

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS



CORPORATE CHARTER  
OF THE  
HAVASUPAI TRIBE OF THE HAVASUPAI  
RESERVATION, ARIZONA



APPROVED AUGUST 14, 1946



Law  
Office  
Indian Tribes  
Havasupai  
Tribe Arizona Law  
COPY 2  
'c. 2

# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE HAVASUPAI TRIBE OF THE HAVASUPAI RESERVATION, ARIZONA

A FEDERAL CORPORATION CHARTERED UNDER THE ACT OF  
JUNE 18, 1934

Whereas, the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, Arizona, is a recognized Indian tribe organized under a Constitution and By-laws ratified by the tribe on January 13, 1939, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on March 27, 1939, pursuant to Section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378); and

Whereas, more than one-third of the adult members of the Tribe have petitioned that a charter of incorporation be granted to said Tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the adult Indians living on the Havasupai Reservation;

Now, therefore, I, Oscar L. Chapman, Acting Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), do hereby issue and submit this charter of incorporation to the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult Indians living on the Havasupai Reservation at an election in which at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote.

- Corporate Existence and Purposes.* 1. In order to further the economic development of the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation in Arizona by conferring upon the said Tribe certain corporate rights, powers, privileges, and immunities; to secure for the members of the Tribe an assured economic independence; and to provide for the proper exercise by the Tribe of various functions heretofore performed by the Department of the Interior, the aforesaid Tribe is hereby chartered as a body politic and corporate of the United States of America, under the corporate name "The Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation".
- Perpetual Succession.* 2. The Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation shall, as a Federal corporation, have perpetual succession.
- Membership.* 3. The Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation shall be a membership corporation. Its members shall consist of all persons now or hereafter members

of the Tribe, as provided by its duly ratified and approved constitution and by-laws.

*Management.* 4. The Havasupai Tribal Council established in accordance with the said constitution and by-laws of the Tribe, shall exercise all the corporate powers hereinafter enumerated.

*Corporate Powers.* 5. The Tribe, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States, or in the constitution and by-laws of the said Tribe, shall have the following corporate powers in addition to all powers already conferred or guaranteed by the tribal constitution and by-laws.

(a) To adopt, use and alter at its pleasure a corporate seal.

(b) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real and personal, subject to the following limitations:

(1) No sale or mortgage may be made by the Tribe of any land, or interest in land, including water power sites, water rights, oil, gas, and other mineral rights, now or hereafter held by the Tribe within the boundaries of the Havasupai Reservation.

(2) No mortgage may be made by the Tribe of any standing timber on any land now or hereafter held by the Tribe within the boundaries of the Havasupai Reservation.

(3) No leases, permits (which terms shall not include land assignments to members of the Tribe) or timber sales contracts covering any land or interests in land now or hereafter held by the Tribe within the boundaries of the Havasupai Reservation shall be made by the Tribe for a longer term than ten years, and all such leases, permits or contracts must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior or by his duly authorized representative; but oil and gas leases, or any leases requiring substantial im-

provements of the land may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

- (4) No action shall be taken by or in behalf of the Tribe which in any way operates to destroy or injure the tribal grazing lands, timber, or other natural resources of the Havasupai Reservation. All leases, permits, and timber sale contracts relating to the use of tribal grazing or timber lands shall conform to the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior authorized by Section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934, with respect to range carrying capacity, sustained yield forestry management, and other matters therein specified. Conformity to such regulations shall be made a condition of any lease, permit, or timber sale contract, whether or not such agreement requires the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and violations of such condition shall render the agreement revocable, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior.
- (c) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of Section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), or from any other Governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Tribe, and to use such funds directly for productive tribal enterprises, or to loan money thus borrowed to individual members or associations of members of the Tribe; *Provided*, That the amount of indebtedness to which the Tribe may subject itself, other than indebtedness to the Indian Credit Fund, shall not exceed \$2,000, except with the express approval of the Secretary of the Interior.
- (d) To engage in any business that will further the economic well-being of the members of

the Tribe or to undertake any activity of any nature whatever, not inconsistent with law or with any provisions of this Charter.

- (e) To make and perform contracts and agreements of every description, not inconsistent with law or with any provisions of this Charter, with any person, association, or corporation, with any municipality or any county, or with the United States or the State of Arizona, including agreements with the State of Arizona for the rendition of public services: *Provided*, That any contract involving payment of money by the corporation of a value in excess of \$5,000 in any one fiscal year shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.
- (f) To pledge or assign chattels or future tribal income due or to become due to the Tribe: *Provided*, That such agreements of pledge or assignment or extensions thereof other than an agreement with the United States, shall not extend more than ten years from the date of execution and shall not cover more than one-half the net tribal income from any one source in any one year: *And provided further*, That any such agreement shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative.
- (g) To deposit corporate funds, from whatever source derived, in any national or state bank to the extent that such funds are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or secured by a surety bond, or other security, approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or to deposit such funds in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States to the credit of the corporation.
- (h) To sue and be sued in any courts of competent jurisdiction within the United States; but the grant of exercise of such power to sue and to be sued shall not be deemed a consent by said

Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels especially pledged or assigned.

(i) To exercise such further incidental powers, not inconsistent with law, as may be necessary to the conduct of corporate business.

*Corporate  
Property.*

6. No property rights of the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, as heretofore constituted, shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter, and the tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not assigned to the use of any particular individuals is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities, without such owner's consent. Any existing lawful debts of the Tribe shall continue in force, except as such debts may be satisfied or cancelled pursuant to law.

*Corporate  
Dividends.*

7. The Tribe may issue to each of its members a non-transferable certificate of membership evidencing the equal share of each member in the assets of the Tribe and may use all profits of corporate enterprises or income, over and above sums necessary to defray corporate operations and over and above all sums which may be devoted to the establishment of a reserve fund, for public purposes of the Tribe, including the construction of public works, the cost of public enterprises, the expenses of tribal government, the needs of charity and the making of loans to members of the Tribe but no general distribution per capita of such profits or income shall be made.

*Amendments.*

8. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by resolutions of the Tribal Council which if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, to be effective, shall be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members living on the Reservation at a popular referendum in which at least thirty percent of the eligible voters vote.

*Ratification.*

9. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation living on the Reservation, provided that

at least thirty per cent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Truxton Canon Agency and the Chairman of the Tribal Council of the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation.

Submitted by the Acting Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation.

[SEAL] OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August 14, 1946.*

#### CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order, approved August 14, 1946, by the Acting Secretary of the Interior, the attached Charter for the Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, Arizona, was submitted for ratification to the qualified members of the Havasupai Tribe and on October 5, 1946, was duly ratified by a vote of 24 for, and 21 against, in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378).

WEST SINYELLA,  
*Chairman, Havasupai Tribal Council.*  
REED WATAHOMIGIE,  
*Secretary, Havasupai Tribal Council.*

THOMAS H. DODGE,  
*Superintendent, Truxton Canon Agency.*

