

Meridith Benally

Meridith Benally is one of the At-Large members appointed in 2022. She is tied to Utah through generations of family living in and around San Juan River, Bears Ears, and Salt Lake Valley, time immemorial. She worked as a Paralegal for a private law firm, Salt Lake Public Defender, Navajo Office of the Public Defender, and the Navajo Nation Office of Hearings and Appeals. She earned a Law Advocate Degree but continues her education at the University of Utah. Meridith's mother was always an advocate for public lands and passed that love onto her. This love and work became a reality when she was introduced to Utah Diné Bikéyah, an Indigenous lead non-profit organization that works to heal, preserve Indigenous culture and traditions, and educate on sacred lands. This innate understanding of natural law is part of Diné philosophy and Fundamental Law. Meridith's traditional insights have reminded her to take the time to enjoy what Salt Lake Valley has to offer, parks, trails, and the natural landscape of the region.