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The Mountain Pact Launches New Report Highlighting Overwhelming Support Across the West for More National Monument Designations in 2024

Western Local Elected Officials Celebrate Biden Administration's Designations and Call for More to be Done to Safeguard Public Lands

Today, [The Mountain Pact](#), a coalition of local elected officials in over 100 Western mountain communities, [released a new report](#) highlighting the conservation and economic benefits of national monuments in states across the West.

The [report](#) includes statements and praise from over 50 county commissioners, mayors, and council members, highlighting the importance of the national monuments in their communities and urging the Biden administration to work to designate and protect additional public lands – with spotlights on new national monuments President Biden could designate or expand.

The report points to overwhelming support from Westerners in favor of protecting public lands. According to a [2023 Conservation in the West Poll](#), 84% of Westerners, including 71% of Republicans, are more likely to support presidents who use their power to protect existing public lands.

[SEE THE FULL REPORT HERE](#)

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The report comes on the heels of President Biden's designations of five new national monuments in his term so far: Camp Hale-Continental Divide in Colorado; Avi Kwa Ame in Nevada; Castner Range in Texas; Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon in Arizona; and Emmett and Mamie Till-Mobley in Illinois and Mississippi. President Biden has also restored protections for Bears Ears; Grand Staircase-Escalante; and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts national monuments.

"National monuments are important to western communities. Protecting public lands has always been a bi-partisan effort and one that all Americans can celebrate," **said Anna Peterson, Executive Director of The Mountain Pact.** "The Antiquities Act conserves vital places so our stories can be told and experiences can be shared for generations to come.

“Historically, presidents from both parties have used the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments an equal number of times. It’s rewarding to see how many of the important places that so many of us flock to and revere across the West have been protected by both Republican and Democratic presidents. We found this support from Western county commissioners, mayors, and council members to be just as strong. We continue to urge President Biden to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to protect more places with cultural and scientific significance as national monuments.”

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Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in over 100 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.