



City of Phoenix

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

June 16, 2023

Secretary Debra Haaland
U.S. Department of the Interior
1100 Ohio Dr. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Secretary Haaland,

As the Grand Canyon and surrounding lands face significant environmental threats that will impact lands Arizona tribal nations hold sacred, we request that President Biden use his authorities under the Antiquities Act to designate the watershed lands around Grand Canyon National Park as the Baaj Nwaanjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument.

As one of the most visited national parks in the world, the Grand Canyon and its 1,102,501 acres of federally protected land deserve the strongest protections possible. Designation of the Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument would protect the Grand Canyon and surrounding watershed lands from current threats of uranium mining, logging, and other resource-extractive industries.

The Grand Canyon area has also held cultural and spiritual significance for eleven North American Indigenous tribes: the Havasupai Tribe, the Hopi Tribe, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, the Las Vegas Band of Paiute Indians, the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians, the Navajo Nation, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, the San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe, the Pueblo of Zuni, and the Yavapai-Apache Nation. All of these tribes have ancient ties to the Grand Canyon and the lands and waters around it.

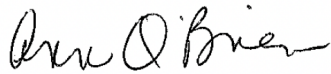
The Grand Canyon is also a significant economic driver in the state of Arizona and the greater Southwest as an estimated 5.9 million people from around the world visit the National Park each year.

The City of Phoenix, Arizona supports the efforts of the Grand Canyon Tribal Coalition and their national campaign to designate it as the Baaj Nwaanjo I'tah Kukveni Grand Canyon National Monument.

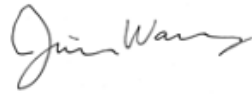
Sincerely,

Mayor Kate Gallego
City of Phoenix

Laura Pastor
City of Phoenix Councilmember — District 4



Ann O'Brien
City of Phoenix Councilmember — District 1



Jim Waring
City of Phoenix Councilmember — District 2



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Vice Mayor Yassamin Ansari
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