

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

WHEREAS, the Rodeo-Chediski wildfire incident that occurred in 2002 was a catastrophic event which had profound impacts on the Reservation landscape; and

WHEREAS, the profound effects of this event will be evident for many years and will greatly limit the Tribe's use and economic, cultural, and environmental benefits of the forest and rangelands; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has the trust responsibility to manage Tribal trust resources to benefit Tribal needs, according to the best scientific information and technology; and

WHEREAS, opportunities exist for research studies to examine these effects and relate post-fire damage to pre-fire forest conditions; and

WHEREAS, results of these research studies may greatly benefit Tribal and other forest lands in the local region, by providing information that could be useful to improving future management practices and decisions; and

WHEREAS, Northern Arizona University has secured funding to conduct these research studies; and

WHEREAS, Northern Arizona University will enter into a Memorandum of Understanding Agreement with the Tribe to specify the terms and conditions of these studies and ensure the protection and non-disclosure of any sensitive information.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Northern Arizona University sponsored Rodeo-Chediski Fire Effects Study be initiated according to the terms specified under the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement.

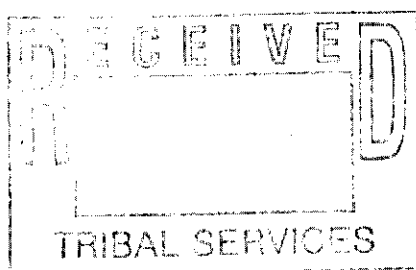
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby recognizes that this effort will require collaboration between Northern Arizona University and Tribal Departments and that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has indicated that it will coordinate these activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that Northern Arizona University shall report annually the status of this study; and the Tribal Council shall review all findings prior to publication to ensure non-disclosure

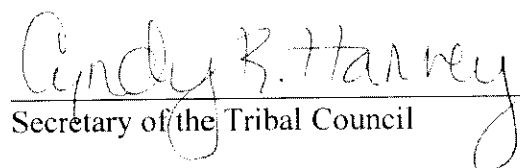
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of any sensitive information, according to terms specified in the Memorandum of Understanding Agreement.

The foregoing resolution was on May 15, 2003 duly adopted by a vote of TEN 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), (c), (f), (i), (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