

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

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Camp Verde Yavapai Apache Tribe, the Payson Tonto Apache Tribe, and the Fort McDowell Indian Community embody and reflect the cumulative acknowledge and wisdom of the great Western Apache Nation that, for countless generations, controlled, occupied, and used an Aboriginal Territory that encompassed large portions of present-day Arizona, New Mexico, and northern Mexico; and
- WHEREAS,** the culture and history program representatives of these five tribes of the Western Apache Nation have initiated programs for collaboration and cooperation with regard to repatriation and the protection of Apache culture; and
- WHEREAS,** the unique appreciation and understanding of this aboriginal territory on the part of past and present generations of Western Apache has resulted in a complex, fascinating, beautiful, and limitless system for identifying, describing, and perpetuating knowledge of localities having spiritual, cultural, historical, and geographical significance; and
- WHEREAS,** the names, stories, and other oral traditions associated with places of significance in Western Apache Aboriginal Territory are of enormous value in support of cultural and linguistic preservation and education initiatives; and
- WHEREAS,** important and unique elements of these oral traditions are being lost with the passing of each Western Apache elder and cultural specialist and with the alteration and destruction of Aboriginal Territory; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Indian Tribes Program provides grant monies for regional surveys to identify places of cultural and historical significance to American Indian people; and

Resolution No. 12-96-298

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Cultural Resource Director, Ramon Riley, has been asked by the representatives of the other four tribes to coordinate and seek funding for a survey to record the oral traditions associated with places of Apache significance within Western Apache Aboriginal Territory; and

WHEREAS, such a survey will provide information of use to the Apache Tribes in their efforts to protect landscapes, resources, and landscape features threatened by federal and state activities, programs, projects, and undertakings.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that a grant application for a survey of the Apache place names and oral traditions that define Western Apache Aboriginal Territory and that make it meaningful to Apache people be prepared and submitted to the National Park Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all information developed through or as a result of the off-reservation place names survey of the Western Apache Nation is to be regarded as privileged and confidential and that as such, this information is to be made available to non-members of Apache Tribes only with the approval of recognized representatives of the Apache Tribes' culture and history program

The foregoing resolution was, on December 16, 1996, duly adopted by a vote of nine for and zero against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (g), (i), (j), (s), (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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**RT APACHE INDIAN AGEN
WHITERIVER, ARIZONA**


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council