



## **ThomasTso**

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### *Summary*

Knowledge, experience and awareness of Native Culture and their belief in moving forward today planning for future generations. Considering and not forgetting our natural resources.

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### *Skills*

- **Knowledge of Navajo History and Culture**—born and raised on the reservation and attended BIA School to speak English
- **Translation and Facilitation**—skilled at attending Navajo Nation government and Chapter meetings to serve as a facilitator or translator
- **Understanding and Explaining Cultural Values**—strong working knowledge of Native American Indians and relevant cultural values and traditions
- **Civil Rights Advocacy**—member of the Natural Resource Conservation Service Arizona Civil Rights Committee and presented Native American and Alaskan Native values and perspectives
- **Conservation Planning**—knowledge and skills provided to land users to ensure appropriate land conservation practices
- **Natural Resource Laws and Policies**—a working understanding of Indian Nation and Federal policies related to natural resource concerns and needs
- **Natural Resource Economics and Feasibility**—ability to evaluate multiple conservation alternatives to determine economic and technical feasibility
- **Field Data and GIS Mapping**—capability to conduct surveying in order to generate field data for environmental clearances
- **Skills Development and Training**—capability to work with Job Approval Authority to support local land users to implement conservation practices

- **Utilization of Cost Share Programs**—capability to work with Indian Nation and federal funding to acquire and utilize funding programs to implement conservation projects
- **Project Monitoring**—capability to monitor conservation projects in order to process payment for completed projects

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### *Education*

**Associate of Arts, Natural Resources** | University of Arizona | Tucson, AZ | 1995-1996  
**Associate of Arts, Natural Resources** | Northern Arizona University | Flagstaff, AZ | 1993-1995  
**General Studies** | Pima Community College | Tucson, AZ | 1993 – 1995  
**High School Diploma** | Tuba City, AZ | 1979

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### *Experience*

**1999 to 2015**

Community Land Use Plan, President  
 Navajo Nation, Bodaway/Gap Chapter

Provide technical service advisor to local Chapter Officials and oversee the Chapter government planning and zoning issue come before the Chapter government. Some critical issues are local land dispute between developer and local land users (grazing permittee). Developed land use planning reports, assist Chapter Officials local government act (LGA) in place.

**1992 – 2013**

Rangeland and Soil Conservation Technician  
 USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service,  
 Formerly the Soil Conservation Service

Provide technical service to local Native Americans Indians ranchers, farmers, land users in conservation planning and Navajo Nation Division of Natural Resources assist and develop, planning, designing, implementing and monitoring conservation projects. Education outreach on conservation related to soil, water, air, plants, animals, humans, and energy.

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### *References*

<b>Brian Kensley</b> Manager Bodaway/Gap Chapter Gap, AZ (928) 864-6318	<b>Felix Nez, Jr.</b> District Conservationist USDA – NRCS Winslow, AZ (928) 613-8107	<b>Wallace Tsosie</b> President Navajo Nation SWCD Window Rock, AZ (928) 602-7558
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