

United Tribes of Michigan

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Frank Ettawageshik, Executive Director

RESOLUTION #045 10-26-2016

United Tribes of Michigan Support for Designation of Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument

WHEREAS, the membership of United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) is open to all of the twelve federally recognized tribes located in Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides a forum for the Tribes in Michigan to address issues of common concern and is committed to join forces to advance, protect, preserve and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign Indian Tribes of Michigan throughout the next seven generations; and

WHEREAS, UTM accepts the mission to engage, as a matter of mutual concern, issues that impact the health, security, safety, and general welfare of Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Canyon is a location of significance to the Native People of the Southwest with numerous locations of religious and cultural importance within the area designated as Grand Canyon National Park and on the Federal lands surrounding the Park; and

WHEREAS, the springs and seeps that provide the water for life in the Canyon for Native People and for the plants and animals on which they depend must be protected from depletion and from contamination and are at risk; and

WHEREAS, the ancient trails that are traveled to reach each other are throughout the Canyons, between the springs and across the Plateau and are at risk; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation recognizes the importance of these lands to the Native People affiliated with the Grand Canyon Region and provides an advisory role for the Tribes and Nations regarding management of the National Monument so that they may inform the land management agencies about impacts from proposed actions; and

WHEREAS, mining and in particular the expansion of uranium mining around the Grand Canyon poses the greatest threat to the sacred springs and seeps and to the continued use of these lands for religious, cultural and traditional purposes; and

WHEREAS, the designation of the Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument will ban new uranium mining claims within the Monument.

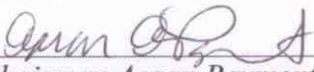
United Tribes of Michigan, Resolution # **045 10-26-2016**
Support Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument Designation

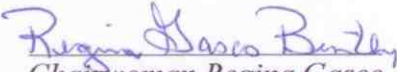
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of Michigan supports the passage of legislation to create the Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, alternatively, the UTM also supports a Presidential Proclamation establishing the Grand Canyon Heritage National Monument under the authority of the Antiquities Act; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of UTM until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

Adopted by a vote of 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstaining, at a meeting of the United Tribes of Michigan held on 10-26-2016.


Chairman Aaron Payment
UTM President


Chairwoman Regina Gasco Bentley
UTM Secretary