

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

- WHEREAS,** with the consistent support and encouragement of the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and in full accord with the 1993 *Master Plan for the Fort Apache Historic Park* and the White Mountain Apache Heritage Program has made consistent progress toward the establishment of the White Mountain Apache Tribe as a recognized leader in the fields of community-based cultural conservation, historic preservation, repatriation, and tourism-oriented economic development; and
- WHEREAS,** the Heritage Program exists, in part, to re-establish control by the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its members over materials, knowledge, objects, and places of substantial importance in Ndee history and culture; and
- WHEREAS,** ongoing efforts toward the repatriation of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, objects of cultural patrimony, and objects removed without permission or other authorization from White Mountain Apache trust lands (i.e., the Fort Apache Indian Reservation) continue to make steady progress; and
- WHEREAS,** the success of the repatriation efforts of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as coordinated by the Tribe's Cultural Resources Director, Ramon Riley, is attributable, in part, to the Tribe's long-standing commitment to intertribal cooperation (especially with the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and Zuni Pueblo) and to the well-established preference, among all interested tribes, for reburial of repatriated human remains and funerary objects as close as possible to their original resting places and out of harm's way; and
- WHEREAS,** the repatriation process would make even more expeditious progress with the removal of several obstacles, notably that lack of consistent community consensus regarding repatriation issues and the procedural requirements concerning deference to or consultations with other tribes having actual or prospective cultural affiliations with objects destined for repatriation to and reburial within White Mountain Apache trust lands; and
- WHEREAS,** assessments of cultural affiliation have heretofore emphasized associations between individual objects, or styles of objects, and ongoing cultural traditions and have too often failed to consider fully the geographical and temporal associations of both objects and cultural traditions; and
- WHEREAS,** there will never be a better time to obtain information and perspectives from Ndee, Hopi, and Zuni elders and cultural specialists concerning the cultural affiliations of

all lands and localities within and immediately adjacent to the boundaries of White Mountain Apache trust lands; and

WHEREAS, the US National Park Service Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program administers grants to facilitate the documentation of collections subject to NAGPRA repatriation and for which the White Mountain Apache Tribe is eligible; and

WHEREAS, preliminary consultations indicate the willingness of the repatriation representatives of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, the Hopi Tribe, and the Pueblo of Zuni to participate in an effort to establish the cultural affiliations of White Mountain Apache Lands over the vast course of human history.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes and endorses the Heritage Program initiative to secure NPS *NAGPRA Documentation* grant support for the investigation, documentation, interpretation, and implementation of information pertaining to the cultural affiliations of White Mountain Apache Lands, with special attention given to areas that have yielded objects currently held in non-tribal museums and repositories.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the goals of the *Cultural Affiliation of White Mountain Apache Lands* project shall be (1) to develop a data base of Ndee, Hopi, and Zuni oral traditions and other information and perspectives on the occupation and use of White Mountain Apache Lands through time; (2) to establish, wherever possible, temporal and spatial boundaries for the occupations and uses of White Mountain Apache Lands by various cultural traditions; (3) to engage community representatives in the repatriation process and to establish community consensus concerning repatriation priorities and procedures; (4) to develop for use of all interested tribes a series of maps providing detailed information on the cultural affiliations of White Mountain Apache Lands, including changing affiliations through time; and (5) to identify the classes of cultural items (especially unassociated funerary objects) likely to be associated with different regions at different periods.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby delegates authority to the Tribal Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, to execute any documents, including any consultant contracts, which the Legal Department reviews and approves and which are needed to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby appoints Dr. John R. Welch, the Tribe's Historic Preservation Officer, as the Tribe's agent to assist the Chairman in conducting all negotiations and in

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executing and submitting all documents, including application materials, billing statements, progress reports, etc., as required for the completion of the *Cultural Affiliation of White Mountain Apache Lands* project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby appoints Mr. Ramon Riley, Ms. Doreen Gatewood, and Ms. Bernadette Adley Santamaria to supervise and support the project.

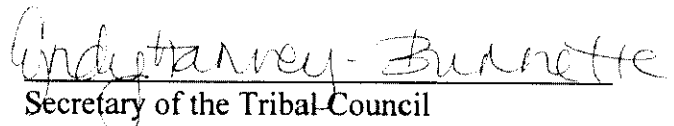
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs Dr. Welch to ensure consultations take place with all reliable individuals possessing knowledge and perspective relating to the cultural affiliations of White Mountain Apache Lands to the maximum extent practical in furtherance of the intent of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Heritage Program of the White Mountain Apache Tribe is to comply fully with all applicable tribal, federal, and state regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements relating to the application and the resultant project.

The foregoing resolution was on December 19, 2001 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), (b), (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).

ACTING


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council