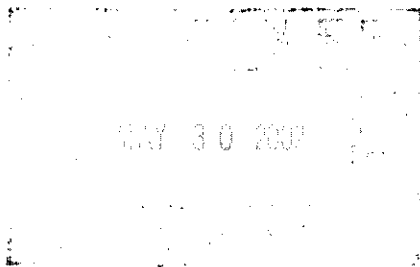


**RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration drought indices and local precipitation, stream flow, and fire fuel data indicate that the Fort Apache Indian Reservation is currently in a severe drought which has been developing since 1999; and
- WHEREAS, important Tribal resources, including farms, municipal water supplies, rangeland, forest, livestock, and wildlife have already been adversely affected by severe water shortages; and
- WHEREAS, seasonal forecasts indicate that no significant relief to the extremely dry conditions may be expected before the fall of 2002; and
- WHEREAS, long-term forecasts indicate that the drought may persist for up to a decade or more; and
- WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe needs assistance to develop and fund a formal drought contingency plan for emergency water supply development and management; and
- WHEREAS, financial assistance is required for the development of supplemental wildlife and municipal water supply sources which may include stream diversions and/or groundwater wells, and for the development of drought contingency plans for emergency water management; and
- WHEREAS, a formal declaration of drought is the first step toward acquiring outside funding assistance for drought relief.
- BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby declares that the Fort Apache Indian Reservation is in a drought of serious proportions.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes Tribal natural resources staff to seek drought relief funding to protect vital Tribal resources.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribal Chairman and in his absence, the Vice Chairman, is hereby authorized to sign any and all necessary documents related to this resolution in FY2002 and FY2003.

The foregoing resolution was on May 15, 2002 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), (c), (d), (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).



ACTING [Signature]
Chairman of the Tribal Council

[Signature]
Secretary of the Tribal Council