

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

(Authorizing Establishment of a Test Site for Poplar Trees at Canyon Day Farm)

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe suffered devastating losses to its forest resources as a result of the Rodeo-Chediski fire on the west side of the Reservation, effectively eliminating commercial timber operations on the west side for 150 years;

WHEREAS, as a result of the fire, the Cibecue Saw Mill was forced to close; and

WHEREAS, due to declining numbers of large saw logs in the Tribe's forest and a parallel increase in smaller diameter saw logs, there is a need for the Tribe for consider the development of alternative resources for the Fort Apache Timber Company Saw Mill and for the production of wood products to meet changing market demands; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is advised that GreenWood Resources (GWR) of Portland, Oregon is interested in evaluating the development of a hybrid poplar tree farm program for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, including the establishment of a test site in the Canyon Day area, production of a technical memorandum consisting of a management plan for establishing a test planting which would detail the complete range of steps necessary for a successful implementation (site prep, clone testing strategy and cutting supply, weed control methodologies, crop tending, fertilization and irrigations schedules, etc.); and

WHEREAS, GreenWood Resources as part of the development plan would also produce a feasibility/business plan for a large-scale poplar tree farm that could provide a wood supply for the Fort Apache Timber Company and will develop a matrix of strategies and options regarding the development and operations of the tree farm for a range of markets and biomass products and will include tree farm development plans, market description and analyses and mill development scenarios; and

WHEREAS, key components of the report from GWR would include a review of land evaluation and soils work, plant material evaluation and strategy, growth and yield projections, development and operational costs analysis for a tree farm, cost analysis for harvesting/processing and transportation, manufacturing, financial and cash flow analysis and documentation prepared into a feasibility analysis report; and

- WHEREAS, the project costs estimate for the feasibility study is approximately \$60,000 and said budget is included in the Miner Flat Dam Scope of Work Modification approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and
- WHEREAS, the poplar tree test plots and Canyon Day Farm can provide information to determine the feasibility of an industrial sized poplar tree production at Bonito Prairie comprised of several thousand acres; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has been presented with the potential costs benefit of such industrial development for poplar tree development for the saw mill and the added values produced by manufacturing various wood products by ENTRIX, agricultural economists under contract with the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe concludes that it would be in the best interests for the economic development and sustainability of the Tribe's forests and saw mill operations to proceed with the poplar tree test plots at Canyon Day Farm and the feasibility study by GreenWood Resources.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache that it hereby authorizes the establishment of test plots or sites at Canyon Day Farm for poplar trees and for the development of a feasibility study by GreenWood Resources for a hybrid poplar tree farm program for the White Mountain Apache Tribe.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the budgeted amount of \$60,000 to be paid from the Miner Flat Dam Scope of Work Budget Modification to complete the feasibility study as outlined in this Resolution.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes the Tribal Chairman, and in his absence, the Vice-Chairwoman, to sign any and all documents necessary to accomplish and implement the authorizations set forth in this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on May 10, 2006, duly adopted by a vote of SIX for and ONE against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (f), (h), (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