

COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

Colorado River Indian Reservation

26600 MOHAVE ROAD PARKER, ARIZONA 85344 TELEPHONE (928) 669-9211 FAX (928) 669-1216

February 12, 2021

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee 1511 Longworth House Office Washington, DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Grijalva:

On behalf of the Colorado River Indian Tribes, I write to thank you for reintroducing the Grand Canyon Protection Act in the 117th Congress.

For thousands of years, the indigenous people of the State of Arizona have relied upon the Colorado River. Today this river is more important than ever to the Colorado River Indian Tribes; its water is the basis of our agricultural economy and our cultural heritage. The Grand Canyon Centennial Protection Act will ensure that this water remains clean, wholesome, and abundant for the years to come.

Without dramatic action, the Grand Canyon region, and the Colorado River that runs through it, will continue to be among the most ecologically distressed regions in our country. The tragic wildfires and prolonged drought are only two of the many pernicious effects that climate change is having on our region. This ambitious legislation will mitigate the impacts of these disasters on our communities and help us become healthier and more resilient in the years to come.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued leadership, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

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Amelia Flores Chairwoman