

SPRING/SUMMER 2018

GRAND CANYON TRUST COLORADO PLATEAU

# Advocate

THE  
HOPE  
ISSUE

BIKING  
THE  
COLORADO  
PLATEAU

PLUS

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Turning the Page on the Grand Canyon Tram

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In Court: The Fight for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase



LETTER from the Executive Director

ETHAN AUMACK

Twenty years ago I nervously walked through the front doors of the Grand Canyon Trust and offered my services. Trust staff patiently heard me out, appraised my résumé (a bachelor's degree in biology, and a whopping two years of restoration fieldwork under my belt), and offered me a position commensurate with my experience: Volunteer. I swallowed hard and accepted the illustrious appointment. I never looked back because I had then, as I have even more so now, a deep and abiding love for this place, my home, the Colorado Plateau. The Trust remains the only place I could imagine working to effectively channel my passion for protecting the plateau.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to assume the responsibilities of executive director during such critical times. I do so knowing that we have a staff, a board of trustees, and partners who are passionate, visionary, and willing to work double shifts to get the job done. Never before has the importance of the Trust's work been as great as it is now. We are facing a level of dysfunction and hostility toward public lands and conservation within the state houses of Arizona and Utah, and in Washington D.C., that is simply unprecedented. **Without a strong and organized defense of our public lands, we stand to lose more over the next three years than we have over the last three decades.** The Trust stands ready to defend the plateau—its parks, national monuments, wilderness areas, and the vast and wondrous landscapes in between—on the ground, in the halls of Congress, and, if need be, in the courts.

As vital as our defensive work is, however, the Trust has always done more than fend off losses. We strive toward a more hopeful future, one in which love for place, collaboration within and among communities, and reciprocity are all hallmarks of our existence on the Colorado Plateau. To realize this future, we continue to build conservation partnerships in Arizona and Utah, and within Native America and beyond, to restore landscapes, build sustainable economies, and celebrate the wildness and diversity of this place we cherish.

I've been asked too many times to count over the last year whether I feel despair in my work. My answer is always no. What I feel, and what we feel at the Grand Canyon Trust, is a sense of urgency, **a sense of hope, and of confidence that those standing together in defense of and service to the Colorado Plateau will win the day.** As they were 20 years ago for me, our doors are always open to you as we persevere, aspire, and move forward, together.

With gratitude,

Ethan Aumack

ON THE COVER

Brooke Larsen coasts downhill on Highway 191 toward Bluff, Utah as part of her 54-day bike tour across the Colorado Plateau. Read her story on page 12. PARKER FEIERBACH

EDITOR'S NOTE

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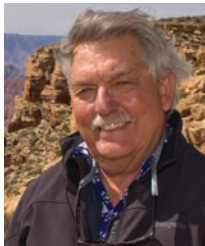


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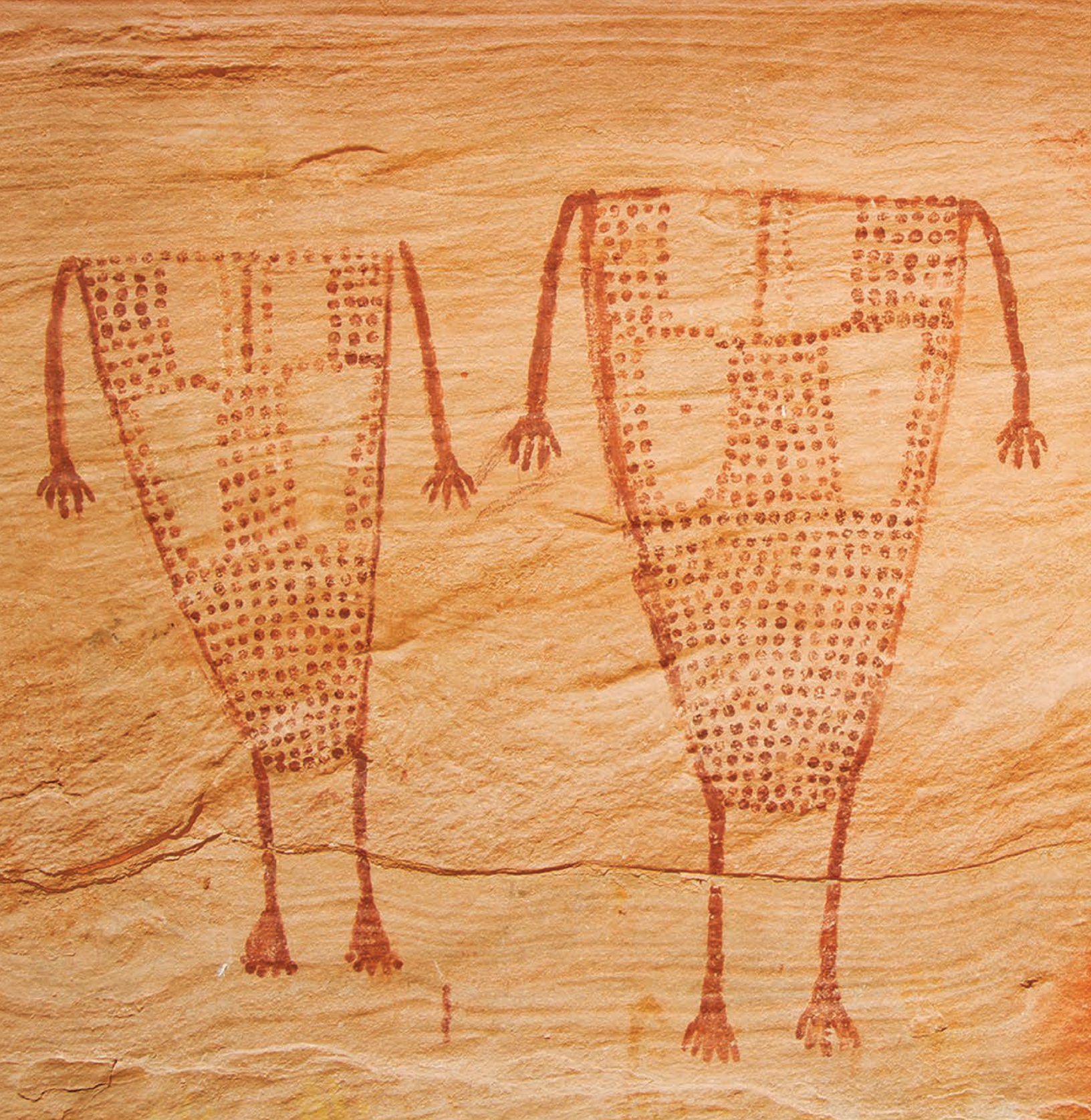
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# WRITTEN IN



Western Cedar Mesa pictograph. JONATHAN BAILEY

# STONE



## The Fight for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase

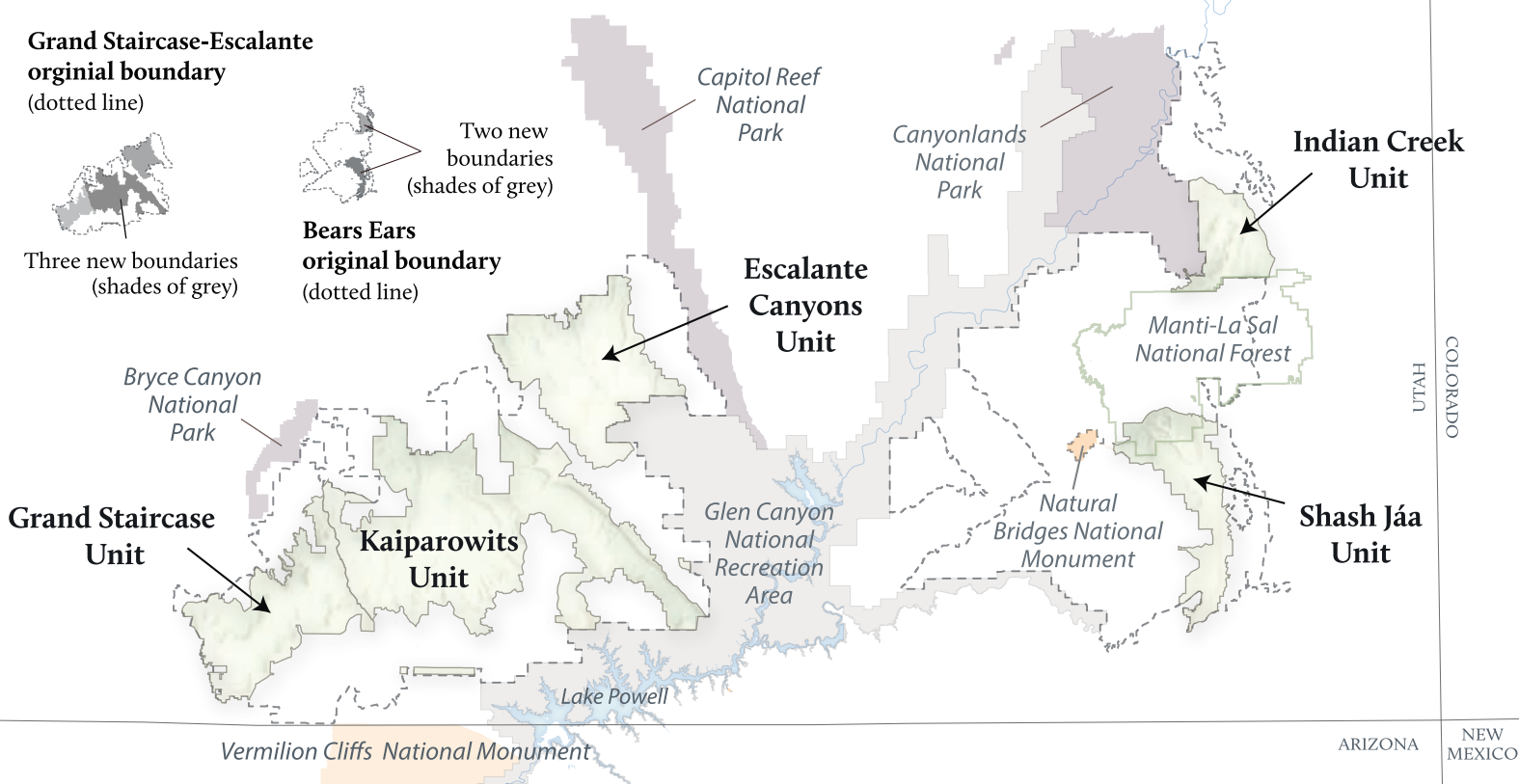
By Tim Peterson

This winter marked tough times for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments, but time is relative here.

Bears Ears holds a record of more than 13,000 years of human history, from the hunters of the last mammoths to roam the Colorado Plateau to the present day. Time in Grand Staircase is deeper still. The monument is a treasure trove of geology and dinosaur fossils. More than two dozen new species of dinosaur have been discovered here since the monument's 1996 designation, and 2017 witnessed the unearthing of the most complete juvenile tyrannosaur skeleton ever recovered.

Grand Staircase is a volume in the encyclopedia of Mother Earth, her bones laid bare for all to see in her stunning rock formations, and she has so much more to teach us about the ancient climate and the creatures that lived and died before humans.

Bears Ears is a place that teaches humans patience, and it always has been. From lying in wait for the precise moment to strike just behind a mammoth's shoulder, to waiting for fickle rains to grow fields of corn, squash, and beans, to working some 80 years to see a cultural landscape protected under the laws of modern America, Bears Ears is still teaching and testing our patience.



**President Trump launched the most devastating attack on protected public lands in American history, removing some 2 million acres from national monument protections.**

Late last year, President Trump touched down in Salt Lake City for a three-hour tour. There, he delivered remarks loaded with “alternative facts” about national monuments before signing proclamations attempting to reduce Bears Ears by 85 percent and Grand Staircase-Escalante by roughly half, shattering the two monuments into five smaller pieces. He did so at the urging of some Utah politicians who are far more interested in returning to a bygone era of boom and bust mining and drilling, silencing the voices of Native Americans, and scoring political points than preserving the timeless legacy of America. The five tribes of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition immediately filed suit challenging the president’s actions, followed by conservation, stewardship, and outdoor business interests.

Showing profound disrespect for indigenous people, Trump’s proclamation for Bears Ears attempted to reduce the scope of Native American collaborative management to only one of the two broken monument units. He renamed

the unit “Shash Jáa,” the Navajo words for Bears Ears, dishonoring the historic intertribal partnership among the Hopi, Navajo, Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Zuni nations that advocated for the monument’s creation.

That day in Salt Lake City, President Trump launched the most devastating attack on protected public lands in American history, removing some 2 million acres from national monument protections. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke has claimed since that “there isn’t one square inch of Bears Ears that was removed from any federal protection.” But that simply isn’t true.

National monuments are managed to prioritize the protection of important historical and cultural sites, geology, and fossils above all other resource uses so as to keep them unimpaired by consumptive activities like mining, drilling, and logging. Absent intervention by the courts, when national monument status is removed, the lands revert to the status they held before designation, and the protective tent that prioritizes protection of the monument’s riches is taken down, leaving the land vulnerable to damage from destructive uses. When Trump removed 2 million acres from national monument status that day, he tore away at the overarching reasons for which the monuments were designated.

President Trump has said about bronze Confederate monuments that he’s “sad to see the history and culture of our great country being ripped apart.” But his attempts to eviscerate national monuments do more than that—he’s trying to tear apart not just our history, but our prehistory as well.

In signing his proclamations, President Trump attempted to use authority that he does not possess under the law. The Antiquities Act of 1906 gives presidents one-way authority to create, but not to shrink or eliminate national monuments.

National monuments have been shrunk before, but most often they were altered to correct mistakes made by early mapmakers. Other monuments were cut dramatically, like Mount Olympus National Monument in Washington state, but only because there was an urgent national need for timber during World War I. Mount Olympus was later expanded and re-designated Olympic National Park after the war.

Until Trump late last year, no president had reduced a national monument since 1963. In the interim, Congress passed the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, in which Congress expressly reserved the power to modify or revoke withdrawals for national monuments. Previous reductions were not challenged in the courts, and no president had acted to reduce a national monument since Congress clarified its authority, so there is no precedent for Trump's actions under current law.

Because of this, the five tribes of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition immediately filed suit in federal court in Washington D.C. on Bears Ears. The Grand Canyon Trust and our partners also quickly filed lawsuits on both monument reductions, seeking to see the original monuments restored. Now the courts are teaching us patience. As of this writing, three separate complaints on Bears Ears and two on Grand Staircase have been consolidated. The Department of Justice has filed motions to transfer the cases to Utah, a venue the government probably sees as



Bears Ears Buttes as seen from Valley of the Gods. TIM PETERSON

more favorable to Trump's arguments. A ruling on these motions is expected any day. And wherever the case lands, when the court reaches the merits, we believe Trump's actions were so offensive to the law that the courts must overturn them.

In a seeming admission of the president's lack of authority, as the ink dried on Trump's proclamations, two Utah members of Congress introduced bills to codify the overhaul of Bears Ears (H.R. 4532) and Grand Staircase (H.R. 4558). Both go further than just cementing Trump's unlawful action. They create new mechanisms in law to turn management authority over to the very state and county officials who sought to eliminate the monuments entirely, bringing them one step closer to their goal of transferring public lands to state ownership.

Both bills face a tough fight and stiff opposition from Native American tribes, conservationists, sportsmen, and outdoor recreationists. Should the bills clear the House of Representatives, there is hope that the more deliberative Senate will hold them until the courts decide on the legality

of Trump's proclamations, appropriately respecting and upholding the authority of the judicial branch.

These attacks on Bears Ears and Grand Staircase are temporal, and as difficult as it is, we must remember deep time. We continue to support the tribes defending Bears Ears, and to do all that we can in the media, the courts, and the halls of Congress to defend both monuments. They are far too important for too many reasons to let down our guard now.

Indigenous people have known these places as home for hundreds of generations, and they know them today from their own cosmology, their oral histories, and the rites of pilgrimage and ceremony still practiced there as they have been for far longer than the United States has been a nation. This is patience. In the words of Hopi Vice Chairman Clark Tenakhongva: "Our documents are the petroglyphs written in stone. The U.S. government's are written on paper. Tell me which holds water—paper or stone?" We're betting on stone. ©

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*Tim Peterson directs the Grand Canyon Trust's Utah Wildlands Program.*



## TURNING A PAGE ON ESCALADE

By Roger Clark





Eight years ago, an Arizona salesman said that he could “save” Navajo people from poverty and cure a host of other ailments by building a mega-resort on Navajo land on the eastern rim of the Grand Canyon.

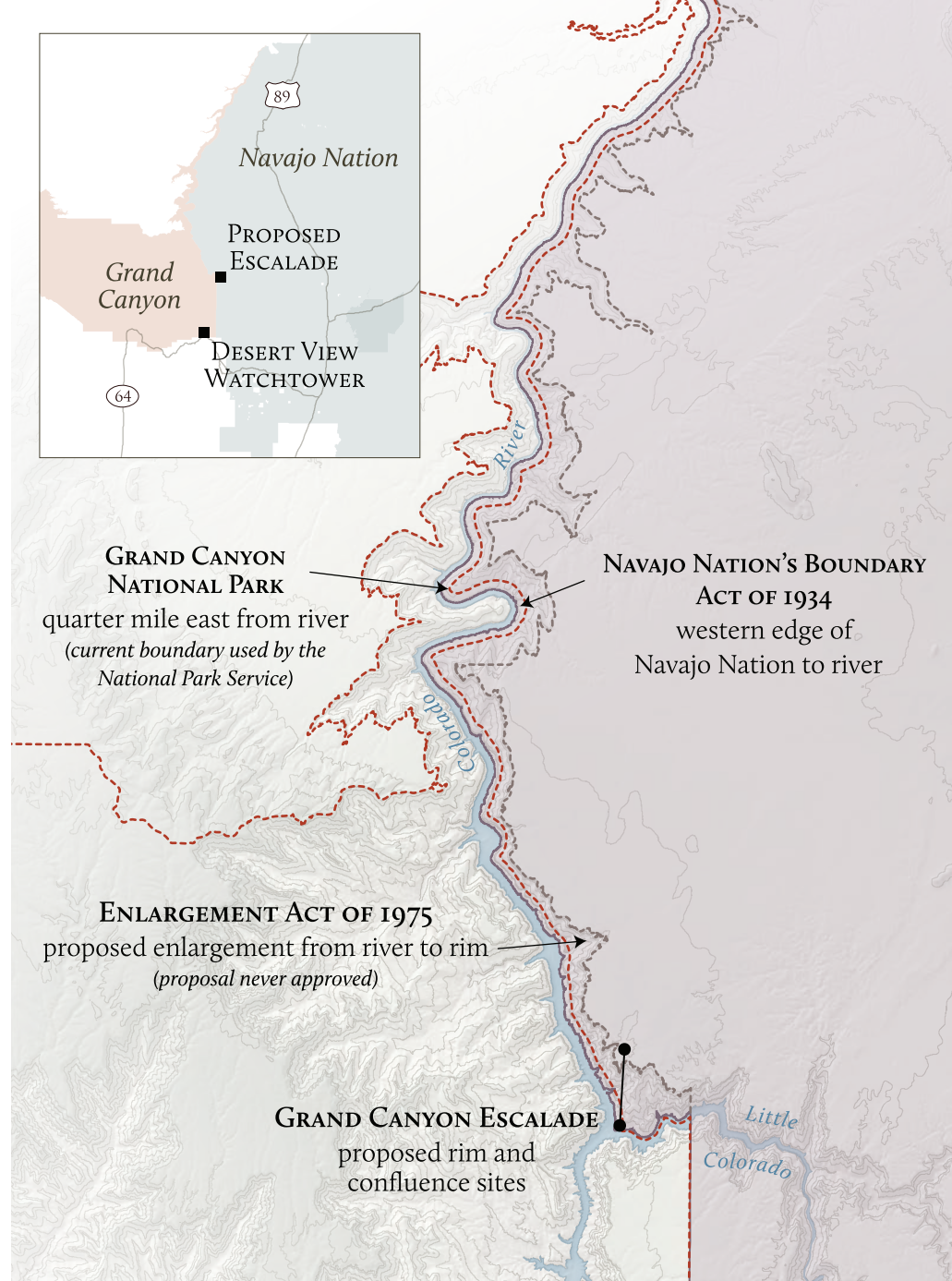
As its main attraction, he proposed to build a tramway to carry up to 10,000 tourists a day into the canyon and down to the confluence of the Colorado and Little Colorado rivers.

“Grand Canyon Escalade,” he promised, would employ thousands of local residents and pay millions of dollars in annual fees to the Navajo Nation. The salesman claimed to have spent five million dollars promoting the project.

Late last year, Save the Confluence, a small group of determined Navajo families who live and raise livestock in the area, joined with allies to slay the “monster,” as they’d come to call Escalade.

On October 31, 2017, Save the Confluence families and their coalition scored a big victory when the Navajo Nation Council voted 16-2 against legislation to approve the deeply divisive tramway project.

The proposed 420-acre resort would have included two hotels, a gas station, parking lots, and a restaurant perched on the rim of the canyon, all built entirely within the Navajo Nation. The proposed tramway would have extended down to an elevated walkway, food stand, and restrooms located along the shoreline of the Colorado River.



After the decisive vote, several Navajo legislators encouraged Save the Confluence and its allies to introduce new legislation to permanently protect the confluence. They also voiced their support for community-based economic development, wherein local land-use planning respects customary and cultural uses and fosters Navajo-owned businesses and enterprises.

Following the decisive vote by Navajo lawmakers, the Bodaway/Gap Chapter of the Navajo Nation voted to rescind the 2012 resolution that

approved the land withdrawal needed to build Escalade. By a vote of 55-0, the community reversed the hotly contested resolution and discussed how they could permanently protect the area through designating it as a sacred area. “Bil ni’dzil gaal,” Bodaway/Gap Chapter Vice President Leonard Sloan said in Navajo, declaring the project “clubbed to death.”

Had the Navajo Nation approved Escalade, the National Park Service would have challenged the construction of the tram and riverside facilities



ABOVE: Desert View Watchtower, Grand Canyon National Park. MICHAEL QUINN, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
 BELOW: Inside the Desert View Watchtower, first landing paintings by Hopi Artist Fred Kabotie.  
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

because the land between the river and the canyon's east rim is disputed. The National Park Service claims that its jurisdiction extends from the river to a quarter mile east and, therefore, it would prohibit the project from being built within Grand Canyon National Park. However, the Navajo Nation's Boundary Act of 1934 established the Colorado River as the nation's western boundary. The legal basis for pushing the park boundary to a quarter mile from the river has never been tested.

Before passing the Grand Canyon National Park Enlargement Act of 1975, Congress discussed the possibility of extending the national park boundary from the river to the Grand Canyon's east rim. However, the final bill said that enlargements to the park boundary would require approval by the Navajo Nation to amend the Navajo Boundary Act of 1934.

No interior secretary since 1975 has sought concurrence from the Navajo Nation to extend the national park's boundary to Grand Canyon's east rim. That may be because the Navajo Nation is not likely to relinquish its historic claim to the land. However, under the same law, the secretary is "authorized and encouraged to enter into cooperative agreements...providing for the protection and interpretation of the Grand Canyon in its entirety."

Cooperative agreements could open the door for the Navajo Nation and its citizens to partner with neighboring tribes and the National Park Service to protect the confluence by reaching consensus on how it should be managed. They could help improve the interpretation of the region through co-developed educational programs presented by native people. And they might stimulate local economic development by directing park visitors to

tour guides and other services located in nearby native communities.

One example of an ongoing cooperative initiative is at Desert View Watchtower. For several years, an intertribal advisory group has been assisting the National Park Service in transforming the watchtower into a “first-voices” interpretive center, which currently includes artists, demonstrators, storytellers, and presentations about regional history. Located at the eastern entrance to the park, on a high point whose windows look out toward the confluence and the aboriginal homeland of many tribes, Desert View might also become a place where visitors can hear stories about the Save the Confluence campaign to stop Escalade and receive information that encourages them to visit places and businesses outside of the park.

An agreement by local leaders, agencies, and tribal authorities to cooperatively manage the confluence and educational programs could serve as a catalyst for finding common ground elsewhere. Such cooperative agreements could become the building blocks to better protect and interpret the “Grand Canyon in its entirety,” as Congress had intended.

By making creative use of the existing authority to reach cooperative agreements, we could bypass any need to fight over boundaries. The unity that empowered the Save the Confluence coalition provides a great start for writing a new chapter in the Grand Canyon’s history. In turning the page on Escalade, we hope to strengthen the bond forged while defending the Grand Canyon to build a more mindful, prosperous, and respectful bridge forward. ©

*Roger Clark directs the Grand Canyon Trust’s Grand Canyon Program.*



The unity that empowered the Save the Confluence coalition provides a great start for writing a new chapter in the Grand Canyon’s history.

Cultural demonstrators and arts and crafts at Desert View Watchtower, Grand Canyon National Park. (FROM TOP) Decorating pottery. Havasupai dancers. Zuni silversmith Duran Gaspar. Split-twig figurines. ABOVE: Zuni fetish. All photos NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Brooke biking from Dilkon, on the Navajo Nation, to Flagstaff, Arizona in early July. PARKER FEIERBACH



EVA MALIS

On July 5, 2017 it was 106 degrees in northern Arizona. As I biked the shadeless highway between Flagstaff and Tuba City, sweat seeped through my pores and immediately dried when it hit the hot air, covering my sunburnt skin in a thin layer of salt.

The water bottle that I'd filled with ice at the gas station in Cameron tasted like hot tea by the time I got to the turnoff for Tuba City. I poured the water on my hand to see if my taste buds were tricking me. It felt like I had scooped it out of a hot tub. When I sat down to rest, I immediately jumped up, the red earth radiating heat. This was day 42 of my 54-day bike tour of the Colorado Plateau.

I biked the Colorado Plateau not so much for the ride, but for the stories along the way. Since the fall of 2014, I have been part of the team dreaming, scheming, and organizing Uplift—a climate conference and community for young visionaries, activists, and concerned desert dwellers. During each organizing retreat, we gather around oil lamps at the historic Kane Ranch near the North Rim, the Milky

Way filling the sky outside on clear, crisp November nights, and we share stories of the red earth that grounds us, the coal mines and frack pads and social injustices that motivate us to act. At the 2017 conference outside of Moab, Utah, the keynote speaker, Janene Yazzie, said, "It's not important what you're doing, but why you're doing it." She then instructed us to kneel down and touch the earth.

I went on a journey through the frontlines of climate change and environmental injustice on the Colorado Plateau because I didn't just want to know what people were doing about climate change, but why. This was partially for my own learning, but also because, as an organizer, I know if we are to win the fight for climate justice, our narratives better be the most compelling.

TOP: A farewell from new friends as Brooke biked away from the home of Carol Davis, director of Diné CARE.  
PARKER FEIERBACH

MIDDLE: Friend and fellow Uplift organizer Montana Johnson pedaled along between Durango, Colorado and Farmington, New Mexico.  
PARKER FEIERBACH

BOTTOM: Walking along the Animas River with Uplift organizer Marcel Gaztambide. PARKER FEIERBACH



**I slowly began  
to realize that  
our power lies in  
this connected,  
compassionate  
community.**

I chose a bike as my means of transportation because I've always preferred pedaling over pushing on the gas. I should be clear that most of my journey was not fossil-fuel-free. Parker, the photographer who joined me for 30 of the 54 days, drove my Subaru full of the ice water I poured over my head every 10 miles. I biked to experience the region I consider my home in a more intimate way. I wanted to smell its scents—from sage blowing in the wind to the exhaust of semi after semi travelling the long, rural highways. I wanted to feel its aridity, as stupid as I would eventually realize that impulse to be. I wanted to experience each contour in the land, feel each incline in my burning thighs and each descent in the tickle of hair that didn't quite make it in my helmet.

Uplift guided the vision of the trip and the Uplift community kept me well fed, rested, and supported. Friends like Montana Johnson biked with me through grueling climbs and 100-degree days that made me feel the red rock had to actually be on fire. Almost every night I was offered a couch or bed on which to rest my tired body and a home-cooked meal to refuel me. I slowly began to realize that our power lies in this connected, compassionate community.

As much as the Colorado Plateau is home to our nation's most loved places—from Arches National Park



Salt Lake City

U i n t a M o u n t a i n s

VERNAL

ROOSEVELT

NINE MILE CANYON

JOURNEY START

HELPER

PRICE

Dugout Canyon coal mine

Castle Valley coal mine

PR Spring tar sands mine

Fossil Rock coal mine

Lila Canyon coal mine

Book Cliffs

WESTWATER

JOURNEY END

TORREY

Moab

CASTLE VALLEY

La Sal Mts.

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK

ESCALANTE

BOULDER

MONTICELLO

S a n J u a n M o u n t a i n s

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

White Mesa uranium mill

CORTEZ

Durango

KANAB

PAGE

Navajo Generating Station (coal-fired power plant)

San Juan coal mine

methane hot spot (fracking & natural gas)

Black Mesa coal mine

FARMINGTON

BLANCO

Navajo coal mine

COUNSELOR

CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

TUBA CITY

HOPi

HARD ROCK

WINDOW ROCK

Flagstaff

DILKON

Bike route

Mining or mineral processing locations

Coal resources

Oil and gas fields

Shale oil and gas



PARKER FEIERBACH

## KENDRA PINTO

Kendra Pinto is a Diné woman from Twin Pines in the Greater Chaco area of northwest New Mexico. She organizes against fracking in her community and has shared her story in congressional hearings on the EPA Methane Rule in Washington, D.C. Over 90 percent of the public lands in Greater Chaco have been leased to oil and gas. In June, indigenous youth ran 80 miles across the region to raise awareness.

“The people who will assure you that everything is fine, peachy keen out there are industry people. These are people who want that resource, who want that money. This area made about 20 million dollars last year, but driving through here, could you tell that? Could you tell that millions of dollars are made here? No, because that money isn’t put back into the community like they claim. We have to start looking out for the good of the people instead of just thinking about our wallets. I don’t like when they start throwing that ‘well drilling has always been out there.’ Drilling hasn’t always been 300 feet from houses. I literally live on one of the parcels that they sold. I live on tribal trust lands and maybe 75 feet from my house the BLM public lands start. Why do they say we are unimportant? I think the hope is to have people remember that this is where their roots started. How do you not take care of a place that has taken care of you, that’s taken care of your parents, that’s taken care of your grandparents? It’s about making sure home remains home.”



ABOVE: The PR Spring tar sands mine near Utah’s Book Cliffs. PARKER FEIERBACH

BELOW: Climate scientist Bill Anderegg in an aspen grove on the San Juan National Forest. PARKER FEIERBACH

to the Grand Canyon—it is also a national sacrifice zone. I learned from Emily Bowie of the San Juan Citizens Alliance that 91 percent of public lands in northwest New Mexico have been leased for oil and gas. This includes within 100 feet of the home of Kendra Pinto, a Diné woman defending her community from extraction. When I met with her at the Counselor Chapter House, she posed the question, “Why do they say we are unimportant?”

For decades, the conservation movement has prioritized protecting the most pristine areas at the expense not only of those communities deemed less “important,” but also of land

deemed less scenic. The protection of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument kept millions of tons of coal in the ground (at least until Trump and Zinke came around), but land exchanges afterward also led to fracked fields and the PR Spring tar sands mine in the Uinta Basin.

The environmental impact statement for the PR Spring tar sands mine classifies the surrounding Book Cliffs of eastern Utah as of “low scenic value.” I spent a weekend camping near PR Spring with friends organizing resistance to the mine. As I reached giant black piles of scraped earth, the La Sal Mountains rose in the south and



the Uintas in the north, a reminder of the scale of this precious Colorado River Basin. Piñon-juniper woodlands and aspen groves provided shade and supported the 40 elk my friends saw in one day. I thought of the lines from a Wendell Berry poem:

*There are no unsacred places;  
there are only sacred places  
and desecrated places.*

Land exchanges don't factor in the cost of climate change, and now we must ask, how do we price our future?

Climate change is already happening on the Colorado Plateau. In late June, I reached southwest Colorado and spent a day in the cooler temperatures of the San Juan National Forest with Bill Anderegg, a young climate scientist at the University of Utah who studies sudden aspen decline. Bill grew up in Cortez, and during his first summer of graduate school, he returned to the aspen forest where he camped as a kid and found a sea of dead stumps. Cause of death? The 2002 drought that was two to three degrees centigrade hotter than any drought on record. When talking about climate change, Bill said, "It's visible and it's visceral and it's during my lifetime."

Despite the grief and rage I encountered, I also witnessed courageous hope rooted in an unrelenting commitment to community and place. I met with lots of different characters—from a retired coal miner in Price, Utah to water protectors on Black Mesa. Their experiences of climate change and environmental injustices varied, but all shared a deep love of home.

This commitment makes a just transition away from fossil fuels both hopeful and challenging. It means we can't just calculate how many jobs a wind farm will create, but how many it will employ locally. For example, Isaac Vigil is the only person from San Juan County employed locally at the windfarm in Monticello, Utah—a former uranium town an hour south of Moab. Anyone else who keeps the turbines turning either works in the Salt Lake office, or was brought in from another town because, as Isaac explained, no one locally had the needed electrical training. The job has allowed Isaac to continue living in his hometown with his family. He said, "I made the right call at the right time to the right person. I got lucky." We need solutions that allow more people to stay in the place they love with the people they love.

On the road between the Book Cliffs and Moab, Utah. PARKER FEIERBACH



BOTH PHOTOS PARKER FEIERBACH

## EPHRAIM DUTCHIE AND THELMA WHISKERS

Ephraim Dutchie and his grandmother, Thelma Whiskers, organize the resistance to the White Mesa uranium mill just a few miles north of their home on the Ute Mountain Ute reservation. Ephraim said, "At least three people I grew up with have cancer. It's really hard for us here in the community. If a crisis happened at the mill, they would contact Blanding, not us. We're five miles south of the mill and the wind usually blows south. They don't care about us; all they care about is money. If there was a crisis, where would we go? My only place is White Mesa."

The White Mesa Mill is the last operating conventional uranium mill in the country. Thelma has been resisting the mill since the '90s. The herbs that Thelma's mom used to collect no longer grow on the surrounding land, and the mill has been in violation of the Clean Air Act for radon emissions, a radioactive, cancer-causing gas. She said, "This place is dangerous for us. The young people say the water doesn't taste good. The water tastes like metal. And we're not going to drink it. The young ones have allergies, diabetes, and asthma."

## MARY O'BRIEN

A colleague calls Mary O'Brien the Jane Goodall of southern Utah. She's in her 70s but has the spirit of a feisty 25-year-old. She knows more about the plants in the region than most, and is currently the director of the Grand Canyon Trust's Utah Forests Program. She works on collaborative conservation projects, engaging in difficult conversations and relationship-building with ranchers, farmers, and government agencies who sometimes vehemently disagree with her. She lives in Castle Valley, Utah.

"I grew up at a time when I thought that things could get better, environmentally and socially. I think young people like you are going to face things getting worse for the rest of your lives. I don't know how I would've dealt with that. I certainly wouldn't have given up. During the years when it seemed possible that there might be nuclear war between Russia and the U.S., this one man who was an anti-nuclear activist was asked 'what would you do if you knew tomorrow nuclear war was going to start?' and he said, 'I'd plant a tree.' I think that's the only thing you can do. I think you know nuclear war is going to happen and not literally, but climate losses are going to happen. It makes it harder for people to think about restoring something if they think climate change is going to get it anyways. I think of my grandson who is 11, what's he got to look forward to if he lives 70 years from now? How hot? How many species will be lost? How many coastal areas drowned? But as far as pessimism goes I just always feel like you're either working for making things better or you're not. And that's not much of a choice."



PARKER FEIERBACH



Fellow Uplift organizer Adrian Herder advocated for a just transition with his family and Black Mesa community as Navajo Nation Council delegates voted on a replacement lease for the Navajo Generating Station. BROOKE LARSEN

### By listening deeply to those on the frontlines, we find pathways towards reconciliation, justice, and shared solutions.

If we conceive of ourselves as community members, what kind of shared solutions may we create? I think of Community Rebuilds in Moab, a nonprofit that builds affordable earthen homes, and their focus on inclusive community in their build teams. During five-month semesters, interns live together, cook together, and build non-toxic homes to address the affordable housing crisis in Moab.

I remember the solidarity walk with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe's White Mesa community defending their land and people against the last uranium mill in the country. When I asked Thelma Whiskers, an elder leading the resistance to the mill, how she felt that day, a smile came over her face: "We were strong, and we were brave."

I think of Adrian Herder, fellow Uplift organizer, and his family,

protecting traditional livelihoods on Black Mesa. He reminded me that community is more than just our human neighbors when he said, "We are not only speaking for our families, but future generations, all walks of life that we share this land with, and most importantly the water."

On my journey I learned that injustice births from silenced stories. The actions with the power to generate new ways of living will rise from the communities who most clearly understand the failures of our current systems. By projecting stories from sacrifice zones louder than narratives claiming unsacred places exist, we may begin uncovering the roots of our climate crisis. In this region of fierce land protectors, we touch the deep red earth to remind ourselves not what we do, but why. ©



ABOVE: Brooke on her bike near the PR Spring tar sands mine. PARKER FEIERBACH  
 BELOW: Walking with Marshall Masayesva, founder of Adventures for Hopi, an experiential education program for Native American youth. PARKER FEIERBACH

*Winner of the 2017 Bell Prize, Brooke Larsen is a writer and climate organizer in Salt Lake City, Utah currently working on a book about her journey exploring issues of climate justice across the Colorado Plateau.*



**UPLIFT**  
 A climate conference for  
 young people by young people.  
[upliftclimate.org](http://upliftclimate.org)



BROOKE LARSEN

## ALICIA TSOSIE

Alicia Tsosie works for food security and food sovereignty on the Navajo Nation. She grows her own food in Tuba City and coordinates farmers markets in the community. On a 106-degree day in Tuba City, I asked Alicia how climate change impacts her work.

“The biggest thing is water and the rising temperatures. My corn this morning around 9 a.m. was starting to almost curl like when it needs water, but at six in the morning they were just wide open enjoying the cool air. We don’t use pesticides or herbicides. We’re out there every day. The biggest thing I struggle with personally is the invasive plants. I’m very concerned, you can see the changes in the climate. I remember when we actually got snow in December when I was a little kid. Now we’re lucky if we have sleet. As a Navajo, especially as a grower, you don’t get too worried about providing water to your plants, because if you’re out there every day and you pray for your plants, the Holy People will come and bring moisture. I’ve seen it happen, the little dew that’s on my corn. But on days like this when you have a heat warning, I’m pretty sure I won’t see dew drops tomorrow. It’s kind of a bit of faith. It’s important to have a good local food system, especially here on the reservation where we’re food insecure. Our elders did this with not nearly as much technology that we have today.”

# Volunteer Spotlight

KATE WATTERS, artist, musician, farmer, and former Volunteer Program director and  
DARCY FALK, artist, writer, and volunteer

Hometown: Flagstaff, Arizona

Combined Hours Donated:

# 265



ALL PHOTOS BY MEREDITH MEEKS

## How did you learn about the Grand Canyon Trust?

**DARCY:** Twenty years ago Kate took an art workshop from me, and we became friends and stayed connected in the artist community in Flagstaff. When Kate became the director of the Volunteer Program at the Trust, she convinced me to become a spring steward and go on a backpacking trip to survey springs in Grand Canyon. It was one of the hardest things I'd ever done, but I was hooked!

## Why do you volunteer with the Trust?

**KATE:** I always loved working at the Trust and the creativity we were able to bring to the challenging environmental problems we worked on. Now, I want to give back as a volunteer the same way so many gave when I worked there. These times are scary for our public lands, and staying involved makes me feel like I'm still part of something really important.

## What role can art play in conservation?

**DARCY:** In the same way artists like Thomas Moran documented the landscapes of the West to lure people into unknown territory, we need art to show the world what we stand to lose, but also to tell the stories of our impacts to the land and to inspire action.



Kate Watters



Darcy Falk

**KATE:** Art gets to the heart of why it is we care about things. It can really reach people and have an impact. As someone who comes from a science background, science just doesn't move people. Art has the power to move people, to tell a story, to reach people in a way that makes people want to do something.

**Favorite moment from the Kane Ranch Artist Retreat**

**DARCY:** I loved bringing together a group of artists with different passions and different talents and watching the creative process unfold for each person at Kane Ranch. For some it was getting up early to capture the first light and painting or taking pictures. For others, simply being out there and exploring the landscape or having discussions about conservation challenges was important. Kane Ranch is the perfect place to find creative inspiration.

**KATE:** I got to witness this unique chemistry that happened at Kane with these artists, some who have lived here for many years and others who are newer to this landscape and the Trust's work. I woke up one morning at sunrise and looked out to see all these people soaking up the golden hour, geeking out about light, creeping around the bushes with their cameras, out there with their paints. It was so amazing!

Kate and Darcy volunteered their time to plan the 2017-2018 Kane Ranch Artist Retreat and exhibit. The exhibit, *An Intimate Expanse: Voices for the Colorado Plateau*, will be at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff April 6-May 20, 2018. See some of the artists' work at [grandcanyontrust.org/artist-retreat](http://grandcanyontrust.org/artist-retreat) ©



# WHAT'S NEXT FOR GRAND CANYON URANIUM?

By Amber Reimondo

LAST DECEMBER, in a mining-industry lawsuit we helped fend off, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a decision made by former Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to ban new uranium mines and claims for two decades on about a million acres around the Grand Canyon. It was a major victory for tribes, sportsmen, conservation groups, and members of the public who want to see the Grand Canyon protected from the risks of uranium mining.

The court's ruling doesn't prevent the Trump administration from attempting to lift the ban. But it does mean that the ban is legal and remains intact, barring any executive or legislative action to remove it.



Uranium mine near the Grand Canyon. ECOFLIGHT



This lawsuit began immediately following the 2012 announcement of the 20-year ban. In the suit, the mining industry attempted to argue that the mining ban was adopted improperly—an argument that was first rejected by a federal district court in Arizona in 2014. The 9th Circuit’s recent decision affirms that outcome across the board. Unless the Supreme Court takes the case, the 9th Circuit’s decision puts an end to this long-running lawsuit.



The author, with Havasupai Tribal Councilwoman Carletta Tilousi, outside the Cannon House Office Building on Capitol Hill.

**...the northern Arizona economy is driven by outdoor recreation, travel, and tourism, not by uranium mining, which generates \$0 in royalties for taxpayers and is capable only of providing a small number of temporary jobs.**

With the courts on our side, whether or not the uranium-mining ban is safe from direct action by the Trump administration may be another matter.

In 2017, President Trump issued two executive orders that resulted in actions that put Grand Canyon uranium mining back on the table as a priority for the administration. Executive Order 13783 resulted in a November U.S. Forest Service recommendation that the administration review the Grand Canyon mining ban as a way to lift burdens on domestic energy development. More recently, Executive Order 13817 resulted in the inclusion of uranium on a draft list of 35 “critical” minerals, access to which the administration plans to prioritize. This means that for as long as uranium is listed, it will be the policy of the federal government to identify new sources of uranium, increase activity at all levels of the supply chain, “including exploration [and] mining,” and streamline leasing and permitting processes to expedite exploration, production, processing, reprocessing, recycling, and domestic refining of uranium.

To fully understand what’s at stake, it’s worth remembering that the ban was implemented after an extensive review process that took more than two years, involved nearly 300,000 public comments, and relied on the best available peer-reviewed science—science that indicated that available data on pathways for contamination in the region are “sparse...and often limited” and that more research is needed to understand groundwater flow paths and the potential for uranium mining to cause contamination. The mining ban was meant to provide more time to chip away at these unknowns.

The necessity of the ban is compounded by other factors too. In the six years since the ban was put in place, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has been deprived funding from Congress for the research that is needed. With no obligation for uranium mining companies to assist financially, far less research has been done at this point than is needed to draw any of the necessary conclusions for the mining ban to be lifted.

If that weren’t bad enough, President Trump’s newest budget proposal would entirely eliminate funding to the USGS for Grand Canyon hydrology research.

Lastly, the northern Arizona economy is driven by outdoor recreation, travel, and tourism, not by uranium mining, which generates \$0 in royalties for taxpayers and is capable only of providing a small number of temporary jobs. According to the Arizona Mining Association, all types of mining (of which uranium is a small part statewide) provided 195 jobs in Coconino and Mohave counties in 2014, the most recent year for which statistics were available. Canyon Mine, south of Grand Canyon National Park, is expected to temporarily provide up to 60 jobs at peak operation. Lifting the ban only puts the region’s real economic driver at risk.

The Grand Canyon Trust and our partners are keeping close track of the administration’s movements on this issue and are proactively working to defend the ban and ensure that the hundreds of thousands of people who support protecting the Grand Canyon are apprised of threats to the mining ban.

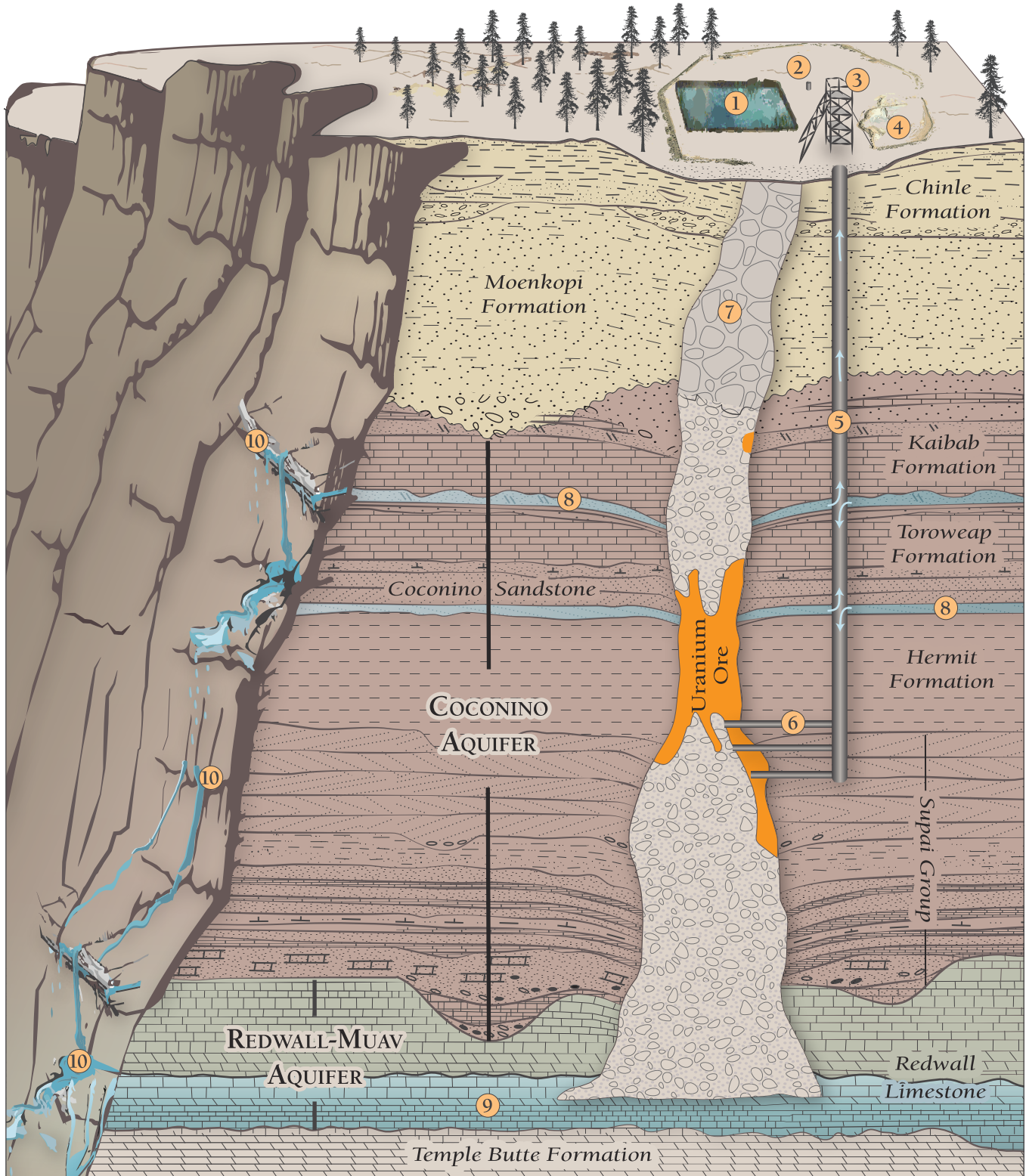
This winter, the Trust traveled to Washington D.C. where, alongside representatives of Trout Unlimited, the Arizona Wildlife Federation, and the Havasupai Tribal Council, we met with leaders of federal agencies and members of the Arizona congressional delegation to explain that lifting the ban would do little to assist domestic energy and economic development, and place at risk our regional economy, tribal and water resources, and, of course, a world heritage site—the Grand Canyon itself. ©

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*Amber Reimondo directs the Grand Canyon Trust’s Energy Program.*



# Characterization of Uranium Deposits and Mining near Grand Canyon



SOURCE: Generalized and modified from the USGS Site Characterization of Breccia Pipe Uranium Deposits in Northern Arizona and Uranium Mine Conceptual Model  
 GRAPHIC BY STEPHANIE SMITH

- |  |                               |                                       |
|--|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ① Containment pond                         | ⑤ Mine shaft                  | ⑨ Regional aquifer                    |
| ② Ventilation shaft                        | ⑥ Horizontal shaft ("drifts") | ⑩ Seep or spring                      |
| ③ Mine headframe                           | ⑦ Breccia collapse feature    | ⬆️ Potential water flow in mine shaft |
| ④ Waste rock, ore pile, & top soil storage | ⑧ Perched aquifer             |                                       |

## KATIE CARLSON

### One physician's philosophy on giving back to the Grand Canyon Trust



Katie Carlson and her family value Utah's public lands.

As a doctor, I want to be part of a community that offers a great quality of life. Living in Utah provides that for me and my family. There are great mountains for skiing, deserts for hiking, and huge swaths of unpopulated land just a short drive away.



#### THE TURQUOISE CIRCLE

With annual gifts of \$1,000 or more, Grand Canyon Trust Turquoise Circle members make an exceptional difference. Why not join Katie today?

expenses. The reward is the opportunity to serve through providing care, working to heal and comfort patients. Young doctors don't learn to see themselves as having resources to give outside of work. Once we finish training we begin to attend to the life neglected while achieving career goals. I recall having a sense that, "I do enough contributing"—my time outside of work was for me. It sounds selfish now, looking back.

So doctors pay off loans, perhaps have children, and lay down roots. The constant worry lifts and life becomes a slow awakening. I reconnected with the original values that motivated me as an idealistic student. I realized that doctors, with our special training, have a much greater calling. We have a voice to demand clean air, safe drinking water, and open natural spaces. And, especially when united with colleagues, we have financial resources to back up our values and interests in protecting undeveloped, beautiful lands for the good of the public.

It is disconcerting to see what is happening in my state. I can no longer take our parks and monuments for granted. When President Trump shrank both Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments, it was a serious wake-up call. I did my research and found the Grand Canyon Trust.

**Now, Katie is using her resources to help protect Utah and the Colorado Plateau, and rallying her friends and colleagues to join her in becoming Turquoise Circle members of the Trust. ©**

*Physician and Grand Canyon Trust Turquoise Circle member Katie Carlson lives in Salt Lake City.*

# POSTCARDS from the FIELD

ABOVE: Navajo Mountain framed by the Bears Ears Buttes. TIM PETERSON BELOW: Solar entrepreneur Brett Isaac. BRIAN LEDDY

## NATIONAL MONUMENTS

### Bad bills piling up in Congress

Congress doesn't seem to get much done these days beyond its basic obligations to fund the government. But amid the gridlock, Utah's members of Congress are busy pushing bad ideas for public lands.

In addition to two bills that would codify President Trump's unlawful actions shrinking Bears Ears and Grand Staircase (see "Written in Stone" on page 4), there's Representative Rob Bishop's H.R. 3990, the "National Monument Creation and Protection Act." Despite its title, the bill does neither—it would instead place arbitrary location and size restrictions on new national monuments and limit eligibility to "fossils," "relics," and "artifacts," while making geology, oceans, and other "objects not made by humans" ineligible.

Bishop's bill was marked up without a hearing last year and awaits action on the House floor, while the other two are stuck in committee. We're keeping an eye on them all, and we'll be asking for your help soon to defeat them.

## NATIVE AMERICA

### As coal declines, solar rises

The anticipated closure of Navajo Generating Station looms large in the minds of Western Navajo community leaders. The power plant provides significant jobs and revenues to both the Hopi and Navajo nations and there is a growing frenzy to create alternative paths to new job and revenue sources. It is important that this response not repeat the past, given the history of outside companies providing minimal lease payments for use of tribal land, and instead enable communities to plan for, participate in, and drive development.

Thus, the Grand Canyon Trust has partnered with Brett Isaac, an entrepreneur with Shonto Renewable Energy, to educate local communities, support local project-steering teams, build their capacity, and help them design and drive the process to build a utility-scale, community-supported solar development. The first Navajo Nation chapter we are helping is Lechee Chapter, which sits at ground zero, a few miles down the road from Navajo Generating Station, and is moving forward with a large-scale solar project.





## URANIUM

### Defending the Grand Canyon mining ban

In 2012, then Interior Secretary Ken Salazar placed a 20-year ban on new uranium mining claims on one million acres of public land around the Grand Canyon. Past uranium contamination in the West has created public health problems and over a billion dollars in taxpayer liability. Since groundwater flow around the Grand Canyon is not well understood, rather than gamble, Salazar chose to press pause on new mining to allow scientists more time to study the potential risks of mining uranium in the region. The mining industry challenged the ban and the Trust helped defend it, most recently before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. Last December, we won. But now the Trump administration is considering arguments to remove the ban in the name of domestic energy independence and economic development. We're making the case to President Trump, federal agencies, and Congress that removing the ban not only won't achieve goals of energy independence or economic glory, but will be met by the ire of hundreds of thousands of Americans.

## ART AS ACTIVISM

### Uranium mining mural on tour

Flagstaff High School's advanced art class has been delving into the subject of uranium mining, building frames and stretching canvas, and pouring themselves into the creation of a massive, four-panel mural. With the guidance and expertise of an artist from the Beehive Collective, a non-profit organization that uses art to communicate powerful stories of resistance, students collaborated to design and bring to life an art piece that tells such a story in four parts. The mural's four panels depict the world before uranium mining, the mining era, the era of resistance, and the hopeful future students imagine. The Grand Canyon Trust will continue to play a role in helping students make that future a reality. This beautiful piece will be making the rounds at community events and art walks around Flagstaff.

## ARIZONA FORESTS

### Restoring springs and streams

In the midst of a record-breaking dry winter, the probability of severe wildfire in overly dense northern Arizona will only increase come fire season. This makes the Trust's continued work with a variety of community and government partners to accelerate thinning of those forests through the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) even more urgent. Through creative new agreements with the Forest Service that attract sustainable and effective industry partners, we aim to ramp up thinning by tens of thousands of acres during the next few years. This will provide meaningful benefits to fish and wildlife habitat while protecting communities from the threat of severe wildfire. Concurrently, the Trust and partners continue to restore valuable water sources across the landscape, preserving essential springs and streams in the face of drought and climate change.

ABOVE: Carletta Tilousi of the Havasupai Tribal Council, Grand Canyon Trust Energy Program Director Amber Reimondo, and Brad Powell of Trout Unlimited outside the office of Arizona Senator John McCain. BELOW: Flagstaff High School students at work on their uranium mining mural. JULIA SULLIVAN.





## UTAH FORESTS

### A forest plan is a long haul

The Manti-La Sal National Forest, which includes portions of Bears Ears National Monument, is moving slowly toward its first forest plan in over 30 years. Since a forest plan covers every aspect of life and uses on the forest, it takes a team to provide the in-depth information needed to make the right planning decisions, a challenge for the Manti-La Sal's small staff. The Trust is fortunate to have knowledgeable groups right there with us. In late 2017, the Utah Native Plant Society convinced the forest to increase its proposed list of only three plant species of conservation concern (for the 1.2 million acre forest) to 32 species. This took great on-the-ground knowledge of what plants are in trouble in the forest. In February, the Grand Canyon Trust, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, and Western Resource Advocates suggested detailed additions and changes to the forest's evaluations of wilderness and scenery. We're here for the entire planning process.

ABOVE: Beaver Lake with Mount Peale in the background, Manti-La Sal National Forest. TIM PETERSON  
RIGHT: Kevin Fedarko and Pete McBride hard at work.

## NORTH RIM RANCHES

### Gardening for science

Understanding how plants respond to a changing climate is important for restoring and managing northern Arizona's deserts and forests, especially after wildfire or drought. The North Rim Ranches on the Grand Canyon's north rim now host four of 10 Southwest Experimental Garden Array sites in our region. Each of these five-acre gardens is located at a different elevation, from desert grasslands to pine and spruce-fir forests. Together, the gardens provide an outdoor laboratory for studying the effects of climate change. Some experiments explore how microorganisms living in the soil help plants like blue grama, an eyelash-like grass, grow in drier climates. Others look at how the distinct genetic makeup of southwestern white pines helps these trees resist disease. Grand Canyon Trust volunteers are playing an important role in these experiments, contributing over 1,000 hours a year to building garden infrastructure and planting over 2,000 pine seedlings.

## GRAND CANYON

### Kevin and Pete go the extra mile

"I need to know everything you can tell me about Escalade," author Kevin Fedarko said when he cold-called us during the summer of 2014 when reporting on the proposed rim resort and tramway down to the confluence of the Colorado and Little Colorado rivers. His essay, which appeared in the *New York Times*, brought national attention to the issue. A year later, Kevin and photographer Pete McBride began a trek through the Grand Canyon. After one segment of their epic journey, they climbed out 3,000 vertical feet to where the Escalade resort would have been built on the canyon's rim. Bone-tired and weather-beaten, they interviewed and photographed local families who opposed Escalade. We wanted to devote this postcard from the edge to two of the hardest working journalists in the business. Thanks Kevin and Pete for your article that followed in *National Geographic*, for being there last Halloween when the Navajo Nation Council voted down the Escalade tramway resort, and for going the extra mile.



# HOGAN GLAMPING



Baya Meehan on a mesa near her ranch. KELLY FOWLER

## A bed-and-breakfast experience on the Navajo Nation

Tucked below a sagebrush-studded mesa, Shash Diné Eco-Retreat offers visitors an off-the-grid glamping (think “glamorous camping”) experience on Navajo land 12 miles south of Page, Arizona. Just minutes away from Lake Powell and Antelope Canyon, Shash Diné guests sleep in a traditional earth-floor hogan and enjoy a Diné breakfast. This working ranch is also the home of owners and entrepreneurs Baya and Paul Meehan, their two children, horses, chickens, and a herd of Navajo Churro sheep. Baya and Paul wanted their children to grow up the Navajo way, and started their B&B from scratch. With no running water, no electricity, and no road signs, it hasn’t always been easy. But six years later, with support from the Grand Canyon Trust’s Native American Business Incubator Network, their business is thriving. Shash Diné has been featured in *Travel and Leisure* and attracts visitors from as far away as Europe and Australia. Here we catch up with Baya and Paul about the ranch, their vision for economic development on the reservation, and the rigors of raising two kids off the grid.

### **You call Shash Diné a five-billion-star hotel. What makes it different from other places to stay near the Grand Canyon?**

**BAYA:** Shash Diné offers immersion in nature. We are blessed to be in an area where there is near zero light pollution. The night sky is the big show and it never fails to awe. To view the constellations in all their glory is humbling. A truly remarkable sight of countless stars glistening above. We offer a unique alternative to box hotels. An experience, an adventure, a shared moment in time not soon forgotten.

### **What’s the history of the ranch?**

**PAUL:** Shash Diné (Navajo for “Bear Clan” or “Bear People”) is on Baya’s ancestral lands. She can trace her lineage here 18 generations. Baya’s grandmother, Thelma-Clara, raised sheep and cattle from high cedar country in Coppermine to the Colorado River in Glen Canyon, which is now Lake Powell. She lived as a true Navajo, thriving in the desert the way her ancestors did. Thelma-Clara migrated seasonally and lived so close to nature that many of her home sites no longer exist because they’ve melted

back into the Earth. During the late 1960s when it was no longer possible for the local residents to seasonally migrate due to the highway being built, Thelma-Clara settled down where we now reside. Though, being the true Navajo she was, she couldn’t truly give up the seasonal migration. The ranch we now occupy was her summer sheep camp and just below the mesa where Baya’s brother now lives was her winter sheep camp. Baya’s parents and extended family also still live on the land and raise livestock. When we came back six years ago, Baya’s

extended family ranching cattle on the land. But Baya truly missed the sheep that once grazed the land so one of the first goals was to return Navajo Churro sheep to the land here. Once realized, we set upon creating the B&B.

### How did Shash Diné start?

**Baya:** A shared dream and a realization that there is little economic development on the reservation. We intend to change this. Our area of the reservation is the entrance to the Glen Canyon National Recreational Area. We recognized that many visitors would be interested in a glimpse of Navajo culture. We saw that we didn't have a lot of infrastructure to work with, so the logical thing to do was start a campground, but we wanted to stand out from the crowd and also our love of aesthetics naturally led us to glamping.

### What's it like raising two kids off the grid?

**Baya:** It's a thoughtful process. Since we don't have readily accessible water and electricity, our days are structured with certain chores in mind. Water must be set out for washing and certain chores done before the sun goes down. When we first moved back six years ago, it was a struggle to relearn these habits, but now even our children are used to this way of life.

### You recently began offering guests something called "The Navajo Experience."

#### What is it?

**Baya:** The average stay for guests here in northern Arizona is one night. We're inviting visitors to slow down and soak up the landscape by offering a less rushed and more rounded

cultural experience—a two-night stay in a earth-and-log hogan, traditional Navajo meals, and a tour of our land.

### How did working with the Native American Business Incubator Network (NABIN) help Shash Diné grow?

**PAUL:** NABIN legitimized us. Natasha, Adrian, and Jessica gave us confidence that we were not crazy. They helped us troubleshoot when we ran into obstacles, helped us relaunch with a professional web presence and logo, and were always there to answer questions and provide advice. Now we're often booked several months in advance, with guests coming from across the country and Europe.

### Are there other Native-owned businesses you'd recommend visitors support when they're visiting the Grand Canyon area?

**Baya:** Absolutely. Carole Bigthumb at Adventurous Antelope Canyon Tours, Franklin and Anna Martin at Sacred Edge Tours, and Dixie Ellis at Lower Antelope Canyon Tours take visitors out to experience beautiful northern Arizona and learn about Navajo culture. @

#### READY TO GO?

Contact Baya and Paul at  
shashdinecoretreat@gmail.com

or 928-640-3701

shashdine.com



Support Native American entrepreneurs  
across the Colorado Plateau.  
[nativeincubator.org](http://nativeincubator.org)

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*Protecting the wild heart of the West*

## Leaving a Legacy Through Their Wills



### DON AND DAWN GOLDMAN

From: **Phoenix, AZ**  
Members since: **1992**

#### WHY WE GIVE

Dawn and I have been longtime explorers of the Colorado Plateau and we realized early on that this was an amazing but fragile environment. Each year upon returning to beloved areas, we would see illegal off-roading, fracking, and grazing encroaching further.

So we were thrilled to learn that there was an organization, the Grand Canyon Trust, that acts as a steward for the land. We joined the Trust in 1992, and are very proud of the work they have done over the years.

We also realized that there were many ways to contribute, and that our annual giving is important. But by including the Trust in our wills, we have the comforting knowledge that the Trust can continue to do its incredibly important work after we are gone. We let the Trust know of our intent. We wanted the Trust to be able to plan for the future, and allocate its resources accordingly.



### THE GRAND CANYON TRUST **LEGACY CIRCLE**

The Circle is a group of Trust supporters who have committed to conservation on the Colorado Plateau by making a life-income gift and/or by naming the Trust as a beneficiary in their estate plans. The Legacy Circle allows us to recognize and provide special benefits to its members. We profoundly thank Don and Dawn for their dedication and foresight.

Considering naming the Trust in your will? Please contact Libby Ellis at [lellis@grandcanyontrust.org](mailto:lellis@grandcanyontrust.org) to discuss your intentions, interests, and opportunities.