

 **COCONINO**
COUNTY ARIZONA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Art Babbott
District 1

March 27, 2020

Elizabeth C. Archuleta
District 2

Mary Risser
Acting Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park
Flagstaff, AZ

Via email: Mary.Risser@nps.gov

Matt Ryan
District 3

Acting Superintendent Risser –

Jim Parks
District 4

On behalf of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors and the County Health and Human Services Department, we are writing with extreme concern for any decision to keep the Grand Canyon National Park open in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our County Health and Human Services department is advising all residents and tourists to practice social distancing and implement appropriate public health measures to help contain and mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. We encourage our federal partners to model that same behavior for the public health of all in the county.

Lena Fowler
District 5

Social distancing measures are essential components of the public health response to pandemics. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, closures aimed to reduce the spread of infection have been proven to be extremely effective. Nonpharmaceutical interventions, such as social distancing, are heavily relied on by health authorities to slow disease transmission in the community.

Thank you for considering this request. The public safety and welfare for the people of Coconino County and our guests to the national monuments is paramount. We are happy to answer any questions and to provide the support needed to communicate of the importance of this action.

Respectfully,



ELIZABETH C. "LIZ" ARCHULETA
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Coconino County, Arizona



Thomas D. Pristow, MSW, ACSW
Director and Chief Health Officer
CCHHS