

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

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe entered into a Statement of Relationship, dated December 6, 1994, with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recognizing the common interest of both parties in promoting healthy ecosystems; and
- WHEREAS,** as recognized in the Statement of Relationship and other Tribal program enactments, the White Mountain Apache Tribe regulates and manages all natural resources within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation including sensitive species and the habitats upon which they depend; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe has established a Sensitive Species program on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation which is an internal part of the Tribe's Ecosystem Management program and includes management of federally listed threatened and endangered species; and
- WHEREAS,** Secretarial Order 3206 on American Indian Tribal Rights, Federal-Tribal Trust Responsibilities, and the Endangered Species Act commits the Department of the Interior to assist Indian tribes in developing and expanding Tribal programs that promote the health of ecosystems upon which sensitive species depend; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, despite the cooperative working relationship with the Tribe, has not been able to adequately assist in funding this important work within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the operation of the Tribe's sensitive species program presents a large financial burden to the Tribe and has diverted resources from other conservation programs; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe seeks federal funding for its sensitive species program and on behalf of the Fort Apache Agency to fulfill the agency's federal sensitive species obligation, however, until such funding is obtained the Tribe will operate the program with funding from its own Forest Management Deduction Funds; and
- WHEREAS,** use of these tribal funds is authorized only as a stop gap measure, the Tribe of necessity has a paramount interest in species and habitat preservation within its lands, but looks to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to fund the costs of the program, whether by Congressional appropriation or other means.

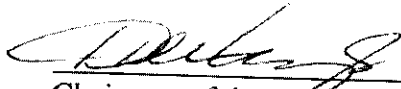
Resolution No. 01-99-10

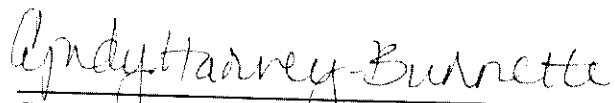
BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby requests funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to operate the Tribe's Sensitive Species Program within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the temporary use of Tribal Forest Management Deduction Funds, as authorized in Resolution No. 01-99-11, approving the Budget and Use Plan, is authorized as a stop gap measure, in recognition that the Tribe has the greatest interest in the conservation of sensitive species and their habitats within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs and authorizes the Tribal Chairman to take measures deemed necessary to secure the award of funding requested in this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on January 7, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of nine 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), (c), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (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