

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

- WHEREAS**, the Tribe is faced with an enormous recovery efforts and financial setbacks from the devastating Rodeo/Chediski fire; and
- WHEREAS**, as a result of the public awareness of the challenges imposed upon the Tribe, many groups and organizations have stepped forward to offer assistance and financial donations to help the Tribe and its members; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council is grateful for this expression of support and offers its sincere thanks and appreciation to the generous outpouring of support for the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has formulated a recovery plan with the goal of directing donations into specified categories to assure long term benefits for the entire Tribal membership and recovery for its lands; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council finds that the first concern for recovery must be for those individuals and families who have faced financial setbacks, whether through loss of work or property because of the fire; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has directed Tribal staff to work with relief organizations, including the Federal Emergency Management Administration, to provide individual assistance to those who have suffered losses; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council realizes that not all losses suffered by individuals may be covered through insurance or other relief efforts, and for that reason it sets as its first priority for the use of any donation offers to direct funds to individual Tribal members and families to recover from any losses due to the Rodeo/Chediski fire which have not been compensated through any other relief program; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council finds that after meeting the needs of individuals, additional donation funds should be directed to programs designed to restore and rehabilitate the more than 276,000 acres of aboriginal tribal trust land devastated by fire, as such funding would undoubtedly be needed following the current federally funded Burned Area Emergency Response program, and other federal and agency funding which will be directed to the extensive land recovery effort; and
- WHEREAS**, the impacts of the fire upon the economy and the livelihood of the people of the Tribe also necessitate that donation funds, if available, be earmarked for economic recovery and development initiatives provided that such initiatives can be demonstrated to

have a likelihood for promoting long term economic benefit and return with the goal of producing viable self supporting economic enterprise, with an emphasis upon enterprise utilizing the Tribe's forest and natural resource assets to create employment and economic return; and

**WHEREAS,** as a final category for donation offers, the Tribe finds that the young people of the Tribe, who will be called upon to eventually complete the restoration work begun this summer, have some of the greatest need for assistance, development of opportunity, and desire for education, particularly in matters related to the recovery and rehabilitation work necessary for the Tribe's land; and for that reason, the Council directs that a portion of donation funds be established into a scholarship program to promote education and training opportunities for Tribal youth including appropriate recreational and experiential learning opportunities, with the expectation that it will be the youth of this Tribe who participate in, learn from, and eventually manage, the fire recovery efforts, as the burned area work provides the best classroom for Tribal youth to understand and manage the complex and interrelated issues of land restoration and management; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe has already established a relief account to provide assistance to individuals and families, and has established a land restoration fund for ongoing land restoration projects; and

**WHEREAS,** with the receipt of donations, the Tribe will establish a fund for both the special scholarship program and any economic development initiatives to coordinate with the objectives of any donating organization; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe has received word from one donor, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians of its commitment to provide One Million Dollars to the Tribe for its recovery needs and assistance to Tribal members; and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribe is very deeply appreciative to the San Manuel Band for this unprecedented and generous commitment and offers the priorities identified in this resolution to direct the use of those funds, as well as other funds offered to the Tribe.


**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby offers its deepest gratitude and appreciation to the San Manuel Mission Band of Indians for their generous commitment of One Million Dollars to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for recovery from the Rodeo/Chediski fire.

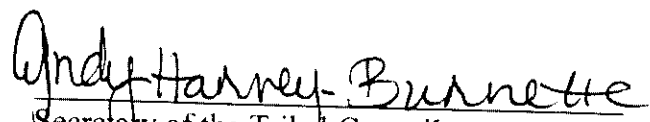
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that for the reasons set forth above, it hereby directs that the donation from the San Manuel Mission Indian Band and other donations coming to the Tribe should be allocated according to the following priority, unless the donating organization request

different priorities of the Tribe:

1. Assistance to the individual Tribal members for losses suffered from the Rodeo/Chediski fire which have not been compensated through insurance, government programs, or other relief resources;
2. Funding for the Tribe's land restoration and rehabilitation work for projects not funded through the ongoing Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation program or other governmental appropriations, with such funds directed to the Tribe's Land Restoration Fund and earmarked for recovery from the fire;
3. Funding for economic recovery and development projects, with an emphasis upon projects designed to ensure long term return, a link to the Tribe's natural resources, and promotion of employment. Funding for such proposals to be dedicated to specific proposals or deposited into a dedicated fund for this purpose;
4. Funding for education and scholarships for young people of the Tribe to learn principles which can be applied to the on the ground training and experience for forest and natural resource recovery and rehabilitation.

The foregoing resolution was on July 23, 2002 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), (f), (h), (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).

  
Chairman of the Tribal Council

  
Secretary of the Tribal Council