



Say No to this State Budget and Yes to Protecting Grand Canyon



June 4, 2021

Hi everyone!

The Arizona Legislature was not in session this week, but it looks like the House will be back on Monday to consider the budget. It is unlikely they have the votes, which is good, as it is a stinker of a budget. I am not sure what their path forward is. The Senate will not be back until June 10th. Sierra Club is opposed to the budget as is as it includes the irresponsible appropriations related to unsustainable water projects, funding for border wall, and a flat tax that will hurt all of our communities, among other problematic issues. If you have not already,

please consider calling your House members and asking them to oppose the budget as proposed. You can find their phone numbers [here](#).

Also, this week, we ask that you take action to help protect Grand Canyon from toxic uranium mining. Rep. Raúl Grijalva introduced the Grand Canyon Protection Act, which passed out of the U.S. House of Representatives as part of H.R. 803, the Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act earlier this year. Senator Kyrsten Sinema and Senator Mark Kelly have introduced a similar bill in the Senate as S.387, but now we need to get a hearing on it and we need Senators Kelly and Sinema to request one.

While the depths of Grand Canyon are protected as a national park, outside those borders, various activities threaten this special place. Not the least among them is uranium mining, which can and has polluted the lands and waters of Grand Canyon and currently threatens waters, wildlife, and culturally significant areas on public lands outside the park. That is why the Havasupai Tribe has fought for decades to stop additional mining on lands surrounding the Canyon

In 2012, with strong support from hundreds of thousands of people across the U.S., including Tribal nations, then Secretary of the Interior Salazar issued a 20-year ban on new uranium claims on more than a million acres of public lands adjacent to the Grand Canyon. Now, we have a chance to make this mining ban permanent by supporting the Grand Canyon Protection Act to permanently protect one million acres of public lands from toxic uranium mining.

The Grand Canyon Protection Act will help break the cycle of environmental injustices that have been borne by Grand Canyon's Tribal populations for way too long.

[Please ask our Senators to create a legacy of protecting Grand Canyon](#) and the public lands that surround it. In the space where you can add a personal comment, please ask them to request a hearing on S.387 now!

Use the button below to take action.

Protect Grand Canyon!

[You can see bills we are tracking here.](#)

If you don't know who your legislators are, just use this [Find My Legislator link](#) and enter your address to find your district, then go to [Members](#) to see who represents your district. You will find their phone numbers and email addresses there as well.

If you are not receiving these updates directly, you can sign up for them [here](#).

Thank you for taking action to protect Grand Canyon and more!



Sandy Bahr
Chapter Director
Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter



Coming Up This Week at the Arizona Legislature

The House will meet on Monday to address the budget bills. The Senate is adjourned until June 10th. To watch Monday's floor action, use [this link](#).



Sonoran Desert Tortoise

