



RURAL UTAH PROJECT

The story of political change in
San Juan County, Utah

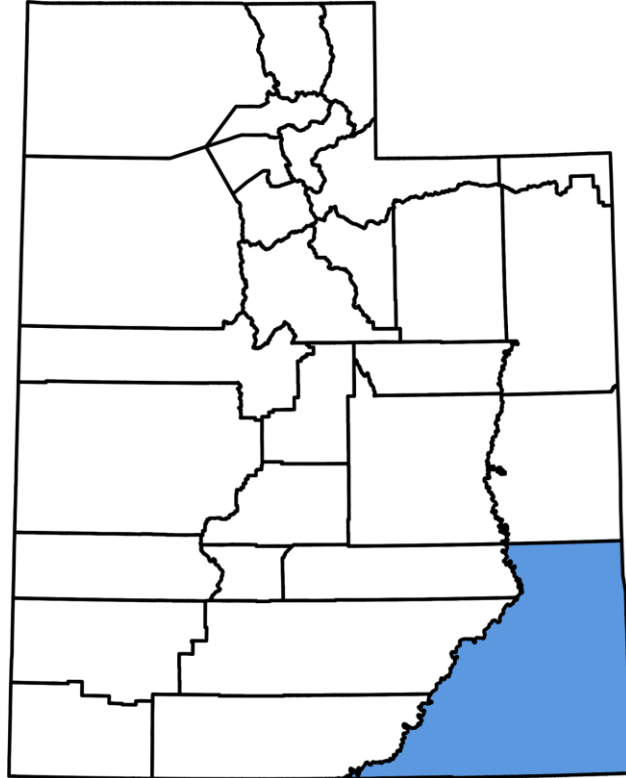


RURAL UTAH PROJECT

501(c)4 founded in 2017 by a group of Utahns dedicated to achieving progress in southern Utah by empowering diverse and historically disenfranchised groups of voters.

- Partnered with the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission and the Navajo Nation Addressing Authority
- 7 full-time staff, 3 of whom are citizens of the Navajo Nation and live in San Juan County
- Supported mostly by individuals from Utah
- Organizing presence in 6 counties throughout southern Utah

San Juan County, Utah



Home of the most stunning wild landscapes in the country...



Bears Ears National Monument



San Juan County: A busy holiday season

Dec 4,
2017

Trump Slashes Size of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Monuments



Dec 22,
2017

San Juan County readies for political shift following federal court ruling on voting districts

The
Salt Lake
Tribune

Jan 4,
2018

For Native Americans, a 'Historic Moment' on the Path to Power at the Ballot Box

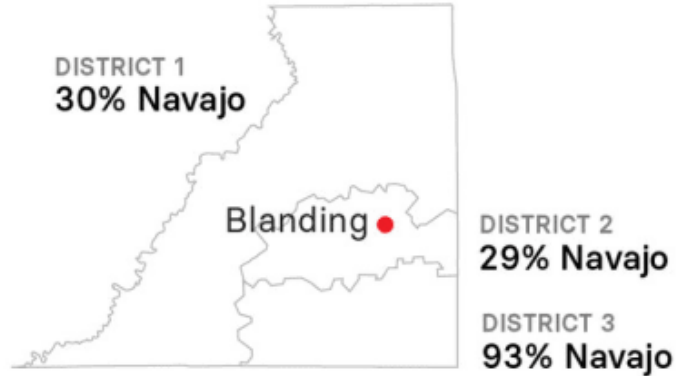


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Court-Ordered Redistricting of SJC Commission Map



Former Voting Districts

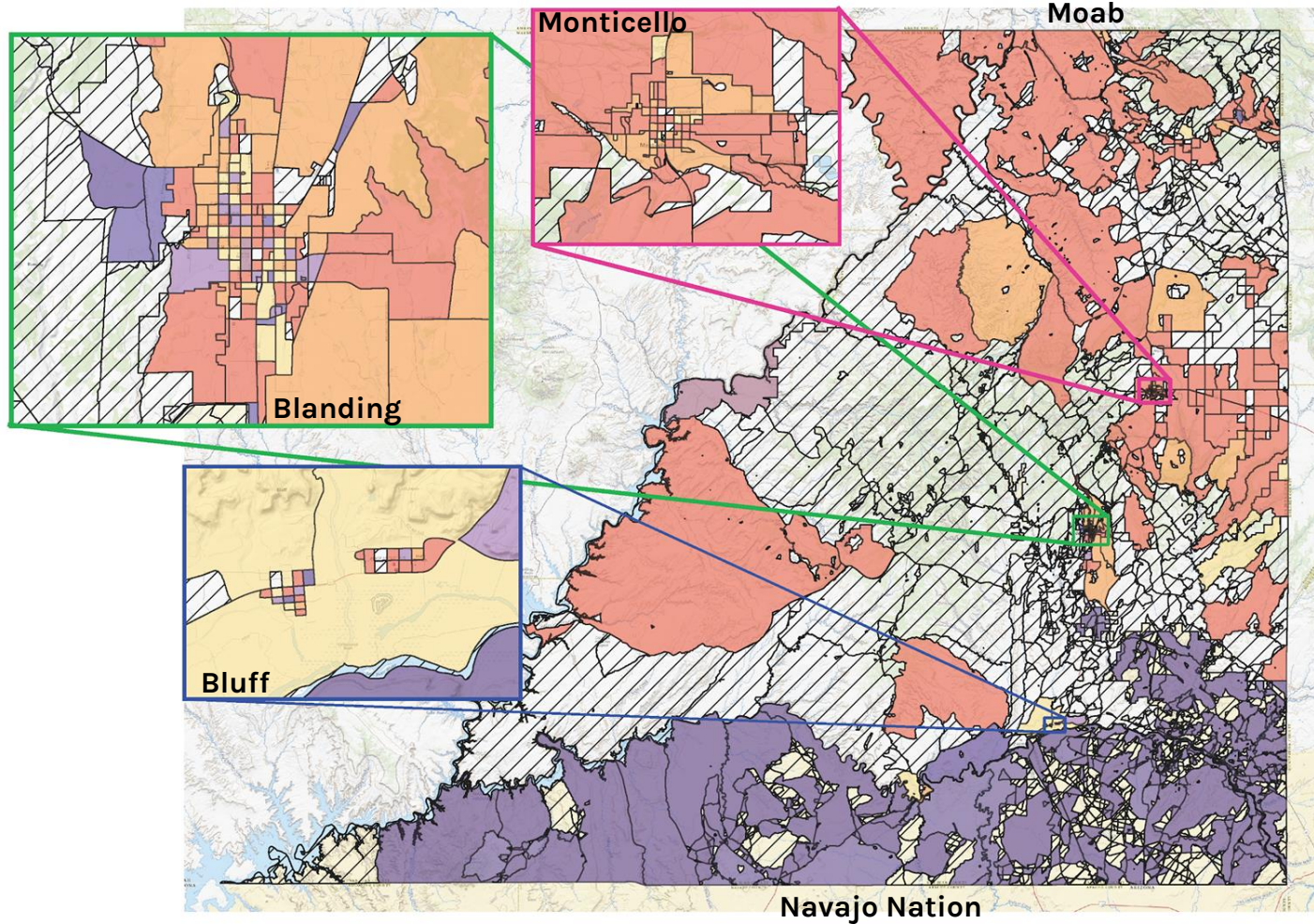
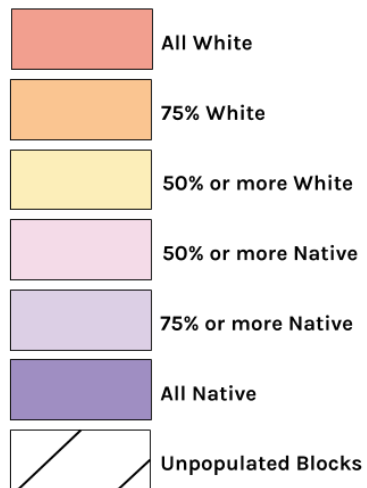


New Voting Districts



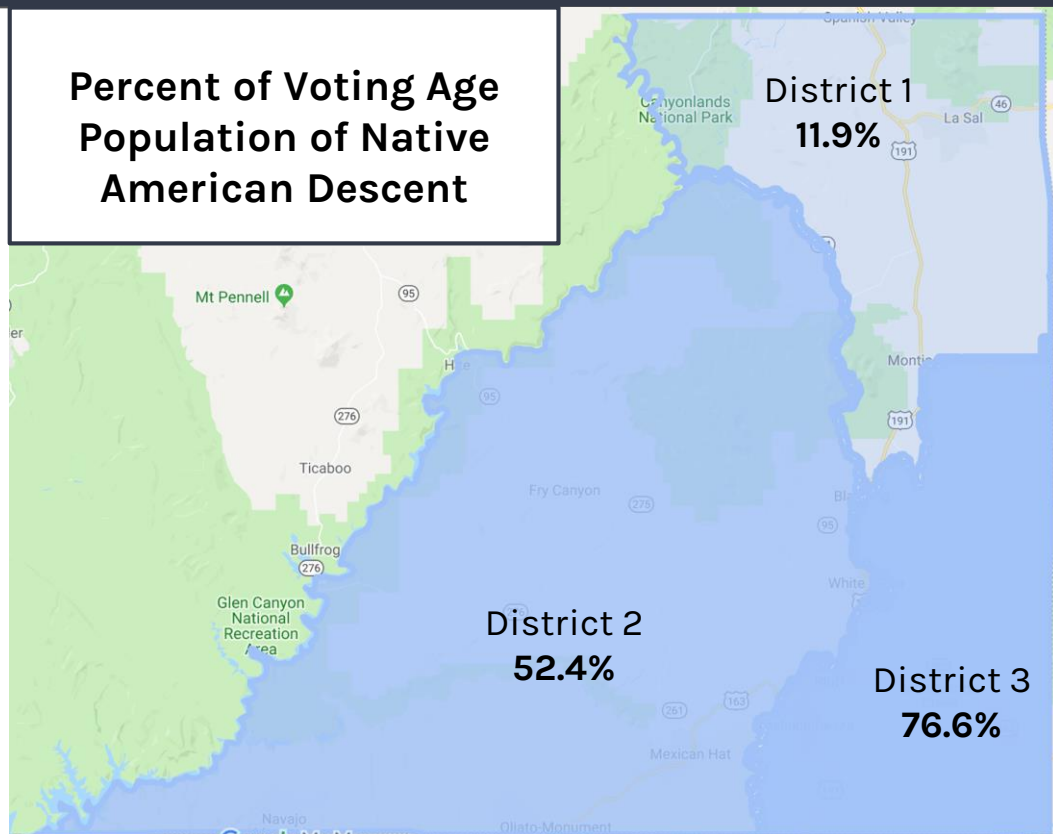
“Why Is It So Hard For Native Americans To Vote In This Utah County?”
Petersen and Brewer. BuzzFeed, October 28, 2018

**2010 Census: Racial Composition
by Block**



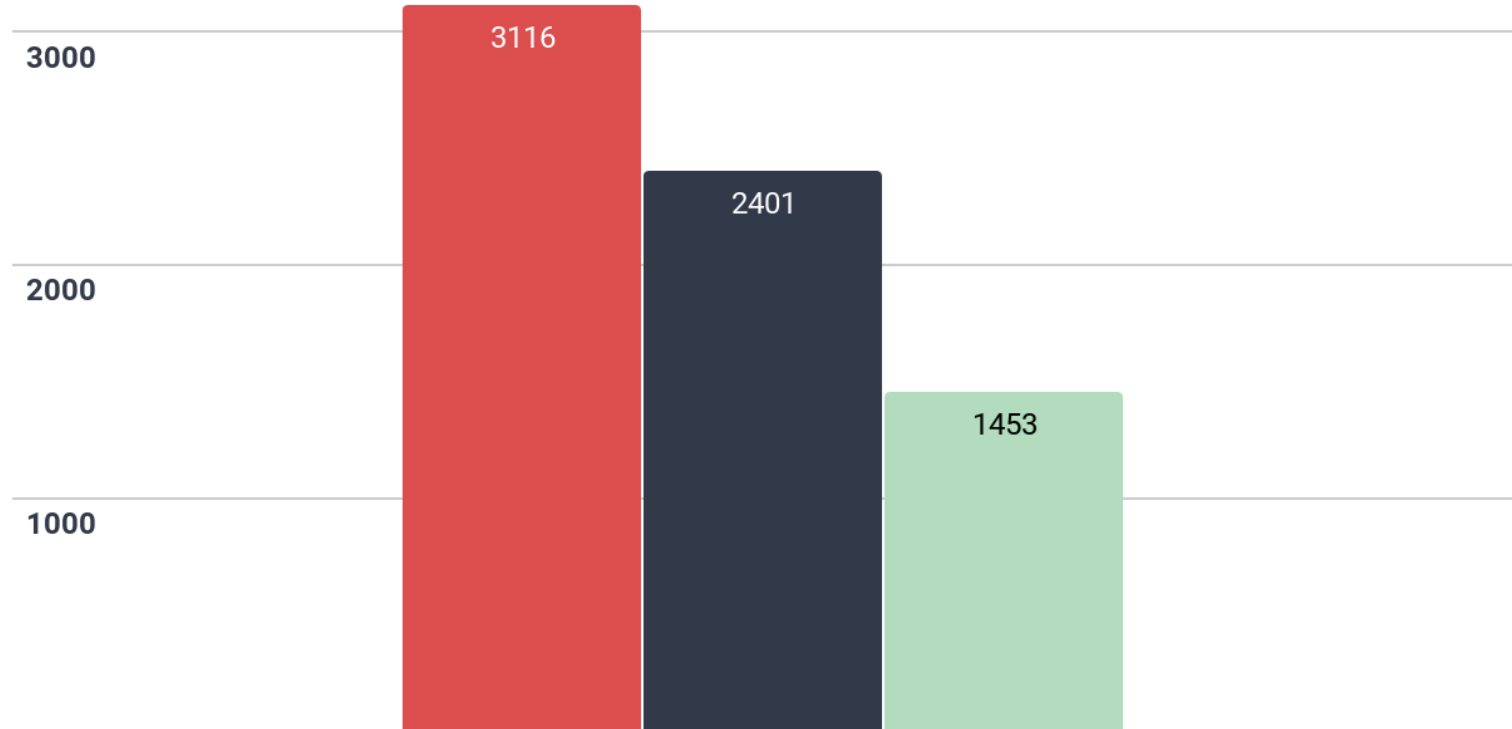
Voting Age Population tells a slightly different story...

**Percent of Voting Age
Population of Native
American Descent**



Commission District 2: Estimated Registration Gap

- Total Voting Age Native Population (2010)
- Total Registered in District 2
- Total Registered on Navajo and Ute Nations



Voter Registration Strategy



Dalene, our Field Organizer, visits a resident of Mexican Water Chapter at her doorstep



Tara approaches a door to register the residents

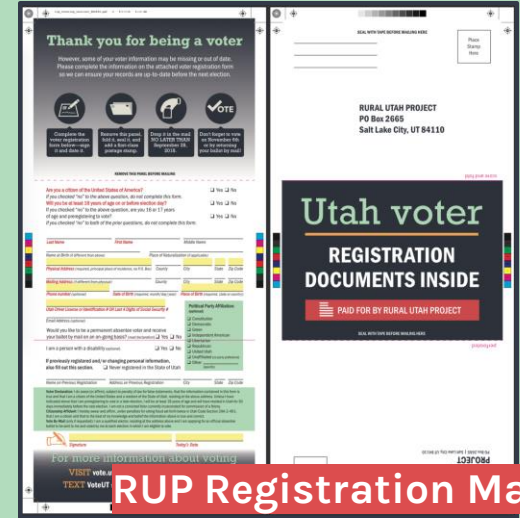
1. Site-based Registration



RUP Voter registration booth in Monument Valley, UT

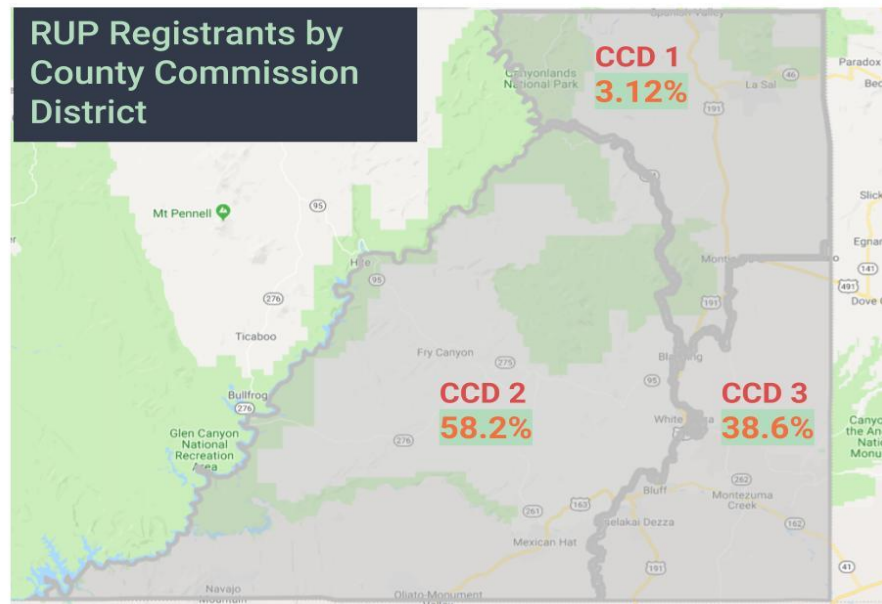
2. House Visits

3. In the mail



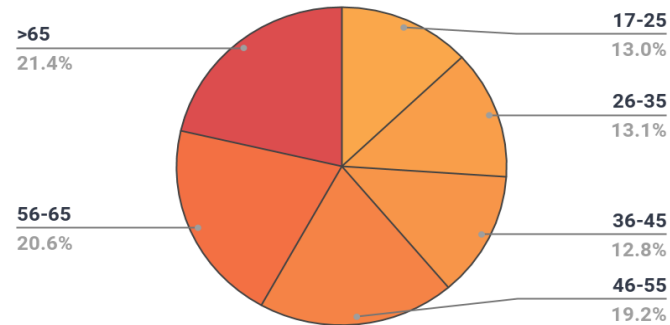
RUP Registration Mailer

RUP Registrants by County Commission District

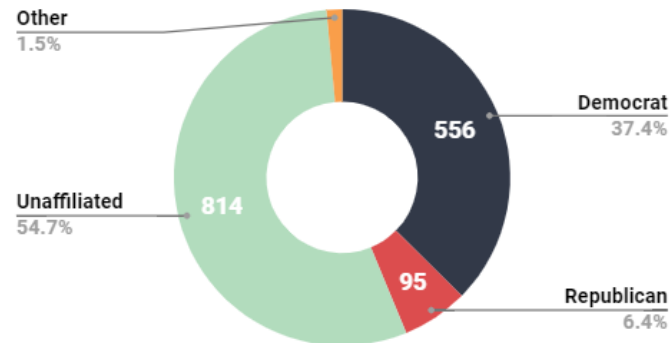


1,615 total registrants
~900 new voters

RUP Registrants by Age



RUP Registrants by Party Affiliation



"While the right to vote is ostensibly guaranteed to the Navajo as it is to all Americans both by the United States Constitution as well as by the various voting rights acts, **the actual right to vote and to hold office is practically denied by the operation of state laws.**

The states, and residents of areas surrounding the Navajo Reservation, fear that permitting Navajos to vote and encouraging them to exercise their Constitutional rights will jeopardize the long history of non-Indian control of areas in which the majority population is Navajo."

— Peter MacDonald
Former Chairman of the Navajo Nation

U. S. Commission on Civil Rights 1973: 484

Barriers to the Ballot: Historic Issues

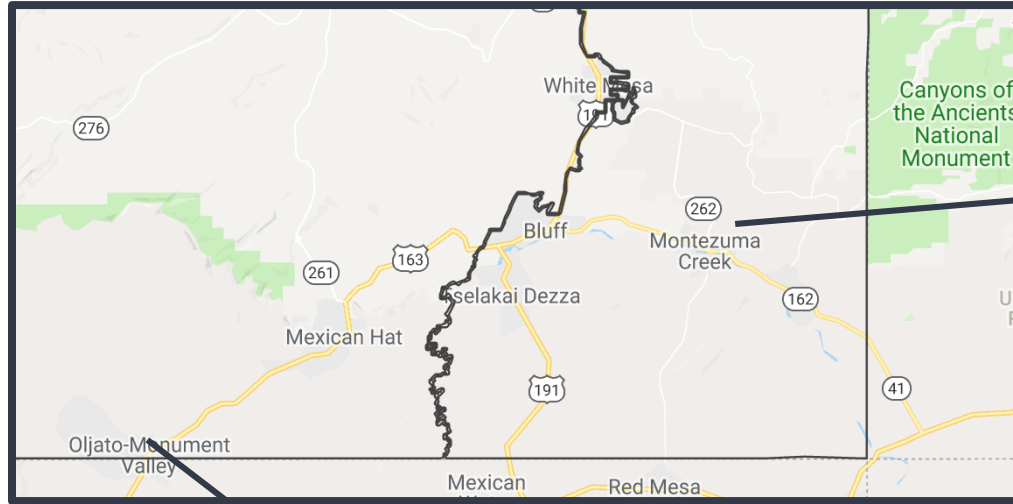


In 2014, the only in-person polling location in San Juan County was in Monticello (30 minutes north of Blanding).

A lawsuit brought by the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission resulted in a settlement requiring 3 early vote centers and 3 Election Day polling locations on the Navajo Nation in 2018

Barriers to the Ballot:

June 26th, 2018 Primary Election



Issues at Montezuma Creek Polling Location:

1. Electioneering and voter intimidation by poll worker
1. Failure of lights and air conditioning
1. Insufficient staffing
1. Lack of ballots and the ability to produce new ballots

Issues at Monument Valley Polling Location:

1. Lack of ballots, inability to produce new ballots
1. Lack of internet and back-up voter roll

A report compiled by the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission outlined a list of major shortfalls at court-ordered polling locations on the Navajo Nation

Strategies to Get Out the Vote (GOTV)



Rides to the Polls



Voter Protection

(poll watching, recruitment of volunteer legal aid)



Text and Phone Banking



More mail and radio advertising



Anna Cly, a voter RUP staff member transported to vote in 2018

PO Box 2665
Salt Lake City, UT 84110



Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2



RURAL UTAH PROJECT

In 2018, San Juan County's local elections will be closer than ever before.

Every Vote Matters!

* commission 2 / school board 5

- **There are two ways to vote!**

 **Mail:** Return the ballot you receive in the mail.

Return the ballot you receive in the mail no later than Wednesday, October 31st.

Don't forget to mark your entire ballot, including county commissioner and school board races

2 In-person: Go to the nearest polling location to cast your ballot.

Nearest Polling Locations

Navajo Mountain Chapter House
Monument Valley Welcome Center
Montezuma Creek Diné Professional Building
San Juan County Courthouse

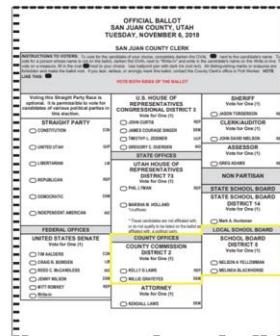
Remember to bring a valid state-issued photo ID to the polls!

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th

All polling locations are open 7 am - 8 pm

Text 'Dine' with your full name to 797979 to check your registration status and to sign up for election reminders.

Call or text Tara at (435) 485-0268 with voting questions or if you need help getting to the polls.



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Other GOTV materials



**Polls are open from 7am – 8pm
on November 6th**

Don't Forget to Bring an ID!



**Polls in San Juan County, Utah are open from
7am – 8pm on November 6th**

**Don't Forget to Bring a valid,
state-issued photo ID to the polls!**

If you have any questions or need a ride to the polls, call or text 385-955-0449



Paid For by the Rural Utah Project



Election Day is November 6th!
Here are the places you can vote in San Juan County, Utah

Nearest Polling Locations
Navajo Mountain Chapter House
Monument Valley Welcome Center
Montezuma Creek Diné Professional Building
San Juan County Courthouse





You Can Vote By Mail!

*Send your ballot back no later than October 31, 2018.
Don't forget to sign your ballot!*



Programmatic Digital Ads



Two Ways to Vote

1 Mail: Return the ballot you receive in the mail.

*Return the ballot you receive in the
mail no later than Wednesday, October 31st.*

2 In-person: Go to the nearest polling location to cast your ballot.

Nearest Polling Locations
Navajo Mountain Chapter House
Monument Valley Welcome Center
Montezuma Creek Fire Station
San Juan County Courthouse

**Remember to bring a valid state-issued
photo ID to the polls!**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th
All polling locations are open 7 am - 8 pm

Text 'Dine' with your full name to 797979 to check your registration status
and to sign up for election reminders

OR

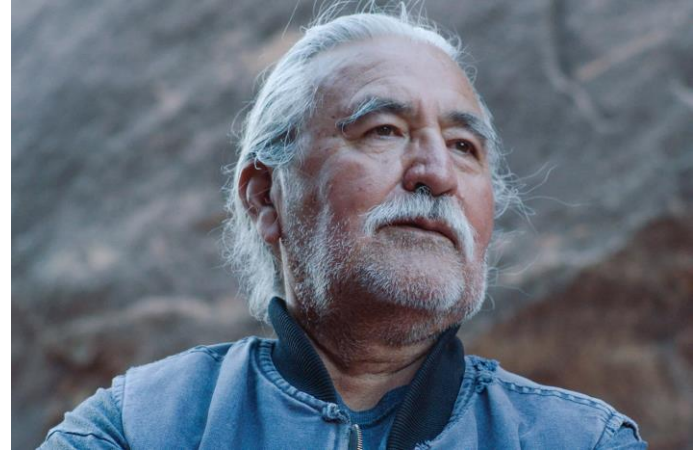
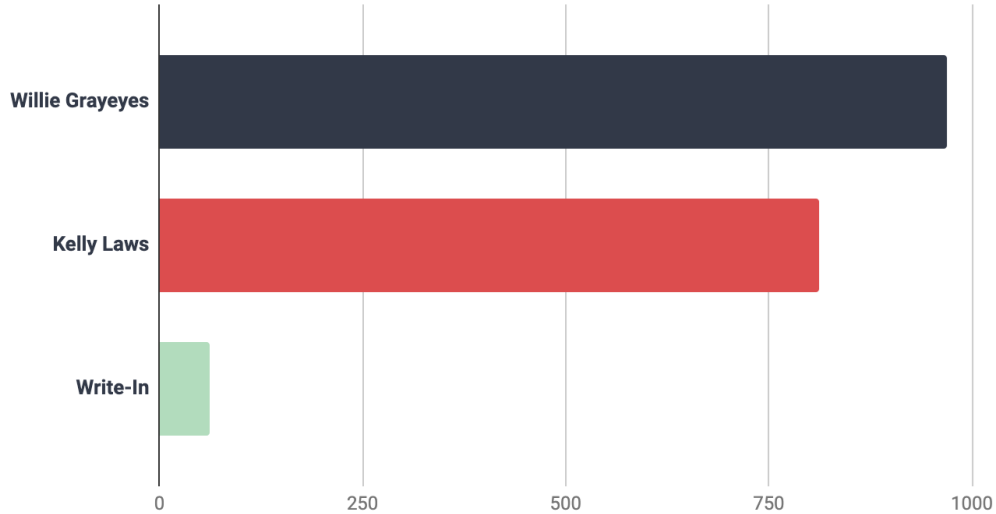
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getting to the polls.



**Adhesive
Door
Hangers**

Election Day 2018: Results

Commission District 2: General Election Results



71% Voter Turnout on the Navajo
Nation (*highest ever*)

75% Voter Turnout County-Wide



Rick Egan | The Salt Lake Tribune

**The first Native American majority
commission in San Juan County's history**



San Juan County votes to withdraw from Bears Ears lawsuit

By Amy Joi O'Donoghue | @Amyjoi16 | Apr 17, 2019, 5:27pm MDT

San Juan County Commission votes to end appeal in seven-year-long voting rights lawsuit with Navajo Nation

The San Juan County Commission held its first meeting in the Navajo Nation. Local residents were grateful for the chance to have a voice.

New County Commission signals change is coming

Feb 05, 2019 | 3948 views | 0  | 501  |  | 

Commission approves five resolutions, delays suit

Apr 23, 2019 | 2718 views | 0  | 762  |  | 

by Bill Boyle

Commission approves four new policy resolutions

Mar 12, 2019 | 3877 views | 0  | 297  |  | 

Participation = Representation

Our work is far from done...

Out of over 60,000 structures across Navajo, fewer than 500 are on roads with names according to Google

Some addresses on voter registration forms collected by RUP:

“13 mile post S of Bluff”

“Highway 163, Halchita Housing, #35”

“Rd 457 10 miles S of Montezuma Creek”

“5 mile west of Gouldings Post Office”

“8 miles North of Trainrock”

“.5 mile North CR494/423”

“.6 miles west of Gouldings”

“Milemarker 4 Hwy 163”

precinct	total checked	incorrect coordinates	%	incorrect precinct	%
3	232	194	83.6%	20	8.6%
8:BF	2	2	100.0%	0	0.0%
8	295	274	92.9%	78	26.4%
10:BF	2	2	100.0%	1	50.0%
10	91	73	80.2%	28	30.8%
11	59	40	67.8%	0	0.0%
total	681	585	85.9%	127	18.6%

The lack of addresses resulted in at least 127 out of a sampled 681 voters being placed in the wrong voting precinct

The Rural Addressing Program

The New York Times

Where the Streets Have No Names,
the People Have No Vote

By Deirdre Mark, October 19th, 2018

**2Q5V+XY
OLJATO, UT**

**2Q5V+XZ
OLJATO, UT**

**2Q5V+XX
OLJATO, UT**



PHASE ONE:

STATUS: COMPLETE

Use satellite imagery and open-sourced mapping data to identify every existing structure in the Navajo portion of San Juan County.



PHASE TWO:

STATUS: COMPLETE

Visit each structure to determine whether it is occupied and identify whether they are residences or business.



PHASE THREE:

**STATUS: EXPECTED
COMPLETION FALL 2019**

Distribute signs to all identified residences, update voter registration records with Plus Codes, and create a registry for Plus Codes to residences that can be shared with the Navajo Nation.

And that's not all we're doing this Fall...



First Nations *Voting* Rights

Planting for the Future

A CONFERENCE TO EMPOWER INDIGENOUS VOTERS.

SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2019 | SALT LAKE CITY, UT

www.firstnationvote.com

THANK YOU / AHEHEE'

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