

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

- WHEREAS,** because the White Mountain Apache people and land have always been inseparable, protecting the health of both the land and the people depends on promoting that relationship and the knowledge that upholds it; and
- WHEREAS,** while the Tribe has developed comprehensive programs to manage the natural resources of the Reservation and to safeguard the Tribe's cultural heritage, it is essential that these programs and tribal communities work together to restore healthy ecosystems; and
- WHEREAS,** a non-profit organization could be chartered by the Tribe to achieve these goals by facilitating cooperative efforts among local schools, the Watershed Program, the Heritage Program and Cultural Education Facility, and other tribal programs; and
- WHEREAS,** such a non-profit organization could be governed by a Board of Directors representing tribal cultural advisors and staff of appropriate tribal programs appointed by the Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has committed to restoring the ecosystems of the Reservation by establishing a permanent Land Restoration Fund, and a non-profit organization chartered by the Tribal Council could implement or advise projects under this Fund; and
- WHEREAS,** non-profit status would open funding opportunities including grants and tax-deductible donations for community-based efforts to promote healthy ecosystems; and
- WHEREAS,** the best location for this organization is at Fort Apache to promote coordination with the Heritage Program, Cultural Education Facility, Tourism Program, and local schools; and
- WHEREAS,** a culturally and ecologically important plant, *tlo'hk'aa'*, used to grow along the rivers at this location, and it symbolizes the efforts to restore the people's relationship with the land.

**Resolution No. 07-97-200**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the establishment of a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting Apache ecological knowledge and building community-based efforts to promote the health of Apache ecosystems, including the preparation of grant applications to appropriate funding sources.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that it directs the Legal Department with the assistance of the Planning Department to draft articles of incorporation for further review by the Tribal Council that will qualify the to-be-named nonprofit corporation as 501 © (3) nonprofit or other nonprofit pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code and that said nonprofit corporation will be chartered as a tribal corporation similar to the Tribal Community Development Corporation (CDC).

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that the Tribal Watershed Program will provide a core staff for this organization and the Tribal Heritage Program will work in close concert with this organization.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that once it approves the form of the articles of incorporation it shall appoint a Board of Directors from individuals nominated by the staff of the Watershed and Heritage Programs and selected from the Cultural Advisory Committee and from Tribal Education, Cultural, and Natural Resource Programs.

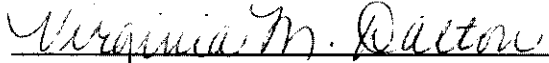
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council that it request that after the nonprofit corporation is chartered, the Bureau of Indian Affairs permit the use of the existing Tribal Cultural Center at Fort Apache as a headquarters for this organization pending the creation of a long-term facility consistent with the Master Plan for the Fort Apache Historic Park.

**BE FURTHER RESOLVE** by the Tribal Council that after this nonprofit corporation is chartered by the Tribe, that it shall be authorized to establish a botanical garden at the site of the old Fort gardens to emphasize the importance of plants in Apache land and culture and to replant *tlo'hk'aa'* as a living symbol of this effort.

**Resolution No. 07-97-200**

The foregoing resolution was on July 17, 1997, duly adopted by a vote of eight 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),(f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (s) (t) and (u) of the Constitution of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe on 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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Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
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Secretary of the Tribal Council