

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

(Approving Pit Tank Woodland Management Project Proposal and Authorizing Land Operations to Seek Funding Support)

- WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ("Tribe") desires to conserve and restore woodlands, rangeland and wildlife habitat on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, funding is available through the Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA") Western Regional Office, Branch of Forestry for such projects; and
- WHEREAS, Land Operations seeks to utilize available funding opportunities in the accomplishment of its mission to conserve, protect and restore the natural resources of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, Land Operations successfully completed in 2005 and 2007 woodland management projects using funding from the BIA and the Natural Resources Conservation Service; and
- WHEREAS, a proposal for fiscal year 2008 has been presented to the Tribe by Land Operations staff to obtain approval for the Pit Tank Woodland Management Project, such project to involve the mechanical thinning of 85 percent of stems per acre of the target species within the project area up to 500 acres, followed by grazing deferment for a minimum of two growing seasons following project completion; and
- WHEREAS, this project is expected to improve wildlife habitat and grazing lands and decrease soil erosion by restoring plant community balance; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe recognizes and appreciates the significance of wildlife and livestock to the Apache culture and intends to maintain and promote sound management practices.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that:

- 1. The Pit Tank Woodland Management Project proposal is hereby approved.
- The Land Operations Department is hereby authorized to seek project funding and support from appropriate sources to carry out the Pit Tank Woodland Management Project and to expend such funds as may be received and according to the terms and conditions of the applicable funding sources.

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3. The Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairwoman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>July 22, 2008</u>, duly adopted by a vote of <u>EIGHT</u> for, <u>ZERO</u> against and <u>ONE</u> abstention by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (c), (i), (k), (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