EMMETT STURGILL Rafter S Cattle Co. KINGMAN, AZ





ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION

FEDERAL LANDS BLM - CHAIR



NATIONAL MONUMENT ISSUES

Transparency

- The proposed Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument seeks to bypass public input and comments from local individuals and entities that may be impacted by a designation.
- Projects and management plans must go through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews before decisions are made on federal lands. The exception is National Monuments which are not subject to NEPA until after the designation which changes management in to the future.
- Monuments may restrict access to natural resources, recreation and production from the land including cattle grazing.

Management

- A majority of grazing is removed from monuments during the 10 year NEPA planning process.
- Antiquities which are to be protected are unclear and become cumbersome for land managing agencies and decisions are left to the courts.
- Land managing agencies spend more time and resources in developing plans and executing them for national monuments.
- Over time national monuments that have hindered production from the land and use of recreation have driven nearby towns to become ghost towns.

CONCLUSION

- The federal government already controls over half the land in Arizona. The best way to protect Arizona's land and natural resources is not to turn over even more territory to bureaucrats in Washington, but rather to entrust its care to the people who know the land best—those here in the state.
- The proposed Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument, if enacted, typifies the type of abuse and federal overreach longperpetrated under the Antiquities Act.
- Support legislation and work like Congressman Gosar's that limit the abuse of the Antiquities Act.