



City of Flagstaff

May 6, 2016

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Establishment of Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument

Dear President Obama:

As a member of the Flagstaff City Council, and a resident of northern Arizona who cares deeply about public lands and their protection, I respectfully request that you establish the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument to protect 1.7 million acres of public lands surrounding Grand Canyon National Park before you leave office. The environmental, cultural, historic and recreational importance of these lands cannot be overstated.

Outside Grand Canyon National Park, there are significant threats to the public lands, including uranium mining. I am grateful that your administration established a temporary mineral withdrawal, which has given protection to some of the lands as they provide habitat and key wildlife corridors for large mammals and for imperiled species such as the California condor. A national monument will give permanent protection to a great deal of the watershed.

As a professional with a background in economics and marketing, I understand how heavily dependent the Flagstaff economy is on tourism. Headwaters Economics found that the local economies around the 17 national monuments it studied, including those in Arizona, grew after the creation of each new national monument. Protecting the lands that surround the Grand Canyon will protect our tourism-based economy as well.

These national forest and Bureau of Land Management lands are valued highly by indigenous people in the region and the proposed national monument is supported by representatives from the Navajo Nation and from the Hopi, Havasupai, and Hualapai tribes, as well as the Intertribal Association of Arizona. I join them and the 80 percent of Arizona voters in support of this proposed national monument. I hope you will too.

Please consider signing a proclamation that will create the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument, and make this part of your legacy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eva Putzova, Flagstaff City Councilmember

211 West Aspen Avenue, Flagstaff, Arizona 86001

Main (928) 213-2000 • Arizona Relay Service 7-1-1 • www.flagstaffaz.gov

The opinions and statements written above do not necessarily represent the position of the Flagstaff City Council.