



THE NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTNERSHIP FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

NRPE Celebrates the Designation of Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

CONTACT: Cassandra Carmichael, cassandra@nrpe.org

Washington, DC (August 8, 2023) – The National Religious Partnership for the Environment (NRPE) celebrated President Biden’s designation of Baaj Nwaavjo I’tah Kukveni Grand Canyon as a National Monument, permanently protecting sacred lands from uranium mining. The designation recognizes the Hopi and Havasupai Tribes deep cultural ties to the Grand Canyon and protects the cultural, natural, recreational, and scientific resources of the region. Most importantly, this designation would protect the sacred lands and spiritual practices of Tribal communities in the area.

“The land of Baaj Nwaavjo I’tah Kukveni is a sacred, unique part of God’s creation and is now rightfully protected,” said Cassandra Carmichael, Executive Director of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, an organization that signed the letter. “In preserving this special part of God’s creation, President Biden not only safeguards the ecological integrity of the area by prohibiting dangerous mining activities but recognizes the religious liberty of Tribal communities.”

The National Religious Partnership for the Environment is an alliance of independent faith groups across a broad spectrum of religions including Catholic, Evangelical, Protestant, and Jewish.

###