle- 65; ponies-321; total reckoned in sheep-8547; area-1040 sq. miles; number district is capable of supporting- 81371. Water development needed- 4 Or 5 wells that can be dug by Indians, if water can be found; otherwise, concrete basins would have to be constructed to supply about 200 sq.miles.

District No. 3- White Mesa, Kai-beto and Shonto. Combined area-2352 sq. miles. Population- Navajos-598; Pah-Utes-36; total-634. Sheep-22255; goats- 10370; cattle-245; ponies-1883; total reckoned in sheep-43755; number the district is capable of supporting-204525. Water development necessary- 4concrete dams to cost \$1295,00 in addition to Indian labor and 8 dirt dams that can be constructed by Indians. It is possible that well water can be found to take place of concrete dams.

District No. 4- Marsh Pass and Kayenta. Combined area- 1580 sq.miles. Population- Navajos-253; Pahutes-50; total- 303. Sheep-18290; goats-9060; cattle-380; ponies-1509. Total reckoned in sheep-37555. Water development necessary; springs should be opened and 5 wells should be dug about half way between Black Mesa and Chin-lee Wash.

Recapitulation.

Area- Western Navajo-6549 sq. miles. Population- Navajos-1697; Moquis-186; Pahutes-135; total-2018. Sheep-67262; goats-32788; cattle-929; ponies+5633; total-106612

equal to 134050 sheep. Number of sheep the reservation is capable of supporting without further development of water-271300; number that might be grazed if water resources were fully developed-739793. Indian population the reservation can support-6549; white population the reservation would support- 19638.

very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy

Supervisor of Farming.

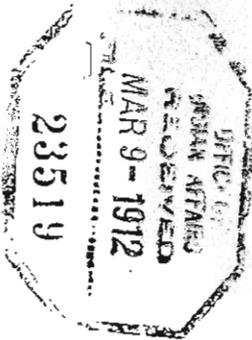
Semi-Monthly Report.

In reply to:

Department of the Interior,

INDIAN SCHOOL SERVICE,

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT,



Tuba, Arizona

The Honorable,

February 29

1902

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

FILED BY R. H. G.

Valentine W. ...

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that I have divided the reservation into sections of about 700 sq. miles each, as I can show the location and the migrations of the Indians in that way better than if the divisions were larger.

Two or more of these sections will be combined into one grazing district.

Since my last report I have worked all of the Kai-betoh section and all of the White Mesa section except the north east corner.

The first extends from Moencopi Wash to the Colorado River and contains about 840 sq. miles; of these about 200 sq. miles are not adapted to grazing.

The Moki Indians of Moencopi Village should have about 26 sq. miles of grazing land in this section, leaving 614 sq. miles to 129 Navajos found in the section.

Even if these Navajos about one half remain in the section the year around, the others drift over into the Moguis

reservation in summer.

I located but three tanks in this section, one dist. and two concrete, and it is not likely that the latter will be needed, as well water can probably be found in the vicinity.

This section is well watered by springs and streams.

I found 240 Indians in the part of White Mesa section visited; of these, about two thirds are permanently located in the district; the others drift down into the Moki reservation in summer.

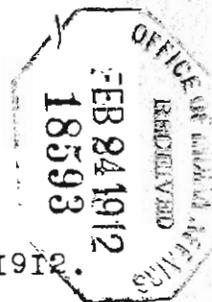
This section is fairly well watered and is one of the best sections of the reservation. It contains farming land with water for irrigation, timber land, and fine grazing land. I found the Indians to be quite anxious to construct tanks in sections now covered by springs or streams and I have located seven dist. and three concrete dams and will probably locate several more in the north east corner. There are about 50 Navajos and 80 Paiutes in

Semi-monthly Report.

5-1142

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Tuba, Arizona. February 15, 1912.



The Honorable ,

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to report that during the first half of February I investigated the application for a sheep trail which was supposed to cross some Indian allotments in the vicinity of Coconino Mesa, west of the Little Colorado River, and went over the Moencopi-Denehbitto grazing district. I was familiar with this district and needed only to learn the number of Navajos located therein at the present time. I found only three settlements numbering 57 people. There might be 80 Navajos who would be willing to locate permanently in this district. At certain seasons of the year Navajos come into this district from the Moqui reservation, from Leupp, Coconino Mesa and Badaway. This district is bounded on the east by Moqui Reservation; on the south by Leupp; west by the Little Colorado River; north by Moencopi Wash. Denehbitto Creek flows for a distance of 14 miles a little east of the east line, then across the south end about four miles from the south boundary; the Little Colorado is on the west and Moencopi Wash is on the north, while Buffalo Creek flows for a distance of 6 miles across the north-east corner; there are two springs about 6 miles south of Moencopi Wash and a little west of the center of the district; there are several places farther west where permanent water can be obtained. There are no good sites for reservoirs

960

FILED BY R. H. H.

Ground

or tanks, owing to sandy soil and porous sand rock. But there are a number of basins where considerable water collects at certain seasons of the year. I believe that large wells can be sunk in these basins that will supply water for the interior of the district, as the outer portions are well supplied from permanent streams. The area of this district is about 600 square miles.

The Moqui Indians of Moencopi Village should have about 160 square miles of grazing land ; the Navajos will take not to exceed 80 square miles, and there are, perhaps, 150 square miles that is worthless for grazing but contains considerable agricultural land

This leaves over 200 square miles of unoccupied grazing land in this district. There is no timber of any kind in the district, although cottonwood and other trees would do well if planted, this is one reason the district is not more in favor with the Navajos. I have now covered more than 2,000 thousand square miles of the Western Navajo Reservation and have found less than 650 Indians, or less than one to three square miles. This excess of area over population will make it difficult to interest the Indians in tank building. I am now operating in the Red Lake district , which is north and east of Tuba.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Farming.

Education -
Industries
730-1912
1203-1912
2658-1912
7041-1912
H W S

Conservation of
surface water.

Mr. Matthew K. Murphy,
Supervisor of Farming,
Tuba, Arizona.

FOR FILE

Sir:

Referring to your plans for the conservation of surface water on the Western Navajo reservation, as set forth in letters of December 28, 1911, and January 1, and 15, 1912, the Office is glad to learn that you have found so many sites where, in your opinion, water may be successfully stored. But don't forget the caution given you in Office letter of December 28, 1911, in which your attention was called to the small amount of available funds. Your task, broadly speaking, is to show the Indians where and how to build the tanks, it is up to the Indians to build them. Of course, it is understood by the Office that you will have to give some assistance in the way of materials and tools in some instances but that understanding should not be given the

E-7041-2

Indians until they have shown the right spirit to do all in their power.

The independence of the Navaho Indian is his most valuable asset, and you must be very careful not to allow the impression to get abroad that the Government will "give something for nothing" in this matter of tank building. The Office looks to you to accomplish the task of getting the Indians to do this work with just as little outlay of Government funds as is possible.

In your joint letter of December 28, you and Mr. Jefferis propose to divide the reservation into four districts, and state that a farmer or stockman should be placed in charge of each. The plan looks good and in submitting the map which you are making, the boundaries of these districts should be outlined and distances given. The map should show the roads and principal bridges also. It is not supposed that this map will be very accurate,-- what is wanted is to show approximately the outlines and natural features of the reservation, and locate thereon the reservoir or tank and well sites. Could you not also indicate on the map the territory which each tank or well should supply, its approximate area and the number of sheep which could be safely grazed thereon? It is the purpose of the Office

E-7041-3

to make an effort to protect the range by a more careful supervision than has been given in the past, and this will be a step toward getting the information necessary. Do not attempt to show the entire reservation on one map as it would probably be so large as to be unwieldy. The better plan would be to make five maps: one, an outline map, showing the reservation as a whole with the districts in outline only, and one for each of the districts, showing the details mentioned above.

Each district should be given a definite name, and the tank sites and wells numbered from one up in each district, so that reference can be made to the map from a description such as Badaway Tank #12; this will facilitate future correspondence.

Your estimate for a possible expenditure of \$9,000 during the current fiscal year, would seem to indicate that both you and Mr. Jefferis are planning too largely in the matter of construction in view of the fact that less than \$2,700 is available. You are following the right course in locating the sites for both concrete and earth tanks, but would it not be well to confine actual construction almost exclusively to the earth variety for the present? If the Indians learn the value and convenience of these tanks, will they not be more anxious later to

E-7041-4

contribute toward the purchase of material, as well as give the labor, for the concrete work? In your letter of January 15, you state that the Indians of the Badaway district express a willingness to defray all expenses of both dirt and concrete dams. This is the right spirit and it would seem that this district should have first attention, in order to show them that you are ready to supervise and help those who show a readiness to help themselves. Why not start them off on some of the earth tanks soon?

Your suggestion as to arranging with Mr. Jefferis to have one of the farmers go to this district and with your supervision in the construction of one or two tanks, learn enough about the work to be able to supervise the Indians, in exactly the right proposition and should be put in motion as soon as possible.

In your report of January 15, you state that "the location of wells will obviate the necessity for tanks and reservoirs in many instances." What is the relative cost of a well as compared with a tank or reservoir? And which is the more practical after completion? If the well is the most valuable and does not cost more in proportion to its value, then it would seem that great care should be taken not to build a tank or reservoir where there is

E-7041-5

a good well prospect, but you could locate the site just the same, holding up construction until the well drilling outfit could demonstrate conclusively whether water can be developed.

Regarding your request for authority to expend \$50.00 for services of expert cement man to check up your estimates of the cost of some of the tanks, the Office feels confident you will be able to make these estimates with sufficient accuracy to enable the Superintendent to make the purchases, especially in view of the fact that other tanks will be building from time to time and any excess of material left over from one tank can be taken to another site.

In conclusion you are again urged to make it your sole object to get these tanks and reservoirs constructed with the very least possible outlay of cash. Let the Indians understand that the Office expects them to do the work and that you and Mr. Jefferis and the farmers are only there to show them how to do it. The work of actual construction may not proceed as rapidly at first as it would were you to expend large sums of money, but what you do accomplish will be along right

E-7041-6

lines and will lay the foundation for a larger degree
of "selfhelpfulness" among the Indians.

Respectfully,

(Signed) C. F. Hauke.

Carbon to
Mr. C. R. Jefferis,
Supt. West Navajo School,
Tuba, Arizona.

Second Assistant Commissioner.

Semi-monthly Report.

Tuba, Arizona

January 1, 1912.

2658

The Honorable

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

FILE BY R. H. J.

Sir:-

In compliance with instructions, I have the honor to report that since entering on duty as Supervisor of Farming on Dec. 15, 1911, I spent four days in Flagstaff and vicinity consulting with stock men in regard to their experience with the different forms of storage dams that they have constructed on the public domain and elsewhere. I spent one day in consultation with the Government engineer who is superintending the construction of the bridge across the Little Colorado River, from whom I got some valuable information in regard to cement work. The balance of the time has been spent in the field and ~~and~~ making the necessary preparations.

I have located three sites for reservoirs in the Badaway country, one of earth and two of rubble cement.

The Badaway is bounded on the west by the Little Colorado and Colorado Rivers; on the south by Moencopie Wash; on the east ⁹ by Echo Cliffs; on the north by the Colorado River. This region contains about 750 square miles of good grazing lands.

It is destitute of permanent water, except Navajo Spring, Willow Spring, and a few others along the east boundary. The rivers that are mentioned as boundaries being at the bottom of inaccessible canons. There are some 300 Indians in this region now, but their stock is using snow in lieu of water.

The country is well adapted for storing storm waters, and I believe sufficient water can be stored to enable the Indians to remain there the whole year instead of the winter months only.

It will require ten days or two weeks to cover this territory, when I intend to take up Horse Valley, which is the

(2)

country north of Tuba and east from Echo Cliffs to White Mesa.
All these localities are shown on Geological maps.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Farming

Telegram

Cement expert.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE

Tuba, Arizona

(Place)

Dec. 26, 1911

(Date.)



The Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In explanation of my request for authority to expend \$500.00 for services of expert Cement man, I have the honor to state that I deemed it advisable to have an expert check up my estimates of the cost of some of the tanks where cement will have to be used.

I do not claim to be an expert, and if my figures should be too low, it might cause the Superintendent some embarrassment when he came to construct the tank.

Very respectfully

Matthew M. Munkley

Supervisor of Farming.

Enid



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Education- Industries UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE
95592-1911
H W S

Conservation of
Surface Water.

Tuba, Arizona,

December 28, 1911.

The Honorable,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

Valentine

Sir:

As requested in Office letter of the 15th instant, reference above, I have the honor to submit the following preliminary report on the matter of conserving the surface water on the Western Navajo Reservation by means of tanks and small reservoirs:

The reservation should be divided into four districts, as follows: the first district to include the country north and east of Marsh Pass, the second, the territory south and west of the Pass to the White Mesa, the third, the country from the Little Colorado River on the west to the White Mesa on the east, and, the fourth district, all the country in and around Tuba and south to the Little Colorado River. A farmer or stockman should be located in each of these districts to look after the up-keep of the reservoirs and tanks and to supervise range matters in general.

End

All of the districts just referred to need the development of additional water by the building of tanks,

Com'r.

2.

and reservoirs and the digging or drilling of wells and the development of springs.

In constructing tanks and reservoirs it will be necessary to purchase cement, a few thousand feet of lumber for forms, scrapers, shovels, etc., an itemized list of which will be submitted with request for their purchase. Labor, both white and Indian, will have to be employed. Four white men will be needed to supervise the construction work, two of whom can be supplied from the present force at the Western Navajo agency. Two white miners will also have to be employed for approximately 60 days each. The Indian labor will consist of team work with the scrapers, pick and shovel men, and, also, assistants with the rock work. The Indians have agreed to furnish, free of charge, one half of the necessary work that they can perform.

The work can be started as soon as the necessary authority is issued and funds placed to the credit of the Superintendent. Unless there is some unexpected delay in beginning the work, approximately \$9,000.00 can be profitably expended during the current fiscal year. An estimate of funds required for the year 1913 will be submitted as soon as practicable.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy
Supervisor of Farming.

Concurred in by,

C. B. Jeffers
Superintendent.

SRP000300

Finance-
Bookkeeping
108979-1911
H B

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

A

Authority is hereby granted for you to expend, during the fiscal year 1912, the sum of \$ 30.00 from the appropriation

- (1) "Industrial work and Care of Timber, 1912", \$
 - (2) (Agriculture and Stock)", \$30.00
 - (3) \$
 - (4) \$
- for the following:

DO NOT WRITE
IN THIS SPACE.

OBJECT.	UNIT PRICE.	AMOUNT.	
To purchase:--			
1 drainage on farm level with telescope and tripod.		25	00
1 steel ribbon tape, 100-ft.,		5	00
To be used in storage of water on Western Navajo Reservation.			
TOTAL,		30	00

FOR FILE

12-WZA-26

TO:

DEC 28 1911

Mr. Matthew H. Murphy,
(Title or name.)
Supervisor of Farming,
Western Navajo Indian School,
(School.)
Tuba, Arizona.
(Post office.)

COPY.—To be filed with proper voucher in OFFICE COPY of memorandum account.

Bal. 5% Res
Supp Ind in
Aug 71 M. 1912-
\$ 6053.87

Bal. in Account
\$ 2762.⁵⁷

No Ind Monies
available
Either would be
applicable.

Western Navys Res

Finance:—

Are there any
funds that could
be used in Mr
Murphy's work on
the ^{Capital} Kaonho Resn?

His work is to conserve
the surface water by
means of small reservoirs
scattered at proper points
over the reservation. His
estimate is deemed
very high, but is there
any funds available?

H. W. Skiff.

Industries.
It is not irrigation water - but for
stock.

Education -
Industries
108980-1911
H W S
Requests for
authority.

DEC 28 1911

~~FILED~~

FOR FILE

Mr. Mathew M. Murphy.

Supervisor of Farming.

Indian School, Tuba, Arizona.

Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your report dated December 15, and also your requests for authority to purchase instruments and to expend \$50 in obtaining the opinion of expert cement men.

The Office is glad to know that you are optimistic as to the possibility of storing water in sufficient quantities and at a cost that will render the whole reservation valuable and profitable for grazing purposes. If you and Mr. Jefferis can work out plans by which this can be accomplished you will have solved a very important problem for the Navajo Indians. But right here enters the question of the amount of money available for the work. The Western Navajo jurisdiction has no Indian moneys available and the only fund that can be used is "Support of Indians in Arizona and New Mexico, 1912", of which there is an unexpended balance

in the apportionment made to Western Navajo of \$2,762 at the present time.

Assuming that the entire balance above mentioned could be held for your purpose, which is not likely, it would still be less than half the amount of what you estimate the Superintendent could use during the fiscal year. As a matter of fact it was not expected that the cash outlay for material and supplies would amount to any considerable sum. It was not contemplated that there should be any outlay for labor unless possibly for a small amount of skilled work. It is felt that the Indians should be ready and willing to contribute their services freely for improvements which are so vital to their well being. In your efforts to interest them you may assure them that their rights to any water which may be stored through their efforts will be protected by the Office.

In some instances where Indians would be asked to work on a reservoir at some distance from home it might be a good policy to issue some food supplies in order that too much time might not be consumed in going back and forth from the work, but great care would have to be used in doing this and possibly the idea is not feasible. You will be expected to use your best judgment in regard to it. Of course implements and tools, such as shovels scrapers, etc. will have to be provided.

E-#3

With the foregoing suggestions in mind, would it not be best for you and Mr. Jefferis to go over the entire situation carefully and for you to select a few sites where there is no doubt the water can be successfully stored, submit requests for the necessary authorities, which will be acted on promptly here, and as suggested in your report, "build some of the tanks as soon as possible in order to conserve some of the winter rain and snow and thus have water for use when work is being done on other tanks in the vicinity later on in the season". The storage of water in these tanks will demonstrate to the Indians the value of the proposition and will, no doubt make it easier to get the labor for other tanks after the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Keep in mind at all times the scarcity of funds and use all your ingenuity to devise ways and means of constructing these tanks and reservoirs with the very least possible outlay of cash.

The telegram asking you for a letter fully explaining your request for SEC for the opinion of expert cement men was necessary because the Office did not, at the present stage of the proposition, quite understand the necessity for such authority. If the letter called for justifies the expenditure it will be authorized. Authority has been granted you direct to purchase the instruments

K-#4

from the appropriation "Industrial Work and Care of Timber", in order that you may carry them on your property and take them with you in case you have similar work to perform on other reservations.

A carbon copy of this letter is inclosed, which please give to Mr. Jefferis for the agency files.

Respectfully,

(Signed) F. H. Abbott.

12-LGS-26

Assistant Commissioner.

Education -
Industries
H W S

DEC 22 1911

Murphy, Supervisor,

Indian School,

Flagstaff, Arizona. ^{FILE BY R. H. G.}

Explain fully by letter your request for fifty dollars
for opinion of expert cement men.

FOR FILE.

Handwritten signature

Assistant

12-108-22

POSTAL TELEGRAPH - COMMERCIAL CABLES

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

RECEIVES WITH ADVANCEMENT
5th AND F STREETS, N. W.

TELEGRAM

DELIVERY No.

The Postal Telegraph-Cable Company (Incorporated) transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank

DESIGN PATENT No. 40828

62 W SF 40 Collect 80VT

Flagstaff- Ariz Dec. 21/11

Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washn, D.C.

The opinion of expert Cement Men is Necessary before cost of tanks can be accurately estimated request authority to expend fifty Dollars For this purpose will reach tula December twenty third.

Murphy, FILED BY R. H. Q
Supervisor.

Just
30
3/31

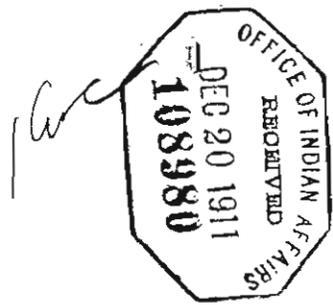
252PM.



F.H.A.
S.M.S.

Education-
Industries
95592-1911
H.W.S.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,
Carmel, California.



Status of
Mr. Murphy

(Place)
December 15, 1911.

(Date):

The Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

Referring to my instructions dated December 9, 1911, I have the honor to report that the work assigned me on the Western Navajo Reservation will require about three months, but the work of constructing the tanks and reservoirs can be started soon after my arrival, but progress will be slow during January and February on account of the cold weather.

I believe the Indians can be induced to contribute most of the team work and unskilled labor required in the work, provided they can be assured that they will finally ^{be} allotted the lands on which the work is done, or at least be assured that the tanks and reservoirs will not fall into the hands of white men. If the Office approves of this plan, I believe that Superintendent Jefferis and myself can make the necessary arrangements with the Indians.

It would be advisable to build ⁴some of the tanks as soon as possible in order to conserve some of the winter rain and snow and thus have water for use when work is being done on other tanks in the vicinity later in the season.

I am quite sure that water can be stored in sufficient quantities and at a cost that will render the whole reservation available and profitable for grazing purposes.

The work can not be completed this season, but, I believe the Superintendent can use \$6,000 during this fiscal year.

I will keep the Office fully advised in regard to the progress of the work.

I want to spend a few days in the vicinity of Flagstaff examining some tanks that white men have been constructing on the Forest Reserve there, and then will proceed to Tuba, where I expect to arrive about December 22.

Very respectfully,

Matthew M. McFarley
Supervisor of Farming.

5-380

[DO NOT DETACH FROM CASE.]

TO FINANCE
FOR
DESIGNATION OF FUNDS.

*In MK + @ at
Tribun 19/12 (ag + stock)
resum OK
M.
17/12*

This slip to be used in routing or transferring cases to Finance for designation of funds, and when so used takes place of green transfer ticket. *However*, if for any reason Finance is unable to pass on and forward the case within 24 hours of receipt thereof, then Finance must make out a green transfer ticket and send it to M. & F.

If the case, in the opinion of the administration section, should have immediate attention, mark "Special" in above space, with initial of Chief of Section, and cases so marked must be taken up at once by Purchase Section.

6-2831

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECEIVED
DEC 20 1911
108979

Subject:-

Instruments needed.

Carnel, California.

December 15, 1911.

The Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to request that the Office purchase the following instruments needed in my work of storing water on the Western Navajo Reservation:-

- 1 Drainage or Farm Level with telescope and tripod \$25.00
- 1 Steel Ribbon Tape, 100 feet, \$5.00

very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy

Supervisor of Farming.

ED - INDUSTRIES,
12/22 1911
- O. K. -
H. W. S.
Acty Chief of Section.

Emmet

Finance: - Please send this authority to Mr. Murphy at Western Navajo Agency, as he will arrive there on the 23rd of Dec. H. W. S.

O. K. *[Signature]*

Chief of Section.
Approved; prepare authority accordingly

[Signature]
Chief of Education Division.
12/22 1911. *JMR*

Authorize Mr. Murphy to purchase level and tape at prices indicated in his letter, and when the auth. is granted see memo of "Ind. Aff. Div." 1912 (Ag. & St.)

Education-
Industries
~~95592-1911~~
H W S

Conservation of
Surface water.

FOR FILE.

DEC 15 1911

Mr. C. R. Jefferis,

Superintendent Western Navajo Indian School,
Tuba, Arizona.

Sir:

Under date of December 9, 1911, Mr. Matthew M. Murphy, Supervisor of Farming, was assigned to duty on the Western Navajo Reservation to take up the problem of conserving the surface water by means of tanks and small reservoirs.

His first duty will be to cruise the reservation to determine, first, the grazing districts which are not supplied with sufficient water for the sheep or cattle which are or might be grazed thereon, and second, to select the sites in these districts upon which the tanks or reservoirs may be built to the best advantage. He will map the reservation sufficiently to show the approximate location of the sites selected and the boundaries of the districts they are ~~intended~~ to serve, and will make estimates of the cost of each tank or project.

E-95592-2

You will, of course, cooperate with Mr. Murphy in every way possible. His work is not intended, in any way, to supplant, or conflict with, the work of Mr. Robinson, who is developing the underground water of the reservation, but on the other hand it is to supplement it. The two methods of obtaining water should be worked out at first on different parts of the reservation, so that the largest possible area would be benefited soon, and then later the surface conservation could be carried over the area theretofore covered by the underground development, and surface water conserved where springs and wells could not be developed, and vice versa.

Mr. Murphy has been asked to submit, through you for concurrence and suggestions, a preliminary report in regard to the problem, and on receipt of the report you will be further advised. All expenditures for supplies and material necessary in carrying out the plan will be made by you after proper authorization. Requests for such authority will be made by you, based on estimates submitted to you by Mr. Murphy. The question of funds will be taken up immediately upon receipt of the preliminary report above mentioned.

~~1595592-3~~

It is hoped that through the hearty cooperation of Mr. Murphy, Mr. Robinson and yourself, the question of water for stock, and domestic purposes as well, may be satisfactorily worked out on the Western Navajo Reservation.

Respectfully,

(Signed) F. H. Abbott.

12-1K-13

Assistant Commissioner.

1-35285

Education-
Industries
95592-1911
H W S

Instructions for
work on Navajo
Reservation.

DEC -9 1911

Mr. Matthew M. Murphy,

Supervisor of Farming,

Carmel, California.

FOR FILE.

Sir:

The Secretary of the Interior has approved your bond as Special Disbursing Agent and on receipt of this letter you will at once take the oath of office and enter on duty as Supervisor of Farming, reporting to this Office by wire the date you do so. Your first assignment is on the Western Navajo reservation, to which place you should proceed as soon as possible after entering on duty.

Your work on the reservation will be the conserving of surface water by means of tanks and small reservoirs, suitably located throughout the grazing districts. Your first duty will be to "cruise" the reservation to determine, first, the grazing districts which are not supplied with sufficient water for the sheep or cattle which are or might be grazed thereon, and second, to select the sites in these districts upon which the tanks or reservoirs may be built to the best advantage.

You should map the reservation sufficiently to show the approximate location of the sites selected and the boundaries of the districts which they are intended to serve. This map, together with careful estimate of the cost of each tank, should be submitted to the Superintendent of the Western Navajo Reservation for his concurrence or any suggestions he may care to make, and then forwarded by him to this Office.

It is perhaps unnecessary to state that you will be expected to cooperate closely with the Superintendent of the reservation in the work assigned you. All expenditures for material and supplies incident to the work will be made by the Superintendent upon proper authorities issued to him, and his requests for such authorities will be joined in by you.

You will be expected to make a report as near the first and fifteenth of each month as practicable, giving a somewhat detailed account of your activities during the period covered by the report and a forecast of your intended work for the coming period, in order that the Office may keep in close touch with the work at all times. Further instructions will be given you from time to time as circumstances may require.

The Office realizes that you are already somewhat familiar with the water conditions on the reservation and will

~~E-95992-5~~

be glad to have a preliminary report from you soon, stating what you think can be accomplished along the lines outlined above, and, in order that arrangements may be made to obtain funds, you should also submit a tentative estimate of the cost of such operations and the approximate time you might reasonably be expected to complete the work -- in short a tentative outline of your plans under this assignment is desired.

Please report by wire your arrival at the Western Navajo Agency.

Respectfully,

12-LAR-8

Assistant *(Signed) F. H. Abbott.*
Commissioner.