



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

(Mexican Wolf Reintroduction-Memorandum of Understanding-Signatories)

- WHEREAS,** pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(a) and 1(s) of the Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, *inter alia*, the Tribal Council has the authority to represent the Tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribe and the USFWS have cooperated on a government to government relationship under a Statement of Relationship since 1994; and
- WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe adopted the White Mountain Apache Tribe Mexican Wolf Management Plan in 2000, and the Tribe and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the "Service") have been cooperating pursuant to an agreement to carry out the Tribe's Mexican wolf management program on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** as a result of a review of the Mexican wolf recovery program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and its cooperators have determined it advisable to redefine their relationships and responsibilities regarding the overall Mexican wolf reintroduction and recovery program; and
- WHEREAS,** a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) had been developed and in place for the past several years, with initial participation and input from Tribal resource and legal staff, that set forth a new framework for implementation of the Mexican wolf reintroduction program; and
- WHEREAS,** it has been agreed that a more current MOU would be of benefit to all of the entities with primary regulatory jurisdiction and/or management authority over Mexican wolves or those who are responsible for representing constituency interests while striving to make reintroduction compatible with current and planned human activities such as livestock grazing and hunting in Arizona and New Mexico, including tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** at present the primary regulatory agencies are the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, the U.S.D.A. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services, the U.S.D.A. Forest Service Southwestern Region, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** all of the entities who chose to participate in this MOU would be collectively designated as Signatories; and

WHEREAS, participation as a Signatory Agency will continue to provide the Tribe a greater role in regard to the Mexican wolf reintroduction program, will continue to ensure that the Tribe's views and interests are represented in all Mexican wolf reintroduction activities, and will continue to serve to strengthen the Tribe's own Mexican wolf management program; and

WHEREAS, the MOU does not supersede the Tribe's existing agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or relinquish the authorities held by the Tribe that: 1) assert the Tribe's lead decision-making authority for all wildlife management on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation, including wolf activities, 2) reaffirm that the Tribe may withdraw as a participant under the MOU at any time upon giving notice to the other signatories to the MOU, or 3) also affirms that this MOU does not commit the Tribe to the expenditure of additional Tribal funds; and

WHEREAS, Tribal staff have advised the Tribal Council that the Tribe's current Mexican wolf program has been a success and have concluded that participation as Signatory Agency will strengthen and enhance the Tribe's program and serve to protect Tribal interests; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council concurs with the recommendations of the Wildlife Outdoor Recreation Division and finds it in the best interest of the White Mountain Apache Tribe to approve the MOU for the Mexican Wolf Introduction Program.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the Memorandum of Understanding for the Mexican Wolf Introduction Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall govern.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on NOVEMBER 10, 2010 duly adopted by a vote of SIX for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Article IV, Section 1 (a), (f), (h), (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