

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


WHEREAS, the recent record heavy snow storms have created an emergency situation across the entire Fort Apache Indian Reservation wherein individuals who live in isolated areas are without transportation due to road closures and are without fuel in the form of firewood, which firewood cannot be secured due to the heavy snowfall across the reservation and because many of the tribe's 20,000 head of cattle, either owned by the Tribe or by individual cattle associations, are stranded in remote areas and are unable to break through the snow pack and reach the ground in order to obtain natural grazing and there are also many wildlife, particularly the antelope herd, which are suffering due to an inability to reach food supplies now buried under the snowfall; and

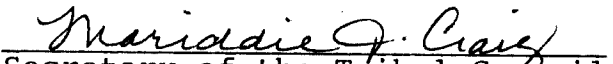
WHEREAS, due to the high mountainous terrain wherein the reservation is situated, the current heavy snowfall is not expected to melt and subside within the immediate future, and the emergency situation will continue for at least that length of time with a continuation also of the danger to tribal members, tribal cattle and wildlife, and the situation has reached critical proportions as to the cattle due to the fact that some of the cattle are already dying, and relief must be immediate if further losses are to be curtailed, and there is a necessity for aircraft transportation to reach the remote areas of the reservation in order to relieve the emergency situation.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby urges Arizona Governor Evan Mecham to declare the Fort Apache Indian Reservation a disaster area and also requests of the State of Arizona and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, that emergency assistance be given the White Mountain Apache Tribe through all available means designed to alleviate the emergency situation which now exists on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. More specifically, aid is required in purchasing and transporting hay and feed to the Tribe's approximately 20,000 head of cattle located throughout the remote regions of the reservation and in providing fuel and firewood to tribal members who cannot otherwise obtain such fuel and firewood through the customary means.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council urges the Arizona Congressional Delegation to support Arizona Governor Evan Mecham in declaring the Fort Apache Indian Reservation to be a disaster area and to use their good offices to secure financial relief designed to alleviate the emergency situation now prevailing on the reservation.

The foregoing resolution was on March 2, 1987, duly adopted by a vote of ELEVEN 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).

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council

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Fort Apache Indian Agency  
Whiteriver, Arizona