

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

- WHEREAS,** on June 11, 12, and 13, 1999, the northern subdivisions of Whiteriver experienced a horrific fire, which has come to be known as the Rainbow Fire; and
- WHEREAS,** support and assistance for the Tribe came from all across the Southwest area, and included many federal, tribal and state agencies, for which the Tribe is deeply appreciative; and
- WHEREAS,** Arizona Governor Jane Hull made a personal visit to the scene, meeting with Tribal Chairman Dallas Massey, Sr., and other officials, offering assistance to the Tribe in restoring the community and securing housing and other resources for the affected families; and
- WHEREAS,** by the time the fire had been contained on Sunday June 13, the fire had destroyed 17 homes and 13 outbuildings, as well as many horses, family pets, automobiles, and irreplaceable personal property; and
- WHEREAS,** more than 4,000 acres of forested land were burned in the fire, resulting in a considerable loss of valuable natural resources for the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** many hundreds of Tribal members and community residents were evacuated from their homes for a 48 hour period and were housed in temporary quarters at Memorial Hall and other locations; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council and the community give thanks that no one was killed or seriously injured by the fire; however, it is recognized that the unprecedented devastation will require expenditures and assistance beyond the resources of the Tribal community; and
- WHEREAS,** in recognition of the wide-spread destruction of property and resources, the Tribal Council seeks assistance from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other federal assistance, including all available aid from the Federal Emergency Management Administration ("FEMA") and HUD, and all appropriate state and county assistance, and on that basis declares the region of the Rainbow Fire a disaster area.
- BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby declares the region of the June 11-13 Rainbow Fire as a disaster area, and on that basis requests all appropriate emergency aid and other aid from Navajo County, the

State of Arizona and the United States government, and in particular from FEMA and HUD, to help the Tribal community recover and restore its land and property from this devastating fire.

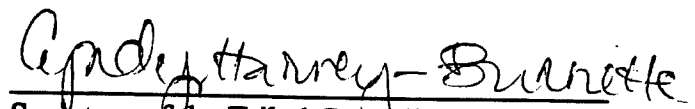
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it directs Tribal and BIA Fort Apache Agency personnel to thoroughly identify and inventory all incurred and projected damages and costs from the fire, including housing needs, assistance for those who suffered uninsured losses, land and watershed restoration needs, and staff and administrative time needed to carry-out the countless responsibilities involved in the fire suppression and recovery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it extends its utmost appreciation and gratitude to the hundreds of workers from numerous tribal, federal and state agencies and programs, neighboring communities, church groups, volunteer and community organizations, and others who have given so graciously of their time and talents to assist the devastated families and community.

The foregoing resolution was on June 14, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of eight 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), (f), (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