

NATIONAL MONUMENTS

A Critical Tool for Conservation

THE ANTIQUITIES ACT

In 1906, Congress passed the [Antiquities Act](#), which created the [first national historic preservation policy](#) for the United States and ensured that the president can [designate national monuments](#) to protect natural, cultural, and historic sites, as well as waters and lands of great scientific value.

Since the act was passed, 18 presidents - nine Democratic and nine Republican - have designated or expanded [158 national monuments across the country](#). Presidents have exercised their authority under the Antiquities Act to create many iconic monuments including the [Statue of Liberty](#), [Bears Ears](#), [Grand Canyon](#), [Giant Sequoia](#), [Muir Woods](#), [Great Sand Dunes](#), [Chimney Rock](#), among others.

CONSERVING AND PROTECTING AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

National public lands are an integral part of the fabric of Western mountain communities and a major driver of their local economies. In 2020 in Arizona, the outdoor recreation economy supported 95,183 jobs, paid \$2.1 billion in wages and salaries, and was 2.0% of the state's GDP. Protected places are more vital to our health and well-being than ever even as communities are grappling with the consequences of record-breaking visitation and the impacts of climate change.

The Biden administration can achieve its goal of protecting more nature by using the Antiquities Act to create new national monuments. Community-led solutions, like locally-led national monument efforts, can protect archeological, historical, and cultural resources; ensure more equitable access to nature; address the climate crisis; restore America's biodiversity and wildlife; and begin to reckon with historic and present injustices. With an evenly split Senate, Congress is unlikely to move on its own to protect public lands so we are counting on the administration to move swiftly to use its authority to conserve vital places for our communities.

Photos by Bob Wick, BLM

ICONIC NATIONAL TREASURES IN ARIZONA



Bob Wick, BLM

Grand Canyon National Park

President T. Roosevelt established the first Grand Canyon National Monument in 1908, proclaiming, "Let this great wonder of nature remain as it now is. You cannot improve on it. But what you can do is keep it for your children, your children's children, and all who come after you, as the one great sight which every American should see."

It was redesignated as a national park when President Wilson signed the Grand Canyon National Park Act in 1919. In 1932, President Hoover designated the portion of Grand Canyon that continues down the Colorado River below Grand Canyon National Park as Grand Canyon National Monument. In 1969, President Johnson designated the northern continuation of Grand Canyon as Marble Canyon National Monument. Both of these monuments became part of Grand Canyon National Park in 1975.

It was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site on Oct. 26, 1979 and an International Dark Sky Park in June 2019.



Saguaro National Park

President Hoover designated Saguaro to preserve Sonoran Desert landscapes, flora and fauna, including the grandest stands of the saguaro cactus. In 1920, members of the Natural History Society of the University of Arizona first expressed interest in preserving a stand of the most iconic plant species in the West, which was already famous from countless silent movie westerns. It is the ancestral home of the Tohono O'odham Nation, whose members visit every year in the early summer to pick saguaro fruit.

TREASURED PLACES IN ARIZONA

These places were first designated as national monuments through the Antiquities Act.



**Since this place's initial designation, this location's management and/or name has been updated. See details on the next page.*



Photos by Bob Wick/BLM



The Mountain Pact

MONUMENT		DESIGNATION DATE	PRESIDENT	ACRES	MANAGEMENT AGENCY	UPDATES
1	Montezuma Castle National Monument	Dec. 8, 1906	President T. Roosevelt	160	National Park Service	
2	Petrified National Monument	Dec. 8, 1906	President T. Roosevelt	60,776	National Park Service	Redesignated a national park on March 28, 1958.
3	Tonto National Monument	Dec. 19, 1907	President T. Roosevelt	640	National Park Service	
4	Grand Canyon National Monument <i>(the original GCNM)</i>	Jan. 11, 1908	President T. Roosevelt	808,120	National Park Service	Redesignated as a national park when President Woodrow Wilson signed the Grand Canyon National Park Act on Feb. 26, 1919.
	Grand Canyon National Monument <i>(the portion of the canyon which continues down the Colorado River below Grand Canyon National Park)</i>	Dec. 22, 1932	President Hoover	273,145	National Park Service	Redesignated as a national park on Jan 3, 1975.
	Marble Canyon National Monument <i>(northern continuation of Grand Canyon)</i>	Jan. 20, 1969	President Johnson	32,546	National Park Service	Incorporated into Grand Canyon National Park on Jan. 3, 1975.
5	Tumacacori National Monument	Sept. 15, 1908	President T. Roosevelt	10	National Park Service	
6	Navajo National Monument	March 20, 1909	President Taft	360	National Park Service	
7	Papago Saguaro National Monument	Jan. 31, 1914	President Wilson	2,050	National Park Service	April 7, 1930, the land was transferred to the state of Arizona. Today it's Papago Park – a municipal park of Phoenix and Tempe.
8	Walnut Canyon National Monument	Nov. 30, 1915	President Wilson	960	National Park Service	
9	Casa Grande Ruins National Monument	Aug. 3, 1918	President Wilson	480	National Park Service	
10	Pipe Spring National Monument	May 31, 1923	President Harding	40	National Park Service	
11	Chiricahua National Monument	April 18, 1924	President Coolidge	3,655	National Park Service	
12	Wupatki National Monument	Dec. 9, 1924	President Coolidge	2,234	National Park Service	
13	Sunset Crater National Monument	May 26, 1930	President Hoover	3,040	National Park Service	Name changed to Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument on May 26, 1930.
14	Saguaro National Monument	March 1, 1933	President Hoover	53,510	National Park Service	Redesignated a national park on Oct. 14, 1994.
15	Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	April 13, 1937	President Franklin Delano Roosevelt	330,689	National Park Service	
16	Tuzigoot National Monument	July 25, 1939	President Franklin Delano Roosevelt	42.67	National Park Service	
17	Agua Fria National Monument	Jan. 11, 2000	President Clinton	71,100	Bureau of Land Management	
18	Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument	Jan. 11, 2000	President Clinton	1,014,000	National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management	
19	Ironwood Forest National Monument	June 9, 2000	President Clinton	129,000	Bureau of Land Management	
20	Vermillion Cliffs National Monument	Nov. 9, 2000	President Clinton	293,000	Bureau of Land Management	
21	Sonoran Desert National Monument	Jan. 17, 2001	President Clinton	486,000	Bureau of Land Management	