

A WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Approving Request for BIA to Send Pre-harvest Cruise Data and work with White Mountain Apache Tribe to Develop Harvest Protocol Prior to Removal in the Carbon Project Area)

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has a verified California Air Resources Board (ARB) carbon offset project on 89,396.5 acres covering nine Timber Management Units (Paradise, Mt Ord, Ord Creek, Beaver, Elk North, Diamond Butte, Mavrick 1, Lamedeer, and Lofer) in the eastern part of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation; and

WHEREAS, according to the Forest Management Plan there are multiple policies under 25 U.S.C. that outlines U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), responsibilities in timber management to assure productivity of timberlands and woodlands for future generations while affording the development of the resource for its current best used as determined by the White Mountain Apache Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the BIA conducts pre-harvest cruises, develops silvicultural prescriptions and harvest plans, and manages harvest removals; and

WHEREAS, the harvest removals will reduce carbon stocks and per §Appendix B.3 and §9.1.1.1 (21)) of the ARB Compliance Offset Protocol U.S. Forest Project adopted October 11, 2011, the White Mountain Apache Tribe is required to develop a harvesting protocol to update carbon stocks on an annual basis, which includes modeling forecasted removals on an annual basis, conducting pre-harvest forest inventory prior to commencement of harvesting, and document estimated volumes removed and final wood product use; and

WHEREAS, the reporting requirement in §Appendix B.3 and §9.1.1.1 (21)) of the ARB Compliance Offset Protocol U.S. Forest Project adopted October 11, 2011 requires dates of volume removed and location of harvested referenced with Geographic Information Systems (GIS); and

WHEREAS, it is essential BIA submit pre-harvest cruise data, information related to silvicultural prescriptions for any planned removal activities (i.e. thinning, prescribed burns, and timber removals) to the White Mountain Apache Tribe and hired consultants (e.g. Spatial Informatics Group) six months in advance of any activities in the carbon project area; and

WHEREAS, it is essential BIA work with the White Mountain Apache Forestry Department and Spatial Informatics Group to develop a robust harvest protocol prior to any harvests in the Project Area.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby approves the request that the BIA send any pre-harvest cruise data to Tribal Forestry Department and

Spatial Informatics Group six (6) months in advance of any removal activities in the carbon project area and work with the White Mountain Apache Tribe to develop a robust carbon project area harvesting and removal protocol prior to any harvests in the Project Area.

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 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>AUGUST 4, 2015</u> duly adopted by a vote of <u>SEVEN</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 Secreta

Date