

**TOHATCHI RED WILLOW FARM PROJECT**  
**RED WILLOW FARM BOARD**  
 Tohatchi Chapter, Navajo Nation

**POWERLINE PROJECT**

The Red Willow Farm is located within the Tohatchi Chapter boundaries 4 miles southwest of Tohatchi, New Mexico. The farm was established in 1869. Since 1934, the farm relied on the Chuska Lake Reservoir for water. The Red Willow farm land is approximately 938 acres with 124 farm plots. There are currently 50 active farmers with only less than half whom actively farm on a seasonal basis.

The farm recently made some improvements with funds provided by the State of New Mexico. The State of New Mexico Capital Outlay provided funds in the amount of \$400,000.00 to drill an irrigation water well to provide water to the farmers. The well has been completed. Also, a high quality water pump was purchased along with a control panel. The Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources (NNDWR), Technical, Construction, and Operations Branch (TCOB) recently constructed and installed a 24,000-gallon water storage tank. High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipe was also provided and installed by TCOB from the well to the storage tank and to the farm irrigation pipeline. The Red Willow Farm is in need of \$ 297,000 to complete the power line, power drop, electrical control panel, pump house and security fencing around the well.

An amount of \$ 489,000 is required to complete the Red Willow Farm Project. \$ 192,000 is available and \$ 297,000 is needed as mentioned in the table below.

<b>IGA No. Projects (New Mexico)</b>	<b>Funds Available</b>	<b>Funds Needed to Complete Red Willow Farm Project</b>
B4063	\$ 192,000.00	For 3-Phase Power Line Completion, Pump House, Power Drop, Electrical Service Panel and Security Fence.
Total	\$ 192,000.00	<b>FUNDS NEEDED TO COMPLETE \$ 297,000.00</b>

\*Subject to change upon final design

The State of New Mexico funds requires a 5% obligation. A portion of these funds are being obligated for the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority to start obtaining the rights-of-way which is included in their quote.

TCOB has been working with the Capital Projects Management Department (CPMD) and the Red Willow Farm Board to complete this Project.

**OTHER PROJECT FUNDS TO PROJECT**

- 2013- NM Capital Outlay funded \$400,000 for the Water Well Pump System (Completed)
- 2009- Natural Resources Conservation Services (EQUIP) funded \$19,000 for fencing (Completed)
- 2002- NM Indian Affairs Department approved \$280,000 for Irrigation Piping (Completed)

The Tohatchi Red Willow Farm Board is requesting the following projects be added to the American Rescue Plan Act Projects 2021.

**Diversion Dam Canal Planning, Design, and Clearances**

The canal is for the natural runoff water to run accurately and safely through an approximately 2 mile long canal to the Chuska Lake reservoir. The channel is in need of new construction to safely and properly allow free flowing water to be diverted to the main Chuska Lake reservoir.

**PROJECT ESTIMATE COST: \$ 300,000**

**Evaluation and Inspection of the Chuska Lake Open & Closure Valve System of the Chuska Lake Dam**

This open and closure valve is located inside the Chuska Lake dam for releasing water to the irrigation pipe line to the Red Willow farm land and is in need of repairs. The open and closure valve system is a major system to feed the farming project at the Red Willow farm land site. The valve system is not closing at 100% and there is a leakage of water from the open and closure valve. The Chuska Lake reservoir is completely empty and this would be a priority project to add on the listing for future funding.

**PROJECT ESTIMATE COST: \$200,000**

**CONCLUSION**

The Red Willow Farm Board and its farmers greatly appreciate all the support, funding, and working collaboration from the local Navajo Nation chapter, government, and local leadership.

The Red Willow Farm Board thanks the State of NM Governor Grisham, Legislators, Committee members of the Water and Natural Resources, Indian Affairs Dept., others.

Elvis Bitsilly, President  
Red Willow Farm Board

Sam Natanobah, Jr, Vice President  
Red Willow Farm Board

Geneva Begay, Secretary/ Treasure  
Red Willow Farm Board

# TOHATCHI RED WILLOW FARM

Tohatchi, New Mexico



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