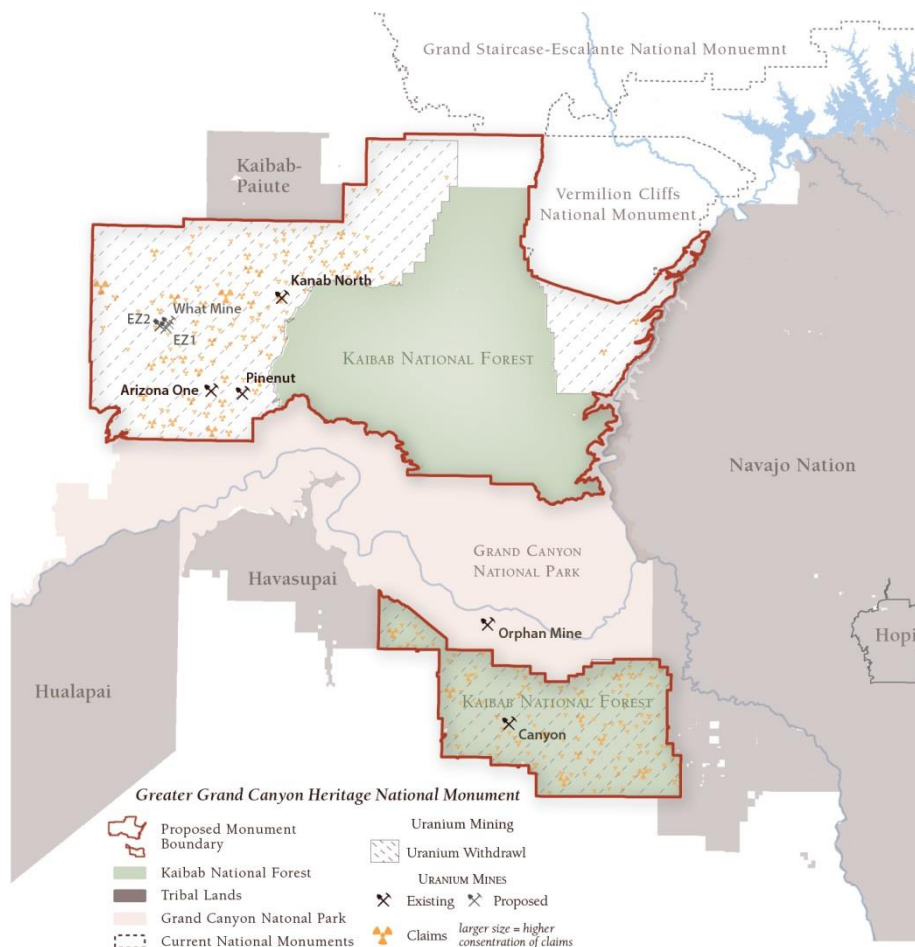




## Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument Summary

On October 12, Arizona Congressman Raúl Grijalva introduced the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument Act. The bill aims to preserve and restore the Grand Canyon's heritage of sacred lands and ecosystems on approximately 1.7 million acres of public lands that are integral to Grand Canyon National Park.



The Act was a collaborative effort that sought input from Havasupai, Hualapai, Hopi, Navajo, Zuni, Paiute, and Yavapai leaders. It emphasizes the importance of protecting their historical homeland, water sources, and sacred places contained within it. It also provides specific language—and serves as a platform—for a presidential proclamation under the Antiquities Act to preserve the Grand Canyon's rich heritage of “biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, and scientific values.”



THE PURPOSES of the heritage national monument are “to preserve, and if necessary, restore,”

- native, cultural, sacred lands and key tribal resources,
- nationally significant biological, ecological, cultural, scientific and other values found in the Grand Canyon, including, above ground tributaries, springs and interconnected groundwater, and
- secure now and for future generations the opportunity to experience and enjoy the diverse tribal resources, landscape, wildlife, water flows and recreational use of the lands included in the national monument.

The Act states that the entire Grand Canyon includes:

- Tribal sacred sites, artifacts, ancient trails, burial sites, and other cultural resources. These are significant to Grand Canyon-associated tribes, who should play an integral role in its management. As the Grand Canyon’s first stewards, native people have obligations to care for the land. Their accumulated body of traditional ecological knowledge can contribute to its sustainable and holistic management. The Grand Canyon’s surface tributaries and interconnected groundwater are the sources of tribal sacred waters.
- Biological, cultural, recreational, geological, educational, and scientific values, which are integral to Grand Canyon National Park. Its waters contribute to the flow of the Colorado River and are a source of drinking water for millions of American citizens. It is home to native game species and rare, threatened, and endangered species. Its wild and rugged landscape is enjoyed by hunters and other recreationists whose activities are the “primary driver of sustainable economic development in local communities.”

The Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument **would:**

- Make permanent the 20-year ban on new mining claims that the Secretary of the Interior ordered in 2012 to protect the Grand Canyon’s unique ecological, cultural, and recreational values.



- Require federal land managers to complete the new monument's management plan within three years. This would be an open, public process as set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act. It would include a more collaborative working relationship with tribes and consultation other governmental agencies and the general public.
- Direct the Interior and Agriculture secretaries to establish an Advisory Council "to oversee and collaborate on the management of tribal sites, artifacts, ancient trails, burial sites, and resources." The council would include two representatives from each of the eleven associated tribes, as well as seats for the Arizona Game and Fish Department, an anthropologist, a scientist, and representatives from the sportsman and environmental communities.

The Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument will continue to be managed under existing laws, consistent with the monument's purposes. The monument proclamation **would not**:

- Affect existing and historical uses, including water rights;
- Close mines or claims with valid existing rights; or
- Change rules on hunting, grazing, logging, recreation, private and state inholdings, leases, or commercial uses.