



**QUECHAN INDIAN TRIBE**  
*Ft. Yuma Indian Reservation*  
**Office of Tribal Administration**

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Friday, July 26, 2024

Raul M. Grijalva, Congressman  
1203 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Grijalva,

As a spokesperson for the Quechan Nation, I am delighted to hear of the progress of your proposed legislation to establish the Great Bend of the Gila National Monument. Please, accept this letter as our Tribal affirmation of support for this honorable endeavor.

The cultural significance is echoed in the following excerpts from a couple of our esteemed Elders.

"The Great Bend represents our lives past and present. It stands a living library and monument still in existence. It contains sites that are in danger of destruction unless priority is given to preservation of the area for future generations." - Gloria L. McGee, Ft. Yuma Tribal Council Member

"The Great Bend of the Gila River is of monumental significance to our culture. It represents a multi-cultural living museum . . . the historic past and present that make up our existence and who we are as Quechan people." – Manfred Scott, Quechan Cultural Committee Chairman

Please, continue to keep the Quechan Nation abreast of any changes in the pursuit of completing this culturally significant legislative proposal. Our Historic Preservation Officer Frank L. Reece can be reached via electronic mail at [historicpreservation@quechantribe.com](mailto:historicpreservation@quechantribe.com); and (760) 919-3631 office (928) 919-0240 cellular. Mr. Reece works in direct collaboration with Mr. Manfred Scott, our Cultural Committee Chairman.

Thank you for your commitment to the protection of Indigenous lands and cultures.

Kind regards,

  
Jordan D. Joaquin  
Tribal President  
Quechan Indian Tribe