Key Findings from a Survey of Arizona Voters
August 2018

Lori Weigel  Dave Metz
Methodology

- A statewide telephone survey conducted among 600 registered voters throughout Arizona on both landline and cell phones.
- Survey conducted August 8-13, 2018.
- Statistically valid sample with margin of sampling error ±4.0 at the 95% confidence interval for the total sample; margins of error for sub-groups will vary.
- Bipartisan research team of FM3 (Democratic) and Public Opinion Strategies (Republican).
Grand Canyon National Park
Majority say more needs to be done to protect air, land, and water around the Grand Canyon National Park.

**Grand Canyon National Park Protections**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More needs to be done to protect the air, land and water around the Grand Canyon</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough is being done to protect the air, land and water around the Grand Canyon</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much is being done to protect the air, land and water around the Grand Canyon?</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thinking about the land, air, and water around Grand Canyon National Park... Would you say that –
There has been a consistent increase in the number of Arizonans saying more needs to be done around the Park.

**Grand Canyon National Park Protections – Trend**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>June 2009</th>
<th>January 2016</th>
<th>August 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More needs to be done…</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enough is being done…</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too much is being done…</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thinking about the land, air, and water around Grand Canyon National Park... Would you say that –
One-third now report seeing something regarding uranium mining on public lands near Grand Canyon NP.

**Seen/Read/Heard about Uranium Mining – Trend**

- **2009**
  - Total A Lot/Some: 6%
  - Total Not Much/Nothing: 53%
  - A Lot: 21%
  - Nothing: 79%

- **2016**
  - Total A Lot/Some: 10%
  - Total Not Much/Nothing: 40%
  - A Lot: 27%
  - Nothing: 72%

- **2018**
  - Total A Lot/Some: 9%
  - Total Not Much/Nothing: 34%
  - A Lot: 33%
  - Nothing: 66%

*How much have you seen, read, or heard about uranium mining in national forests and other public lands around Grand Canyon National Park?*
Almost two-thirds support continuing the ban on uranium mining on public lands near the National Park.

Would you support or oppose continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands near to Grand Canyon National Park?

- Total Support: 63%
  - Strongly: 45%
  - Strongly: +32%
- Total Oppose: 31%
  - Strongly: 16%

Support for Continuing Existing Ban on New Uranium Mining
Majorities of voters across the political spectrum support continuing the ban on new mining.

Support for Continuing Existing Ban on New Uranium Mining – By Party

Would you support or oppose continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands next to Grand Canyon National Park?

Republicans
- Total Support: 56%
- Total Oppose: 37%
- 29% Str.
- 13% Str.

Independents
- Total Support: 67%
- Total Oppose: 27%
- 47% Str.
- 11% Str.

Democrats
- Total Support: 69%
- Total Oppose: 28%
- 60% Str.
- 21% Str.
Support for the ban on public lands near the Grand Canyon is evident in every type of community.

**Support for Continuing Existing Ban on New Uranium Mining – By Geography**

Would you support or oppose continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands next to Grand Canyon National Park?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Total Support</th>
<th>Total Oppose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburbs</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Town/ Rural</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

+39%  +28%  +29%
Even those who say mining is more important to the future of Arizona support the ban on mining near the Park.

*Support for Continuing Existing Ban on New Uranium Mining – By Importance to AZ Economy*

Would you support or oppose continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands next to Grand Canyon National Park?

- **Recreation Important for Future**
  - Total Support: 66%
  - Strongly: 48%
  - Total Oppose: 28%
  - Strongly: 15%

- **Mining Important for Future**
  - Total Support: 57%
  - Strongly: 37%
  - Total Oppose: 40%
  - Strongly: 17%

**+38%**  
**+17%**
Support for continuing the mining ban increases once respondents hear neutral background on why it came to be.

**Support for Existing Ban on New Uranium Mining – Detailed**

As you may know, a temporary, twenty-year halt to new uranium mining was put in place on public lands located next to Grand Canyon National Park in order to study the impacts of previous uranium mining and evaluate the effect of new mines on drinking water, springs, and streams. Knowing that, would you support or oppose continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands next to Grand Canyon National Park?

**Initial**
- Total Support: 63%
- Total Oppose: 31%
  - Strongly: 45%
  - Strongly: 16%

**Informed**
- Total Support: 73%
- Total Oppose: 24%
  - Strongly: 54%
  - Strongly: 12%

**+32%**

**+49%**
Almost half of voters say they would have a more favorable opinion of an elected official who supports continuing the ban.

Opinion of Elected Official Supporting the Existing Ban

- More Favorable: 48%
- Less Favorable: 13%
- No Difference: 36%

If an elected official supported continuing the existing ban on new uranium mining on public lands next to Grand Canyon National Park, would you have a more favorable opinion, less favorable opinion or would it not make much difference in your opinion of him or her?
By greater than a two-to-one margin, state voters side with continuing the existing ban over critics of the policy.

View Point Closer to Your Own

Supporters of continuing the existing ban on new uranium mines say that dozens of these mines could be developed near the Grand Canyon, affecting the six million people who visit each year, contributing over nine hundred million dollars to our economy and supporting nine thousand jobs. Additionally, leaks from the mines could threaten drinking water for local communities, as well as harming fish and wildlife.

Opponents of continuing the existing ban on new uranium mines say that domestically mined uranium is critical to our national security, economic growth and generating electricity from nuclear power. Locking up millions of acres of public lands from mining will stifle job creation, decimate local economies and endanger national security.

Let me read you two viewpoints about this and please indicate which point of view comes closer to your own, even if neither matches what you think exactly.
Voters have a personal connection to the Grand Canyon; almost all say that they have visited Grand Canyon National Park in the past.

90% Have Visited Grand Canyon National Park

Have you EVER visited Grand Canyon National Park?
In just the last year, most say they have visited either a national park or public lands.

% Yes, Have Visited in the Last Twelve Months

56%  A National Park
61%  Other national public lands, such as National Forests, wildlife refuges, or Bureau of Land Management lands

In the last twelve months, so since August 2017, have you visited any of the following?
Consistently, Arizona voters want to place conservation & recreation on national public lands over energy production.

*More emphasis should be placed on…*

<table>
<thead>
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<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring we protect sources of clean water, our air quality and wildlife habitat while providing opportunities to visit and recreate on our national public lands</td>
<td>73% 71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring we produce more domestic energy by maximizing the amount of national public lands available for responsible oil and gas drilling and mining</td>
<td>18% 22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And when you think about national public lands in Arizona such as National Forests, wildlife refuges, or Bureau of Land Management lands would you prefer the Trump administration place more emphasis on…
Support for protecting these lands may lie in the fact that almost all Arizonans see them as critical to economy.

“Protecting public lands, water and wildlife in Arizona is critical to keeping the state's economy strong.”

86%

65% Strongly

12% Total Agree

“Keeping our public lands and waters healthy both benefits our economy and quality of life here in Arizona.”

96%

79% Strongly

4% Total Disagree
In fact, almost three-quarters of voters believe outdoor recreation is more important to the future of the Arizona economy than is mining.

*Importance to the Future of the Economy in Arizona*

Outdoor recreation and visitors to national parks and other public lands: 73%

Mining of uranium and other minerals: 21%

*If you had to choose, which one do you think is more important to the future of the economy here in Arizona?*
Voters support continuing the existing ban on uranium mining, including after an exchange of pro and con statements on this policy.

More broadly, the survey recorded the strongest sense since 2009 that "more needs to be done" to conserve lands and waters around the Grand Canyon.

There is an overwhelming view that outdoor recreation and tourism is more important to the economic future of Arizona than is mining. In fact, voters almost universally believe that keeping lands and water healthy in the state is critical both to the economy and to quality of life.
Questions?
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