



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approving White Mountain Apache Tribe Native Fishes Management Plan)

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe's present-day Fort Apache Indian Reservation was established within the Tribe's former aboriginal lands, over which the Tribe enjoys an unbroken chain of aboriginal, legal, and beneficial title; and
- WHEREAS,** we believe as Apache people, that our relationship to the land is a reflection of wellness and harmony in spirit, mind and body, that our land is our home and as a people, we draw our identity and culture from the land, that in the Apache language the word *shii ne'* not only describes our land, but is also the same word to describe our mind, thus, we are one with our land and inseparable from it; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe's tradition of stewardship continues to guide the natural resources management philosophy of the Tribe, and that although our lands were seriously damaged due to mismanagement by the Department of Interior from the time the Reservation was first established in 1871, we have since regained managerial control of our lands and are now in the process of repairing extensive damage that was done to our grazing lands, forest and riparian areas; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe has been a nationally known leader in conservation for decades and was instrumental in bringing the Apache trout back from extinction in the 1950s, and since then has initiated management practices that benefit endangered and sensitive species within its land; and
- WHEREAS,** a Statement of Relationship was signed between the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ("Service") in December of 1994 which established a bilateral government-to-government framework for advancing the common interests of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the Service in promoting healthy ecosystems and for the preservation of species; and
- WHEREAS,** in fulfillment of its commitment to the preservation of species and ecosystems, the Tribal Council directed that a management plan be prepared for native fishes and their habitat within the Tribe's lands; and
- WHEREAS,** Tribal staff in the Game & Fish and Water Resources Departments, in collaboration with the Service, have prepared for Tribal Council review and approval, a native fishes management plan for the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the Service in a letter dated September 10, 2014, addressed to Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe, is supportive of the WMAT Native Fishes Management Plan ("Plan"), and states in the letter that: "[t]he Tribe's Plan provides a solid foundation for the maintenance, management, enhancement and conservation of the Tribe's native aquatic resources in a biologically sound manner;" and

Resolution No. 09-2014-154

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council expresses its appreciation to the Service for its assistance in preparation of the Plan and for its valued government-to-government relationship with the Tribe since signing the Statement of Relationship with the Service in December of 1994 which began an effective partnership for the conservation of species and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concludes that approval of the WMAT Native Fishes Management Plan is consistent with the Tribe's cultural tradition of practicing conservation principles within its Homeland.

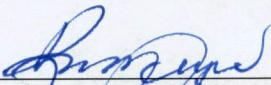
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the White Mountain Apache Tribe Native Fishes Management Plan as presented to the Tribal Council on this date, and as attached and incorporated by reference herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances or Federal Laws, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

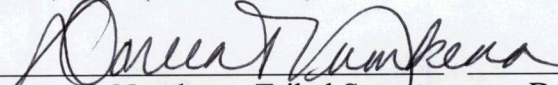
The foregoing resolution was on **September 24, 2014** duly adopted by a vote of **TEN** for and **ZERO** against with **ONE** abstaining by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



Ronnie Lupe, Tribal Chairman

10-4-14

Date



Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

10-8-14

Date