



Sierra Forest Legacy

Protecting Sierra Nevada Forests and Communities



February 22, 2022

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva
Chair
Committee on Natural Resources
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Teresa Leger Fernández
Chair
Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples
1432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Letter of Support for HR 6032 The Katimiin and Aameekyáaraam Sacred Lands Act

Dear Chairman Grijalva and Chairwoman Leger Fernández:

On behalf of Sierra Forest Legacy, please accept this letter of support. This legislative proposal would right a historical wrong preventing Karuk people from free, unfettered and undisturbed access to their sacred places.

The Karuk people have lived and conducted ceremonies at Katimiin and Aameekyáaraam since the beginning of time. The Karuk Tribe's historic and present-day government to government relations with the United States is due in large part to their continued presence and traditional and customary uses of Katimiin, Aameekyáaraam, and several other ceremonial areas. These areas are integral to Karuk cosmology and creation as well as the perpetuation of Karuk customs and culture.

We support the Karuk Tribe's efforts to ensure the repatriation and management of Katimiin and Aameekyáaraam so their Tribal ceremonial leaders, traditional practitioners and community members will have access to these lands for traditional and customary uses in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Susan Britting, Ph.D.
Executive Director



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