

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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, is desirous to protect the homes, lives, property, and resources within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, the accumulation of forest debris constitutes a serious fire hazard in and around the communities and urbanized areas on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, dense stands of trees also constitute a fire hazard in and around the communities and urbanized areas on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, and thinning of these stands will provide an added protective measure to the homes, lives, property and resources involved; and
- WHEREAS, there is a need to construct a fuel breaks and maintain fuel breaks adjacent to communities, and other dwellings; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is advised by the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the homeowners need to be informed about the necessity for fuel breaks and public meetings should be held for each subdivision/town affected; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs advises the Tribal Council that the fuel breaks treatment plan will involve both pile burning and broadcast burning of both the fuel break and surrounding areas as defined by natural fuel and topographic breaks adjacent to the fuel breaks, but will not involve burning or thinning closer than approximately 300 feet from any home or building; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs further advises that they wish to meet with local communities, homeowners, property owners, and livestock associations affected, to formulate a treatment plan and present the same to the Tribal Council for approval prior to implementing treatment; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council agrees that hazardous stands of trees and slash surrounding Tribal Communities may pose a serious fire threat and that a treatment plan should be implemented but only after meetings with local communities are completed and a final treatment plan is presented to the Tribal Council for approval prior to implementation; and

WHEREAS, a Land Use Plan which incorporates long-term housing development objectives with road construction standards, water supply needs, fuel treatment for wildfire considerations, and building construction standards must be developed.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the Bureau of Indian Affairs to meet with local communities, homeowners, and livestock associations to discuss and study the reduction of hazardous stands of trees to acceptable levels by constructing fuel breaks and greenbelts in selected areas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the Bureau of Indian Affairs not to implement any broadcast burn of urban-wildland interface areas or adjacent areas to reduce the natural and man-made accumulation of forest debris until the Bureau of Indian Affairs has met with the affected local communities and has submitted a treatment plan to the Tribal Council for approval.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the White Mountain Apache Housing Authority and the Tribal Planners to work with the White Mountain Apache Fire and Rescue, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Forestry and other entities as appropriate to develop guidelines and plans for the protection of homes from wildfire.

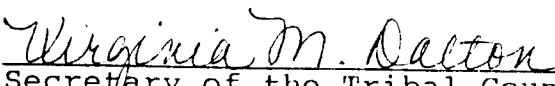
The foregoing resolution was on August 2, 1990, duly adopted by a vote of eight for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (i) of the Amended Constitution and Bylaws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 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).

RECEIVED

AUG 7 1990

Fort Apache Indian Agency  
White River, Arizona

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council