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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council in Resolution 03-2002-49 dated March 6, 2002, authorized the Tribal Forestry Department to apply for and use grant funding made available from the First Nations Development Institute to evaluate the potential to obtain Scientific Certification Systems Forest Conservation Certification for the commercial forests of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, Subsequent to that resolution the Tribal Forestry staff and others, including the Fort Apache Agency Forestry Program, FATCO personnel, Tribal resource and legal staff have worked collaboratively to complete a review and evaluation conducted by the SCS program to obtain certification accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council; and
- WHEREAS, the Forest Stewardship Council pre-certification is a recognition that the forest resources on Tribal lands are managed in a sustainable manner consistent with sound silvicultural and renewable resource management standards; and
- WHEREAS, the review and evaluation is now completed and the Council this date has reviewed the report issued by the Scientific Certification Systems which recommends Forest Stewardship Council certification for Tribal lands subject to seven conditions detailed in the evaluation report; and
- WHEREAS, such certification is effective for a term of one year with an audit to be completed by FSC following the one year period to ensure the conditions have been fulfilled and to verify whether the Tribe wishes to continue with the certification process, at which time yearly fees would be due to renew the certification; and
- WHEREAS, Tribal Council recognizes the value in the competitive marketplace in carrying the FSC certification and notes that the certification conditions are consistent with the Tribe's own management plan objectives and practices.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby accepts forest certification of Tribal lands under the guidelines and principles of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby delegates authority to the Tribal Forest Manager to complete the certification process by notifying SCS and FSC, obtaining the proper documents for signature, product labels for use, complete a press release, ensure that the conditions are met, and keep the Tribal Council updated on the impacts of certification and have a report for the Tribal Council on these impacts one year from this resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>JANUARY 22, 2004</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>NINE</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> 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), (h), (i), (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

acting

Secretary of the Tribal Council