

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

- WHEREAS**, the USFWS is now administering the Tribal Wildlife Grants Program for the “development and implementation of programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species that are not hunted or fished”; and
- WHEREAS**, program supports “projects that develop or augment the capacity to manage, conserve, or protect fish and wildlife resources through the provision of funding and technical support” under Federal Register Notice No. RIN 1018-A158 dated July 28, 2003 with proposals accepted of up to \$250,000.00 ; and
- WHEREAS**, both bald and golden eagles are culturally significant to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for traditional and religious ceremonies and this use is provided for under the Bald and Golden Eagle Act but it takes an extended period of time for Tribal members to obtain eagles, feathers, and parts from the Federal Repository; and
- WHEREAS**, precedence has been established with the construction of an Eagle Aviary in Zuni that provides shed feathers and eagles for Tribal member use; and
- WHEREAS**, all wildlife is culturally and economically important and education is a Tribal priority; and
- WHEREAS**, the WMAT-Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation has done research into the potential for constructing an **Eagle Aviary, Raptor and Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center** and contacted the WMAT-Cultural Resources Department Director, Hon Dah Resort, Casino and Conference Center, and Dr. Ole Alcumbrac-Tribal Veterinarian for input and support; and
- WHEREAS**, this **Center** would provide benefits for wildlife, the Tribe, local communities, and the State as follows:
- 1) Provide a source for eagle feathers and parts through natural molting and shedding to help meet cultural and traditional needs for Tribal members;
 - 2) Assure that injured or sick eagles, raptors, and other animals would not have to be stressed or die because of long-distance transport to other rehabilitation centers in Phoenix or Sedona;
 - 3) Assure that injured or sick animals could get more immediate care and stay within their natural climates and habitats;
 - 4) Animals not able to be released could provide educational opportunities for local schools and groups;

Resolution No. 09-2003-212

- 5) The Center would contribute economically to the area from added tourism; and

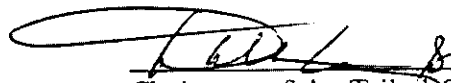
WHEREAS, other funding opportunities may become available through the Land Restoration Grant Program, private foundations, and donations, and so therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby supports the project to design, plan, develop, and construct the **“Eagle Aviary, Raptor and Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center”** in three phases:

- Phase I Design, plan, develop, construct the Eagle Aviary and Raptor Rehabilitation Facility;
- Phase II Design, plan, develop, construct expanded Wildlife Rehabilitation Facility, including holding pens, storage, and treatment areas;
- Phase III Design, plan, develop, construct the overall Education and Display Facility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that the Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation Division pursue funding under the Tribal Wildlife Grants Program for \$250,000.00 currently available for Phase I of the project and in subsequent years for the maximum allowable amount for Phase II and Phase III of the project.

The foregoing resolution was on September 9, 2003 duly adopted by a vote of NINE 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), (c), (f), (g), (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