



# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 6, 2019

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## **The Service Invites the Public Witness Condor Release at Vermilion Cliffs National Monument**

VERMILION CLIFFS, Arizona. – This year has proven exciting for California Condors in Arizona, with the hatching of the 1,000 condor at Zion National Park. The main excitement is over the 23rd annual public condor release scheduled for Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 11:00am. The public is invited to join the recovery effort by witnessing first-hand a release into the wild of four captive-bred young condors.

The California Condors will be released by The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Peregrine Fund atop the Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in northern Arizona. The public is welcome to [observe the release from a viewing area](#) where spotting scopes provided by Swarovski Optik and project personnel will be available to answer questions.

This will be the 23rd annual public release of condors in Arizona since the southwest condor recovery program began in 1996. The young condors are some of the birds that hatched at The Peregrine Fund's and were then transported to Vermilion Cliffs National Monument for release into the wild.

The historical California Condor population declined to just 22 individuals in the 1980s when the greater California Condor Recovery Program was initiated to save the species from extinction. As of August 2019, there are 92 condors in the wild in the rugged canyon country of northern Arizona and southern Utah, and the total world population of endangered California Condors numbers nearly 500 individuals, with more than half flying the skies of Arizona, Utah, California and Mexico.

For more information about California Condors in Arizona

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