

RESOLUTION NO. 1140

**IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESS APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM THE
FEDERAL LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS (LWCF)
TO PROTECT THREE OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PRIVATE LAND
HOLDINGS IN THE RED ROCKS, OAK CREEK CANYON, SEDONA, ARIZONA
AREA OF THE COCONINO NATIONAL FOREST**

WHEREAS, Yavapai County is a political subdivision of the state of Arizona, which includes in its boundaries the areas of Oak Creek Canyon, The Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness, The Red Rock Cliffs, Sedona, and the Coconino National Forest; and

WHEREAS, The Red Rock Secret Mountain Wilderness is the primary draw for millions of Sedona visitors and residents, providing important recreational opportunities including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, sightseeing, jeep touring, rock climbing and wildlife observation; and

WHEREAS, the Red Rock Cliffs provide habitat for the American Peregrine Falcon, a species listed under the Endangered Species Act, including two parcels totaling 230 acres, within which are located the Honanki ruin, an ancient site recording human habitation dating back nearly 8,000 years with exceptional rock art and cliff dwellings, important to the heritage of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, Oak Creek Canyon is a sensitive riparian corridor flowing through the heart of Red Rock country, home to diverse aquatic wildlife, exceptional water quality and spectacular scenery; and

WHEREAS, by acquiring these three tracts an additional 245 acres will be added to the Coconino National Forest, continuing a long-term program of inholding acquisition in the Red Rocks Area; and

WHEREAS, the entire Sedona, Arizona area is experiencing intense growth pressure and acquisition of these three parcels would protect the area from potential subdivision, and considering the decision of the U.S. Forest Service to propose these parcels for acquisition reflects the variety of public interest in this landscape; and

WHEREAS, an appropriation of funds from the Federal LWCF allocation would allow the Forest Service to protect these critical Arizona properties, thereby preserving them for all future generations to enjoy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors supports and recommends to Congress to appropriate funds from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund for these Sedona Area properties.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of August, 1998.



Chairman, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Clerk, Board of Supervisors