

CALIFORNIA

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in California

National monuments contribute to communities across California, which is why so many elected officials express their support on the following pages. Californians want to protect their public lands through the designation of national monuments. This was shown in a poll that found that 75% of the state's population support monument designations.

Moreover, 62% of Republicans and 85% of Democrats were found to be in favor of protecting lands as national monuments. Similarly, a recent poll from the California Environmental Voters Education Fund also found support for public lands across the state. This 2022 poll showed that 82% of Coastal San Diego voters, 79% of Northern LA County voters, and 76% of Sierra voters support a new legislative proposal that would protect, restore, and expand public lands across the state.

A large, stylized number '75' is centered in the lower half of the page. The number is filled with a scenic landscape of a coastline with green hills, a blue ocean, and rocky shorelines. The background of the entire page is a similar landscape.

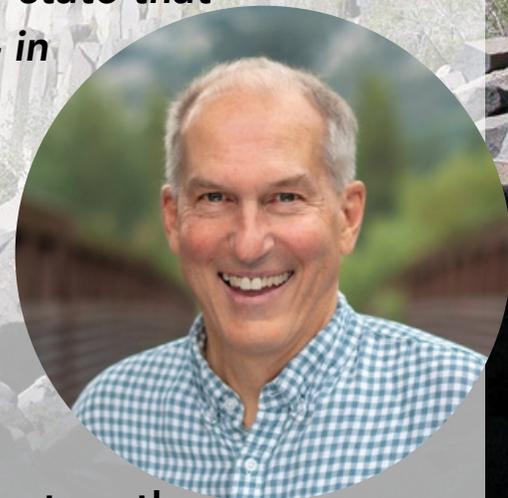
percent of Californians
support national
monument designations

CALIFORNIA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, California was ranked #43 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.0% of state GDP, \$35.2 billion in wages, 567,636 direct jobs, and added a value of \$73.8 billion to the state economy.

California's outdoor recreation economy generated \$54 billion in spending in 2021, making it an integral aspect of its large economy. The importance of this sector is being recognized by projects across the state, including the Lost Sierra Route, a 600 mile trail that is being built between 15 Northern California towns in hopes of revitalizing them through nature centered tourism.

"California has nearly 20 national monuments in our state that were designated by a bi-partisan list of presidents - in fact, more Republican presidents have designated national monuments in California than Democratic. And since designation, some of those treasured lands have since turned into our beloved national parks. We are grateful for, and frequently recreate in, our local Devil's Postpile National Monument."



Town of Mammoth Lakes, California Mayor John Wentworth

CALIFORNIA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

National Park Service Visits, Spending, and Economic Contributions to the California Economy

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
California	38,237,342	\$2,747,500,000	34,935	\$4,489,900,000

National Park Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Castle Mountains National Monument</u>	An analysis by OIA found that in California's 8th Congressional District, where Castle Mountains National Monument is located along with 32 outdoor recreation companies, \$1.52 billion was spent on outdoor recreation in 2018.

CALIFORNIA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

National Park Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Park Unit	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending \$2022	Jobs	Labor Income \$2022	Value Added \$2022	Economic Output \$2022
<u>Cabrillo National Monument</u>	768,076	\$50,718,000	638	\$27,761,000	\$43,651,000	\$71,205,000
<u>Cesar E. Chavez National Monument</u>	11,585	\$765,000	9	\$442,000	\$693,000	\$1,118,000
<u>Channel Islands National Park*</u>	323,245	\$21,775,000	258	\$12,639,000	\$19,935,000	\$31,853,000
<u>Death Valley National Park*</u>	1,128,862	\$104,819,000	1,228	\$51,435,000	\$86,947,000	\$139,299,000
<u>Devils Postpile National Monument</u>	144,453	\$10,514,000	127	\$4,759,000	\$7,620,000	\$13,127,000
<u>Joshua Tree National Park*</u>	3,058,294	\$171,013,000	2,037	\$77,112,000	\$124,692,000	\$209,054,000
<u>Lassen Volcanic National Park*</u>	446,291	\$30,014,000	371	\$12,738,000	\$20,341,000	\$35,786,000
<u>Lava Beds National Monument</u>	130,969	\$6,448,000	74	\$2,597,000	\$4,032,000	\$7,208,000
<u>Muir Woods National Monument</u>	798,625	\$98,253,000	910	\$62,655,000	\$96,686,000	\$138,003,000
<u>Pinnacles National Park*</u>	275,023	\$18,922,000	162	\$9,962,000	\$15,116,000	\$21,802,000

*Since its initial designation, this location's management and/or name has been updated. See our Mountain Pact 2022 [California](#) National Monuments Fact Sheet for more information.

CALIFORNIA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Bureau of Land Management National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>California Coastal National Monument</u>	<p><u>Point Arena</u> experienced a 20% jump in sales tax revenue and a 29% jump in hotel occupancy tax following the creation of the California Coastal National Monument.</p>
<u>Carrizo Plain National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, Carrizo Plain National Monument supported 28% job growth, with 37% growth in the service sector, 25% population growth, and 23% growth in real per capita income in San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, in FY21 Carrizo Plain National Monument received 90,725 visits and 111,277 visitation days.
<u>Fort Ord National Monument</u>	<p>A <u>2007 estimate by the BLM</u> estimated that Fort Ord National Monument contributes \$4 to \$6 million to the local economy. According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, visitation to Fort Ord National Monument tripled in 2021, to 1.5 million recreationists, a number beyond the capacity that the facilities here were designed for.</p>
<u>Mojave Trails National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the creation of Mojave Trails National Monument, <u>an ECO tour company in the area</u> saw a <u>200% increase in sales</u> from 2016 to 2017. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, Mojave Trails National Monument saw 103,286 visits and 101,000 visitor days in 2021, which was 22,000 more than the previous year.

CALIFORNIA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

<u>Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument</u>	In 2014, <u>recreation near Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument</u> supported 600 jobs and \$55.3 million in benefits to local counties.
<u>Sand to Snow National Monument</u>	2018 saw a 100% increase in vehicle visitation to the <u>Big Morongo Canyon Preserve</u> area of Sand to Snow National Monument. According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u> , in 2021 Sand to Snow National Monument saw 175,000 visits.

U.S. Forest Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

<u>San Gabriel Mountains National Monument</u>	The <u>designation of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument</u> has coincided with an annual increase in average earnings by \$1,099 and an increase in total jobs in the surrounding areas.
<u>Giant Sequoia National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015</u> , Giant Sequoia National Monument supported 20% job growth, including 35% in the service sector, 21% population growth, and the growth of real per capita income by 24% in Fresno and Tulare counties.

Chuckwalla National Monument

The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument in the California Desert includes the homelands of the Iviatim, Nüwü, Pipa Aha Macav, Kwatsáan, and Maara'yam peoples (Cahuilla, Chemehuevi, Mojave, Quechan, and Serrano nations). This is a living landscape with interconnected cultural, natural, and spiritual significance, which sustains the well-being and survival of Indigenous peoples today.

The monument would permanently protect approximately 660,000 acres of federal public lands that reach from the Coachella Valley region in the west to the Colorado River in the east. Designating the Chuckwalla National Monument would help ensure equitable access to nature, honor a cultural landscape, and protect the desert's unique biodiversity, wildlife habitat and landscape connectivity, and history.



Photo Credit: Andrea Iniguez, CalWild
A chuckwalla lizard at Corn Springs Campground

The proposed monument includes many places that Coachella Valley communities enjoy for outdoor recreation activities, including Painted Canyon and Box Canyon in the Mecca Hills area, Corn Springs campground, and the Bradshaw Trail. The proposed monument will help ensure equitable access to nature for residents of the eastern Coachella Valley and other local communities.

Permanently protecting these lands with a monument would help protect vast desert ecosystems and habitat for species like the chuckwalla lizard and desert tortoise, and migration corridors for desert bighorn sheep. The new monument would safeguard training sites for World War II soldiers, as well as a number of historic mines and mining artifacts from the 1800s. The monument would also conserve about 40 miles of the historic Bradshaw Trail.

Chuckwalla National Monument

The proposed monument would also preserve this cultural landscape by providing protections to important heritage values tied to the land such as multi-use trail systems established by Indigenous peoples, sacred sites and objects, traditional cultural places, geoglyphs, petroglyphs, pictographs, plants, and wildlife. These cultural, natural, and spiritual resources are essential to the welfare of regionally-affiliated Indigenous peoples.

The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument and expansion of Joshua Tree National Park are supported by the Fort Yuma Quechan Indian Tribe, the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, over a dozen current and former local elected officials, the cities of Banning, Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, and Palm Springs, over a dozen businesses, Chambers of Commerce, and over 1,000 residents of the eastern Coachella Valley and neighboring areas.



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monuments

Chuckwalla National Monument

"National monuments provide visitors and locals alike the opportunity to experience our beautiful California Desert. The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument, adjacent to the underserved communities in our region, would help alleviate the gap people of color face in accessing the outdoors. Safeguarding these precious public spaces would greatly benefit our residents. I greatly support the proposed Chuckwalla National Monument."

City of Banning Mayor Pro Tem Colleen Wallace



"As a local elected official, I often hear residents express strong support for protecting natural desert landscapes, in particular those in close proximity to our city. The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument and Joshua Tree National Park expansion would protect prized public lands and enhance opportunities for equitable and sustainable enjoyment of these places for locals."

City of Desert Hot Springs Councilmember,
District 2 Russell Betts



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monuments

Chuckwalla National Monument

"The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument and expansion of Joshua Tree National Park will provide even more opportunities for people to access the outdoors, as well as protect our beautiful deserts. Outdoor recreation and access to our gorgeous desert lands are one of the primary drivers of our tourism based economy and are part of what makes living here so special. And creating Chuckwalla will make the Coachella Valley the only point in the US that is completely surrounded by National Monuments and National Parks."



City of Desert Hot Springs Councilmember, District 1, Gary Gardner

"I strongly support protecting local desert public lands by establishing a new Chuckwalla National Monument. Safeguarding these wild spaces, located to the south of Joshua Tree National Park and north of the Chocolate Mountains, will greatly benefit the entire region. Protecting these lands will enhance our region's resilience to climate change and ensure that current and future generations can enjoy these places."



Noel Ragsdale, Sky Valley Community Councilmember (appointed)

Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Sáttítla - Medicine Lake Highlands

The Pit River Nation and their allies have asked others to unite in calling on President Biden to work with California's federal delegation to protect their homelands from the relentless threats from industrial energy development by designating a little more than 200,000 acres of US Forest Service managed public land in an area known as Sáttítla in the Medicine Lake Highlands as a national monument.

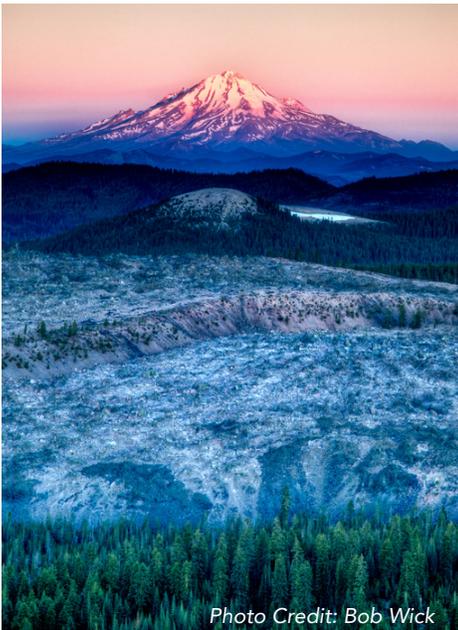


Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Medicine Lake Highlands

For thousands of years the forested lands and clear blue water have been sacred to numerous Tribes including the Pit River, Modoc, Shasta, Karuk, and Wintu. Sáttítla and the Medicine Lake Highlands are a spiritual center. Tribes continue to use the area for religious activities, ceremonies, and gatherings. Permanently protecting these sacred lands will not only honor their long standing efforts, but also will ensure that current and future generations are able to practice time-honored traditions on unspoiled lands.

For decades, the Pit River Tribe and allies, including the Mt Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center, have fought to safeguard these ancestral lands from ongoing threats, including more than two dozen leases issued by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management for large-scale geothermal energy development. Successful legal battles have proven the unsuitability of industrial development in this area, emphasizing risks to underground aquifers and the irreversible impacts to cultural and historical sites, yet BLM has yet to take these lands off the table and pending leases remain.

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monuments

Sáttítla - Medicine Lake Highlands

Geothermal power plants, utility lines, clear cutting of the forest, and hydraulic fracturing continue to be a threat to the sacredness and ecological importance of the Medicine Lake Highlands' lands and waters. The risks associated with these energy projects not only threaten the cultural and historic Tribal resources and uses of the land, but they also put the water, the wildlife, and our way of life at risk.

Many agree with the Pit River Tribe that Sáttítla, the Medicine Lake Highlands, must be protected to preserve this place for future generations and to conserve its rich ecological resources. To do that, there must be action.

"For generations we have fought to protect and to defend our lands, our waters and our people. Today we call upon the world to recognize the profound significance of our lands, to join us in their defense, and to work alongside us in ensuring permanent protection. Together, let us elevate our collective voice. Sáttítla must be protected and we call for its designation as a national monument, not just for our Tribal citizens but for all of life that depends on it."



Yatch Bamford, Chairman of the Pit River Nation

Photo Credit: Bob Wick

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Expansion

In 2014, President Obama designated 346,177 acres of the San Gabriel Mountains as a national monument. Since then, community support has continued to grow for safeguarding important public lands that were not included in the original monument designation.

Elected officials, community leaders, and local residents in the Los Angeles region have joined Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA) and Representative Judy Chu (CA-28) in calling on President Biden to add 109,000 acres of public lands to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

Expanding the monument is the next step in a 20-year, locally-driven effort to protect the San Gabriel Mountains, an area known as the “gateway” to the Angeles National Forest. It is one of the most visited parts of the forest receiving 4.6 million visitors in 2021—more than either the Grand Canyon or Yosemite National Park.



Bear Creek Canyon

Over 18 million people live within a 90-mile radius of these public lands and the expansion will help increase equitable access to nature and improve public health as they are the backyard for many urban and culturally diverse communities within Los Angeles County that have limited access to green spaces in their neighborhoods. Ensuring permanent protection of the San Gabriels is critical for the health and wellbeing of millions of Angelenos. In fact, the San Gabriel Mountains make up 70% of the county’s open space and are a popular destination for hiking, picnicking, fishing, biking, camping, swimming, and more.

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monument Expansions

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Expansion

The San Gabriel Mountains are an interconnected landscape and a refuge for native wildlife. The proposed expansion area would safeguard wildlife corridors and habitat for species such as black bears, mountain lions, coyotes, bighorn sheep, and mule deer.

The San Gabriel Mountains include a rich and diverse cultural heritage. The stories of the original stewards of these lands, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians and Gabrieleño (also known as Kizh, Gabrielino, and Tongva) Peoples are part of this sacred place. Cultural resources in the proposed expansion



Hoyt Mountain

area include prehistoric archeological sites, and historic sites and landscapes. Expanding the national monument will also conserve a critical source of drinking water for Los Angeles County as the Angeles National Forest provides one-third of the county's drinking water.

As of January 2024, the proposed expansion has garnered support from over 90 elected officials, the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, and the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians. Over 60,000 community members have signed a petition urging President Biden to use the Antiquities Act to expand the monument. Los Angeles County and the Cities of Alhambra, Baldwin Park, Duarte, Glendale, Pasadena, Monterey Park, San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and South Pasadena have also submitted letters of support and/or passed resolutions endorsing this effort.

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monument Expansions

San Gabriel Mountains National Monument Expansion

"The San Gabriel Mountains are a critical open space for many communities in Los Angeles County that lack green space and suffer from health issues. I appreciate Senator Padilla and Representative Chu for their efforts to continue what I had initiated during my Congressional tenure to ensure that more Angelenos, especially historically underserved communities, can enjoy this beloved region now and for generations to come. I support adding these lands to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument for the benefit of all.



I want us to collectively urge President Joe Biden to expand that national monument using the Antiquities Act of 1906 to protect nearly 110,000 acres of the San Gabriel Mountains. These lands are a gateway to our forest and should be included in our national monument legislation. They are part of the backyard to open space for L.A. County."

Los Angeles County, District 1 Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

"Every Los Angeles County resident in every neighborhood deserves safe and accessible nature, parks, and open space. Connecting with nature benefits our mental health and overall well-being. As local leaders, we must do everything possible to ensure our communities and visitors alike have equitable access to explore nature. It's a stabilizing space that makes a big difference in many people's lives."



Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Photo Credit: Bob Wick

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monument Expansions

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include Molok Luyuk Expansion

President Obama designated Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in 2015, responding to a call from Representatives Thompson and Garamendi, then-Senator Barbara Boxer, other Members of California's Congressional delegation, and community leaders to permanently protect these lands.

The expansion of Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument would safeguard public lands that are sacred to the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.



Milky Way from Condor Ridge

Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Molok Luyuk is Patwin heartland, and significant to Pomo, Wappo, and Miwok peoples as well.

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument stretches from Napa County in the south to Mendocino County in the north, encompassing 330,780 acres of public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service.

The proposed expansion area – Molok Luyuk – are public lands on the eastern edge of the existing monument. The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, which is requesting the expansion, has a long and significant connection to Molok Luyuk, stretching back thousands of years. The ridge includes areas where religious ceremonies are practiced and sites that were central to vital trading routes. These public lands also serve as a critical wildlife corridor and are home to many rare plants. Molok Luyuk means “Condor Ridge” and is a name provided by the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Tribal and community leaders have joined Representatives Garamendi, Thompson, and Senator Alex Padilla in calling on President Biden to use the Antiquities Act to expand Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monument Expansions

Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to include Molok Luyuk Expansion

“Many of the plant and animal species within Molok Luyuk are traditionally important to the lifeways of the Patwin people, and we consider their protection and stewardship to be part of our sacred responsibility to the land. Molok Luyuk was home to California condors as well as bald eagles, golden eagles, and peregrine falcons, and the area provides wildlife corridors and vital habitat for other culturally important species. The Yurok Tribe’s recent reintroduction of the California condor to the north of Molok Luyuk gives hope that condors will once again soar over the ridge.”



Yocha Dehe Tribal Chairman Anthony Roberts

“Molok Luyuk is a special and sacred place for area Tribes and for many local residents who enjoy recreation activities like hiking and mountain biking. The natural beauty of our home also drives tourism, which is key to the economic vitality of the region. Protecting these beautiful lands would be a gift to future generations.”



Lake County Supervisor E.J. Crandell, member of the Robinson Rancheria Tribe

Photo Credit: Bob Wick