

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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has been advised by Phillip Stago, Jr., Director of the Recreation Enterprise, that during the recent flooding of the reservation, the Federal Willow Creek Hatchery, located on the Colorado River, was threatened with the loss of thousands of trout due to the flooding, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is further advised that trucks and personnel from the Williams Creek and Alchesay Federal Fish Hatcheries, located on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, were ordered to pick up and save the threatened trout from the Willow Creek Federal Fish Hatchery and that the trout were, in fact picked up and saved from the flooding by trucks and personnel from those hatcheries, and
- WHEREAS, the Williams Creek Hatchery at the time was reportedly short some 50,000 pounds of trout and behind in their stocking of streams on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is further advised that the trout saved from the Federal Willow Creek Hatchery were brought back, not to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, but were in fact, stocked in State streams and lakes nearby, but off the reservation, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is advised that Indian Tribes are listed as the first priority for stocking of any trout or fish from federal fish hatcheries according to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service guidelines, and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has permitted the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service use of its many miles of streams as well as the Williams Creek Spring in consideration for some of the trout raised at the hatchery and at the Alchesay Hatchery, and
- WHEREAS, the Williams Creek and Alchesay Fish Hatcheries utilized personnel and equipment to supply trout obtained from the Willow Creek Hatchery for the State of Arizona on or about the 4th of July, 1983 while at the same time neglecting the stocking schedule for the lakes and streams of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation which should have enjoyed a priority or received an equitable share of the trout from the Willow Creek Hatchery.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby criticizes the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for forsaking the needs of the White Mountain Apache Tribe by failing to stock any trout from the Willow Creek Hatchery on the reservation and for diverting personnel and equipment from stocking responsibilities on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation which at the time was behind schedule for the 4th of July Holiday weekend.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it directs that a copy of this resolution be sent forthwith to Robert Jensen, Director of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, D. C. with a request for an explanation as to why all of the Willow Creek Hatchery trout were given to the State of Arizona contrary to priority requirements of the Service which declare Indian Tribes as the first priority, especially, in view of the agreement between the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service providing for the use of the Williams Creek Spring for U. S. Fish and Wildlife purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby advises Mr. Robert Jensen, Director of U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, that it is not demanding that the total number of trout from the Willow Creek Hatchery should have been placed in the waters of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation rather than the State of Arizona, but at the very minimum, the reservation should have received an equitable share of those trout; especially, in view of the following:

1. That the Williams Creek Fish Hatchery was 50,000 pounds short of its usual supply of trout for stocking on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation for the 4th of July Holiday weekend;
2. Williams Creek was allegedly behind in its stocking schedule for the reservation;
3. State Hatchery trucks could have been used for the purposes of delivering the Willow Creek Hatchery trout instead of diverting needed Federal Hatchery trucks on the Reservation;
4. Surplus fish from the Federal Hatcheries on the Reservation are already given to the State annually; and
5. The Tribe has been extremely generous to the State in allowing them to receive surplus National Apache Trout from Williams Creek Hatchery for stocking purposes.

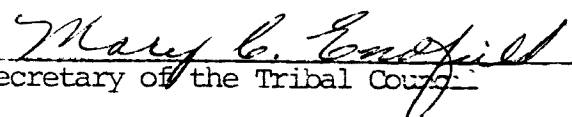
The foregoing resolution was on August 03, 1983 duly adopted by a vote of 10 for and 0 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to its authority vested in Article V, Section 1 (a,b,c,h,i,j) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe on 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 11 1983

FORT APACHE INDIAN  
AGENCY  
WHITERIVER, ARIZ

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council

Resolution No. 88-21