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The Mountain Pact Calls for Castner Range to Become our Next National Monument

Today, The Mountain Pact celebrated Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland's visit to Castner Range in Texas and encouraged President Biden to make Castner Range our country's next national monument. In response to Secretary Haaland's visit, **Anna Peterson, Executive Director of The Mountain Pact, released this statement:**

"The overwhelming support for a Castner Range National Monument designation coming from Indigenous nations and entities, [local elected officials](#), faith leaders, veterans, and over 46,000 locals, shows the groundswell of local support for this special place to become our next national monument. To achieve the America the Beautiful goal President Biden and his administration have put in place, we need more protected public lands, including national monuments that build upon ongoing and often-untold stories of the true history of the United States - Castner Range National Monument wholeheartedly fits that description."

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More Information: The Mountain Pact sent a [letter](#) to the Biden administration, signed by over 115 Western state legislators, county commissioners, mayors, and council members from all eleven Western states in December of last year. The letter thanked the administration for taking climate action and protecting our public lands through programs like the historic [America the Beautiful initiative](#), applauds the administration's restoration of Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts national monuments and urged the President to use the Antiquities Act to protect more lands as national monuments - Like Castner Range in Texas and Avi Kwa Ame in Nevada.

Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in over 80 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.