

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

WHEREAS, wetlands occur where the water and the land meet to create areas of great ecological significance; and

WHEREAS, wetlands provide direct benefits to the Apache people, including flood control, rich soils, and water filtration; and

WHEREAS, wetlands provide habitat and sustenance for many species of animals, including elk, deer, and waterfowl; and

WHEREAS, wetlands contain specially adapted plants, including many with medicinal properties and other cultural values, including the cattail; and

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Fort Apache Indian Reservation is blessed with a great number of wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council wishes to see that the health of these special places is maintained in accordance with the Tribe's goals for its Reservation; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of the United States Government provides grants to tribes to develop wetlands protection programs; and

WHEREAS, it is a priority for the Tribe to assume authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which regulates certain activities that affect wetlands.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby approves the submission of a grant proposal by the Environmental Planning Office to the EPA to develop a Tribal wetlands plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the wetlands plan shall reflect Tribal concerns for these special places, and that the plan be integrated with ongoing planning efforts into a comprehensive Ecosystem Management Plan and Watershed Plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribe authorizes the Tribe's Legal and Planning Departments to seek assumption of Clean Water Act Section 404 program authority under the auspices of a Tribal Review and permitting process.

Resolution No. 02-95-052

The foregoing resolution was on February 02, 1995, 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), (f), (h), (j), (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).


RECEIVED

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FORT APACHE INDIAN AGENCY
WHITERIVER, ARIZONA

Acting


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council