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

- WHEREAS, Rick DiValentino of the Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Division has come before the Tribal Council with a proposal to improve the habitat for the pronghorn antelope; and
- WHEREAS, this proposal would increase the suitable habitat for pronghorn antelope by removing Alligator Juniper trees; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is well aware of the problems associated with Juniper encroachment upon pasture lands and recognizes the long term benefits from treatments outlined in the proposal; and
- WHEREAS, the project would be undertaken in Bonito Prairie and ID Ranch to eradicate, by cutting and burning, up to 90% of the Juniper trees found in those pasture areas; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council appreciates the significance of the pronghorn antelope to Apache culture; and
- WHEREAS, Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation biologists have explained and described existing conditions and have conducted a field tour of the project site.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the four (4) year pronghorn antelope habitat improvement project on Bonito Prairie and ID Ranch, such project to involve the cutting and burning up to 90% of Juniper trees in those pasture areas.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it also authorizes that follow-up eradication occur in those areas every ten years or when the tallest re-sprouted Juniper tree reaches four (4) feet in height.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Wildlife and Outdoor Recreation Division is authorized to seek project funding through the BIA for all burn treatments and other appropriate sources to carry out mechanical treatments, and that no other special budget appropriation from the Tribe has been authorized at this time to undertake this work.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>September 1, 1999</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>seven</u> for and <u>zero</u> against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in

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it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (f), (h), (i), (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).

Chairman of the Fribal Council

Gradutaney-Burnette Secretary of the Tribal Council