

RESOLUTION OF THE  
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE  
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe has been presented with a proposed resolution by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in respect to the Limestone Timber Sale, which would require Fort Apache Timber Company to harvest approximately 50% of the residual volume in the Limestone Canyon area, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council, after considerable discussion with its forestry consultants and Fort Apache Timber Company, concludes that such a reduction in the timber volume in the Limestone Canyon area would not be in the best future interest of the Tribe and that approval of said sale as proposed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs would constitute approval of the 1985 Fort Apache Indian Reservation Forest Management Plan, which has been wholly rejected by the Tribal Council as an attempt to manage the tribal forest for the benefit of the downstream water users rather than for the benefit of future generations of White Mountain Apache tribal members, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further concludes that proper Silviculture dictates that it is in the best interest of the Tribe to only selectively cut the overstory in the Limestone Canyon area, and that said selective cut of the overstory should also include the proposed timber sale areas of Jumpoff and Deer Springs and that all three areas should be selectively cut; thereby, providing logs necessary for the Cibecue Sawmill operation, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further rejects the contract provisions proposed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for slash disposal and soil erosion, and directs that Fort Apache Timber Company should conduct slash disposal and preventative soil erosion operations as presently done, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further concludes that the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposal which prohibits the lowering of a bulldozer blades should be modified to allow that the blade may be lowered when necessary for the protection and safety of the operator, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council further concludes that the Limestone, Jumpoff and Deer Springs sales should be harvested by Fort Apache Timber Company and included in the present existing reservation salvage cut at the ratio already established and approved by the Tribal Council and Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby rejects the proposed Limestone Sale resolution introduced by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby approves a selective cut of the overstory of the Limestone, Jumpoff and Deer Springs sales under the present existing reservation salvage cut ratio plan already established and approved by the Tribal Council and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby directs that Fort Apache Timber Company shall conduct slash disposal and preventative soil erosion operations as presently done, and that the prohibition against the lowering of bulldozer blades shall remain in affect except when the health and safety of the operator necessitates that the blade be lowered.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it further rejects the Bureau of Indian Affairs proposal for the Limestone, Jumpoff and Deer Springs Sales in that it carries out the 1985 Fort Apache Indian Reservation Forest Management Plan prepared by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which proposes that the board feet per acre on the East and West Zones of the reservation be reduced by half; thereby, causing irreparable damage and injury to the Tribal forests with the consequential result of enhancing the flow of the Salt River and its tributaries for the sole benefit of the downstream water users.

The foregoing resolution was on December 5, 1985 duly adopted by a vote of 9 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuaant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (i) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 19 1985  
FORT APACHE INDIAN  
AGENCY  
WHITERIVER, ARIZ.