

RAÚL M. GRIJALVA  
7TH DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND  
SECONDARY EDUCATION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE  
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CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS  
CHAIR EMERITUS

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April 30, 2024

The Honorable Steve Womack  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and  
Urban Development, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Womack and Ranking Member Quigley,

I am requesting \$630,000 in funding for the Base and Meridian Wildlife Area Restoration project for fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Avondale, located at 11465 W. Civic Center Dr, Avondale, AZ 85323.

The funding will be used towards repairs in the lush and scenic Tres Rios Wetlands area. It will allow for safe and accessible walking paths along the trail system as well as repairing the access points for kayaks and canoes to launch into the waterways. The materials will also create safe accessibility into the wetlands for those with disabilities. Additionally, this first phase of restoration work will provide information on the extent of previous damage to the area.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because at the convergence of the Gila, Salt and Agua Fria rivers in the Southwest Valley is a thriving home to more than 150 different species of birds, plants, and mammals. This unique and vibrant area in Avondale offers hiking, bird watching, kayaking, and fishing to thousands of visitors each year including tourists, photographers, researchers, and school groups. Without these repairs, activities such as hiking, canoeing, and kayaking as well as events such as the annual Tres Rios Nature Festival, would no longer be feasible or safe due to the current state of the property.

Primary supporters are the Arizona Office of Tourism, City of Phoenix, City of Buckeye, Arizona Game & Fish Department, and others including the local community and business leaders. This project meets all requirements, is shovel ready, and can obligate funds within a year.

Thank you for your consideration of this important proposal.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress