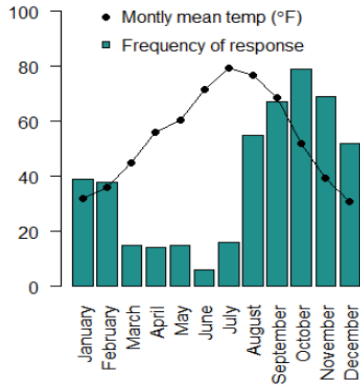


Firewood Research on Navajo Nation: November 2021 Update

Summary status :

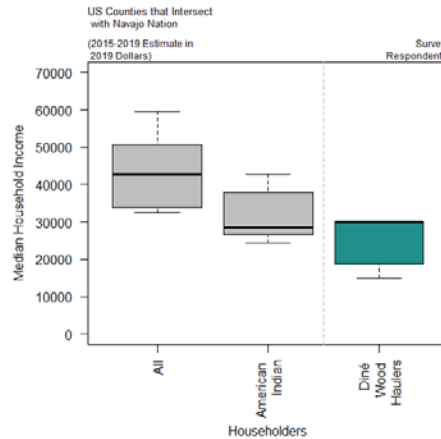
- Research working with Diné wood haulers across NN (with a focus on Utah) began in 2018
- 2 years of collecting info (2018-19) involved hauling wood, surveys, and interviews
- Currently writing reports, articles, and policy recommendations

Wood hauling is seasonal, with most people hauling in fall, and some hauling through the winter



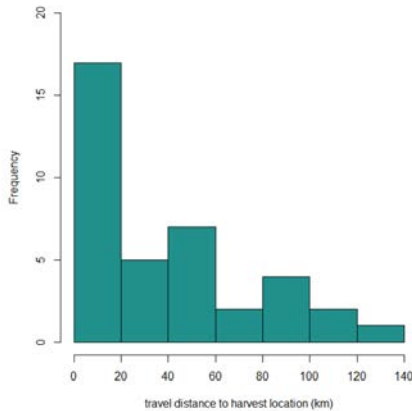
Frequency of wood hauling trips by month across Navajo Nation in teal. Average monthly temperature plotted in black dots and lines.

People with the least income are most in need of firewood



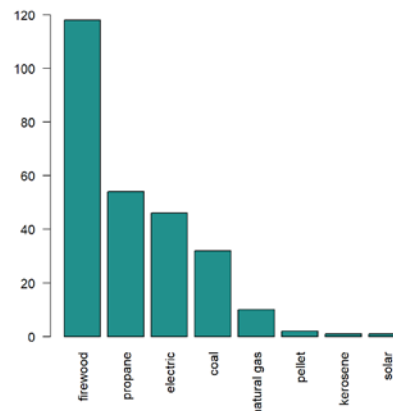
Boxes show median household income levels of households in counties intersecting Navajo Nation. Grey boxes are census data, the teal box is from this study. The median income of wood haulers ranges lowest of the three groups.

The cost of getting firewood varies and is highest where people are farthest from woodlands/forests.



Frequency of one-way driving distances between home sites where firewood is harvested. 23.7% report needing to travel more than 60km to harvest firewood.

Firewood is the most common household energy source and buffers energy insecurity.



Frequencies of different types of household energy sources across Navajo Nation. Many respondents use multiple types of energy and each report of an energy source is counted.

Concerns recorded:

- About half of participants reported concern about future of getting firewood, noticing changes, etc.
- getting permits and fear about what happens if not
- finding good wood, some areas heavily harvested
- conflicts with other people on Cedar Mesa

Next steps:

- Work with leadership, ensure appropriate use of data
- How can firewood research best meet community needs?
- What policy recommendations should be made to BLM, NN, and others?
- How can the relationship between BLM and wood haulers be improved? Reframe to wood haulers performing important ecological service.

