

WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Adopting the 2015 Wildland Management Plan)

- WHEREAS, the Fort Apache Indian Reservation contains approximately 1.68 million acres of lands within the exterior boundaries; and
- WHEREAS, much of these lands are forests, woodlands, chaparral and grasslands that are managed through the joint efforts of the White Mountain Apache Tribal and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Fort Apache Agency Forestry and Fire Management programs; and
- WHEREAS, a programmatic wildland fire management plan is needed to provide guidelines and direction to the managers and employees of these programs to assure that wildland fire management activities and policies meet Tribal goals and objectives; and
- WHEREAS, members of the White Mountain Apache Tribe general public were consulted for development of general goals and objectives for management and protection of the Reservation's natural environments; and
- WHEREAS, the natural resource managers employed by White Mountain Apache Tribe and BIA, Fort Apache Agency have worked to develop the 2015 Wildland Fire Management Plan, Final Environmental Assessment, and supporting map documents that integrate Tribal goals and objectives for multiple natural resources and traditional cultural uses; and
- WHEREAS, throughout this process the natural resource managers employed by White Mountain Apache Tribe and BIA, Fort Apache Agency; and the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council have reviewed these documents and recommended changes and additions that have been incorporated into this plan; and
- WHEREAS, the recommended management alternative, with associated policies and guidelines was preferred by the interagency interdisciplinary team, and concurred by agency managers and the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS, the 2015 Wildland Fire Management Plan and the associated Final Environmental Assessment, and supporting map documents constitute overall program direction for the succeeding ten year period; and
- WHEREAS, the Forest Management Plan 2004-2014 (as amended) and any subsequent Forest Management Plan is a complimentary companion document that also provides program direction for the succeeding ten year period.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the 2015 Wildland Fire Management Plan and the associated Final Environmental Assessment, and supporting map documents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that these plans are intended to be living documents that will be examined by both the White Mountain Apache Tribe and BIA, Fort Apache Agency from time to time, and as necessary amended through a process approved by the White Mountain Apache Tribe and BIA, Western Regional Director.

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 <u>MAY 18, 2015</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>EIGHT</u> for, <u>ZERO</u> against, and <u>ONE</u> abstention by the Tribal Council of the 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

Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

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