

Site Visit Report (South Fork)

On Tuesday May 4, 2010, Tansey and I took a trip from Elko, NV to the South Fork Band EPA office. We met with Marla Stanton, South Fork Band EPA. We met and greeted each other, sat down in her office, and discussed what sort of issues South Fork is having in their environment, what sort of activities they've done with their community, and things they plan to do in the future. Later on in the day we also attended the South Fork Community Council meeting.

Visit to Marla Stanton, South Fork Band EPA:

- Environmental Issues:
 - Lee Creek- Flood Management, erosion in the creek downhill, moved the creek at least 5-6 times.
 - Burning garbage- South Fork burns garbage (all, even plastics, Styrofoam, etc.)
 - South Fork Solid Waste Program- BWM has no funding for new program

- Activities:
 - Earth Day- April 24, 2010, 38 people showed up; activities on Lead, Recycling, etc.
 - Greenhouse- Receiving a new Greenhouse from the Diabetes Center for anyone who has something to grow.

- Future Plans:
 - 0 Waste- Want to be the first reservation to have a 0 Waste Program (company is responsible for the packaging and disposal of products distributed).
 - Tribal Cleanup Day-Potluck, raffle prizes, appreciation certificates (July or August) cleanup the highway, or Jiggs Road.
 - Green Energy- looking into Solar Energy, cut down the prices of energy for elders on a fixed income, as well as everyone else.
 - EPA Building- make changes to the appearance, but make it eco-friendly. (No grass to water, instead using boulders and flat rocks to landscape).

- South Fork Council
 - Discussions:
 - Moapa Valley- pollution emitted making people sick
 - Solar power- energy costs/cutting energy costs
 - Tribal protocol- signed May 19, 2010
 - BLM & tribal lands have no communication
 - Flood management- Henderson, NV (session for Nevada tribes with issues that need/want to be discussed)