

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

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe is aware that elk are a highly mobile species, and that seasonal movements are made by some elk to winter ranges and return in spring; and

WHEREAS, recent elk movement studies, conducted by the White Mountain Apache Tribal Game & Fish Department reveal that as elk travel to these winter ranges, and also upon their return, they must cross the Sunrise highway and further, it was found in its studies that a major crossing of the highway occurs in the vicinity of Kessay Springs; and


WHEREAS, an Arizona Department of Transportation project is currently underway to erect snow fences along the Sunrise highway, and further that several snow fences are already in place and several more are scheduled for completion in spring of 1987; and

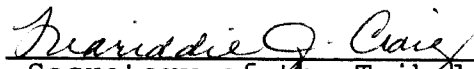
WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is advised that certain sections of these fences will obstruct normal elk movements, causing unnecessary stress on the animal, and will further force elk to seek alternative migration routes.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby acknowledges that elk should have unobstructed movement to seasonal use areas and that any form of barrier, including snow fences will create elk migration problems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council hereby urges the Arizona Department of Transportation to terminate further construction of snow fences in the vicinity of Kessay Springs where a major elk crossing exists, and that the Arizona Department of Transportation consult with the White Mountain Apache Tribal Game & Fish Department for more detailed recommendations regarding this concern.

The foregoing resolution was on February 5, 1987, duly adopted by a vote of NINE 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,g) 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).


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council

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**Fort Apache Indian Agency
Whiteriver, Arizona**