

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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe has found the conduct of the prescribed burning performed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1989 to be unacceptable; and
- WHEREAS, Tribal Council Resolution No. 11-89-255 directed the Bureau of Indian Affairs to cease and desist any and all burning until a review was conducted and changes were submitted to the Tribal Council for approval; and
- WHEREAS, currently, approval of at least three timber sale contracts urgently needed by the Fort Apache Timber Company is being withheld by the Bureau of Indian Affairs until the Tribe adopts a method of disposing of logging slash; and
- WHEREAS, Tribal Council Resolution No. 01-91-23 directed the Natural Resources Committee to assist the Tribal Council in development of a broadcast burning and logging slash disposal plan for the next five years; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Natural Resources Committee has decided that expensive alternate means of slash disposal cannot be planned and applied until substantial additional funds are provided to the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Natural Resources Committee has recommended to the Tribal Council that the Bureau of Indian Affairs implement the first 34 actions attached to Resolution No. 01-91-23, and that a Tribal member serve as a prescribed burning monitor with veto authority over Bureau of Indian Affairs burning directions; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs Fort Apache Agency is agreeable to adopting the thirty-four (34) actions specified in Tribal Council Resolution No. 01-91-23; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs is further amenable to having a tribal employee appointed by the Tribal Council Chairman to monitor all burning on the reservation with authority to halt burning in violation of the 34 actions specified in Tribal Council Resolution No. 01-91-23 and to veto BIA burning action, direction and plans prior to burning; and

Resolution No. 03-91-79

WHEREAS, in order to satisfactorily monitor burning, burn crews should be limited to no more than ten (10) person and shall be at all times under the immediate supervision of a burn boss.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Bureau of Indian Affairs may recommence prescribed broadcast burning on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, on the condition that it implement the first 34 actions listed in the attachment to Resolution No. 01-91-23 and until such time that funds are provided to the Tribe for piling and burning, with the exception of the Lone Pine North Timber Sale, which will include piling and burning, non-burning, broadcast burning and skidding tree top stems to landings for utilization by Tribal members or the public as a test of practicality and cost for said methods of logging slash disposal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that a tribal employee shall be appointed by the Tribal Council Chairman with authority to monitor BIA burning practices, to veto any BIA burning actions prior to commencement or direction or plan and to halt any burning in violation of any of the first 34 actions set forth in Tribal Council Resolution No. 01-91-23.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that the tribal employee appointed to monitor and report upon Bureau of Indian Affairs' burning practices shall obtain extensive and intensive fuels management training funded by a 638 Contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that priority will be given to burning heavy concentrations of slash first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that the Tribal Natural Resources Committee will review the revised Five Year Burn Plan prepared by the Bureau of Indian Affairs before making a recommendation to the Tribal Council regarding its acceptability for implementation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that having approved recommencement of prescribed burning by the Bureau of Indian Affairs on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation for the disposal of logging slash subject to conditions set forth herein, prompt approval by the BIA of all pending timber sale contracts is expected by the Tribal Council.

Resolution No. 03-91-79

The foregoing resolution was on March 14, 1991, duly adopted by a vote of six for and zero against and one abstention 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).

  
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Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council

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FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENCY  
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