

### **Educational Objectives:**

1. Provide opportunities to learn about and practice (hands-on) topics and skills relevant to livestock and equine production.
2. Work with the Apache Language Preservation group to translate educational materials about common biosecurity practice to the Apache language.
3. Create a Rancher Resource Guide aimed at reaching San Carlos Apache tribal members in a culturally competent manner with information guided by animal and management needs expressed by tribal members and leaders.
4. Create opportunities to allow tribal members to re-engage with some of the powerful traditions of the San Carlos Apache culture Livestock/Equine management.
5. Create opportunities for youth to connect and understand the importance of agriculture to their culture and traditions.
6. Making connections between extension personnel and tribal members to strengthen relationships via traditional storytelling methods, opening the door for better collaboration and understanding in proper care and management of their livestock.

### **Program Activities**

In 1938, the San Carlos Apache Tribe sanctioned the San Carlos Livestock Association, resulting in the establishment of five cattle associations and 2 tribal ranches operated facilities to carry on the community culture/traditions. More recently, the associations are looking for resources, opportunities, and partnerships to reinvent these quality programs with tribal members.

The Livestock/Equine Resource Program provided locally in the San Carlos Apache Tribe was developed and implemented to address local needs. The needs were expressed through a series of conversations and meetings. Throughout the program initiative, several livestock owners were reached to increase livestock/equine support and interest using language adaptation and established relationships. The relevant content provided was used to be inclusive, develop, evaluate, and adjust programming as needed when services were implemented. Because of the connections made, the Extension educators provided a series of workshops, including hands-on opportunities, lectures, training, tool developments, and resource adaptations.

In conjunction with our sessions provided with Extension resources and hands-on training, there were multiple sessions held to tell us their story. The community wanted to tell us who they are, what they want, how Extension can help. Extension educators took notes and had conversations about learning to develop and implement. We used a multi-pronged approach, using workshops, seminars, hands-on activities, storytelling(conversations), and create a Rancher Resource Guide specifically targeted to the San Carlos Apache tribal members.

### **Teaching Methods**

1. Conducting needs assessment through conversations “Storytelling” at San Carlos Apache Rancher Association Board meetings.
2. Seminars to provide basic adaptable information in a classroom format to help producers understand the science, cost, and benefits of the animal husbandry practices being taught.

3. Hands-on workshops built on the basic information provided in the seminars and gave opportunities for ranchers to try these skills. By actually being able to practice some of the techniques, they will be more comfortable adopting them and applying them to their own livestock.

4. Create materials specifically for the ranchers and families in Western Apache language that serves a dual purpose: it provides key animal health information and also engages and immerses youth in the Apache language (a key goal expressed by the Apache tribal leaders).

### **Program Results and Evaluation**

As of now, we have completed several board meeting conversations, a day of educational seminars, two hands-on workshops, translated a biosecurity poster to Western Apache language, and created the initial content of the San Carlos Apache Rancher Resource Guide. Our next series of seminars and workshops has been delayed by COVID-19 restrictions.

**Hands-on Horse Management Workshop** Peridot, AZ: 17 tribal members learned about equine nutrition, body condition scoring, aging horses by their teeth, and how to safely load horses into a trailer.

Feedback:

“I have changed the way I do my operations because of the conversation I had with the Extension Specialist. It was a simple conversation of keeping the feed sources safe and clean can go a long way. I never knew it was important, and I now keep my hay clean and check for weeds.” (Note: member bought feed tubs and covers for hay, and changes water often to help her animals.)

**San Carlos Cattle Association Board Meeting** Globe, AZ: Breakfast meeting to establish high interest topics for the San Carlos ranching community.

**Resource Workshop: Livestock/Equine** San Carlos Apache Gold Casino, Globe, AZ: 37 tribal ranchers and community members learned about “Hot” livestock and equine diseases, toxic plants, nutrition/feed, basic veterinary care.

Feedback: Members were asked if they have implemented Extension resources from previous workshops and 50% indicated they have. Also, members were asked if Extension resources are valuable, 100% indicated it was valuable.

**Hands-On Livestock/Equine Resource Workshop** at the “Old Sale Ring” at Gilson, AZ: 17 tribal ranchers and community members participated in hands-on education on cattle and horse body condition scoring, taking vital signs on horses, trich testing, tail bleeding, BVD snap testing and ear tagging on cattle at the community cattle working facility.

Feedback: Since that time, the tribal members have cleaned up and refurbished the facility and are using it more often. Association members are planning to add a scale and use the site as a marketing place to promote programming and education.

**San Carlos Cattle Association Board Meeting** San Carlos, AZ: The Tribal Extension agent and State Extension Specialist conducted “Story mapping” to recap where we were and to establish

future activities/needs. Ranchers received their Resource Guides and the Biosecurity posters translated to Western Apache language.

Feedback: from the lunch meeting at the cattle association (handing out posters and resource guides) Association President indicated “ This is the right direction to get members involved and reconnected to their operations. It is a way to remind them that this is part of their culture.” Members in the meeting were pleased to receive resources and indicated that they will request more for their family members.

**Livestock/Equine Resources:** These programs re-ignited the community to search for more local resources offered in Extension. Because of the remote location and limited resources, workshops, storytelling sessions, and resources were adapted, including Animal Health Emergency Kit bags to serve community members.

**Apache Rancher Resources Guide (Sen GaaNṅēē/Nēēd Idilohihí Binaltsoos yígólsinihi) and Biosecurity Poster (Nihí nlt’ēēgo ánlsh)** Resource materials pertinent to the ag community and a poster translated in Apache to reach elders and promote language preservation. Additional projects are on the way to help promote adaptable resources promoting the transfer of knowledge in Western Apache and English.

### **Program Impact Statement**

The community provided input through surveys and conversations. Data collected indicated that community members want someone to connect to and talk. Extension has been known to relate to community leaders and bring adaptable resources to the community. As a result of our findings, community members rank Extension programs second to Veterinarians for most trusted resources. Sessions provided an opportunity to reconnect tribal members to resources considered valuable and discourse concerns in their community. Community and collaborators anticipate other resource events that gain momentum to support programs in equine/livestock/agriculture events and opportunities in the San Carlos Apache Tribe. Future workshops will include vaccination and castration clinics.