

Beat: Politics

## **NAVAJO NATIVE AMERICAN LEADER RUSSEL BEGAYE SEEKS TO LAUNCH LAWSUIT AGAINST APE**

### **EPA ACCUSED TRYING TO CHEAT NAVAJOS**

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**USPA NEWS** - Navajo Native American leaders have accused the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of trying to cheat Navajo's Tribes out of future compensation, in an acrimonious row over damages due to them over a polluted water spill from the Gold King Mine...

Tribal leader Russel BEGAYE told Washington Times that he was seeking to launch a lawsuit against the US Environmental Protection Agency accused of trying to buy of as many tribal members as possible to avoid having to pay a much larger settlement later to them.

The spill dumped millions of gallons of polluted wastewater into the Animas River, which flows into the San Juan and Colorado Rivers, major waste sources for agriculture in the Four Corners region where the borders of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah meet.

The Navajo represent the largest federally recognized Native American Indian tribe in the United States. Their reservation is spread out the Four Corners of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. The first Navajo Indians lived in the western part of CANADA, a little over a thousand years ago.

The Navajo Indians were hunters and gatherers until they came in contact with the Pueblos and the Spanish. The Navajo base their way of life on a belief that the physical and spiritual world blend together, and everything on earth is alive and their relative. They worship the winds, sun and watercourses. The Navajo are cautious about death, and rarely talk about it.

The Navajo reservation is currently the largest in the United States, with over 200,000 people throughout their 27,000 acres. Athabaskan is the most spoken Native American language in the United States. From 1923 until 1968, the Navajo Nation was called the "Navajo Indian Reservation". Today, the Navajo Nation is a sovereign Nation with its own government that stretches across the Four Corners regions of the American Southwest. (Navajoindian.net)

#### **Article online:**

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