

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC LANDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
REGULATION—*RANKING MEMBER*

INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS

ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY,
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
Co-CHAIR

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0307

WEBSITE: <http://grijalva.house.gov/>

September 13, 2014

1511 LONGWORTH HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE (202) 225-2435 | FAX (202) 225-1541

738 N. 5TH AVENUE, SUITE 110
TUCSON, AZ 85705
PHONE (520) 622-6788 | FAX (520) 622-0198

130 NORTH STATE AVENUE
P.O. Box 4105
SOMERTON, AZ 85350
PHONE (928) 343-7933 | FAX (928) 343-7949

13065 WEST McDOWELL ROAD, SUITE C-123
AVONDALE, AZ 85392
PHONE (520) 536-3388 | FAX (623) 748-0451

FACEBOOK: [Facebook.com/Rep.Grijalva](https://www.facebook.com/Rep.Grijalva)
TWITTER: [Twitter.com/RepRaulGrijalva](https://twitter.com/RepRaulGrijalva)

The Honorary Sally Jewel
Secretary of the Department of Interior
1849 C Street, Northwest
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Honorable Secretary Jewell:

I applaud your recent efforts to engage young people in the outdoors. Arizona is a state with rich beauty and tremendous outdoors. The unique challenges facing the Colorado River demand a long-term strategy and a sustainable set of practical solutions that will succeed or fail based upon the ability of a wide variety of stakeholders to reach compromises on contentious and complex policy issues.

The Department's landmark December, 2012 U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation's ("USBR") Colorado River Basin Water Supply & Demand Study ("Basin Study") set the table for many of these discussions and for consensus building on the development of potential next steps and short term conservation measures. Your March 20, 2014 Secretarial Order significantly expanded recreational, educational and career opportunities for businesses, conservation organizations, Tribes, youth groups, partners and has added momentum to this critical stakeholder engagement process.

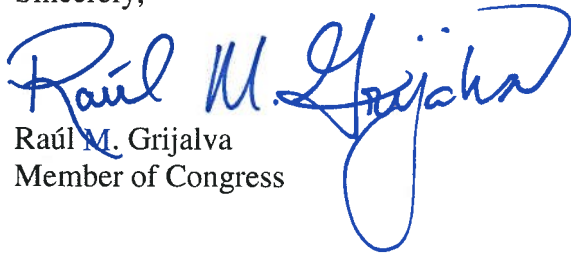
In addition, your focus on engaging youth and the Department's new emphasis on encouraging young Americans to "Play, Learn, Serve and Earn" is an exciting and innovative approach that promises to further develop solutions to the long term problems identified in the Basin Study. In addition, the Department's recent announcement of its participation in the Colorado River System Conservation program with major municipal water providers in the Colorado Basin also promises to accelerate the implementation of conservation measures throughout the Colorado River region.

Arizona has a rich tradition of civic engagement and we pride ourselves in our diverse history. Our youth remain a source of pride and we welcome opportunities for engaging our youth in dialog impacting our future. I believe that tapping the energies and ideas of new leaders can enhance your dual goals of engaging youth and finding new innovative conservation solutions. **I therefore strongly encourage your office to create a Youth Advisory Council comprised of youth from the Colorado River Basin states to continue the dialog around the solutions**

for the Colorado River. Arizona's youth have taken active roles with organizations like the *Nuestro Rio Youth Leadership* program and are eager to work with the Department on a bright future for the Colorado River.

Thank you for your continued leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raúl M. Grijalva". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping flourish at the end of the name.

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress