



# WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

## **(Temporarily Closing Forests on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation)**

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**WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation (“Constitution”) provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power “To represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe”; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe is now faced with the challenges presented by the uncontrolled spread of COVID-19 and protecting the Reservation and its residents with limited resources; and

**WHEREAS,** The Council finds that temporarily closing off all entry to the forests of the Reservation, except for Tribal member firewood gathering in areas so designated by the attached map, is in the best interests of the Tribe and its members.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that, effective immediately, all forest lands on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation are hereby closed to public entry, except for the areas designated on the map (attached and incorporated herein by reference), which shall remain open to Tribal member firewood gathering.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that, pursuant to this Resolution, citations may be issued during this closure.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that Tribal Departments, Tribal employees engaged in official duties, the White Mountain Apache Timber Company, utility and telecommunications companies servicing infrastructure, contractors performing work on behalf of the Tribe, and those with third party rights of access are hereby exempted from this Resolution.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that persons found to be in violation of this closure shall be subject to Tribal and federal prosecution.

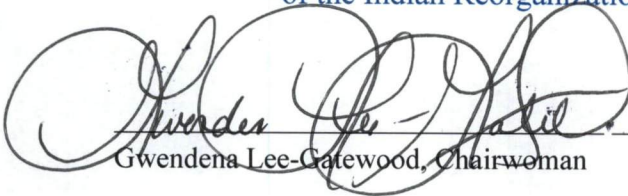
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that this closure shall remain in effect until such time that the Council acts to lift or modify it.

***Resolution No. 03-2020-65***

**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 the Chairwoman, or in her 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 **MARCH 23 , 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **NINE** for, **ZERO** against, and **ZERO** abstentions 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).

  
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman

3.25.20  
Date

  
Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary

3/25/2020  
Date