

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Annual Tribal Progress Report for the FY2026 Reporting Period

(July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026)

Section I: Agency Overview

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) administers the state's environmental laws and delegated federal programs to prevent air, water and land pollution and ensure cleanup when it does occur. Under the Environmental Quality Act of 1986, the Arizona State Legislature created ADEQ in 1987 as the state's cabinet-level environmental agency. ADEQ is composed of three environmental programs: Air Quality, Water Quality and Waste, with functional units responsible for technical, operational and policy support. ADEQ carries out several core functions: planning, permitting, compliance management, monitoring, assessment, cleanups and outreach. The agency employs approximately 600 people throughout the state. ADEQ values Tribal engagement and consultation and recognizes that Tribal perspectives are vital to all agency actions.

ADEQ's Tribal Consultation Policy outlines the foundational framework for Tribal engagement and formal consultation. The policy emphasizes the importance of incorporating Tribal viewpoints into agency actions and defines Tribal consultation as an ongoing, collaborative process that begins prior to decision-making and continues throughout project lifecycles.

A photograph of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) building, a modern multi-story structure with a mix of brick and glass facades, set against a clear blue sky.

— WELCOME TO ADEQ

Our Mission and Vision

To protect and enhance public health and the environment in Arizona.

- Through consistent, science-based environmental regulation; and clear, equitable engagement and communication;
- With integrity, respect, and the highest standards of effectiveness and efficiency;
- Because Arizonans treasure the unique environment of our state and its essential role in sustaining well-being and economic vitality, today and for future generations.

— [Learn More About Us >](#)

Tribal report acronyms are listed in Appendix A.

Section II: Highlights

31st Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day

ADEQ sponsored and participated in the 31st Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on January 14, 2026. ADEQ representatives hosted an information table to share key programs relevant to Tribes, including:

- Smoke Management
- Brownfields
- Arizona Finance Authority Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund
- Arizona Community Science Alliance (AZCSA)
- Air Quality Flag Program
- Trash Cleanup
- AZCSA LABrary
- Air Quality Monitoring PocketLab Lesson
- Stream Monitoring Volunteer Program
- Wet-Dry Mapping Volunteer Program
- Arizona Water Watch Mobile App
- Scraps for Science: Composting at Home or School
- STEM Events

Earth Day Events

ADEQ representatives supported Tribal Earth Day events across Arizona by attending and hosting interactive educational booths:

- Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) – March 27, 2026
- Cocopah Indian Tribe – April 12, 2026
- Ak-Chin Indian Community – April 22, 2026
- Hopi Tribe – April 22, 2026
- Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (SRPMIC) – April 25, 2026
- Yavapai-Apache Nation – April 25, 2026

Cocopah Indian Tribe

Cocopah's Environmental Director authorized ADEQ staff to conduct a site visit on Tribal land to provide technical assistance regarding operational challenges at the Tribe's Wastewater Treatment Plant. On August 15, 2025, ADEQ staff met with Cocopah representatives on-site and worked directly with plant operations management to review maintenance protocols and provide immediate technical support. Further details are provided in Table 3.

Fort Yuma-Quechan Indian Tribe

In response to a request from the Quechan Tribe regarding the Air Quality Flag Program, ADEQ's Community Science Program Manager and Tribal Liaison hosted an informational session on March 31, 2026, attended by 33 Tribal members, including a Tribal Council member.

Section III: FY2026 Goal Progress Report

Goal: ADEQ will continue seeking in-person visits to each of the 22 Federally Recognized Tribes of Arizona and will expand the outreach capacity of the Tribal Liaison by equipping Community Liaisons to act as ambassadors within their respective regional coverage areas, developing working relationships with Tribal staff and coordinating leadership engagement.

Status: Regional Community Liaisons accompanied ADEQ leadership during formal consultations to observe procedural protocols and align follow-up actions with established Tribal engagement practices.

Goal: In addition to annual Cultural Awareness training provided by a state-contracted Tribal Trainer, the Tribal Liaison will host agency brown-bag sessions detailing ADEQ's Tribal Consultation and Collaboration Policy.

Status: The Tribal Liaison delivered targeted training to agency staff on notification procedures for offering informal meetings and formal consultations to Tribal governments.

Goal: The Tribal Liaison will train agency staff on State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) consultation requirements as they apply to ADEQ.

Status: On September 11, 2025, ADEQ and SHPO representatives jointly conducted an agency-wide training session covering statutory SHPO consultation requirements applicable to ADEQ projects.

Section IV: FY2027 Goals

The Tribal Liaison will host an internal seminar detailing ADEQ's Tribal Consultation and Collaboration Policy, signed July 2, 2026.

The Tribal Liaison, in coordination with the designated SHPO representative, will hold a refresher training session on SHPO compliance and consultation procedures.

ADEQ staff and leadership will participate in specialized professional development focused on cross-cultural awareness and engagement. The curriculum will incorporate formal administrative protocols for offering honoraria to Tribal elders sharing Tribal Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TTEK).

Section V: Policy Revision

During this fiscal year, ADEQ reviewed and updated the Tribal Consultation and Collaboration Policy and sent it to the following parties for review and comment:

- October 1, 2025 – Governor’s Office on Tribal Relations.
- March 9, 2026 – 22 Federally Recognized Tribes of Arizona and 8 nearby out-of-state Tribes.

ADEQ’s Tribal Consultation and Collaboration Policy was signed on July 2, 2026.

Section VI: Consultation Activities

Consultation activities for the reporting period are detailed in Table 1 (ADEQ Notifications to Tribes) and Table 2 (Tribal Notifications to ADEQ), which follows Appendix A.

Section VII: Engagement Activities

Engagement activities for the reporting period are detailed in Table 3 (Engagement Activities), which follows Table 2.

Section VIII: Resource Service Requests

San Carlos Apache Tribe (SCAT)

At the request of SCAT’s Environmental Director, ADEQ representatives hosted a virtual meeting to review ADEQ’s processes for implementing the following regulatory programs and requirements:

- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA)
- Tier II – Hazardous Chemical Inventory Reporting
- Title 18. Environmental Quality, Chapter 13. Department of Environmental Quality – Solid Waste Management
- Solid Waste Management Plan
- Transfer Station rulemaking: Transfer Facility Design and Operation
- Delegation Agreements: Delegation Agreements and County List

ADEQ also provided a resource from the EPA Region 9 Hazardous Waste and Chemicals Section, Air, Waste and Chemicals Branch, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, and a reference to New Mexico’s spill policy (NMED Environmental Notification).

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant

The Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Grant is a federal grant program managed by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). This funding program helps public sector organizations prepare for and respond to hazardous materials transportation incidents. The

purpose of the grant is to enhance state, local, and Tribal abilities to handle hazmat accidents involving air, rail, and highway transport. Grant funds are used to train emergency responders, conduct commodity flow studies, and develop emergency response plans.

ADEQ uses federal HMEP grant funding to support Tribal communities.

Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study

ADEQ successfully completed a hazardous materials commodity flow study on behalf of the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians. The study also benefited Coconino and Mohave counties. The project's purpose was to provide a comprehensive analysis of hazardous materials to aid the Tribe and local, regional, state, and federal authorities in understanding the volume and nature of hazardous material movement into and out of Northern Arizona on SR 389. Specifically, the study addressed the movement of hazardous materials west toward Fredonia and east toward Colorado City. The study results provide a framework for the counties, LEPCs, Tribes, and local jurisdictions to plan for and respond to potential risks associated with transporting these materials. The cost of this project was \$39,000.

Hazardous Materials Conferences

ADEQ provided financial reimbursement from the HMEP Grant to the Fort Mojave Mesa Fire District to send personnel to the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) conference in Baltimore, MD. The IAFC represents the leadership of firefighters and emergency responders worldwide; its members include leading experts in firefighting, emergency medical services, terrorism response, hazardous materials spills, natural disasters, search and rescue, and public safety policy. The conference provided personnel with hands-on and classroom training in hazmat event response. The cost of this project was \$7,619.

ADEQ provided financial reimbursement from the HMEP Grant to the Fort Mojave Mesa Fire District to send personnel to the IAFC Fire Rescue International Conference in Kansas City, MO. The conference covered command- and task-level hazardous materials incident planning, training, and response. Its educational offerings provided personnel with additional skills in preventing, planning for, and responding to hazmat events. The cost of this project was \$6,000.

EPA's SWIFR Grant (Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling) Update and Mapping Overview

- **End-Market and Infrastructure Gap Identification:** The SWIFR Map serves as a vital tool for mapping statewide waste disposal and recovery infrastructure, enabling state planners, municipalities, and businesses to identify critical gaps in localized end markets and secondary commodity processing.
- **Data-Driven Regional Tracking:** By mapping facility locations—such as Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs), transfer stations, and specialized drop-off sites—SWIFR provides spatial data to optimize hauling logistics and build regional circular material networks across Arizona.

What Infrastructure and SWIFR Initiatives Offer Tribes

- **Overcoming Geographic and Hauling Barriers:** Tribal communities frequently face long travel distances, high transportation costs, and a lack of local disposal or processing facilities. SWIFR and related state strategies focus on funding decentralized “hub-and-spoke” networks, mini compost hubs, and mobile microfactories that aggregate and process materials locally without requiring expensive long-distance hauling.
- **Direct Tribal Infrastructure Partnerships:** Initiatives support inter-county and Tribal coordination on local public works projects, such as using recycled crumb rubber for the Ak-Chin Indian Community resurfacing project and upcoming Navajo Nation infrastructure efforts.
- **Mitigating Environmental Risks and Illegal Dumping:** By providing localized collection infrastructure, these programs help reduce illegal dumping in washes and remote areas. Furthermore, state and Tribal collaborations assist advocacy groups (such as the Gila River Alliance for a Clean Environment) in closing non-compliant waste sites that pose health and environmental hazards.

Current Working Group and Policy Workshop Actions

- **Technical Advisory Working Group (C&D Debris):** A specialized working group has been established to coordinate stakeholder engagement across industrial, commercial, and residential sectors, standardize material flow data collection, and promote sustainable building deconstruction over traditional demolition.
- **ADEQ Policy Workshop Collaboration:** ADEQ convened an active policy workshop bringing together over 40 participants across 27 organizations—including Tribal leaders (such as the White Mountain Apache Tribe), state legislators, municipalities, recycling businesses, nonprofits, and academic researchers from Arizona State University.
- **Advancing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR):** Working group participants are evaluating EPR policy frameworks to shift the financial responsibility for end-of-life material management (for textiles, paint/HHW, electronics, and plastics) from local governments onto product manufacturers.
- **Deploying Digital Materials Marketplaces:** Working groups are driving the adoption of digital exchange platforms and manifesting systems that allow contractors, tire shops, and businesses to track material flows, verify receipts, and trade secondary commodities in real time.

ADEQ Recycling Grant Program

Established under the Arizona Solid Waste Recycling Act of 1990 (Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 49-831 et seq.), the ADEQ Recycling Program delivers public education on source reduction and proper waste management while funding state recycling initiatives. Program revenue is generated through landfill disposal fees and supports several competitive grant categories:

- **Waste Reduction Assistance (WRA):** Supports projects such as curbside collection programs and household hazardous waste events to significantly divert solid waste from municipal landfills.
- **Waste Reduction Initiative Through Education (WRITE):** Funds educational outreach campaigns and community engagement programs promoting proper waste disposal and recycling participation.

- **Recycling Research & Development (RR&D):** Provides capital for innovative technologies, product development, and processing methodologies that enhance landfill diversion and secondary material recovery.

The Recycling Program provides funding to political subdivisions of the State of Arizona, private enterprises, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and Arizona's Tribal governments.

SCAT (Awarded \$23,000)

The Solid & Green Waste Reduction Project, managed by the San Carlos Apache Tribe Department of Environmental Protection, focuses on identifying and mitigating illegal dumping and environmental contamination and on recovering reusable waste streams across 1.8 million acres of Tribal land in Gila, Graham, and Pinal counties.

SRPMIC (Awarded \$62,000)

The SRPMIC Community Garden Composting System establishes a scalable composting infrastructure to divert organic waste from landfills and enrich soil for local agriculture. The project includes installing an Oklin GG-10s commercial food waste composter at the SRPMIC Round House Café, operated in partnership with Aramark Workplace Hospitality, to produce compost for community gardens and support local food sovereignty.

Appropriated Funding

Emergency Response Fund

Established under A.R.S. § 49-132, the Emergency Response Fund consists of legislative appropriations designated for emergency management and hazardous material incident mitigation for law enforcement and fire departments, including Tribal emergency service providers. Eligibility is extended to all first responder agencies assisting with hazmat incident mitigation, regardless of formal hazmat team designation.

GRIC Fire Department and the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians were awarded emergency response equipment and supplies totaling \$6,659.86 to enhance local containment capabilities for hazardous material spills.

Brownfields Assistance Program Projects

ADEQ supported the following six Brownfields State Response Grant assessment and cleanup projects:

- **Old Coal Mine Mesa Site:** Conducted Phase I site assessment and mitigation activities for structures with suspected asbestos-containing materials and lead-based paint.
- **Indian Village:** Performed Phase I environmental assessments on structures identified with potential lead-based paint and asbestos hazards.
- **SCAT Cutter Sawmill:** Completed Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs), including the removal of abandoned underground storage tanks (USTs).

- **WMAT Minor Flat:** Initiated Phase II site activities to decommission USTs and remove building debris and unlabeled containers, subject to Tribal Historic Preservation Office approval.
- **Navajo Nation (Western Agency – LeChee Chapter):** Initiated a Phase I ES A for a former municipal landfill site.
- **Navajo Nation (Western Agency – Tsegi):** Conducted Phase I and Phase II ES As to evaluate building materials at a fire-damaged, vacant commercial hotel and restaurant site.

Section IX: Contact Information

For questions or comments regarding this report, contact ADEQ's Tribal Liaison:



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Appendix A: Abbreviations

Federally Recognized Tribes of Arizona

Tribe Name	Acronym
Ak-Chin Indian Community	Ak-Chin
Cocopah Indian Tribe	Cocopah
Colorado River Indian Tribes	CRIT
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation	FMYN
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	FMIT
Fort Yuma-Quechan Indian Tribe	Quechan
Gila River Indian Community	GRIC
Havasupai Tribe	Havasupai
Hopi Tribe	Hopi
Hualapai Tribe	Hualapai
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians	Kaibab Paiute
Navajo Nation	NN
Pascua Yaqui Tribe	PYT
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	SRPMIC
San Carlos Apache Tribe	SCAT
San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe	SJSPT
Tohono O'odham Nation	TON
Tonto Apache Tribe	TAT
White Mountain Apache Tribe	WMAT
Yavapai-Apache Nation	YAN
Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe	YPIT
Pueblo of Zuni	Zuni

Nearby Out-of-State Tribes

Tribe Name	Acronym
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe – Havasu Lake, CA	CIT – CA
Mescalero Apache Tribe – Mescalero, NM	MAT – NM
Fort Sill Apache Tribe – Apache, OK	FSAT – OK
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians – Moapa, NV	MBPI – NV
Paiute Indian Tribe of Las Vegas – Las Vegas, NV	PIT – NV
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah – Cedar City, UT	PITU – UT
Pueblo of Acoma – Acoma, NM	Acoma – NM
Ute Mountain Ute – Towaoc, CO	UMU – CO

Report Terms

Subject	Acronym
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	ADEQ
Air Quality Division	AQD
Aquifer Protection Program Individual Permit	APP Permit
Arizona Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit	AZPDES Permit
Air Quality Division State Implementation Plan	AQDSIP
Clean Water Act	CWA
Clean Water Act Assessment	CWA Assessment
Department of Emergency and Military Affairs	DEMA
Domestic Water Improvement District	DWID
Emergency Manager	EM
Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act	EPCRA
Emergency Response Fund	ERF
Emergency Response Unit	ERU
Environmental Site Assessment	ESA
GRIC Department of Environmental Quality	GRIC DEQ

Subject	Acronym
Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant	HMEP
International Association of Fire Chiefs	IAFC
Inter Tribal Council of Arizona	ITCA
Local Emergency Planning Committee	LEPC
Memorandum of Understanding	MOU
Million Gallons per Day	MGD
New Mexico Environment Department	NMED
Nonpoint Source Discharges	NPS Discharges
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking	NPRM
Outstanding Arizona Waters	OAWs
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	PHMSA
Pinyon Plain Mine	PPM
Regional Tribal Operations Committee	RTOC
Significant Permit Revision	SPR
Solid Waste Infrastructure for Recycling Grant	SWIFR
State Historic Preservation Office	SHPO
State Implementation Plan	SIP
Tribal Historic Preservation Office	THPO
Tribal Traditional Ecological Knowledge	TTEK
Underground Storage Tank	UST
Underground Storage Tank Section	UST Section
United States Geological Survey	USGS
Wastewater Treatment Plant	WWTP
Water Infrastructure Finance Authority	WIFA
Water Reclamation Facility	WRF

Table 1: ADEQ Notifications to Tribes*Section VI – Consultation Activities*

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
July 10, 2025	FMIT	ADEQ notified the Tribe of a Class II air permit application received June 25, 2025, from Arizona Electric Power Cooperative Mohave Energy Park, a proposed natural gas electricity generating facility at 2999 East King Street, Mohave Valley, AZ 86440.
July 29, 2025	Ak-Chin, Hopi, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON, WMAT, TAT, YAN, GRIC, MAT – NM, PYT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received August 9, 2024, from the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District (SRP) for a significant amendment to its APP permit. The facility is located at 859 East Randolph Road, Coolidge, Arizona 85128. The current APP permit authorizes processed wastewater generated at the facility to be conveyed to two evaporation ponds, both double-lined with high-density polyethylene, equipped with a leak collection and removal system and designed to hold all wastewater generated at the facility. The amendment would support the facility's expansion.
August 5, 2025	Tribes of Arizona	ADEQ notified the Tribes of Arizona that it intended to publish the 2026 CWA Assessment. The Assessment determines whether water quality standards are being met throughout Arizona, excluding Tribal lands, where ADEQ has no authority or jurisdiction. The Assessment is completed every two years as required by the CWA and must be submitted to EPA for review and approval by April 1 of even-numbered years. ADEQ sought to ensure Tribes had an opportunity to provide input before the April 1, 2026 deadline.
August 15, 2025	Hualapai	ADEQ sent Hualapai a copy of the Summary and Response to Public Comments regarding Antler Operations Inc.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
August 28, 2025	FMYN	ADEQ's UST Section updated FMYN and EPA Region 9 representatives on the plan to characterize the extent of a fuel leak from Red Rock Auto, 11625 N. Saguaro Blvd., Fountain Hills that has reached groundwater. ADEQ requested FMYN's permission to install two groundwater monitoring wells (#14 and #15) on FMYN property, approximately 500 to 770 feet from Red Rock Auto. The wells will help determine whether groundwater on FMYN property has been impacted.
August 29, 2025	Ak-Chin	ADEQ notified Ak-Chin of an application from the City of Casa Grande for a significant amendment to its APP permit. The facility is located at 1194 W. Kortsen Rd., Casa Grande, Arizona 85122. The facility is designed to treat up to 20.3 million gallons per day of residential and industrial wastewater to meet aquifer water quality standards and reclaimed water A+ standards. The treated water will be discharged to effluent storage ponds, provided for irrigation at two golf courses, delivered for recharge at an off-site recharge facility regulated by a separate APP permit, or discharged to the Santa Cruz Wash. Groundwater flow direction and elevation are variable along the Santa Cruz Wash due to localized groundwater pumping for agriculture. Groundwater flows to the west along the channelized portion of the Santa Cruz Wash and to the east and northeast near the northern portion of the wash. The depth to groundwater below land surface varies from approximately 80 feet to more than 400 feet along the northern portion of the wash.
September 5, 2025	SCAT	Pinto Valley Mine AZPDES Permit Renewal ADEQ responded to SCAT's review comments, received July 31, 2025, during the informal comment period regarding the AZPDES permit renewal for the Pinto Valley Mine.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
September 5, 2025	Ak-Chin, FMYN, Hopi, MAT – NM, NN, Zuni, SRPMIC, SCAT, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN, YPIT, GRIC	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP permit application received October 2, 2024, from the Tri-City Regional Sanitary District. The facility will be located in Claypool, Arizona, approximately 1.7 miles north of the intersection of Highway 60 and Highway 188. The facility is designed to treat up to 250,000 gallons per day of residential wastewater to meet aquifer water quality standards and reclaimed water A+ standards and will replace failing septic systems that discharge directly into the aquifer.
September 19, 2025	Tribes of Arizona	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a proposed rulemaking to adopt a new article in Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) Title 18, Chapter 9, establishing a standardized process for remediating NPS discharges from abandoned hardrock mines that impact or threaten surface waters throughout Arizona. The proposed rules would apply only to ADEQ or to remediation performed with ADEQ-managed funds.
September 29, 2025	FMIT, Havasupai, Hopi, NN, Zuni, TAT, WMAT, YAN, SRPMIC, PYT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received from the City of Winslow for renewal of its AZPDES WWTP permit. The WWTP, located at 3140 Santa Fe Circle, Winslow, AZ 86047, serves the City of Winslow and has a design flow of 2.2 MGD. Its outfall on the Little Colorado River discharges only in an emergency or when the volume of treated effluent exceeds irrigation demand.
September 29, 2025	SCAT	ADEQ notified SCAT of an application received August 5, 2025, from Resolution Copper Mining LLC (RCML) to update its Industrial Recycled Water Permit to allow reuse of treated industrial recycled water for crop irrigation. RCML proposed adding a source to the mine water treatment plant's influent under its 2025 permit.
October 1, 2025	Cocopah	ADEQ notified the Tribe of a Class II air permit renewal application for the continued operation of the South Yuma County Landfill, located at 19536 S. Avenue 1E, Yuma, Arizona 85365.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
October 6, 2025	Ak-Chin, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, WMAT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of three general permit applications received September 9, 2025, for Ivanhoe Electric’s Santa Cruz Copper Project: Type 2.02 General Aquifer Protection Permit for Intermediate Stockpiles at Mining Sites, Type 3.01 for Lined Impoundments, and Type 3.03 for Vehicle and Equipment Washes. The Santa Cruz Copper Project is an underground copper mine planned in Casa Grande, Arizona, wholly owned by Ivanhoe Electric. The project will use a heap leach, solvent extraction, and electrowinning (SX/EW) process to produce pure copper cathode.
October 15, 2025	GRIC, Hopi, PYT, Zuni, TAT, WMAT, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP individual permit application received for the Merrill Ranch WRF, a new facility located at 875 N. Tanner Rd., Florence, AZ 85132. The facility will serve the Town of Florence with a design flow of 1.5 MGD. The treated effluent is proposed to discharge to an on-site recharge basin and would discharge to the Gila River from the designated outfall only under emergency conditions or if effluent supply exceeds recharge basin capacity.
October 16, 2025	Cocopah	ADEQ emailed the Tribe a notification of the renewal of Air Quality Control Permit No. 104088 for South Yuma County Landfill, Inc., for the continued operation of the South Yuma County Landfill, a municipal solid waste landfill located at 19536 S. Avenue 1E, Yuma.
November 3, 2025	FMYN, FMIT, Hopi, Hualapai, MAT – NM, NN, Zuni, SCAT, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a rulemaking to propose adding the upper Verde River and Sycamore Creek as OAWs to A.A.C. § R18-11-112(G). ADEQ received the nomination from the Sierra Club. After reviewing the nomination materials, ADEQ determined the nomination met the criteria in A.A.C. § R18-11-112. An OAW is a special designation given to high-quality waters that have exceptional recreational or ecological significance or that support threatened or endangered species. Existing water quality in OAWs must be maintained, with the exception of

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
		temporary impacts such as maintenance on a bridge crossing the water.
November 6, 2025	Tribes of Arizona	ADEQ notified the Tribes and offered consultation and informal meetings regarding the Arizona 2025–2030 Nonpoint Source Program Abandoned Mine Lands Rulemaking.
November 12, 2025	Ak-Chin, FMYN, FMIT, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP individual permit application received for the existing City of Goodyear Rainbow Valley WRF, located at 16699 South Rainbow Valley Road, Goodyear, Arizona 85338. The application would expand the treatment capacity of the facility, which serves a portion of the Estrella Mountain Ranch, Montecito, and Canta Mia developments within the City of Goodyear.
December 29, 2025	FMYN, FMIT, Hopi, Ak-Chin, GRIC, Hualapai, MAT – NM, NN, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, SCAT, TON, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received for a significant amendment to the Town of Jerome WWTP APP individual permit to upgrade portions of its treatment train with improved unit processes. The WWTP is located at Sewer Plant Rd., Jerome, Arizona 86331.
January 12, 2026	FMYN, FMIT, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, SRPMIC, TAT, WMAT, YAN, YPIT, Zuni	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a new hazardous waste storage and treatment facility application received from CS Clean. CS Clean is located at 2453 W. Parkside Ln., Ste. 150, Phoenix, AZ 85027, in Maricopa County. The site is part of the Deer Valley Commerce Center Park.
January 13, 2026	Tribes of Arizona	Before the public comment period opened, ADEQ notified the Tribes and gave them the opportunity to review the AZPDES draft permit and fact sheet for the Lake Havasu City Mulberry WWTP Pond, located at 340 Mulberry Avenue, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
February 18, 2026	Ak-Chin, Cocopah, FMYN, FMIT, MBPI – NV, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, TON, SRPMIC, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received May 7, 2025, for a new Class II air permit for OTODIS, a proposed used motor oil refinery in Quartzsite. A Class II permit is required because the facility has the potential to emit sulfur dioxide (SO ₂) greater than the significant threshold identified in A.A.C. R18-2-101(175)(a). The proposed facility is located at 3125 West Dome Rock Road, Quartzsite, AZ 85346.
March 2, 2026	Havasupai, Hopi, Hualapai, Kaibab Paiute, MAT – NM, NN, PITU – UT, PYT, Zuni, SCAT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an AZPDES permit application received to renew coverage for discharging dechlorinated potable water from the Havasupai Gardens Potable Water Pump Station to Garden Creek and Bright Angel Creek.
March 5, 2026	FMYN, FMIT, Hopi, Hualapai, NN, Zuni, SCAT, TAT, WMAT, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application to renew the AZPDES permit for the Kay S. Blackman WWTP. The facility is a privately owned treatment works with a design capacity of 0.6 MGD that discharges to Munds Creek in the Verde River Basin. Located at 18075 Fairway Dr. in Munds Park, Arizona, it treats domestic wastewater from local residential and commercial sources.
March 11, 2026	CIT – CA, CRIT, FMIT, Hualapai, Hopi, MBPI – NV, NN, PYT, Zuni, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a new APP individual permit application received from Arizona Electric Power Cooperative Mohave Energy Park, a proposed natural gas electricity generating facility at 2999 East King Street, Mohave Valley, AZ 86440.
March 13, 2026	Ak-Chin, Cocopah, CRIT, FMIT, Quechan, GRIC, Hopi, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP permit application for a significant amendment to the City of San Luis – West Wastewater Treatment Plant, located at 101 Cesar Chavez Boulevard in Yuma County, Arizona. The amendment would increase the WWTP's capacity from 1.5 to 3.0 MGD. The WWTP will continue to discharge effluent to the concrete-lined Wellton-Mohawk Salinity Bypass Canal, located approximately 0.9 mile west of the WWTP.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
March 16, 2026	CIT – CA, CRIT, FMIT, Hopi, Hualapai, MBPI – NV, NN, PYT, Zuni, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a proposed permit amendment for the Wishing Well WRF, located at 1749 E. Lipan Blvd., Fort Mohave, AZ 86426. Following a flood on May 6, 2025, the WRF diverted wastewater flows to the Fort Mojave Tribal Utility Authority. The amendment would add a new treatment method to improve effluent quality and expand capacity. Once the permit is issued and the new plant is constructed, diversions to the Fort Mojave Tribal Utility Authority will cease.
March 16, 2026	CIT – CA, Hopi, Kaibab Paiute, MBPI – NV, NN, PITU – UT, PYT, Zuni	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an AZPDES application received to renew permit coverage for discharging treated wastewater from the Virgin River DWID into Beaver Dam Wash, a tributary of the Virgin River.
March 16, 2026	Tribes of Arizona	Following earlier communications, ADEQ notified the Tribes of the NPRM outlining a standardized process for remediating nonpoint source (NPS) pollution from abandoned hardrock mines that impact or threaten Arizona’s surface waters. These rules would apply only when state funds or funds administered by ADEQ are used.
March 19, 2026	Ak-Chin, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, SCAT, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application to renew the five-year AZPDES permit for the Mount Lemmon WRF in Summerhaven, Arizona. The facility serves approximately 100 residents near the peak of Mount Lemmon, and the permit ensures compliance with CWA and state standards to protect local water quality.
March 31, 2026	CIT – CA, MAT – NM, Hopi, Kaibab Paiute, NN, PYT, Zuni, PITU – UT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class II air permit renewal application received January 16, 2026, from Energy Fuels Resources, Inc. for the continued operation of EZ Mine, an underground uranium mine located 36 miles south of Fredonia, AZ 86022 in Mohave County. A Class II air quality permit is required because the facility’s potential emissions exceed permitting exemption thresholds but remain below

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
		major source thresholds, in accordance with A.A.C. R18-2-302.B.2.a.
April 2, 2026	FMIT, Hopi, Hualapai, MAT – NM, NN, PYT, Zuni, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class I air permit renewal application received December 19, 2025, from Lhoist North America of Arizona, Inc. for the continued operation of a limestone processing and lime manufacturing plant located 2.5 miles south of U.S. Route 66 at mile marker 122, Peach Springs, AZ 86434. A Class I permit is required because the facility has the potential to emit particulate matter 10 micrometers or less (PM10), sulfur dioxide (SO2), nitrogen oxides (NOx), and carbon monoxide (CO) greater than major source thresholds, in accordance with A.A.C. R18-2-302.B.1.a.
April 2, 2026	FMYN, GRIC, Hopi, PYT, SCAT, TAT, WMAT, YAN, YPIT, Zuni, MAT – NM	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an AZPDES application received to issue permit coverage for the discharge of pollutants from ASARCO LLC – Ray Operations to Mineral Creek and the downstream segment of the Gila River.
April 17, 2026	Ak-Chin, CRIT, FMIT, Quechan, GRIC, Hopi, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application to modify the AZPDES permit for the Figueroa Avenue Water Pollution Control Facility (FAWPCF) in Yuma, Arizona. The FAWPCF serves approximately 112,330 residents of the City of Yuma, the Town of Winterhaven in California, the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, and Marine Corps Air Station Yuma. The modification would change the facility's receiving water from the Colorado River to the Paradise Cove West Wetland.
April 17, 2026	CIT – CA, MAT – NM, CRIT, FMYN, FMIT, Hopi, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class I air permit application received from BrightNight, LLC for a new power generation facility in La Paz County, approximately 4 miles northeast of Wenden, AZ (33.880444 N, -113.495508 W). The facility will operate as a behind-the-meter power generation facility serving data centers, with the potential to supply electricity to the grid as needed.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
April 24, 2026	Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class I air permit renewal application for CalPortland’s Rillito Cement Plant, located at 11115 N. Casa Grande Highway, Rillito, Arizona 85654. The proposed changes include authorization of alternative fuels in the kiln, increases in aggregate production, and the addition of a new wash plant, manufactured fines plant, and concrete batch plant.
April 24, 2026	FSAT – OK, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SCAT, TAT, WMAT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class I air permit application from Freeport-McMoRan Safford, Inc. (FMSI) for its copper mining facility located at 8500 N. Freeport-McMoRan Road, Safford, AZ 85548. The application would reclassify FMSI, which currently operates under Class II Synthetic Minor Permit No. 90069, as a Class I (Title V) source. Proposed changes include increases to annual and hourly NOx emission limitations, changes to prill bin monitoring, and changes to performance testing frequency.
May 8, 2026	SCAT	ADEQ provided SCAT a copy of the FMSI application and explained that it pertained to the acid plant and changes to the NOx limits, and that FMSI’s earlier application to add a second acid plant was no longer under consideration.
May 13, 2026	MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SCAT, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP significant permit amendment application for the City of Tucson South Houghton Area Recharge Project (SHARP). The application proposed increasing the permitted groundwater recharge volume to 8,000 acre-feet per year and adding a fourth groundwater recharge basin. It also requested adjustments to water level “Alert Levels” to reflect changing water levels from the additional recharge.
May 13, 2026	Ak-Chin, FMYN, FMIT, GRIC, Hopi, Hualapai, MAT – NM, NN, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC,	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP application received for the High View at Boulder Creek WWTP, a proposed new wastewater treatment plant to be located at 4595 N. Boulder Creek Rd., Camp Verde, Arizona 86322.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
	SCAT, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN, YPIT	
May 18, 2026	Ak-Chin, FSAT – OK, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, SCAT, TON, TAT, WMAT, YAN	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received to renew the AZPDES permit for the City of Benson WWTP in Benson, Arizona. The WWTP serves approximately 5,331 residents of the City of Benson. AZPDES permits are renewed every five years as standard practice.
May 18, 2026	Ak-Chin, CIT – CA, Cocopah, CRIT, FMYN, FMIT, Quechan, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received August 28, 2025, from Atlas VII, LLC and Atlas IX, LLC for a new Class II air quality permit for the construction and operation of emergency engines at the Atlas Solar Complex. The proposed facility is located at 45000 Sore Finger Road, Salome, AZ 85348, in La Paz County. A Class II permit is required because the facility's maximum capacity to emit nitrogen oxides (NOx) is greater than its significant threshold identified in A.A.C. R18-2-101(132)(a) but below its major source threshold.
May 18, 2026	Havasupai, Hopi, Hualapai, Kaibab Paiute, MAT – NM, NN, Zuni, SCAT, SJSPT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of a Class II air permit renewal application received March 25, 2026, from Energy Fuels Resources, Inc. for the continued operation of Pinyon Plain Mine, an underground uranium mine located 6.5 miles southeast of Tusayan, AZ 86023 in Coconino County. Because the facility is an underground uranium mine subject to federal requirements governing radon releases, ADEQ determined that the facility must obtain a Class II air quality permit in accordance with A.A.C. R18-2-302.01(D).

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
June 18, 2026	Ak-Chin, GRIC, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, TON, WMAT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an application received January 30, 2026, from South32 Hermosa Inc. for a Class I Air Quality Significant Permit Revision (SPR). South32 Hermosa Inc. operates an underground zinc, silver, and manganese mine located at 749 Harshaw Road, Patagonia, Arizona 85624. The SPR would authorize the facility to reduce its permitted natural gas engines from 58 to 44 and allow up to 14 engines to run at 50–100% load to align with updated power needs and improve operational flexibility. The facility also plans to update its diesel engines and tailings specifications. An SPR is required because the changes trigger minor new source review under A.A.C. R18-2-334.
June 24, 2026	CRIT, FMYN, FMIT, Quechan, Hopi, MAT – NM, PYT, Zuni, SRPMIC, YAN, YPIT	ADEQ notified the Tribes of an APP significant amendment application received for the Floreo WRF Interim Phase, located at 12414 N. Johnson Road, Buckeye, AZ 85396, in Maricopa County. The amendment would increase the facility's flow from 300,000 to 400,000 gallons per day. Effluent will continue to be disposed of through the existing reclaimed water system and a valid AZPDES permit, with no change.

End of Table 1

Table 2: Tribal Notifications to ADEQ

Section VI – Consultation Activities

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
July 15, 2025	SCAT	SCAT submitted comments regarding the AZPDES permit renewal for Pinto Valley Mining Corporation.
July 22, 2025	GRIC	The GRIC DEQ Director requested a meeting with ADEQ regarding Nationwide Permits under ADEQ’s Surface Water Protection Program, to understand the State’s methodology and share GRIC’s approach.
July 28, 2025	FMIT	FMIT’s Chairman requested an in-person consultation regarding the Arizona Electric Power Cooperative Mohave Energy Park, a new natural gas electricity generating facility in Mohave Valley, Arizona. ADEQ’s Director and other representatives attended an in-person formal consultation with Council members regarding the Class II air quality and APP permits.
August 12, 2025	WMAT	WMAT responded to ADEQ’s July 29, 2025 notification regarding SRP’s APP permit application (received August 9, 2024) with a letter stating that the permitting action would have “No Adverse Effect” on WMAT’s cultural heritage resources and/or historic properties.
September 16, 2025	SCAT	SCAT submitted additional comments on the renewal of AZPDES Permit No. AZ0020401 for Pinto Valley Mining Corp.
September 18, 2025	GRIC	In response to GRIC’s request to review its draft MOU, ADEQ representatives met with GRIC DEQ and its outside counsel to provide comments.
November 17 and December 1, 2025	GRIC	ADEQ and GRIC held two informal meetings to discuss the City of Tolleson WWTP.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
January 20, 2026	SCAT	New Industrial Recycled Water Permit for Resolution Copper Mining LLC SCAT sent review comments and a request for consultation regarding the new Industrial Recycled Water Permit for Resolution Copper Mining LLC.
January 22, 2026	GRIC	ADEQ and GRIC met to review and discuss ADEQ's comments on how ADEQ assigns designated uses in AZPDES permits.
February 3, 2026	SCAT	In response to SCAT's request for consultation, ADEQ met in person with the Tribal Council to provide an overview of the new Industrial Recycled Water Permit for Resolution Copper Mining LLC.
February 12, 2026	CIT – CA	In response to ADEQ's notification regarding the AZPDES permit renewal for the Lake Havasu City Mulberry WWTP Pond, the Tribe's Chairman requested formal consultation with his Executive team, Tribal Planner, and EPA Director.
March 30, 2026	SCAT	SCAT requested a discussion about ADEQ's Solid Waste Program to inform the Tribe's development of its own Solid Waste Code.
April 3, 2026	CIT – CA	In response to the Chairman's request, ADEQ held an in-person formal consultation with the Tribe at 1990 Palo Verde Dr., Havasu Lake, CA 92363.
April 24, 2026	Havasupai	Havasupai requested consultation regarding the APP permit amendment; the consultation was held at the Tribe's Council Chambers.
May 6, 2026	SCAT	SCAT emailed ADEQ requesting a copy of the FMSI Class I air permit application and clarification on whether it related to the previous year's sulfuric acid plant application.

Date	Tribe(s)	Description
June 9, 2026	Havasupai	Havasupai requested a follow-up consultation regarding the APP permit amendment; the consultation was held at the Tribe's Council Chambers.

End of Table 2

Table 3: Engagement Activities*Section VII – Engagement Activities*

Date	Tribe / Organization / Event	Description
July 1, 2025	Tribes of Arizona	ADEQ sent the Tribes an announcement of ERF availability.
July 15, 2025	Fort Mojave Mesa Fire District	The Fort Mojave Mesa Fire District requested funds from the HMEP Grant to attend the IAFC Fire Rescue International Conference and the IAFC Conference. The total award requested was \$13,619. The conferences covered command- and task-level hazardous materials incident planning, training, and response development, as well as leadership administration, operations, health and safety, technology, and workforce solutions. Key focus areas included: • Tactical Response and Threats: lithium-ion batteries, alternative fuels, CBRNE/WMD response, and illicit drugs. • Core Operations: transportation and chemical incidents, detection and monitoring, decontamination, and incident command. • Equipment and Training: live demonstrations of protective gear, monitoring technology, and mitigation equipment.
July 17, 2025	SCAT	Bureau of Land Management Environmental Quality Protection ADEQ partnered with SCAT to support the Tribe’s proposed project for the FY25 Bureau of Land Management Environmental Quality Protection funding opportunity. The project aims to prevent pollution runoff from the Bear Canyon Mine, an abandoned asbestos mine on the San Carlos Apache Reservation, from entering waterways and adjacent watersheds.

Date	Tribe / Organization / Event	Description
August 5, 2025	CRIT / Town of Parker Joint Venture WWTP	The Arizona Department of Emergency Management (DEMA) hosted a meeting with representatives from the Governor’s Office, WIFA, CRIT EM, La Paz County EM, DEMA/EM, and ADEQ. The purpose of the meeting was to determine whether there was an imminent threat of a release of partially treated wastewater to the Colorado River.
August 7, 2025	Kaibab Paiute	Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study – Arizona State Route 389 On behalf of the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians and Coconino and Mohave counties, ADEQ requested funding for a Hazardous Materials Commodity Flow Study. The study’s purpose was to provide a comprehensive analysis of hazardous materials movement to help local, regional, state, and federal authorities understand the volume and nature of hazardous materials moving into, out of, and through the Kaibab Indian Reservation and Coconino and Mohave counties.
August 13, 2025	Havasupai	United States Geological Survey (USGS) Geotechnical Study at Pinyon Plain Mine Governor Hobbs sent Chairwoman Jones a letter updating the Tribe on the status of the USGS Geotechnical Study at Pinyon Plain Mine (PPM). Based on the concerns expressed about the mine’s potential water-related impacts, the Governor’s administration identified funding for the study, which authorized USGS staff to begin investigative work in September 2025. ADEQ collaborated with the USGS to develop a study to further characterize groundwater flow in the vicinity of the mine. The study will look for evidence of whether groundwater near the mine is likely to mix with groundwater in the Redwall-Muav aquifer. The investigation areas include the region immediately

Date	Tribe / Organization / Event	Description
		surrounding the mine and two additional areas east of the mine that the USGS believes may contribute to the aquifer's recharge.
August 15, 2025	Cocopah	ADEQ visited Cocopah representatives to tour the Tribe's WWTP and discuss suggested improvements before the Tribe contracted plant upgrades.
August 28, 2025	NN, Hopi, Hualapai, Kaibab Paiute, SJSPT	ADEQ worked with USGS to develop a proposal to further characterize groundwater flow in the Grand Canyon region, prompted by recent interest in the PPM, located approximately 9 miles south of the Grand Canyon's rim. The investigation will determine whether evidence indicates that groundwater at or near PPM is likely to mix with groundwater in the Redwall-Muav aquifer. The investigation areas include the region immediately surrounding PPM and two additional areas east of the mine that the USGS believes may contribute to the aquifer's recharge. Based on the proposed work, USGS field instrumentation will not require significant land disturbance or excavation to install on Coconino National Forest lands. Field monitoring equipment will not be permanently installed; it will be temporarily installed during data collection, and the USGS will be able to use the equipment for future projects. USGS staff will conduct investigation work over the next two fiscal years, after which the data will be used to determine the presence or absence of potential groundwater flow paths. All data collected under the USGS proposal will be shared through publicly accessible channels regardless of the findings, and the USGS will incorporate modeling data into future investigations and publications.

Date	Tribe / Organization / Event	Description
September 30, 2025	Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) Air Working Group	ADEQ's Tribal Liaison and a planner from the AQDSIP section provided an overview of ADEQ's Tribal engagement process and sought feedback on a proposed AQD newsletter outlining SIPs of interest to the Tribes.
September 30, 2025	Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) Solid Waste Working Group	ADEQ participated to provide an overview of its Recycling Grant Program.
February 3–5, 2026	Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC)	ADEQ's Tribal Liaison was invited to present at EPA Region 9's Winter 2026 RTOC meeting and shared an overview of ADEQ's Tribal engagement practices.
March 30, 2026	SCAT	In response to a request from the Tribe's Environmental Director, ADEQ hosted a virtual meeting and follow-up discussion regarding solid waste management, EPCRA, and Tier II Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory reporting under Section 312.
March 31, 2026	Quechan	In response to the Tribe's request regarding the Air Quality Flag Program, ADEQ's Community Science Program Manager and Tribal Liaison hosted an informational session attended by 33 Tribal members, including a Tribal Council member.
Monthly to twice monthly	All 22 Federally Recognized Tribes	ADEQ offers Water and Wastewater Operator Training and Certification to the Tribes.

Date	Tribe / Organization / Event	Description
Weekly	Tribes of Arizona	ADEQ's Emergency Response Unit (ERU) sends weekly notifications to the Tribes of Arizona. These notifications include local and national hazmat training opportunities, federal appeals court information, hazardous materials conference information, and updates from the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), American Chemistry Council (ACC), Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Tribal Emergency Response Commission (TERC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and National Incident Management System (NIMS).

End of Report