

TOM M. WHITE, JR.  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
DISTRICT II  
P.O. BOX 994 GANADO, AZ 86505

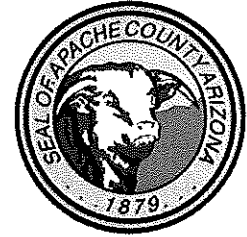
R. JOHN LEE  
VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD  
DISTRICT III  
P.O. BOX 428 ST. JOHNS, AZ 85936

JIM CLAW  
MEMBER OF THE BOARD  
DISTRICT I  
P.O. BOX 1952 CHINLE, AZ 86503

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF APACHE COUNTY

P.O. BOX 428  
ST. JOHNS, ARIZONA 85936

TELEPHONE: (928) 337-7503  
FACSIMILE: (928) 337-2003



DELWIN P. WENGERT, MANAGER-CLERK  
ST. JOHNS, AZ 85936

Resolution No. 2010-03

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF APACHE COUNTY  
REQUESTING COORDINATION AND COOPERATION IN THE APACHE  
SITGREAVES NATIONAL FOREST PROPOSED TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

**WHEREAS**, Apache County has historically survived with a natural resource based economy relying on established logging, livestock production, farming, mining and recreation along with accompanying roads and other pathways of transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, these roads, trails, and paths, on and off of the national forest, have continued in use by the general public for emergency access and the removal of minerals, other forest products, and other uses, including recreation and off-highway vehicle use, for ingress and egress to and from private property, hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, four wheeling, dispersed camping, hunting and other recreational uses; into mining roads, logging roads and access roads; and

**WHEREAS**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors considers the existing system of roads, trails, hunting and dispersed camping sites, and paths as vital to the continued varied use of public lands, to the public welfare and safety and to the flow of commerce within this County, just as the federal and state highway systems are vital to the welfare and commerce of the State of Arizona; and

**WHEREAS**, public access to routes of travel is essential to Apache County's transportation and public access systems and for emergency purposes, protection of the rights and values of private property owners, and for the economic and social well-being, customs and culture of the communities and citizens of Apache County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors is aware that the United States Forest Service maintains a system of forest roads and other roads not necessarily originally established by the Forest Service, and that the Gila National Forest is currently proposing a forest plan amendment for travel management that could have significant adverse effects on Apache County; and

**WHEREAS**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors declared by *Resolution no. 2008-02* its opposition to the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest Proposed Travel Management Plan in order to protect the natural resources of the County for future generations as well as to protect the economic and cultural stability for present and future generations by analyzing the potential environmental impacts on the human environment; and

**WHEREAS**, Apache Sitgreaves, United States Forest Service is required to coordinate with Apache County Board of Supervisors as required by their Travel Management Planning rule and their general section 219.7 of the Forest Planning Rule; along with the other requirements to coordinate and cooperate with Apache County, as specified in Section 6 of the Forest and

Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act (RPA) of 1974 (16 USC 1604(a)), the National Forest Management Act (16 USC 1204), §1204 Section 3 of the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 (16 USC 530), 40 CFR 1501.6 and 1506.2(b), Integrated Resource Management Process—the Road to Ecosystem Management (USFS Region 3, 4<sup>th</sup> edition), and the Apache County Comprehensive Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors recognizes the need for coordination, consultation, and involvement in the planning process, especially currently due to Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest initiation of travel management planning, and

**WHEREAS**, by the Apache County Board of Supervisors that in this resolution declares that adoption of this resolution is necessary for the preservation and protection of the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Apache County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Apache County Board of Supervisors shall pursue intergovernmental coordination with the United States Forest Service in integrated travel management planning of the County and United States Forest Service pursuant to federal statutory and regulatory requirements; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors requests coordinated planning and cooperating agency status associated with the United States Forest Service proposed Travel Management Planning and NEPA processes; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors do request a meeting with Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest travel management plan decision officer(s) to discuss roles and responsibilities; and,

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors determines and declares that, to the extent it has the power to so declare:

1. All existing ingress and egress roads, trails, and driveways to private property will remain open and available to the property owners.
2. All public roads and rights-of-way located within Apache County, Arizona that have not been heretofore formally abandoned by the Board of Supervisors, as well as 911 Emergency Roads and RS 2477 Roads, shall remain as public roads.
3. The Board of Supervisors reserves the right to modify, vacate, abandon, or expand the list of public roads and rights-of-way as appendices to this Resolution, per Arizona Revised Statutes.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors determines and recommends to the US Forest Service, Apache Sitgreaves National Forest that:

1. All off-road dispersed camping, hunting, and OHV locations should remain open and identified for public motorized camping, hunting, fuelwood or OHV sites for perpetual use by the public.
2. The use of motorized vehicles to retrieve a legally harvested and tagged deer or elk, as well as any other legally harvested big game animal, should be continued and permitted to the point location of the downed animal on either side of public roads, county roads, and/or state and federal highways, roadways, and motorized trails.
3. The use of motorized vehicles for off road retrieval of fuelwood should remain permissible in all cutting areas specified in state or federal fuelwood permits. Dead and down fuelwood

found along all public roads may be gathered and parking for road side fuelwood gathering may occur along any public road where it is safe to park, where such activity does not cause resource damage (e.g. ruts), or is not already restricted.

4. The County Board of Supervisors recommends the continuation of grazing permittees to use OHVs on existing roads and trails, along fence lines, as well as off-road to roundup, salting and watering sites and other range improvement activities for resource management purposes.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Apache County Board of Supervisors determines and declares that:

1. Native American rights and privileges should be protected according to federal laws and the Forest Service Socioeconomic Handbook, including proper analysis and recognition of sacred places and uses; and communication with Native American communities, according to the Presidential Executive Order on Environmental Justice; and
2. The general customs and cultures of Apache County and its citizens' uses of the national forests should be respected and allowed to continue, and that the Forest Service should coordinate with Apache County to insure these rights and privileges are continued.


**PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED** at St. Johns, Arizona on <sup>March</sup> February 2, 2010.

**APACHE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERIVOSRS**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
**Tom M. White, Jr.**  
**Chairman of the Board**

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Delwin Wengert, Clerk of the Board**