

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

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council acknowledges that the Chediski and Rodeo fires, the worst fires in recent history, are currently raging through the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the White Mountain region; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council is fully aware that the two fires have caused, and will continue to cause, millions of dollars worth of damage to resources, structures and property of the Tribe, all while necessitating extreme expenditures of tribal funds and resources to help assist with fire suppression and public safety response needs; and
- WHEREAS,** many hundreds of tribal members have been evacuated from their homes in Hon Dah, McNary, Forestdale, Show Low, and other communities off the reservation and other areas in the path of the two wildfires, and others may also be required to evacuate if the fire continues to grow; and
- WHEREAS,** the evacuees within the Reservation have no indication how long they will be displaced from their homes and therefore the Tribe has incurred and will continue to incur considerable expense in providing shelter and human necessities for hundreds of evacuees from the path of the two wildfires; and
- WHEREAS,** in addition to the personal impact upon the lives of many Tribal members, the Tribe has lost a vast portion of its invaluable timber base, the bedrock of the Tribe's economy; and
- WHEREAS,** other devastation to tribal resources, both cultural and natural, including the abundant wildlife and domestic livestock, can only be guessed at in these early days of coping with this uncontrolled threat to our land and personal safety; and
- WHEREAS,** Arizona Governor Jane Hull has made several visits to date to the Chediski Rodeo fire complex Incident Command center in Show Low, and Governor Hull and Chairman Dallas Massey have spoken about the fires and the impacts they are having on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and the White Mountain region in general; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council believes it essential to seek all available financial assistance from federal, and other government agencies, such as the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), as well as any Congressional appropriation, and all appropriate state and county assistance engineered to help recover from the expenses created through the provision of emergency services in response to the fires, including services to residents and guests of the Reservation, fire suppression activities, recovery for lost resources, and property damage.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby declares the general region of the Chediski and Rodeo fires, and all areas within the Reservation impacted from the fires, as a disaster area.

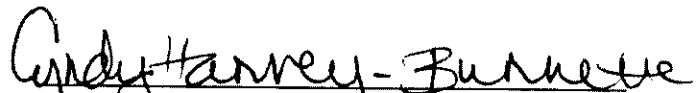
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it requests all appropriate emergency aid and other aid from Navajo County, the State of Arizona, and the United States government, in particular FEMA and HUD, and the U.S. Congress to help the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its residents recover and restore its land and property from the disastrous effects of the Chediski and Rodeo fires.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fort Apache Agency and all Tribal Departments and Enterprises to thoroughly inventory and identify all incurred and projected damages and costs resulting from their response to the Chediski and Rodeo fires and their effects on the Reservation and its residents, which includes housing needs, assistance for those who suffered uninsured losses, land and watershed restoration needs, and staff and administrative time needed to carry out the countless responsibilities involved in the fire suppression and recovery.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe thru this directs the Tribal Chairman, or in his absence the Vice-Chairman to issue declarations and execute documents necessary to carry out the purpose of this disaster declaration.

The foregoing resolution was on JUNE 24, 2002 duly adopted by a vote of TEN 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), (j), (l), (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