

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 California, the outdoor recreation economy supported 488,755 jobs, paid \$26.6 billion in wages and salaries, and was 1.8% 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.

Mojave Trails photo by John Dittli

ICONIC NATIONAL TREASURES IN CALIFORNIA

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



Death Valley National Park

The discovery of silver and borax initially brought people to Death Valley, the hottest and driest place in North America, in the late 1800s. The Civilian Conservation Corps played a big role in building roads, campgrounds, ranger stations, and other facilities to serve the public.



Cesar E. Chavez National Monument

The monument recognizes the tremendous significance of the headquarters of the United Farm Workers in the 20th century labor, civil rights, Chicano, and environmental movements and the contributions of Cesar Chavez, who was the leader of the United Farmworkers of America from 1927-1993.

TREASURED PLACES IN CALIFORNIA

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.*



MONUMENT		DESIGNATION DATE	PRESIDENT	ACRES	MANAGEMENT AGENCY	UPDATES
1	Lassen Peak and Cinder Cone	May 6, 1907	President T. Roosevelt	5120	National Park Service	Incorporated into Lassen Volcanic National Park in 1916
2	Muir Woods National Monument	Jan. 9, 1908	President T. Roosevelt	295	National Park Service	
3	Pinnacles National Monument	Jan. 16, 1908	President T. Roosevelt	1,320	National Park Service	Redesignated Pinnacles National Park on Jan. 10, 2013.
4	Devils Postpile National Monument	July 6, 1911	President Taft	798	National Park Service	
5	Cabrillo National Monument	Oct. 4, 1913	President Wilson	0.5	National Park Service	
6	Lava Beds National Monument	Nov. 21, 1925	President Coolidge	45,589	National Park Service	
7	Death Valley National Monument (California/Nevada)	Feb. 11, 1933	President Hoover	848,581	National Park Service	On Oct. 31, 1994, redesignated a national park, the country's largest national park outside of Alaska.
8	Joshua Tree National Monument	Aug. 10, 1936	President F.D. Roosevelt	825,340	National Park Service	Redesignated a national park in 1994.
9	Channel Islands National Monument	April 26, 1938	President F.D. Roosevelt	1,119	National Park Service	Incorporated into Channel Islands National Park when it was created on March 5, 1980.
10	California Coastal National Monument	Jan. 11, 2000	President Clinton	883	Bureau of Land Management	
11	Sequoia National Monument	April 15, 2000	President Clinton	327,769	U.S. Forest Service	
12	Carrizo Plain National Monument	Jan. 17, 2001	President Clinton	246,812	Bureau of Land Management	
13	Fort Ord National Monument	April 20, 2012	President Obama	14,651	Bureau of Land Management	
14	Cesar E. Chavez National Monument	Oct. 8, 2012	President Obama	10.5	National Park Service	
15	San Gabriel Mountains National Monument	Oct. 10, 2014	President Obama	346,177	U.S. Forest Service	
16	Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument	July 10, 2015	President Obama	330,780	U.S. Forest Service & Bureau of Land Management	
17	Mojave Trails National Monument	Feb. 12, 2016	President Obama	1,600,000	Bureau of Land Management	
18	Sand to Snow National Monument	Feb. 12, 2016	President Obama	154,000	U.S. Forest Service	
19	Castle Mountains National Monument	Feb. 12, 2016	President Obama	20,920	National Park Service	