



WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE

A Sovereign Tribal Nation

(Temporarily Suspending Wood Cutting on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation)

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“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 to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to [the] constitution”; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution further provides, at Article IV, Section 1(f) that the Council shall exercise the power, “To protect and preserve the wildlife, plant life, forests, natural resources and water rights of the Tribe, and to regulate hunting and fishing on the reservation” ;and

WHEREAS, In response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Council has mandated, by resolution, the closure of the forests, which includes prohibitions on hunting, fishing, antler gathering, and ranching, the closing of the Reservation to non-member recreation, the closing of schools, the closing of public gathering places, and suspension of religious congregations; and

WHEREAS, Council has received reports of individuals trespassing into closed areas of the forest to conduct prohibited activities, such as antler gathering, under the auspices of collecting wood; and

WHEREAS, The Council now finds that suspending all wood cutting on the Reservation will make the current forest closures easier to enforce and more effective, and 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 all wood cutting on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation is hereby suspended, and shall be strictly prohibited until this regulation is modified or suspended by the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that persons found trespassing and violating this and other duly enacted regulations shall be subject to applicable penalties as provided for by Tribal and federal law.

Resolution No. 04-2020-76

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 **APRIL 2, 2020** duly adopted by a vote of **SIX** for, **FIVE** 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).

	<u>4/2/2020</u>		<u>4/2/2020</u>
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman	Date	Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary	Date