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

- WHEREAS, by virtue of the Tribe's inherent sovereignty over the lands and waters of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, in addition to the powers listed in the Tribal Constitution, the Tribal Council has the authority and responsibility to protect and promote the health of tribal ecosystems; and
- WHEREAS, many people remember the watersheds of the Reservation when they were healthier, with lush riparian areas and clean water; and
- WHEREAS, several restoration projects have vividly demonstrated the potential of these areas to recover through reduced pressure from grazing; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe has adopted a Watershed Restoration Strategic Plan that lists priority areas for restoration, including the Cibecue, Lofer and Gooseberry Watersheds; and
- WHEREAS, the Arizona Water Protection Fund provides opportunities to obtain resources to maintain and restore waters in Arizona, and the Tribe is currently implementing two major restoration projects with funds from that source; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed restoration projects will extend ongoing restoration efforts through the physical restoration of channels, the replanting of riparian vegetation, the protection of restoration areas from unrestricted grazing and the education of local community members through tours and involvement of local schools.
- BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, that it authorizes the Tribal Watershed Program to submit grant applications to the Arizona Water Protection Fund for the Cibecue, Lofer and Gooseberry Watershed Restoration Projects and approves the use of in-kind tribal resources to serve as matching funds for these grants.

The foregoing resolution was on August 12, 1998 duly adopted by a vote of six 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), (b), (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).

ACTING Frank J. July Ell yr Chairman of the Tribal gouncil Moder Horrey-Burnette