

## 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 [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 Oregon, the outdoor recreation economy supported 69,624 jobs, \$3.1 billion in wages and salaries, and was 2.2% 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.

Cascade-Siskiyou NM photo by Bob Wick, BLM

# ICONIC NATIONAL TREASURES IN OREGON

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



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## Oregon Caves National Monument & Preserve

This cave system is unusual because of the presence of marble. Settlement in the river valleys near the caves was challenging because of the mountain barriers and a shortage of arable land. It wasn't until a road was built that commercial cave tours were offered in 1922.



Bob Wick, BLM

## Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Located at the convergence of the Klamath and Cascade mountains, the monument includes Soda Mountain and the surrounding lands, which are unusually ecologically diverse because of their distinct terrain types. It is the first national monument created to preserve biodiversity.

### 1. Oregon Caves National Monument

Designation Date: July 12, 1909

President: Taft

Acres: 131,486

Management Agency: National Park Service

Updates: It became Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve on Dec. 19, 2014.

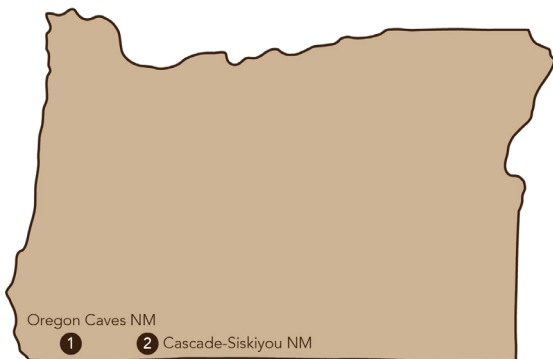
### 2. Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Designation Date: June 9, 2000

President: Clinton

Acres: 52,000

Management Agency: Bureau of Land Management



Oregon Caves NM

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Cascade-Siskiyou NM