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

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe ["WMAT"] is advised that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed reintroduction of the Mexican wolf, an endangered species, into the Blue Range of Arizona which is in close proximity to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation ["FAIR"] lands; and
- WHEREAS, the Mexican wolf, as a wide ranging predator, would likely migrate onto FAIR lands because of suitable habitat and an available prey base; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe is concerned that the harmony that exists between the White Mountain Apache Tribe and all other living things on the Reservation be preserved and protected; and
- WHEREAS, the Mexican wolf reintroduction and subsequent migration onto FAIR lands may cause adverse biological effects with game populations as well as livestock; and
- WHEREAS, the resultant biological effects to game and livestock could cause additional economic stresses to tribal enterprises as well as possible conflicts with policy issues; and
- WHEREAS, the benefits from the reintroduction of the Mexican wolf and its resultant migration onto FAIR lands would not outweigh the costs to the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, recommendations from the WMAT Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Division, the Endangered Species Task Force created pursuant to Resolution No. 04-93-088, and the Natural Resource Committee have determined that the Mexican wolf reintroduction would create biological, economic, and policy conflicts by their presence on FAIR lands.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that after dire deliberation and review of recommendations from the biologists of the Tribe's Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Division, members of the Endangered Species Task Force, and the Natural Resource Committee, it hereby opposes the reintroduction of the Mexican Wolf onto the adjacent proposed Blue Range Wolf Management Area.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>December 6, 1995</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>ten</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), (f), (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

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Secretary of the Tribal Council