

**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 of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (NIFC) from Boise, Idaho and representatives from the Bureau's Fort Apache Agency to learn about the Bureau's Fire Management Planning Analysis (FMPA) and budgeting system; and
- WHEREAS**, the Director of NIFC, Mr. Jim Stires, offered to assist the Tribe in requests for additional funding for, and evaluations of, its fire management needs despite the final analysis produced by the FMPA; and
- WHEREAS**, after convening and hearing statements from representatives of both Bureau agencies on September 23, 1999, members of the Tribal Council unanimously agreed that they did not have enough information about the new computerized fire budget allocation system to engage in a discussion of the new system's fulfillment of the funding and personnel needs for fire management within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council met with Ben Nuvamsa, Ken Butler, David Reinhold, and George Leech of the Fort Apache Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs on October 12, 1999 to learn more about the Bureau's computerized fire budget allocation system; and
- WHEREAS**, after attending the October 12, 1999 meeting, the Tribal Council unanimously decided that the BIA Fiscal Year 2000 fire management budget does not provide enough funding to meet one hundred percent of the fire management needs within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council acknowledges that the FY2000 BIA fire management budget will force tribal personnel to either lose their positions with the Bureau or to assume duties and positions for which they are currently not trained or prepared for.
- BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that to ensure the natural resources within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation are protected from the

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devastation and effects of a fire, funding for fire management within the Reservation must provide one hundred percent of the Tribe's fire management needs, must retain the current number of tribal employees and must also take action to include tribal employees in key management positions assigned to oversee development of the local FMPA and budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that it hereby directs the Fort Apache Agency for the Bureau of Indian Affairs to submit a complete and detailed list of employees who will be affected by the Bureau's FMPA either through layoffs, terminations or reorganizations of duties and positions within the Bureau.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that it requests the Bureau prepare an updated FMPA for submission with the Fiscal Year 2000, 2001, and 2002 budget that fully funds the Fire Management program at the Fort Apache Agency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that FMPA and budgeting processes for fire management within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation must carefully and completely consider the indirect and cumulative effects of these activities on threatened, endangered and candidate species located within and adjacent to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that FMPA and budgeting processes for fire management within the Fort Apache Indian Reservation must carefully and completely consider the indirect and cumulative effects of these activities on religious, cultural and historic values of the Tribe.

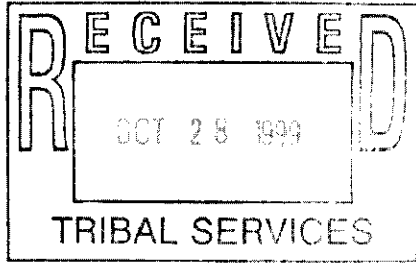
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that the Fort Apache Agency shall make every effort to employ the services of an independent consultant with expertise in the FMPA software program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Tribal Council that the White Mountain Apache Tribe 2001-2010 Forest Management Plan shall fully incorporate the new FMPA process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council that it hereby directs the Legal Department to draft and distribute a letter to Mr. Jim Stires of NIFC and to the Tribe's congressional delegates, outlining the problems with FMPA and the new fire management budgeting process and requesting additional funding to meet the federal government's trust responsibility to the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

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The foregoing resolution was on October 12, 1999 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), (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).



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. Williams", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman of the Tribal Council

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Anthony-Burnette", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary of the Tribal Council