

Officers  
Governor *E. Paul Torres, Chairman*  
Governor *Arlen Quetawki, Vice Chairman*  
Governor *Terry Aguilar, Secretary*

## RESOLUTION

### ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

#### RESOLUTION NO. APCG 2014-17

#### **Support for the Protection of Cultural Resources and Sacred Sites on Public Lands in the Greater Cedar Mesa region**

**WHEREAS**, the All Pueblo Council of Governors (“APCG”) is comprised of the Pueblos of Acoma, Cochiti, Isleta, Jemez, Laguna, Nambe, Ohkay Owingeh, Picuris, Pojoaque, San Felipe, San Ildefonso, Sandia, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Santo Domingo, Taos, Tesuque, Zia and Zuni, and one pueblo in Texas, Ysleta del Sur, each having the sovereign authority to govern their own affairs;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of the All Pueblo Council of Governors is to advocate, foster, protect, and encourage the social, cultural & traditional well-being of the Pueblo Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, through their inherent & sovereign rights, the All Pueblo Council of Governors will promote the language, health, economic, and educational advancement of all Pueblo people; and

**WHEREAS**, each APCG member is a federally recognized Pueblo Nation within the United States with the sovereign right to protect its traditional cultural properties and sacred sites, whether or not they are located within each pueblo’s current exterior boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the protection of the traditional cultural properties and sacred sites of Pueblo people is paramount to each pueblo’s cultural preservation now and into the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the greater Cedar Mesa region is located in southeast Utah and includes the Montezuma Canyon, the Indian Creek Corridor and Beef Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the greater Cedar Mesa region includes hundreds of thousands of sites of vital importance to the pueblo peoples’ identity and history, including villages, shrines, burials, rock paintings and etchings, ancestral dwellings, and ancient roads; and

**WHEREAS**, these ancestral sites are under constant threat of grave digging, cultural vandalism, looting of cultural sites, indiscriminate off-road vehicle use that damages areas sacred to Pueblo peoples, energy development footprints that negatively impact lands of historic and cultural importance, and general degradation of wildlife and plant habitats of importance to traditional practices; and

**WHEREAS**, to prevent the rapid destruction of the lands in the Greater Cedar Mesa region, the Pueblos are seeking the formal and permanent protection mechanism, such as a National Conservation Area or a National Monument; and

**WHEREAS**, the APCG believes the Greater Cedar Mesa region needs to be a National Conservation Area or a National Monument because it will provide important consistency and

Acoma

Cochiti

Isleta

Jemez

Laguna

Nambe

Ohkay

Owingeh

Picuris

Pojoaque

Sandia

San

Felipe

San

Ildefonso

Santa Ana

Santa Clara

Santo

Domingo

Taos

Tesuque

Ysleta Del Sur

Zia

Zuni

quality management of these lands and define standard principles of management, establish consultation with Native Americans, and emphasize the primacy of conservation and preservation of the region's cultural and natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, through consultation and coordination with the APCG's member cultural preservation offices, or designated offices, APCG seeks to exercise administrative responsibilities to negotiate and enter into agreements with the necessary and proper entities which will ensure protection, preservation and management of these sacred ancestral sites and regions for the Pueblo people and its members; and

**WHEREAS**, while the APCG recognizes the important role of other tribes and groups in advocating for protection of the area, APCG's support of a designation for the greater Cedar Mesa area should not be perceived as support for any specific proposal for the area. Discussion of many details of management and boundaries are ongoing and the APCG intends to have an active voice in those discussions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the All Pueblo Council of Governors supports the permanent, long-term protection of cultural resources and sacred sites on public lands in the Greater Cedar Mesa region through designation such as a National Conservation Area or a National Monument.

#### CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned officials of the All Pueblo Council of Governors hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. APCG 2014-17 was considered and adopted at a duly called council meeting held on the 19th day of November 2014, and at which time a quorum was present and the same was approved by a vote of 12 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain, and 8 absent.

#### ALL PUEBLO COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

By:   
Governor E. Paul Torres, APCG Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Governor Terry Aguilar, APCG Secretary