

Press Release

Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2021

NAVAJO NATION TRIBAL PARKS REMAIN CLOSED TO VISITORS

WINDOW ROCK, AZ – The Navajo Nation Parks and Recreation would like to respectfully inform the public, residents and tourists of the continued closure of the Navajo Nation Tribal Parks. In Pursuant to the Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-009 issued by the Navajo Division of Health, the Navajo Tribal Parks will remain closed to all visitors and tourists. Further, Navajo tribal roads also remain closed due to the President’s veto of the Navajo Nation Council resolution No. CMA-16-20 that would have rescinded the original legislation that closed roads to visitors. The following Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-009: Section IV states, *“Pursuant to Navajo Nation Resolution No. CMA-16-20, the Nation’s roads remain closed to Visitors for the duration of the declared public health emergency, and Visitors are advised to refrain from traveling to the Navajo Nation. Tribal Parks will not be accessible to Visitors and Tourists during this time. Visitors and Tourists will be informed when the Navajo Nation can safely welcome Visitors back to the Nation.”*

The Navajo Parks and Recreation Department proposed a soft reopening of the Navajo Tribal Parks on May 1, 2021; however, due to the aforementioned Public Health Emergency Order No. 2021-009, the proposed soft reopening will be suspended until further notice. Although, *“the Order authorizes reopening of marinas and parks at 25% of maximum occupancy to Navajo residents, citizens and employees only.”* NPRD interprets this to apply only to parks that have occupancy limits such as skate parks or playgrounds and does not apply to tribal parks which do not have established occupancy limits.

The following, tribal parks will continue to be closed; Antelope Canyon - Lake Powell Navajo Tribal Park, Marble Canyon, Coal Mine Canyon, Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park, Four Corners Monument, Little Colorado River Gorge, Asaayí Lake and Campground (Bowl Canyon), San Juan River (Navajo), Window Rock Navajo Veterans Memorial Park, and Tseyí Diné Heritage Cottonwood Campground. We would like for all travelers to be patient and understand that the Navajo Nation will gradually reopen when it is safe for all. If you would like more information pertaining to Navajo Tribal Park Closures, please call us at: 928-871-6647 or visit our website: www.navajonationparks.org, or Facebook: Navajo Parks & Recreation.

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