

**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 natural resources of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, in addition to the powers listed in the Tribal Constitution, the Tribal Council retains sovereign authority to ensure that the Tribe can adequately protect its natural resources through pro-active fire risk management and reactive management of fires within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, on September 23, 1999, the Tribal Council met with representatives of the National Interagency Fire Center, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fire Management team from Boise, Idaho and representatives from the Bureau's Fort Apache Agency to learn about the Bureau's new computerized fire budget allocation system; and

WHEREAS, after convening and hearing statements from representatives of both Bureau agencies on this day, members of the Tribal Council unanimously agree that they do not have enough information about the new computerized fire budget allocation system to engage in a discussion about the new system's adequacy to meet the needs of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council believes that local participation from both Bureau and Tribal forest management agencies is necessary in the development of any fire management budget to ensure that the budget will effectively meet the needs of these agencies and the White Mountain Apache Tribe when preventing and fighting fires within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and


WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is gravely concerned about the effect a computerized fire management budget allocation system will have upon the real lives of tribal employees who help manage a resource as vital to them as the forests of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the effect this computer generated averaging system will have upon the unique conditions present within the Reservation.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, that it does not wish to approve or accept the budget set forth by the Bureau's new computerized fire management budget plan until the Council has had the opportunity to meet with the Bureau's fire management team from Boise, Idaho and all Tribal departments affected by the fire management budget to review the origins of the plan.

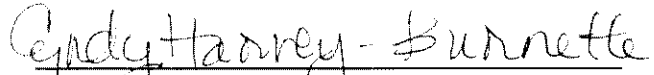
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council shall hold a Special Council meeting to learn about the Bureau's computerized fire management budget system at which time

the Bureau shall fully explain the origins of the plan, the advantages and disadvantages of the plan for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and the effect the plan will have upon the Tribes natural, capital and human resources.

The foregoing resolution was on September 23, 1999 duly adopted by a vote of SEVEN 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), (c), (f), (h), (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


Secretary of the Tribal Council