

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES
OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, This Nation, having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act; and
- WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefits of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5 (j) empowers the Tribes to protect and preserve the Natural Resources of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, During the 1996 growing season, ranchers and farmers who permit or lease Tribal lands on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation have suffered losses of crops and forage, including those used to produce hay; and
- WHEREAS, The economic distress of the members of the Three Affiliated Tribes has been increased by a combination of: hail, a cooler than normal spring which significantly reduced forage production, grasshopper infestation, early winter storms with abundant snow, and early winter extreme cold temperatures. These conditions caused low weaning weights and forced operators into feeding livestock earlier than normal. This will deplete feed supplies, and force livestock onto range prematurely; and
- WHEREAS, It is the policy of the Government to conserve and improve natural and renewable resources such as soil, forage, fish and wildlife in a manner so they contribute to the continued livelihood of people and the subsistence of many Indian people depends upon the livestock use of range forage; and
- WHEREAS, A combination of factors has occurred during the past eight months which has caused a financial hardship for farmers and ranchers who will fail and go out of business without substantial assistance from local, Tribal, and Federal Government; and



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FORT BERTHOLD AGENCY
P.O. BOX 370
NEW TOWN, NORTH DAKOTA 58763

RECEIVED
DEC 9 1996

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Range Office
627-3734

Three Affiliated Tribe

December 5, 1996

Scott Stofferahn, State Director
FSA State Office
Box 3046
Fargo, ND 58108
ATTN: Larry Lample

Dear Mr. Stofferahn:

The Three Affiliated Tribes is requesting assistance under the Indian Acute Distress Donation Program. Enclosed is Tribal Resolution No. 96-243-DSB declaring a natural disaster caused by a combination of factors within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

As required, we are requesting the State Office to survey the reservation lands to determine the extent of the damage.

Feel free to contact Carey L. Dreher, Range Conservationist, when scheduling a date for the survey so we can ensure a BIA and Tribal representative will be available.

Sincerely,

Adeline Brunsele
Superintendent

cc Wayland Lilly, Natural Resources
Aberdeen Area Office

Russell Mason, Chairman ✓
Three Affiliated Tribes

Chairman, Natural Resource Committee
Three Affiliated Tribes

Administrator, Natural Resource Dept.
Three Affiliated Tribes

Dave Leith, County Executive Director
Mountrail County

WHEREAS, The President of the United States has declared a National Livestock Economic Emergency thereby allowing the haying of land under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) which does not significantly benefit the Reservation since very little land on the Reservation is enrolled under CRP, or additional equal assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That in order to help conserve our limited Natural Resources the Tribal Business Council hereby declares the following counties within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation as disaster areas: Mercer, Mountrail, McLean, McKenzie, and Dunn Counties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Tribal Business Council hereby requests the Secretary of Interior to work with the Secretary of Agriculture to implement the Indian Acute Distress Donation Program for eligible Tribal members affected by the unusual and damaging weather, and that such a declaration as is made herein be used as may be necessary to secure disaster relief for all eligible persons within the Fort Berthold Reservation.

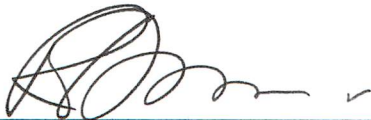
CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Special Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 4th day of December, 1996; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 7 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 4th day of December, 1996.

Daylon Spotted Bear
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:



Chairman, Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes