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

FORT APACHE INDIAN
AGENCY
WHITERIVER, ARIZ.

OPPOSITION TO DESIGNATION OF SALT RIVER
AS WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

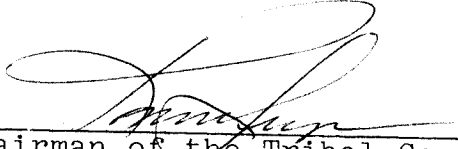
- WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has vigorously opposed at all times the proposal by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, that a twenty-two mile stretch of the Salt River from the Southwest Corner of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to the Roosevelt Dam and Reservoir would be designated a Wild and Scenic River pursuant to 16 USC 1276 et seq; and
- WHEREAS, repeatedly, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has endeavored to communicate with the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, explaining in detail the basis upon which it has opposed the proposed designation of the twenty-two mile stretch of the Salt River as a Wild and Scenic River, and
- WHEREAS, there was published on September 2, 1981, Federal Register Volume 46, No. 170, Proposed Rules, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, 36 CFR 296, Water Resources Project and Wild and Scenic Rivers, and
- WHEREAS, the proposal set forth in the Federal Register publication is diametrically opposed to the tribe's right, title and interest in and to the reserved water rights in the Salt River and its tributaries, and
- WHEREAS, the proposed rule as published in the Federal Register and the repeated declarations of the Forest Service to seek to impose upon the tribe the obligation of obtaining the consent of the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, in each and every instance involving the future use of the Salt River and its tributaries, and
- WHEREAS, it is the view of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Forest Service plans to designate the Salt River as Wild and Scenic, are confiscatory and, if adopted, will totally inhibit the exercise by the tribe of its invaluable rights to the use of water in the Salt River, and
- WHEREAS, the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, has promised the Indians that he would respect the tribal homelands and has announced his unalterable opposition to the bureaucratic violation of the property rights of the citizens of the United States,

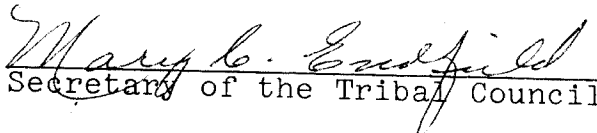
AND NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the White Mountain Apache Tribe, after a full and complete review of the record in this matter is unalterably opposed and will take all reasonable and necessary action to prevent the designation of the Salt River as a Wild and Scenic River as proposed by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the White Mountain Apache Tribe respectfully requests James G. Watt, Secretary of the Interior, to join the tribe in opposing the proposal advanced by the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture in regard to the designation of the Salt River as a Wild and Scenic River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the White Mountain Apache Tribe specifically rejects as a gross misrepresentation, the . assertion by the Department of Agriculture that the proposal is essentially procedural in character, whereas in truth and fact it constitutes an intentional violation of the tribe's invaluable Winter's Doctrine Rights use of water of the Salt River and its tributaries.

The foregoing Resolution was on October 20, 1981, duly adopted by a vote of 7 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe pursuant to authority vested in by Article V, Section I (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 (45 Stat. 984).


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council