



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, November 7, 2023

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The Mountain Pact Thanks USDA for Hosting a Public Meeting on the Effort to Expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

DURANGO, CO - In response to the [community listening session](#) for the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument expansion public meeting that just took place in California, Anna Peterson, Executive Director of [The Mountain Pact](#), an organization that works with local elected officials in over 100 communities across the Western U.S., released this statement,

“We thank Homer Wilkes, under secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for natural resources and environment, for visiting with community members and leaders today to discuss the expansion of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. We join nearly 100 local elected officials, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, the Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians-Kizh Nation, the Gabrieleño-Tongva Tribe, as well as California Rep. Judy Chu, Sen. Alex Padilla, and Governor Newsom in supporting the locally-led effort to urge President Biden to expand the Monument.”

Expanding the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument will help increase equitable access to nature for communities within Los Angeles County, conserve sources for critical drinking water, and honor the historical and scientific importance of the landscape.”

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Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in over 100 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.