

July 28, 2015

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

Dear President Obama:

As former Arizona Game and Fish Commissioners, we fully understand how important protection of habitat and our public lands is to ensuring that there are healthy populations of wildlife throughout Arizona and that there is an opportunity for many of us and our fellow Arizonans to enjoy the array of recreational opportunities they provide, including hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing. That is why we support the creation of the Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument.

Protecting the national forests and Bureau of Land Management lands around Grand Canyon National Park will help limit fragmentation of this important wildlife habitat. Part of the monument proposal includes protection of the Kaibab-Paunsagunt Wildlife Corridor which allows for migration of mule deer from the higher elevations in Utah to the lower elevations in Arizona. The North Kaibab is known as a premiere wildlife area for hunters and non-hunters alike.

A Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument will also ensure that these lands continue to be protected from harmful uranium mining and old growth logging, helping to secure the future of species such as the northern goshawk and the Kaibab squirrel. We understand that the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management will continue to manage the lands, but will prioritize restoring and conserving wildlife habitat and corridors, and that the Arizona Game and Fish Department will continue the primary role relative to wildlife management.

We ask that you further President Theodore Roosevelt's legacy of permanently conserving lands around Grand Canyon, by protecting old growth forests, keeping uranium mining from contaminating the waters of the region, and protecting those critical wildlife corridors both north and south of Grand Canyon.

Together, we can ensure that future generations are able to enjoy the amazing outdoor experience in Grand Canyon's watershed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Hernbrode  
Jennifer Martin  
Linn Montgomery  
Tom Woods  
Beth Woodin