

September 15, 2016

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to respectfully request that you establish the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument to protect 1.7 million acres of public lands surrounding the Grand Canyon National Park before you leave office.

We join in the call to protect desert grasslands, lush coniferous forests, towering cliffs, deeply cut tributary canyons, and many springs that flow into the Colorado Rivers—all of which form the Grand Canyon Watershed.

The creation of a national monument for the Grand Canyon Watershed is supported by representatives from the Hopi, Havasupai, and Hualapai tribes, the Navajo Nation, our immediate neighbors—the Salt River Pima Indian Community—as well as the Intertribal Association of Arizona. In addition, a recent poll indicated that over 80 percent of Arizona voters support the permanent protection of the Grand Canyon's watershed.

Protecting this region as a national monument would not only preserve the region's ancient forests, protect corridors for migratory wildlife, and preserve thousands of cultural sites, it would also support clean drinking water, cultural heritage, and recreation.

We, the Tempe City Council, urge you to sign a proclamation that will create the Greater Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument and make this national monument part of your legacy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,