

RESOLUTION IN INCREASE TRIBAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT CAPABILITIES AND TO PERFORM
WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe consider the fisheries and wildlife resources located on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation as valuable cultural and economic resources; and
- WHEREAS, the Council desires to insure that these resources are properly protected, managed and improved in every way possible; and
- WHEREAS, the tribe has adopted a Game and Fish Code which contains the essential conservation tools needed to manage and conserve the reservation's fish and wildlife resources; and
- WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Game and Fish Department has developed a funding proposal and has prepared an application to contract the fisheries management and habitat improvement functions under the Bureau's Wildlife and Parks Program pursuant to P.L. 93-638 and desires to assume a more direct role in managing the fisheries resources and enhance wildlife habitat; and
- WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has indicated the availability of Bureau funds to assume these functions.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby gives approval to the White Mountain Apache Game and Fish Department to submit their proposal to the Bureau of Indian Affairs which will, if approved, enable the Tribal Game and Fish Department to increase its efforts in developing management capabilities to properly preserve and protect the Fish and Wildlife Resources of the Reservation.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this contract is intended to be a three (3) year contract with a starting date of May 1, 1989; and
- BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal Chairman is authorized to execute the contract and any auxiliary and ancillary documents necessary to its fulfillment.

The foregoing resolution was on June 7, 1989, duly adopted by a vote of EIGHT 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

APPLICATION TO CONTRACT

8-0 Vote
June 11, 198

1. Name, Address and Telephone Number:

White Mountain Apache
Game & Fish Department
P.O. Box 220
Whiteriver, Arizona 85941
(602) 338-4385

2. Name of Tribe with which affiliated:

White Mountain Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 700
Whiteriver, Arizona 85941
(602) 338 4346

3. Name of Tribe directly benefiting or receiving services from proposed contact:

Same as above

4. Estimated number of Indian People benefited:

9,000

5. Bureau Programs to be contracted:

(7) Wildlife and Parks: A program function to inventory, conserve, develop and manage wildlife resources, and related unique natural resources of the Indian People. The overall responsibility of conserving Fish and Wildlife resources on Indian lands rest with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (55 BIAM and DOIM 501). To the extent possible Indian Tribes who adopt suitable conservation codes may manage and conserve reservation fish and wildlife resources.

6. General Plan of Operation:

"SEE ATTACHED PROPOSAL-EXHIBIT A"

7. Knowledge of Program to be Contracted:

In accordance with the Tribal Game and Fish code, the White Mountain Apache Game and Fish Department (WMAGFD) has been vested with the authority to properly manage wildlife, including fish and recreation resources located on the reservation. In 1981 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who for about 2 decades has performed much of the fisheries management work on the reservation, prepared a fisheries management plan for the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. With tribal input, a primary goal developed in the management plan was to increase the management responsibility of the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Despite the interest the WMAG&FD's to develop management capabilities the lack of funds has prevented accomplishing this goal. Although the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has continued performing much of the management related activities, the Tribal Game and Fish Department has periodically participated in various aspects of the fisheries management, but have not been involved directly on a day to day basis. The WMAG&F routinely participates in various natural resources working groups to ensure that fisheries and wildlife concerns are addressed by other land use activities. The Department is directly involved in establishing fishing seasons for recreational purposes. In the last 5 years the WMAGFD has observed dramatic increases in recreational use of reservation waters. This trend has generated a desire and a need for the Department to assume a direct role in managing its fisheries resources by pursuing this program function.

8. Schedule of Key Personnel

No. of Positions

Title

1

Fisheries Biologist

9. Equipment, facilities, etc. needed to carry out this contract and how the tribal organization intends to obtain them.

A portion of the contract funds budgeted as line items will be utilized to procure vehicle and various other necessary equipment as prescribed in the annual budget proposal. Facilities will be furnished by the WMAG&F to the extent possible.

10. Term of contract and proposal starting date.

This proposed contract will start on May 1, 1989, to coincide with the tribal fiscal year and extend over a period of 3 years. The fiscal years will be, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

11. Submission of reports

Quarterly reports reporting an overview of progress and accomplishments as prescribed in the plan of operation will be furnished to the Contracting Officer representative within 15 working days after the end of the quarter until the contract is completed. In addition, an annual report summarizing the year's activities, findings and recommendation will be submitted as required by 25 CFR 271.49.

Fourth quarter progress will be provided in the annual report.

12. Identification of subcontracts

No subcontracts are anticipated.

Proposal to Increase Fisheries Management
Capabilities and Conduct Wildlife Habitat
Improvements

Introduction

The Fort Apache Indian Reservation, with its abundant natural resources, has long been considered a leader in outdoor recreation development. Over the years the White Mountain Apache Tribe has promoted quality outdoor experiences that include hunting, fishing and camping.

Fisheries

The fisheries resources that occur on the reservation have considerable economic value and generate substantial revenues to the tribe. Each year well over 500,000 visitor use days of fishing and camping are provided to the public, on the reservation's 15 cold water lakes and miles of trout streams. Opportunities for warm water fishing are also available in numerous stock tanks and the Black and Salt Rivers.

For almost two decades, the management of the fishery resources on Fort Apache has been conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Their activities on the reservation have ranged from the development of stocking recommendations to fish inventories and the production of fish. Technical services provided by FWS are shared with several other Indian reservations in the state of Arizona.

In recent years, the demands for fishing opportunities have increased considerably on the reservation. As the population of

local communities and the state, in general, expand, it is likely that future outdoor recreational opportunities will likewise need to be increased. To ensure that the Fort Apache Indian Reservation is able to accommodate future recreational demands, it is imperative that the tribe become directly involved in managing the reservation's fishery resources. By increasing its technical capabilities, the opportunity to expand, as well as refine, fisheries management activities will be available, and will consequently be critical to the future success of the program and in meeting future recreational demands.

In 1981, the USFWS prepared a Fishery Management Plan for the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Several goals were developed by the tribe, one of which was to increase tribal responsibility in the management of the fish and wildlife resources. In implementing this plan and to accomplish this particular goal, the White Mountain Apache Game and Fish Department desires to develop its fisheries management capabilities and increase its role in managing the fishery resources on the reservation. The Department proposes to accomplish this by hiring a fisheries biologist (Exhibit B) to perform fisheries management work and pursue the goals and objectives which have been developed in the Fisheries Management Plan and in this proposal. Assuming a greater management role for fisheries management by the Tribe will not diminish the USFWS's technical assistance role, but will instead allow greater cooperative efforts and promote more effective management of all fish species found on the reservation.

Goals and Objectives: The goals and objectives for this proposal are as follows:

Goal: 1. Increase tribal fisheries management capabilities.

- Objectives:
- 1.1 Hire a professional fisheries biologist.
 - 1.2 Develop a fisheries management educational program to encourage young Apaches to pursue professional fisheries management training and careers.
 - 1.3 Maintain training workshops for Tribal personnel to increase their knowledge in various fisheries management related activities.

Goal: 2. Maintain, protect and enhance sport fish populations and their habitat on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

- Objectives:
- 2.1 Conduct fish population inventories in reservation waters.
 - 2.2 Conduct fish habitat studies to determine habitat conditions and develop protective and/or improvement measures to ensure the health and productivity of fish populations.
 - 2.3 Evaluate and determine the potentials for expanding recreational fisheries opportunities on the reservation.
 - 2.4 Review present and future land use

activities and develop recommendations to protect or to mitigate the fisheries resources.

Goal: 3. Promote the restoration, protection and continued existence of the Apache trout and its habitat.

- Objectives:
- 3.1 Increase efforts to survey and monitor Apache trout populations on Fort Apache to determine their status and ensure the species integrity.
 - 3.2 Monitor Apache trout habitat to determine potential adverse affects from various land use activities, i.e., livestock grazing, logging, recreational developments.
 - 3.3 Develop guidelines to direct and assist land managers in maintaining, protecting and enhancing Apache trout habitat.
 - 3.4 Investigate and determine the effects of sport fishing on the Apache trout; develop and implement strategies that will promote a sustaining, high quality sport fishery.

Wildlife

Wildlife management activities are conducted by the White Mountain Apache Game and Fish Department. Over the years considerable efforts have been made in obtaining biological data relative to elk, while present wildlife management efforts are

being directed to Antelope, Mule and Whitetailed deer. Over the course of wildlife investigations, several problems associated with wildlife habitat have been identified on the reservation. One such problem is limited water sources on elk and deer summer ranges in the western portion of the reservation. Because of the limited availability of water, big game are generally forced to utilize sources developed specifically for livestock. As a result, elk and deer must compete for water and are often required to leave security habitat to utilize these sources.

The lack of suitable watering facilities for wildlife may also preclude the use of certain portions of their habitat due to inadequate water distribution.

To assist in increasing and improving the availability of watering sites specifically for wildlife, the Department proposes the development of watering sites on big game summer range in the western portion of the reservation. The placement and development of the watering sites will be completed in a manner that will preclude livestock use and situated at sites where water is limited and where they will receive optimum usage. Tools and manpower to construct the "Guzzlers" will be provided by the Department.

Goal: Improve Wildlife Habitat in the western portion of the Reservation.

- Objectives:
1. Purchase (2) 990 gallon wildlife guzzlers.
 2. Develop big game watering sites in areas where water is presently limited.

The funding mechanism for ths proposal will be by means of a P.L. 93-638 contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Wild-
life and Parks program.

Proposed Budget

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>\$\$</u>
1. Fishery Biologist (includes fringe).....	26,000.00
2. Supplies/Equipment	32,300.00
. 4x4 pick up	17,000.00
. Boat	1,200.00
. Trailer	1,200.00
. Motor	1,200.00
. Oars, tie downs, clamps, etc.	100.00
. Electric Shocker	2,400.00
. Nets, Ropes	2,000.00
. Waders	200.00
. Lab equipment (hydro lab, scales, etc.)	6,500.00
. Office Supplies	500.00
3. (2) Wildlife Guzzlers (Fiber Erectors).....	5,900.00
4. Miscellaneous.....	<u>800.00</u>
	\$65,000.00

Exhibit "B"

POSITION DESCRIPTION: Fisheries Biologist

Introduction

The incumbent occupies a position having the responsibilities of designing and conducting investigations on the Fisheries Resources found on the Ft. Apache Indian Reservation and to make biologically sound management recommendations based on information obtained from investigations, inventories or current literature.

A. Major duties and responsibilities

- Reviews literature, staying abreast of new techniques, information and recent developments as they relate to the biological area of assignment in order to successfully design and carry out research projects and management activities.
- Incumbent independently investigates, writes comprehensive reports and prepares correspondence concerning the fisheries resources aspect, having complex biological, economic and aesthetic aspects where a wide variety of approaches and principles are applicable.
- Field work may consist of activities such as; establishing representative study areas, conducting fish surveys to examine fish populations and determining habitat conditions and perform water

quality analysis.

- Extensive interpretation and analysis of data, selection of proper methods and procedures, and integration of findings into final project study reports and management plans is required.
- Is responsible for preparing various administrative reports pertaining to activities; such as monthly narratives and annual reports.
- Performs laboratory related work, which may include, food analysis, aging and preparation of samples for subsequent shipment to various laboratories or Universities for highly technical analysis.
- Contributes advice and assistance in designing fisheries habitat rehabilitation programs in conjunction with range, timber, watershed and recreational development projects.
- Reviews timber sales and develops comments and recommendations to protect, maintain or enhance fish habitat as a result of logging operations.
- Contributes technical advice and makes recommendations concerning tribal fishing regulations.
- Incumbent is responsible for implementing a fisheries management plan for the reservation and to actively participate and represent the tribe in the Apache trout recovery program and its management.
- Supervises and trains assigned personnel.
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Director,

White Mountain Apache, Game and Fish.

B. Factors

1. Knowledge Required by the Position

- A professional knowledge of the theories, principles, practices and techniques of fisheries biology to independently design and carry out various fisheries management activities and research projects.
- Professional knowledge to assess and interpret field data and draw sound conclusions, in addition to developing practical and effective management activities is necessary.
- Knowledge in using various types of laboratory equipment such as microscopes and centrifuges to facilitate the collection of biological information pertinent in ongoing studies or management of fish populations.
- Knowledge in writing technical reports and publications to present collected information to various tribal and governmental agencies.
- The ability to work cooperatively with personnel of other agencies, tribal organizations and private groups is essential.
- Knowledge in the supervision of fishery assistants to carry out project assignments.
- Knowledge in the safe operation and handling of boats and in first aid.
- Some understanding and knowledge of the Bureau of Indian Affairs/tribal P.L. 93-638 Contracting process

would be useful.

2. Supervisory Controls

The supervisor assigns work in terms of basic project priorities. The incumbent independently plans, designs, and carries out the projects, selecting the approaches and methods to be used in solving research related problems. Projects are viewed primarily to insure that expenditures for projects are within the constraints of the budget and within the goals of the Tribe.

3. Guidelines

Various scientific journals and other literature will provide some written guidelines on current research and management techniques. While some of this literature is provided, the biologist should be able to make some decisions concerning techniques without the aide of literature (past experience may have to be substituted for written guidelines).

4. Complexity

Projects involve developing designs, planning and carrying out various fisheries projects for the purpose of obtaining management information. The incumbent must consider such factors as, unusually high resource exploitation, unique tribal customs and culture concerning fisheries, limited funds, limited assistance (manpower), and relationship of problems and practices in related tribal resource fields.

5. Scope and Effect

The purpose of the work is to conduct various fisheries investigations to obtain sound management information concerning various fish species on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. Conducting these investigations will ensure species perpetuation with a maximum sustained yield in conjunction with increasing use of other natural resources such as grazing activities, timber harvest and recreational activities.

6. Personal Contacts

Intra and interagency (tribal, federal and state) personal contacts include other biologists, environmental specialists, and other resources managers.

7. Purpose of Contacts

Resolve difficulties, obtain opinions and exchange ideas and information with intra and interagency contacts.

8. Physical Environment

Although some work is sedentary, much more time is spent in the field requiring, at times, prolonged periods of walking, climbing, crawling, reaching, kneeling, crouching, lifting (medium to heavy weights, 45-85 lbs), pushing, balancing, and stopping. Incumbent must be in good physical condition.

9. Work Environments

Although some work is performed in an office setting, much time is also spent in the field, subjecting the individual, at times, to adverse environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, wet and dry conditions. Individual may be required to spend periods in remote and highly inaccessible areas (by conventional means).

At times the individual may be subjected to potentially hazardous conditions in conjunction with the operation of certain management tools, i.e., electro-shocker and in boating situations.