RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

- WHEREAS, the 1.66 million acres Fort Apache Indian Reservation, homeland of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, is blessed with an abundance of natural resources and pristine environment, the careful and sustainable management of which is paramount to the cultural and economic well-being of the Tribe and to the health of the reservation; and
- WHEREAS, to date, the management of the White Mountain Apache Tribe's natural resources has taken place without a comprehensive plan or organized body or department to coordinate the many land use activities undertaken by the Tribe, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service; and
- WHEREAS, the need is great for improved natural resources coordination and management, considering the complexities of multi-resources use and management and the burden of increasing government regulation (the Natural Indian Forest Resources Management Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and others); and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe adopted Resolution No. 02-94-060 on February 24, 1994 by a vote of eight (8) for and zero (0) against, which among other items directed the Tribal Planning Department to prepare a plan and budget for the establishment of a Tribal Natural Resources Department; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Planning Department made application in May of 1994 to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans (ANA), for a project titled "Establishment of a Tribal Natural Resources Planning and Protection Department," which was denied funding by ANA; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is committed to find funding for the continuation of the Tribal Natural Resources Department.
- BEIT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby agrees to the pursuit of funds to develop, staff and operate a Tribal Natural Resources Department.

BEIT FURTHERRESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby approves and fully supports the Tribal Planning Department's current proposal and application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans, for the project title "Establishment of a Tribal Natural Resources Planning and Protection Department."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it and its administrative body is committed to sustaining the Tribal Natural Resources Planning and Protection Department after the conclusion of the proposed three-year project period, and that the White Mountain Apache Tribe will work to secure funding to ensure that the Department is maintained into the future.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>February 02, 1995</u>, duly adopted by a vote of <u>ten</u> for and <u>zero</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (m), (n), (q), (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe September 30, 1993, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on November 12, 1993, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

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FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENCY

Chairman of the Tribal Council

Secretary of the Tribal Council