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## **Protecting Sacred Sites from Air tours**

### **Main Topic: Prohibition of Air Tours Over Sacred Sites**

The Dine Hataalii Association, Inc. has pledged support to oppose and prevent air tours over sacred sites, specifically in Canyon De Chelly and Valleys. These are ceremonial sites and considered sacred; thus, community members strongly oppose any air touring above them.

A declaration was made in December of 2024 prohibiting air tours over these areas. The rationale is that ceremonies are conducted in the area. Ceremonial sites must remain protected from outsiders, including tourists. This is a violation of privacy interference.

### **Points made:**

Community consensus: Broad opposition to air tours over sacred sites.

Importance of sacredness and secrecy for ceremonial sites.

Call for legal protection to enforce the prohibition.

### **Recommendation.**

Affirmation of the ban on air touring over sacred and ceremonial sites in Canyon de Chelly the home of the Navajo families with their livestock, prayer sites and religious sites.

Plan to continue advocacy and enforcement of the no-air-tour policy.

Seek formal legal recognition and protection for these sacred areas.

We the community of Del Merto, Chinle, Black Rock, Tsaile and all local areas on the Navajo Reservation, Arizona.

Cultural sensitivity should be considered and should underscore the preservation of sacred areas. These sacred locations should be respected. Air tours over sacred sites are human rights violations. These are ethical and moral laws that should not be broken.

We respectfully yet sternly demand peace and do not wish to live with noise pollution.

Thank you,

Dr. Avery Denny

President of Dine Hataalii Association, Inc