



Yesterday, the Western Caucus led by Congressman Gosar from Arizona, submitted a letter to the President and Secretary Zinke asking for a review and cancellation of mineral withdrawals made in the last administration. The 20-year mineral withdrawal at the Grand Canyon was specifically identified in this letter. This is exactly the kind of thing we feared and the reason we've been working hard to get the real facts out. It would be a terrible mistake to remove this withdrawal; simply put the risks far outweighs the benefits.

As AWF members know, the economics don't support additional uranium mining and the contamination risks to water and wildlife in the area are just too great. These mines have limited economic benefit and continue to cost U.S. taxpayers billions of dollars in clean-up costs. They are virtually all controlled by foreign entities. Perhaps most importantly, the combination of lax monitoring requirements and the complex geology and network of seeps and springs near the Grand Canyon means the water and habitat that our wildlife depends on is at serious risk of contamination.

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke strongly supported a 20-year mineral withdrawal in his home state of Montana to protect Yellowstone National Park from gold mining proposed by a Canadian company and says he believes that "Some areas are too precious to mine." The Grand Canyon area – an iconic natural treasure – is one of those places.

TAKE ACTION NOW -Tell Secretary Zinke to keep uranium mining out of the Grand Canyon!

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