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

(Approving the Ghost Tank Pasture Brush Management Project and Authorizing Land Operations to Seek Support)

- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe desires to conserve and restore rangelands and wildlife habitat on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS, a funding opportunity is available through the Western Regional Office, Branch of Forestry for such projects; and
- WHEREAS, the Land Operations office of the White Mountain Apache Tribe seeks to utilize available funding opportunities in the accomplishment of its mission to conserve, protect and restore the resources of the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, a proposal has been presented to the White Mountain Apache Tribe by the Land Operations office to obtain approval for the Ghost Tank Pasture Brush Management Project ("Project"), such project to involve the mechanical thinning of 80 percent of stems per acre of woodland tree species within the project area (located on approximately 550 acres of the Cedar Creek Livestock Association's grazing lands), followed by implementing deferred grazing for a minimum of two growing seasons; and
- WHEREAS, this Project would improve rangelands by reducing the basal area on existing grasslands currently being encroached by woodland tree species; and
- WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes and appreciates the significance of the livestock to the Apache culture and intends to maintain and promote the existing sound management practices of the Tribe.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby:

- 1. Approves the Ghost Tank Pasture Brush Management Project; and
- 2. Authorizes the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Land Operations office to seek project funding and support from other appropriate sources to carry out the Project.

The foregoing resolution was on <u>MARCH 4, 2005</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>FIVE</u> for, <u>ZERO</u> against, and <u>TWO</u> abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (b), (f), (h), (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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Chairman of the Tribal Council

Secretary of the Tribal Council