April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting $148,620 for the Arizona - Sonora Desert Museum - Collaborative Restoration and Wildfire Mitigation in the Tucson Mountains in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum located at 2021 N Kinney Rd Tucson, AZ, 85743. The locations of the three sites for this project fall within three different jurisdictions, Tucson Mountain Park, 6000 West Gates Pass Road Tucson, AZ 85745; Tumamoc Hill, Tumamoc Hill Road, Tucson AZ 85745; and Sentinel Peak Park, 1001 S. Sentinel Peak Park Road, Tucson AZ 85745.

The requested funding will restore a total of 158 buffelgrass-infested acres across three sites in the Tucson Mountains. These three sites fall within three different jurisdictions, Tucson Mountain Park (Pima County), Tumamoc Hill (University of Arizona), and Sentinel Peak Park (City of Tucson). A combination of contractors and youth crews would be hired by the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. In the past, the desert served as a natural fire-break between forests and most populated urban centers, but invasive grasses are filling in the open space in the desert. The federal funding provided to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum provides support for a tide-turning effort to restore priority habitat and mitigate the threat of wildfire within the Tucson Basin’s public lands while providing a buffer to Saguaro National Park West.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]