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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, is desirous to protect the homes, lives, property and resources within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, the accumulation of forest debris constitutes a serious fire hazard in and around the communities and urbanized areas on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, dense stands of trees also constitute a fire hazard in and around the communities and urbanized areas on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, and thinning of these stands will provide an added protective measure to the homes, lives, property and resources involved; and
- WHEREAS, it is important for the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Fire Department and the local district council members to be involved in said planning.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, authorizes the Bureau of Indian Affairs to plan for reducing the accumulation of debris hazards in urban-wildland interface area.
- FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that said plans shall be coordinated with the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Fire Department and the local district council members and then brought back to the Tribal Council for further discussion and appropriate action.

The foregoing resolution was on September 20, 1989, duly adopted by a vote of <u>EIGHT</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> 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).

RECEIVED

OCT - 5 1989

Secretary of the Tribal Council

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United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

FORT APACHE AGENCY

P.O. Box 560

Whiteriver, Arizona 85941 (602) 338-4364, Ext. 327

IN REPLY REFER TO:
FORESTRY

Mr. Reno Johnson, Chairman White Mountain Apache Tribe P.O. Box 700 Whiteriver, Arizona 85941

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This agency is endeavouring to reduce the possibility of having another Knots Landing Wildfire in the future. To achieve this goal, the Branch of Forestry is requesting approval to conduct a prescribed burn and thin dense stands of trees around homes and urbanized areas.

Cooperation by all parties concerned is necessary to reduce the likelihood of having a devastating wildfire damage or destroy homes, business or worse yet, costing someone their life. With the concurrence of your office, experts from Fire Management will initiate the preparatory work necessary to conduct the burn this season if weather conditions permit.

The areas proposed for treatment are identified on the accompaning maps. The primary reason for treating these areas is for the reduction of natural fuels that have accumulated to hazardous levels over the years. Burning will be conducted within pre-established guidelines. With the possibility of burning being conducted in such close proximity to homes, a special effort will be made to minimize the impact of smoke on people living next to areas being treated.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Ralan Hartzell or Mr. George Leech at the Fire Management Office for more information.

Sincerely,

Superintendent

Attachment