

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

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has received a request from the U.S. Geological Survey, Biological Resources Division in Flagstaff for the Tribe to participate in a State-wide 'GAP Analysis' project, whereby vegetation types and zones of the Reservation would be classified and entered into a geographic information systems database for analyses and study related to ecosystem health and planning; and

WHEREAS, to participate in this project, approximately 100 sites on the Reservation would need to be visited for 'ground truthing' of aerially-collected information; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Apache Agency is working with the Tribe on a similar vegetation mapping project as part of the Forest Management Plan 2001-2010, and whereby tribal involvement in the 'GAP Analysis' project could provide supplemental information and funding to this BIA/tribal effort; and

WHEREAS, further benefits of tribal involvement in the GAP project would include training of tribal members in vegetation identification and classification methods, and direct participation in ecosystem management inventories and analyses which could potentially effect future management of Reservation lands and resources.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves participation in the State-wide 'GAP Analysis' project, but only on the condition that all data and information collected on the Reservation will be collected by tribal and BIA employees working under the general guidance of GAP project staff, with all data and information first screened by tribal and BIA employees prior to its release to the USGS, Biological Resources Division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that participation in the project will be under the condition that funding be provided through the GAP project to train and pay the wages and other expenses of tribal and BIA staff for their participation in the project.


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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that the Assistant Tribal Forester and/or the Tribal Watershed Planner will carry on coordination of this project from this point forward, including ensuring the protection of potentially sensitive data and information.

The foregoing resolution was on July 17, 1997, duly adopted by a vote of four for and three against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (f), (h), (j), (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).



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council