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

- WHEREAS, section 1242 of the Food Security Act of 1985, as amended by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, Public Law 107-171 (2002 Farm Bill) provides for delivering technical assistance to agricultural producers directly or through the use of third parties, called Technical Service Providers (TSP); and
- **WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe (Tribe) has equal access to Farm Bill conservation programs, services, and available TSP assistance, including opportunities to be certified and to provide technical services as a TSP; and
- WHEREAS, the legislation provides for entering into contracts, cooperative agreements, or contribution agreements with non-Federal entities to assist in providing technical assistance necessary to develop and implement Farm Bill programs; and
- WHEREAS, contracts and cooperative agreements, through which 100 percent of the technical assistance funding is provided, is subject to competitive bidding, and contribution agreements do not require competitive bidding, but do require the Tribe to provide 50 percent of the agreement cost, which can be in-kind services; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe has worked closely with Farm Bill programs, such as planning, development, application, and implementation of Farm Bill funded projects and would benefit from a TSP agreement which assures that projects match Tribal priorities and natural resources management goals and objectives; and
- WHEREAS, the Branch of Land Operations has the capacity to provide technical services for natural resources disciplines including agriculture, range management, irrigation, soil and water conservation, flood and erosion control, wildlife and fisheries, and environmental coordination.
- **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby agrees that a contribution agreement between the Tribe and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, should be entered into.
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes entering into a contribution agreement under the provisions of the 2002 Farm Bill P.L. 107-171 and P.L. 106-387, Section 714, and the Technical Service Provider Rule (7 CFR 652).
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that

the Tribal Chairman, the Vice-Chairman in the Chairman's absence, or their designee, is hereby authorized to negotiate, modify or enter into the afore described contribution agreement.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>February 11, 2004</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>NINE</u> for and <u>ZERO</u> 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), (g), (i), (j), (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).

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Secretary of the Tribal Council