

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Apache trout is Arizona's state fish and one of only two native trout species in the state; and
WHEREAS, Apache trout were historically abundant in the streams in the White Mountains of east-central Arizona in the 1880s before their populations began declining; and
WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe took the first critical steps to conserve the species by protecting pure populations on Tribal lands; and
WHEREAS, Apache trout became one of the first species to be federally listed as endangered in 1967; and
WHEREAS, early conservation work, successful culturing in captivity, and greater knowledge of existing populations led to the downlisting of Apache trout in 1975 from endangered to threatened; and
WHEREAS, a special rule under the Endangered Species Act was adopted, allowing limited fishing of pure Apache trout in specific areas, and creating the opportunity for anglers to directly support the conservation of this species; and
WHEREAS, representatives from the Arizona Game and Fish Department, White Mountain Apache Tribe, US Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Forest Service formed the Apache Trout Recovery Team to develop a recovery plan in 1979 that would recover the species and ensure the long-term survival of Apache trout in its historical range; and
WHEREAS, recovery actions have continued since the time of listing and the recovery plan was updated in 1983 and 2009; and
WHEREAS, the most recent 5-year status review of the Apache trout concluded that the status of the species has substantially improved since the time of its listing and recommended that the Apache trout be considered for delisting due to recovery; and
WHEREAS, the 2021 Apache Trout Cooperative Management Plan (with shared responsibilities by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, White Mountain Apache Tribe, US Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service and Trout Unlimited) outlines the management actions and step-down activities to achieve recovery and delisting of the Apache trout, and provide for long term management if delisted to maintain a recovered status, while providing sportfishing opportunities for the citizens of Arizona.
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katie Hobbs, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim September 5, 2024, as

APACHE TROUT DAY

a day to be set aside in celebration of one of the great cooperative conservation success stories in Arizona.

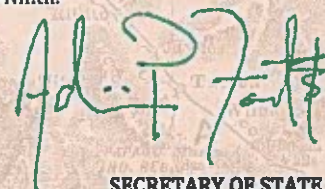
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this third day of September in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Ninth.

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

