



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

**(Authorizing Application by the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation, Inc.,
a Wholly-Owned Non-Profit Corporation of the White Mountain Apache
Tribe, for BIA Climate Adaptation Planning Grant Funds)**

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain and Cibecue Ndee (Apache) have, since time immemorial, respectfully served as the stewards, caretakers, and beneficiaries of their aboriginal territory of unparalleled beauty and encompassing desert, grassland, woodland, and forest ecosystems stretching from the Little Colorado River to the Santa Cruz River and from the Verde River to the San Francisco River; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe has, since the adoption of its founding Constitution and By-Laws in 1938, and as amended since then, exercised leadership in the preservation, conservation and sustainable use of geological, hydrological, biological, and cultural resources within and adjacent to the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its members recognize and respect the interdependence of its history and destiny with ecosystems and the services and resources these provide as the ultimate sources for its cultural, economic, and national vitality and resilience; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe has, since the 1950s, collaborated in good faith with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U.S. Forest Service, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, and other federal, state, and private entities in the development and application of innovative and effective policies, strategies and tactics for fire and fuels management in woodland and forest ecosystems and as a necessary part of its forest management policies, has adopted best management practices for the preservation of riparian and forest habitat for aquatic and other species, including management plans for Apache trout, Mexican Spotted Owl, Loach minnow and other native fishes and aquatic species; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its members have, despite conscientious land, water and resource management, suffered spiritually, culturally, and economically as a result of the Rodeo-Chediski (2001), Kinishba (2002), and Wallow (2010) wild fires and are now being confronted with the increasingly dire effects of long-term climate change (drought); and
- WHEREAS,** these catastrophic fires and the promise of future ecosystem responses to climate change have affected and are likely to continue to affect the capacities of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its lands to provide its members with the water, food, shelter, and security that are foundations for healthy individuals, families, communities, nations, and homelands; and

Resolution No. 04-2015-68

- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe and its members look to the United States, its trustee, as an essential partner and source of financial and technical assistance in overcoming challenges and seizing opportunities that climate change, drought, and ecosystem changes have presented and are will likely continue to present; and
- WHEREAS,** the White Mountain Apache Tribe chartered the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation as a non-profit organization to assist the Tribe in preserving the Fort Apache and Theodore Roosevelt School National Historic Landmark and in using that venerable collection of historic buildings and landscapes as an enterprise zone and center for the perpetuation of Ndee language and culture; and
- WHEREAS,** Fort Apache has, since its establishment through a collaboration among local Ndee leaders and the U.S. Army, operated as a crossroads and point of entry bringing new ideas, technologies, and institutions to our lands and people; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation has attracted and sustained diverse partnerships and compiled an impressive record of project and property management, of community-based education and wellness programming, and of hosting varied events relating thereto; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2015 Fort Apache Master Plan prepared by the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation calls for redevelopment and use of Fort Apache in support of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and Apache communities, incorporates use of the Fort Apache buildings and grounds as a context for expanding and enhancing tribal sovereignty in general and White Mountain Apache self-sufficiency, self-determination, self-governance, and peer recognition in particular; and
- WHEREAS,** the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Trust Services Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program (BIA) has issued a request for proposals to obtain up to \$250,000.00 to address the pressing need for *Climate Adaption Planning* for forest dependent Indian nations; and
- WHEREAS,** the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation and its board secretary and former White Mountain Apache Tribe historic preservation officer, Dr. John R. Welch, has consulted and collaborated with representatives of the Tribe's Planning Division, Forestry Department, Department of Hydrology and Water Resources, Environmental Planning Department, and Historic Preservation Office, as well as with representatives of the Jemez Tribe, the Santa Clara Tribe, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. National Park Service, and other partners to prepare a proposal responsive to the BIA request for proposals; and
- WHEREAS,** the consultations and collaborations undertaken to plan the proposed project have thus far identified pressing needs to identify and translate the best and most relevant findings and practices from archaeology, climatology, ecology, hydrology, forestry and other sciences into tools to support management decision making in and for forest dependent Indian communities; and

Resolution No. 04-2015-68

WHEREAS, the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation is a chartered organization of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and as such, is authorized by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, to submit a grant proposal directly to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to negotiate and agree to the terms and conditions of such grant; and

WHEREAS, in the course of their March 23, 2015 meeting, the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation Board of Directors approved and endorsed the submission by the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation and Dr. John R. Welch of the request to the BIA for the project provisionally entitled, "Climate Change Adaptation Assessment and Response Toolkit for Forest Dependent Indian Communities" and approved Dr. Welch's proposal to work with the White Mountain Apache Tribe and other partners to prepare and submit a proposal for *Climate Adaption Planning* to the BIA.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes and endorses the submission by the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation and Dr. John R. Welch, of the request to the BIA for up to \$250,000.00 in support of the project provisionally entitled, "Climate Change Adaptation Assessment and Response Toolkit for Forest Dependent Indian Communities."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby authorizes and endorses participation in the Climate Change Adaptation Assessment and Response Toolkit project by the White Mountain Apache Tribe's Planning Division, Forestry Department, Department of Hydrology and Water Resources, Environmental Planning Department, and Historic Preservation Office, as well as representatives of the Jemez Tribe, the Santa Clara Tribe, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. National Park Service, and other partners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby joins with the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation Board of Directors in authorizing Dr. Welch or the Executive Director of the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation to prepare and execute a contract pursuant to P.L. 93-638 to enable project administration and implementation by the Fort Apache Heritage Foundation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

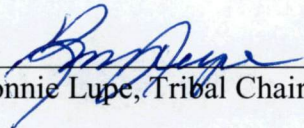
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances or Federal Laws, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

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 APRIL 13, 2015 duly adopted by a vote of TEN for, ZERO against, and ONE abstention by the Tribal Council of the

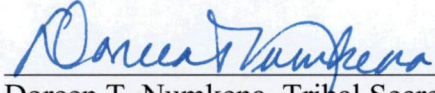
Resolution No. 04-2015-68

White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).



Ronnie Lupe, Tribal Chairman

Date

 4-20-2015

Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

Date