

NATIONAL MONUMENTS: THE HEART OF THE WEST



Sand to Snow National Monument, California | Photo Credit: Mason Cummings

*The Vital Role of National
Monuments to Western Local Elected
Officials and Communities*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

National Monuments & The Antiquities Act

Why We Need More National Monuments

Protecting Biodiversity, Public Health, and Taking Climate Action

Protecting Cultural Resources

They are Popular! Polling

Importance of Outdoor Recreation

Economic Benefits of National Monuments

The Mountain Pact and Western State Specifics

Arizona

California

Colorado

Idaho

Montana

Nevada

New Mexico

Oregon

Utah

Washington

Wyoming



Gold Butte National Monument, Nevada | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

INTRODUCTION

Our nation's protected public lands, including national monuments designated through the Antiquities Act, are at the heart of Western communities. These landscapes contribute significantly to local economies and culture by giving people the chance to connect with the land. They also help to conserve biodiversity, making them critical for wildlife protection and mitigation of the effects of climate change. Furthermore, they offer unmatched opportunities for scientific discoveries in the natural sciences and archeology, including the growth of Indigenous knowledge as many culturally significant sites fall within their boundaries. Given all that these landscapes provide Western communities, the protection of more public lands as national monuments is integral to the vitality of the region.



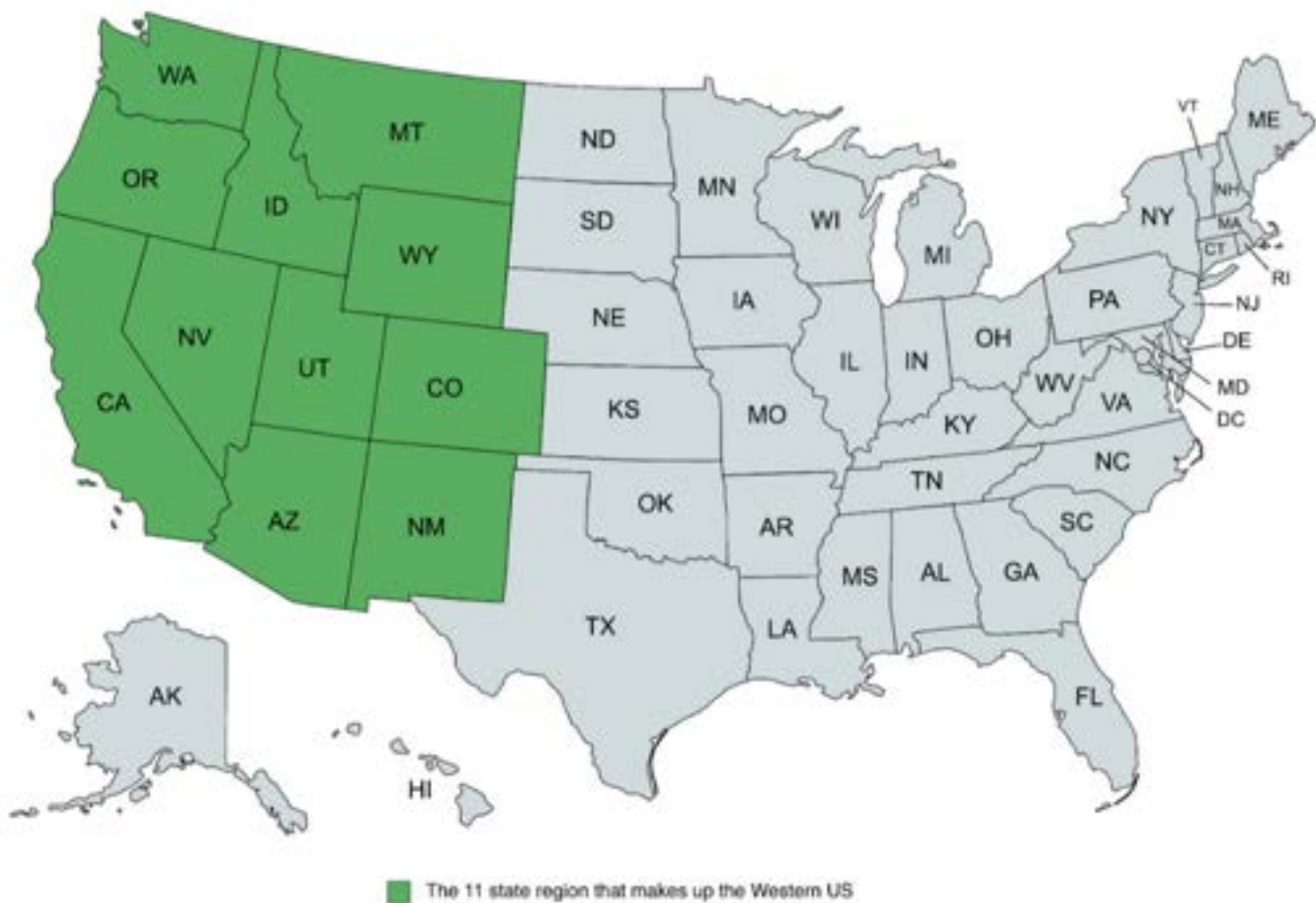
Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management
Ironwood Forest National Monument

The West's national monuments include some of the most inspiring mountains, breathtaking canyons, and expansive deserts in the world. Bordered on the east by the Rocky Mountains, on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the north by Canada, and on the south by Mexico, this region not only includes many

longitudes and latitudes, but also many elevations. The highest mountains in the lower 48 are found here, as is California's Death Valley, the lowest point in North America. This diverse geography has led to many unique ecosystems that need to be protected, both to preserve biodiversity and cultural resources, and for the enjoyment of future generations.

INTRODUCTION

At The Mountain Pact, we work hard to ensure that these landscapes are protected through advocacy and outreach with local elected officials in the mountain communities that call the West home. By uniting and highlighting voices from across this region, we are able to build momentum for national monuments and other important protections for national public lands. This report details why national monument protections support communities; how they can help tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis; and how protected public lands contribute to local economies.



INTRODUCTION - National Monuments & the Antiquities Act

Congress passed the Antiquities Act in 1906 during the Presidential administration of Theodore Roosevelt. Since then, many presidents, including Roosevelt himself, have used the Antiquities Act to respond to the conservation needs of their time. In total, eighteen presidents - nine Democratic and nine Republican - have established over 160 national monuments.

The Antiquities Act is responsible for protecting many of our country's most iconic and treasured places. Among these are landscapes that were originally national monuments but ultimately became some of the country's most famous national parks, including Grand Canyon National Park, Olympic National Park, Zion National Park, and Grand Teton National Park. Other well known national monuments include the Statue of Liberty, Bears Ears, Muir Woods, Devils Tower, and Dinosaur. These protected landscapes are managed by different federal agencies, including the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and others.



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

INTRODUCTION - National Monuments & the Antiquities Act

During his presidency, President Joe Biden has used the Antiquities Act to both restore and designate national monuments. He restored protections for Bears Ears; Grand Staircase-Escalante; and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine national monuments. As of January 2024, he also designated Camp Hale-Continental Divide; Avi Kwa Ame; Castner Range; Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley; and Baaj Nwaavjo l'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon national monuments.

Protective outcomes achieved under the Antiquities Act can 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. Through the use of the Antiquities Act, some of the most important resources in our nation are preserved for the betterment of all. These are among the many reasons that our work concentrates on encouraging greater use of the Antiquities Act. This report highlights the significantly positive impact that monuments designated through this act have had, and continue to have, on communities across the Western US.



Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument | Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Protecting Biodiversity, Public Health, and Taking Climate Action

We must do more to address the compounding threats of climate change and the rapid loss of biodiversity. Mitigating these issues can improve public health by safeguarding America's lands, water, and wildlife, as well as the ecosystems, and the clean air and flood mitigation that they provide.

Science tells us that worldwide biodiversity is deteriorating at a faster rate than at any other time in human history. From 2001 to 2017, more than 24 million acres of land were lost to human development in the lower 48 United States. This equates to the loss of one football field-sized patch of land every 30 seconds.

Many scientists continue to warn that we must conserve and restore at least 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030 if we want to preserve biodiversity and ecosystems, support an increasing global population, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Among the threats of human encroachment upon wildlife habitat are increased risk of the transmission of infectious diseases such as COVID-19 and SARS. Furthermore, vector-borne diseases like West Nile virus are increasing due to climate change. These diseases can be deadly and their increasing prevalence is already affecting parts of the West.



Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument | Photo Credit: Lisa Phillips

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Protecting Biodiversity, Public Health, and Taking Climate Action

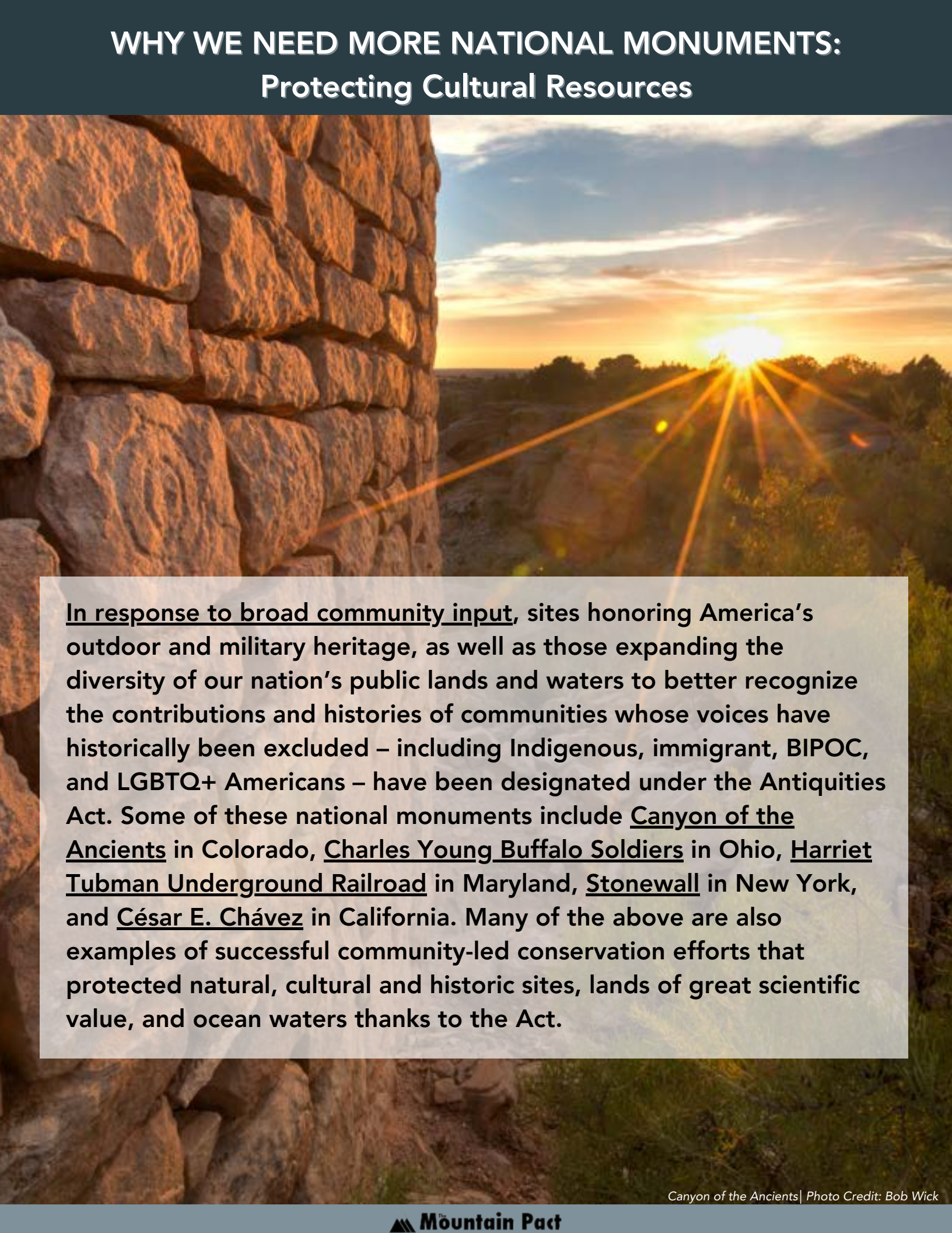
The preservation of public lands can have direct effects on climate change, since fossil fuel extraction on these landscapes generates 25 percent of the United States' climate change causing emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to increase, a fact that could be mitigated by conserving and restoring public lands. Science backs this up, showing that conserving nature can provide over one-third of the cost-effective climate mitigation needed through 2030 to hold warming below 2°C.

Our natural places help provide food security, clean air to breathe, and clean water to drink while offering us a wide range of health benefits. Regardless of race, background, or economic status, everyone should have access to close-to-home opportunities to get outside in nature. The protection of more public lands through the designations of more national monuments is one way to achieve all of these goals.



Browns Canyon National Monument | Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Protecting Cultural Resources



In response to broad community input, sites honoring America's outdoor and military heritage, as well as those expanding the diversity of our nation's public lands and waters to better recognize the contributions and histories of communities whose voices have historically been excluded – including Indigenous, immigrant, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ Americans – have been designated under the Antiquities Act. Some of these national monuments include Canyon of the Ancients in Colorado, Charles Young Buffalo Soldiers in Ohio, Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad in Maryland, Stonewall in New York, and César E. Chávez in California. Many of the above are also examples of successful community-led conservation efforts that protected natural, cultural and historic sites, lands of great scientific value, and ocean waters thanks to the Act.

Canyon of the Ancients | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: They are Popular! Polling

In addition to helping curb the climate and biodiversity crisis, protecting public lands, and honoring our country's history, more national monuments should be designated because they are popular with the American people. In the 2023 Conservation in the West Poll from Colorado College's State of the Rockies program, it was found that 84% of Westerners, including 71% of Republicans, were more likely to support presidents continuing to use their ability to designate existing public lands as "national parks, national monuments, and national wildlife refuges and Tribal protected areas to protect historic sites or areas of outdoor recreation." Monument designations maintain public access to public lands and protect ecosystems and wildlife for future generations, which are important reasons why this type of protection is popular.

More generally, this poll also found that 77% of Western voters favor elected officials who want to designate new national parks and monuments. This favorability also aligns with the fact that 82% of those polled see the loss of natural areas as a problem. A slightly higher number, 83%, also see declines in fish and wildlife populations as an issue that needs to be dealt with. Protections, like national monuments, are one of the best ways to stop this loss, and are aligned with the 93% of respondents who wish to conserve wildlife habitat and migration routes, the 91% who think helping threatened wildlife is important, and the 85% who support the construction of wildlife crossings.

A large, stylized number '77' is displayed in a light blue color, set against a background of a mountain landscape. The number is composed of two '7's, with the second '7' slightly offset to the right and overlapping the first.

77 percent of Western voters favor elected officials who want to designate new national parks and monuments.

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: They are Popular! Polling

The [2022 and 2023 Winning the West Polls](#) also found broad support among Western voters for protecting public lands. While the Conservation in the West poll showed favorable views of elected officials who protect new landscapes, this poll found that 76% of Western voters approve of [President Biden's America the Beautiful Initiative](#), which, among other goals, aims to protect 30% of America's lands by 2030. These trends continued in the [2023 Winning the West Poll](#), with 71% of voters polled saying they would support a candidate who prioritizes the creation of new parks and monuments and would stop the overdevelopment of these landscapes. Those who responded to this poll also want to make sure that these areas allow recreation in a way that centers conservation, with 73% saying the government should do more to maintain national parks, public lands, and national monuments.

Countless resolutions, letters, and supportive statements from local elected officials across the west and the country show strong support for existing and new national monument designations.



73

percent of recent poll responders agreed that the government should do more to maintain national parks, public lands, and national monuments.

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Importance of Outdoor Recreation

Many Americans with a deep connection to the natural world grow this connection through outdoor recreation. Conserved public lands are the backbone of the rapidly growing outdoor recreation economy.

Moreover, economists and scientists have found that the global economy would continue to benefit from the creation of more protected areas on both land and at sea.



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Canyon of the Ancients National Monument

A connection to the natural world is just one of the benefits of participating in outdoor recreation, as these activities can also contribute to the developmental health of children, lifelong well-being, and community resilience. The 2023 Outdoor Industry Association Outdoor Participation Trends Report shows that

the number of people participating in outdoor activities is growing.

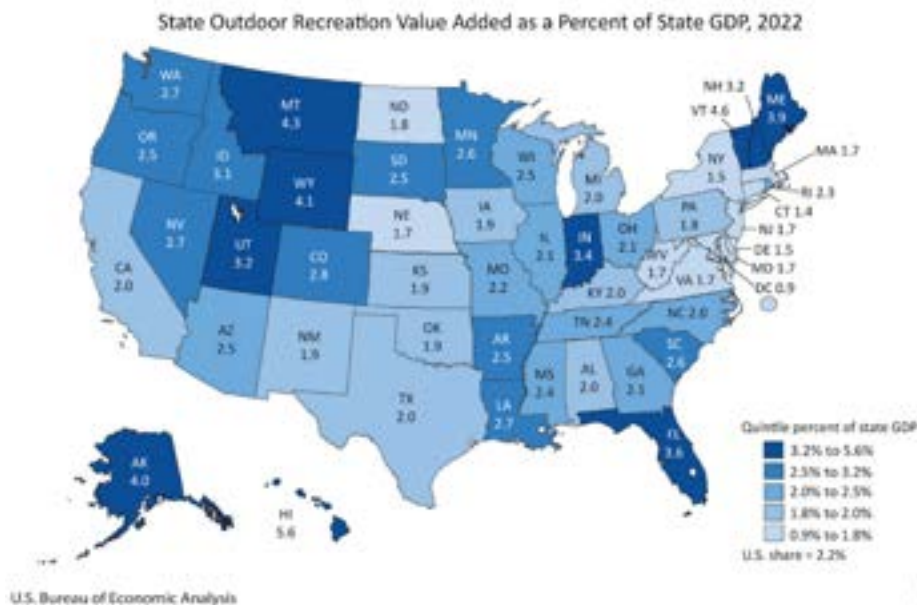
According to this report, in 2022, participation across the country grew by 2.3% to 168.1 million people which accounts for 55% of the US population who are 6 years of age or older. This growth continues an eight year trend of increases in outdoor recreation participation rates.

The most popular outdoor activities are hiking, running, bicycling, fishing, and camping, while the fastest growing activities include snowshoeing, camping, cross-country skiing, bicycling, birdwatching, and climbing, all of which are popular across the Western U.S. As more Americans deepen their connection to nature through outdoor recreation, support for the protection of the landscapes where they recreate also grows because when outdoor recreation is important to people, so too are the places where this recreation occurs.

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In addition to the conservation and cultural importance of national monuments, these, and other protected areas, drive local economies by providing access to various outdoor recreation pursuits. As explained above, the popularity of outdoor recreation is on the rise, which means more visitors to our nation's public lands. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic supercharged the outdoor recreation economy, a 2020 study of communities near 14 national monuments designated between 1991 and 2014 demonstrated that business and job growth is associated with the growth of the outdoor recreation economy that public lands protections can bring.

America's public lands are experiencing more visitation across the board. For example, national forests and grasslands have seen the number of estimated annual visitors rise from 147 million between 2008-2012 to 156 million between 2017-2021. These visitation rates create jobs, enhance communities, and help boost local outdoor recreation economies which contributed 2.2%, or \$563.7 billion, of current-dollar gross domestic product (GDP) for the nation in 2022. In the Western U.S. this is especially true, where the majority of states derive more than 2% of their GDP from outdoor recreation.



WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS:

Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Visitation to the lands overseen by federal agencies is a significant contributing factor to the strong recreation sectors across the Western U.S. Without a doubt, some of the most popular public lands in the country are those that fall within the boundaries of the National Park System - and many national monuments. In 2022 these landscapes saw over 312 million visitors, and new data shows that this contributed 378,400 jobs and \$50.3 billion in economic output to local communities. The places that are managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are also quite popular and receive tens of millions of visitors on a yearly basis - in 2022 there were over 80 million visits to BLM lands. The rate of visitation to National Park Service (NPS) and BLM lands are particularly relevant to The Mountain Pact's work, since many important national monuments are found within the boundaries of this vast network of public lands.

These numbers align with the fact that within the Department of the Interior (DOI), where both the NPS and the BLM are located, over a third of all jobs and 22.11% of all economic output were generated by recreation in 2019. In hard numbers, this resulted in \$60.6 billion in economic gains, making recreation the second largest contributor to the economy within the DOI. The majority of this revenue comes from the NPS, which generated \$41.5 billion in economic output from recreation in 2019. The BLM contributes the second largest amount via recreation, generating \$7.7 billion in economic output in 2019. This number is smaller than that generated by the NPS because many BLM lands do not require an entry fee. However, these landscapes offer more recreational opportunities than any others managed by federal agencies. The remainder of the economic activity rooted in recreation within the DOI is found with the Fish & Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation.

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS:

Economic Benefits of National Monuments

The preservation of public lands also has many economic benefits for nearby communities. Economic research shows that employment and personal income grew significantly faster in rural counties with conserved, restored, and protected public lands than in rural counties with fewer protected areas. Furthermore, in 2017 the National Conservation Lands system created 7,100 jobs and generated \$630 million to local and state economies. Much of this growth came from recreational visits to public lands.

Despite these benefits, outdoor recreation is not a silver bullet and it is important to proactively plan for how it will be implemented. The recent Amenity Trap report from Headwaters Economics provides insight into how to spot and mitigate the issues that may arise with the growth of nature focused economies. The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable's Rural Development Tool is another helpful resource for sustainably planning recreation development. The 15 principles in this toolkit act as a template that can be adapted to meet the needs of a community as their economy is diversified to include outdoor recreation.



Mojave Trails National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

WHY WE NEED MORE NATIONAL MONUMENTS: Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Diversity in sectors, industries, and roles is a key component of a thriving economy. Outdoor recreation can help create economic diversity because it supports organizations and roles within many sub-sectors, including arts and entertainment, retail and wholesale trade, manufacturing, transportation, real estate, and more. Outdoor recreation is, therefore, a powerful driver of economies, a fact that is reflected by the growth that medium sized cities with natural amenities have experienced over the past decade.

Some of these cities are those that are located near protected public lands. There is evidence that the designation of national monuments helps local economies by encouraging the opening of new businesses and the creation of new jobs. In a summary of the evidence for positive economic effects on communities from the implementation of these protections, Headwaters Economics researchers write that the designation of national monument “does appear to spur business and job growth and reduce the rate of business closures in the years following monument designation.” This is also demonstrated by the fact that counties with at least 100,000 acres of protected public lands have on average a per capita income of \$4,360 higher than those that do not. The designation of national monuments is therefore not just critical to protecting ecosystems, cultural resources, and wildlife, but also important for ensuring the vitality of western communities and economies.

THE MOUNTAIN PACT and WESTERN STATE SPECIFICS

Protecting more landscapes through national monument designations is one solution to the climate and biodiversity crises we face. Moreover, these protected landscapes support a robust outdoor recreation economy that has large benefits for small mountain towns across the West. The Mountain Pact encourages President Biden to continue using the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments to protect more places with cultural heritage and landscapes with scientific and historical value. These designations will help connect more people to the natural world in a sustainable way; help with the influx of new residents, visitors, and overcrowding in currently protected places; and grow local economies as more people come to these places to experience our public lands, culture, history, science, and the outdoors.

The Mountain Pact has sent letters to the Biden administration including one signed by 150 Western state legislators, county commissioners, mayors, and council members from all eleven Western states urging the President to use the Antiquities Act to protect more lands as national monuments.



Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management
Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument

The letter states, “As local elected officials, we are tasked with finding creative solutions to the many challenges that come with the ever-increasing popularity of our public lands; our growing infrastructure needs; lack of access to parks and open space by historically under-served communities; as well as the devastating and expensive impacts of climate change. With these reasons in mind, we ask you, President Biden, to use the Antiquities Act to protect more of our public lands by designating them as national monuments.”

THE MOUNTAIN PACT and WESTERN STATE SPECIFICS

“National monuments are important to Western communities. Protecting public lands has always been a bi-partisan effort and one that all Americans can celebrate. 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 have found that the 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.”

Anna Peterson, Executive Director of The Mountain Pact

ARIZONA

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

Arizonans support national monuments. A 2022 poll from the Grand Canyon Trust found overwhelming support for presidents' ability to protect more public lands, with 85% of respondents saying they support presidents using the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments. Similarly in another recent poll, 88% of Arizonans support the designation of new national monuments by presidents of both parties.

The Colorado College's 2023 Conservation in the West Poll found that 86% of Arizonans support the 30x30 goal of permanently protecting 30% of America's land and water by 2030. 86% also support the designation of more national monuments by the president and 63% consider themselves conservationists.

In Arizona, two-thirds of the presidents that have designated national monuments across the state have been republican. Those six republican presidents and three democratic presidents used the Antiquities Act to protect these important places as national monuments for future generations.

85

percent of Arizonans support presidents using the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments.

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

ARIZONA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Ironwood Forest National Monument

In 2021, Arizona was ranked #21 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.5% of the state GDP, 106,571 direct jobs, \$5.7 billion in wages, and added a value of \$11.7 billion to the state economy.

More than half of Arizonans participate in some kind of outdoor recreation. In 2022, outdoor activities in Arizona such as hiking, bicycling, boating, birdwatching, and rafting in places like the Grand Canyon region generate \$3.3 billion in wages and salaries, \$787 million in state and local revenues, and create 104,000 direct jobs.

This has led to significant economic gains for the Northern Arizona region.

The construction of outdoor recreation projects in Arizona has demonstrated the power that this industry has to boost the economy. For example, trail projects, like the creation of the multi-use trail along the Rillito River, contributed to \$166 billion in economic activity in Arizona in 2017. National Parks are also a huge boon to the economy in Arizona, with visits to the Grand Canyon in 2021 generating \$710 million to nearby local economies.

ARIZONA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Arizona	10,276,078	\$1,151,700,000	16,418	\$1,880,100,000

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

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument</u>	Between 2001 and 2015, Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument supported 42% job growth, with 56% in the service sector, 41% population growth, and 12% real per capita income growth in two neighboring counties.

ARIZONA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

National Park Service National Monuments Designated through the use of the Antiquities Act

Monument	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending \$2022	Jobs	Labor Income \$2022	Value Added \$2022	Economic Output \$2022
<u>Casa Grande Ruins National Monument</u>	78,557	\$5,187,000	71	\$2,786,000	\$4,649,000	\$8,017,000
<u>Chiricahua National Monument</u>	61,377	\$4,063,000	49	\$1,410,000	\$2,395,000	\$4,374,000
<u>Grand Canyon National Park*</u>	4,732,101	\$758,899,000	9,991	\$346,332,000	\$576,355,000	\$1,010,477,000
<u>Montezuma Castle National Monument</u>	364,014	\$24,037,000	327	\$12,869,000	\$21,407,000	\$36,711,000
<u>Navajo National Monument</u>	41,118	\$2,899,000	34	\$1,125,000	\$1,889,000	\$3,324,000
<u>Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument</u>	133,317	\$8,630,000	112	\$4,434,000	\$7,430,000	\$12,712,000
<u>Petrified Forest National Park*</u>	505,209	\$36,752,000	434	\$14,026,000	\$23,644,000	\$42,065,000
<u>Pipe Spring National Monument</u>	23,001	\$1,519,000	21	\$611,000	\$1,025,000	\$1,924,000
<u>Saguaro National Park*</u>	908,194	\$66,012,000	876	\$34,400,000	\$58,183,000	\$99,981,000
<u>Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument</u>	54,787	\$3,618,000	45	\$1,484,000	\$2,424,000	\$4,274,000
<u>Tonto National Monument</u>	31,504	\$2,080,000	29	\$1,117,000	\$1,862,000	\$3,207,000
<u>Tumacacori National Historical Park*</u>	38,786	\$2,561,000	34	\$1,143,000	\$1,900,000	\$3,361,000
<u>Tuzigoot National Monument</u>	116,639	\$7,702,000	105	\$4,134,000	\$6,876,000	\$11,782,000
<u>Walnut Canyon National Monument</u>	179,396	\$11,846,000	147	\$4,859,000	\$7,936,000	\$13,996,000
<u>Wupatki National Monument</u>	194,448	\$14,153,000	170	\$5,726,000	\$9,504,000	\$16,660,000

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

ARIZONA - 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>Agua Fria National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015</u> , Agua Fria National Monument supported 26% job growth, with 39% growth in the service sector, 29% population growth, and 19% growth in real per capita income in Yavapai County.
<u>Ironwood Forest National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015</u> , Ironwood Forest National Monument supported 15% job growth, with 25% growth in the service sector, 18% population growth, and 9% growth in real per capita income in Pima County.
<u>Sonoran Desert National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015</u> , Sonoran Desert National Monument supported 29% job growth, with 41% growth in the service sector, 36% population growth, and 6% growth in real per capita income in Maricopa and Pinal Counties.
<u>Vermillion Cliffs National Monument</u>	Since the Vermillion Cliffs National Monument designation, <u>nearby communities have experienced</u> a 25% increase in jobs and a 24% increase in real per capita income.

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument



Photo Credit: Rich Rudow

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

On August 8, 2023, President Biden designated the tribally-led Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument to protect lands around the Grand Canyon region and watershed, which have cultural connections to at least 12 Tribes and Nations.

This Indigenous-led proposal dates back decades to numerous efforts to permanently protect the Grand Canyon region from new uranium mining and other harmful development.

The Grand Canyon region provides opportunities for outdoor experiences and traditional uses of all types - from hiking, hunting, fishing, and camping to grazing and Tribal uses like plant and firewood gathering. A national monument will maintain these existing uses while protecting the region's clean air, land, and water.

The monument will also protect important cultural sites for Indigenous communities and habitat for endangered species like California condors, Mexican spotted owls, and the Fickeisen plains cactus.

ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

The monument designation will also protect hundreds of seeps and springs within the watershed of the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon, as well as the tributary streams they sustain, which in turn support flows in the river and habitat for highly endangered wildlife.

Tribal Nations have been the original stewards of the Grand Canyon region since time immemorial; the region holds significant cultural and spiritual narratives. Tribes have been rooted in this iconic landscape where their stories and histories are told among the layers of rock and sand and in the water that flows through the canyon.



Photo Credit: Rich Rudow

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

Thousands of archaeological sites have been documented in the region, representing just a fraction of its human history. Ranging from settlements and habitations to temporary camps, granaries, and caches, the sites and petroglyphs date from as far back as the Paleo-Indian period - 11,000 BCE.

The new monument is home to tremendous biological diversity and numerous threatened, endangered, and rare species, including dozens of species of plants and invertebrates that are only found locally or regionally.

ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

A 2022 poll from the Grand Canyon Trust found that 75% of Arizonans wanted to see the creation of the recently designated Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument. This support was across party lines and geographic regions. These numbers held steady in a recent poll from Grand Canyon Trust as well, that found 75% of Arizonans still support this monument, including 89% of Democrats, 73% of Independents, and 65% of Republicans.



Photo Credit: Amy Martin

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

Similarly, the 2023 Winning the West Poll found that 79 percent of voters in Arizona support the recently-designated Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument.

Furthermore, leaders across the state support this protection, including Governor Katie Hobbs, 37 other lawmakers, and over 100 faith leaders.

ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

"Baaj nwaavjo' in Havasupai means 'where the ancient people roamed' and 'I'tah kukveni' is the Hopi translation of 'ancestral footsteps.' Efforts to protect the Grand Canyon from uranium mining began in the early 1980s and has taken the majority of my lifetime. I'm overwhelmed to see that everyone is finally hearing our voices and to see President Biden speak about the atrocities that my ancestors went through is starting the healing process for me and my community. Everyone that lives in this region deserves the right to clean water and clean air. I'm very encouraged to see the designation of Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument to protect my homeland in my lifetime."



Havasupai Tribe member and Grand Canyon Tribal Coalition coordinator Carletta Tilousi

75

percent of Arizonans wanted to see the creation of the recently designated Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

Photo Credit: Rich Rudow

ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

"The Coconino County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution calling on President Biden to create a new national monument next to the Grand Canyon. We are so thrilled that in August 2023 he designated Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument which sets aside National Forest, State Trust, and Bureau of Land Management lands to protect the area from further uranium mining exploration and development. This National Monument effort represents the culmination of many years of advocacy to permanently protect the Grand Canyon and its watershed.



Tourism and recreation, including that centered around the Grand Canyon, is a major economic driver for Coconino County and the region. Flagstaff and Coconino County are often recognized as one of the top places for outdoor recreation and activities in the country with premier hiking, biking, climbing, and river rafting. This National Monument will extend our outdoor and recreation focus and further enhance the tourist-based economy of Coconino County.

Setting aside this area will improve local economies, preserve significant tribal cultural sites, protect natural areas that are essential for the recreation & tourism economy, and prevent further contamination of the critical Colorado River Plateau Watershed.

Thank you, President Biden, for designating Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument to protect the area from uranium mining, while preserving existing uses like grazing, timber harvest, and outdoor recreation."

Coconino County, Arizona Chair of the Board of Supervisors Patrice Horstman

Photo Credit: Rich Rudow

ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument

"We are lucky to have so many national monuments within an hour of our community like the remarkable Wupatki National Monument; Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument; Walnut Canyon National Monument; Tuzigoot National Monument; and Montezuma Castle National Monument. Even Grand Canyon National Park, one of the world's seven wonders, was first designated as a national monument.

Many people and I have a love of the Grand Canyon and its surrounding area - it has the beauty of solace and a restorative power. There are so few places left where we can escape the clatter of society. It is one of the primary reasons that we live in this area - to experience natural quiet and other resources in this temple of a canyon built by time and God. Outdoor tourism is a driving force in our economy because people come from around the world to experience these lands.

Native peoples have inhabited and stewarded these lands since time immemorial. Many cultural resources and sites that are significant and sacred to Native peoples remain in the area. That's why the City of Flagstaff council passed a resolution supporting the tribally-led proposed monument and are so thrilled to now have Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument as our state's newest monument. We should restore and protect more of these places!"



City of Flagstaff, Arizona Councilmember Jim McCarthy

Photo Credit: Rich Rudow

ARIZONA - Potential National Monuments

The Great Bend of the Gila

The public lands of the Great Bend of the Gila must be protected in a way that recognizes their importance to Tribes, their cultural and historical values, and the role of these lands in species survival, combating climate change, and redressing water scarcity. We urge the President to invoke the Antiquities Act and designate the Great Bend of the Gila River as a National Monument. That would better protect the diverse values of the resilient, yet fragile, landscape.

The stretch of river valley and surrounding desert between the cities of Phoenix and Yuma, Arizona, constitutes a fragile landscape that also serves as a backcountry recreation area for tourists and nearby residents. Protecting the Great Bend of the Gila also means protecting the recreation and economic opportunities for the region.

The Great Bend of the Gila will play a pivotal role in the future of the region in several interrelated ways. Preserving open space will sustain natural vistas and the scenic quality of the West Valley while also protecting the habitat and habitat connectivity that desert-dwelling animals such as bighorn sheep, Sonoran desert tortoise, mule deer, and javelina require for survival.

It's time to permanently protect this inimitable, enduring, yet surprisingly sensitive landscape. Although there are laws protecting cultural heritage on federal lands, permanent protection will help better enforce these laws. Given their historical and ongoing ties to the land, Tribes should have a strong voice in how this land and their legacies on it are managed in perpetuity.

Photo Credit: David Wallace Visuals

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.



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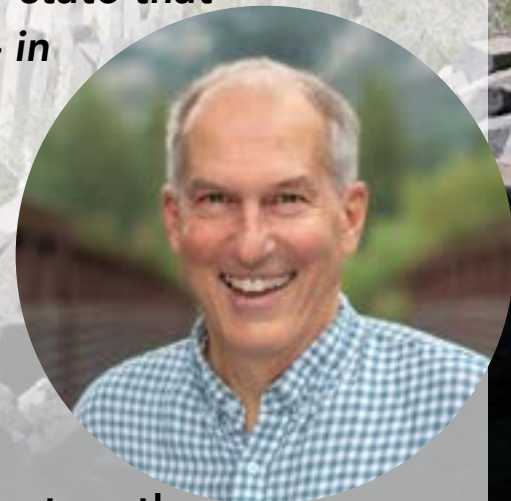
percent of Californians
support national
monument designations

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.

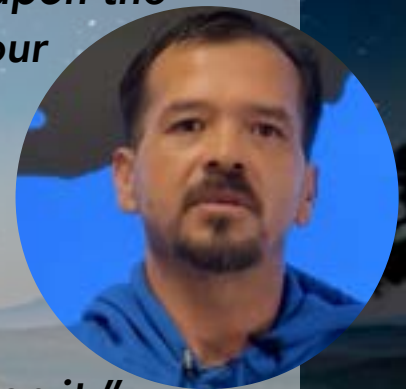
CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monuments

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

CALIFORNIA - Potential National Monument Expansions

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.

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.



Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Milky Way from Condor Ridge

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

COLORADO

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

Coloradans and Colorado local elected officials strongly support national monuments across the state. 87% of Coloradans support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments. Moreover, 82% supported the national goal of protecting 30% of the nation's waters and lands by 2030.

This support is aligned with the fact that many communities in Colorado rely on their local outdoor recreation economy - including the regions near the recently designated Camp Hale - Continental Divide National Monument and areas near the proposed Dolores Canyons National Monument.

87

percent of Coloradans support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments.

Dolores River Canyon | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

COLORADO

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

"We have so many amazing national monuments in the four corners that bring hundreds of thousands of visitors to our region to learn. Chimney Rock, Canyons of the Ancients, Hovenweep, and Yucca House national monuments are important for their cultural heritage, beauty, and scientific importance. We are lucky to have so many important protected places in our area, preventing destruction of valuable cultural and natural resources and preserving these areas for future generations to enjoy."



La Plata County, Colorado Commissioner Matt Salka

"Salida residents love living near the pristine and ruggedly beautiful Browns Canyon National Monument. Running the canyon with one of our many experienced rafting outfitters is quite the thrill! Residents and visitors take great comfort in knowing that the canyon will be preserved in perpetuity for future generations."



City of Salida, Colorado Mayor Dan Shore

Browns Canyon National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

COLORADO

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

"Grand Junction attracts people who love the outdoors. Our public lands are an integral part of our lives and a core part of our way of life. Over 70% of Mesa County is public lands—and almost all residents and many visitors interact with them in some way whether through mountain biking, climbing, dirt biking, hunting, fishing, hiking, or in a myriad other ways.

Access to outdoor spaces like the Colorado National Monument right in our backyard greatly enhance the quality of life for our residents, which is one of the many things that makes Grand Junction a great place to live.

Places like Colorado National Monument also beneficially impact tourism to our community providing many good-paying jobs and tax revenue to bolster our local economy. Our quality of life is enhanced by our public lands through tourism and better health outcomes for community members staying physically active.

As an avid mountain biker, climber, river tripper, skier, and much more, public lands are integral to my life, and my happiness. It's hard to imagine what life would look like without access to these amazing spaces, like Colorado National Monument, but it would be pretty bleak without them."

City of Grand Junction, Colorado Mayor Pro Tem Abe Herman



COLORADO

"We are lucky to have national monuments across the state of Colorado. Places like Chimney Rock National Monument in Southwest Colorado, our new Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument, and our beloved Browns Canyon National Monument right here in our community.

In Chaffee County, we know the tremendous benefits protected public lands have for our community. Residents and visitors to Chaffee County have always understood that Browns Canyon is a national treasure. The national monument designation was and is supported by hunters and anglers, businesses and conservation groups, veterans, and youth groups.

As a part of an overall landscape, as a wildlife habitat, as a unique environment, it merited a higher degree of protection. The geological formations of Browns Canyon are unique even by Colorado standards - once you get in there and start looking around, you'll say 'Wow this is something like I've never seen before.' Especially in Colorado, we have lots of wilderness that is at alpine or subalpine levels, but we don't have anything that is at a low elevation like that, with a river through it.

Browns Canyon National Monument provides our families and communities with opportunities for rafting, fishing, hunting, and other outdoor recreation. The monument has brought positive attention to our area with tens of thousands of people flocking to Chaffee County each year to explore the monument. This benefits our local economy, while ensuring that the natural legacy of this area remains intact for succeeding generations.

Presidents have used their authority under the Antiquities Act to establish national monuments for sites that are important pieces of natural and cultural history. Preserving them for future generations is essential to maintaining our country's shared past - I encourage Presidents to continue to designate more national monuments across the country through the use of the Antiquities Act."

Chaffee County, Colorado Commission Chair, former Friends of Browns Canyon Executive Director, and retired U.S. Navy Commander Keith Baker



COLORADO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Colorado was ranked #11 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.8% of state GDP, \$6.9 billion in wages, 129,773 direct jobs, and added a value of \$13.9 billion to the state economy.

Colorado is a place known for its vibrant and thriving outdoor recreation hubs. For example, visitation to National Parks alone brought \$864 million in economic benefits to the state's economy. It is therefore no surprise that four towns in this state made a list of the nation's top 25 most dynamic micropolitans. Edwards, Breckenridge, Steamboat Springs, and Montrose were all included, showing that these small metro areas have diverse, and therefore resilient, economies that mix outdoor recreation with other sectors like manufacturing. The high potential for recreation to boost economies in Colorado is also apparent in the \$35 million in visitor spending brought to the area around the Colorado National Monument. More generally, visitor spending at National Park Service sites in Colorado added \$1.3 billion in economic output to the economy in 2022.

Browns Canyon National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Mesa County Spotlight: Mesa County is more reliant on tourism than the state overall. When looking at the combined total for both recreation businesses and tourism, 4.8% of county GDP and 8.4% of jobs are located within this sector. Expanding this to include the larger outdoor recreation supply chain, these numbers grow to 7.2% of GDP and 11% of jobs.

COLORADO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Colorado	7,434,362	\$803,600,000	11,312	\$1,291,400,000

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

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Yucca House National Monument</u>	Along with Hovenweep National Monument and Mesa Verde National Park, <u>Yucca House National Monument contributed 190 jobs and \$17.28 million</u> to the Southwest CO economy in 2016.

COLORADO - 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>Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park*</u>	297,257	\$20,930,000	243	\$9,059,000	\$15,154,000	\$26,108,000
<u>Colorado National Monument</u>	480,442	\$34,055,000	438	\$13,332,000	\$23,066,000	\$42,518,000
<u>Dinosaur National Monument</u>	351,019	\$23,829,000	270	\$9,194,000	\$15,517,000	\$27,064,000
<u>Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve*</u>	493,428	\$32,538,000	408	\$10,668,000	\$18,659,000	\$35,980,000
<u>Hovenweep National Monument</u>	28,446	\$2,028,000	26	\$761,000	\$1,341,000	\$2,482,000

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

COLORADO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

- Between 2001 and 2015, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument supported 9% job growth, with 13% growth in the service sector, 9% population growth, and 22% growth in real per capita income in Montezuma County.
- According to the 2021 Annual Manager's Report, Canyons of the Ancients National Monument saw 171,713 visits to the front and backcountry in 2021 compared to 116,247 in 2020.

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

Browns Canyon National Monument

- In 2015, rafting on the Arkansas River contributed \$73.1 million to the economy.
- Between 2000 and 2020, service sector jobs grew by 53% and the population grew by 22% in Chaffee County.
- According to the 2021 Annual Manager's Report, Browns Canyon National Monument saw 110,000 visitors on commercial rafting trips and 200,000 others on private boating, camping, or hiking trips in 2021, which is lower than in 2020 but higher than pre-pandemic levels.

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

Chimney Rock National Monument

Visitor spending has steadily increased since Chimney Rock National Monument's designation, adding \$1.7 million and 22 jobs to the economy in 2016.

Camp Hale - Continental Divide National Monument

In October 2022, President Biden heeded the calls from Colorado veterans, elected officials, business owners, hunters and anglers, and other community members and designated the Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument.

As one of our country's newest national monuments, it honors our nation's veterans and Colorado's contribution to our military legacy by protecting the place, Camp Hale, where the 10th Mountain Division



*Photo Credit: Denver Public Library Creative Commons
Three Soldiers, Camp Hale, 1943-1944*

trained during World War II; the Monument also includes the vast mountainous Tenmile Range, where soldiers became experts in alpine and winter warfare. Returning soldiers founded Colorado's world-renowned ski industry and started the Centennial

state on the path to becoming a leader in harnessing the economic power of the outdoor recreation economy.

The Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument provides unique educational and recreational opportunities in central Colorado's White River National Forest, the nation's most-visited national forest. The national monument also preserves incredible lands within the Tenmile Range totaling more than 53,000 acres of protections.

COLORADO - President Biden Designated National Monuments

"We are thrilled with the new monument designation for Camp Hale-Continental Divide in Eagle County. This monument will honor the service of our veterans from the 10th Mountain Division who trained at Camp Hale and the Tenmile Range, served our nation with distinction in World War II and returned home to help found Colorado's outdoor recreation economy. This national historic landscape will receive the protections it deserves through this monument designation, assuring it will be enjoyed and serve as a place of respect for generations to come.

This new National Monument is a testament to the original Ute inhabitants of the area, as well as the grit, perseverance and foresight of the 10th Mountain Division troops. We are protecting the birthplace of the ski industry, and important environmental and heritage landscapes. Stakeholder groups throughout our Eagle and Summit Counties have worked to protect these lands for over a decade. National monument designations stand as a testament to President Biden's dedication to conservation and preservation as outlined in his broad America the Beautiful Initiative. National monuments and protected public lands are tremendous assets to the nation. They support our health, economies, and well-being.

Communities across the country are asking President Biden to protect more public lands and waters through national monument designations. Preserving our public lands safeguards these areas for all Americans. It protects these areas from overdevelopment and exploitation. These designations will also help these states remain powerhouses in the outdoor recreation industry while empowering Indigenous stewards and honoring the role of specific landscapes in history.

In a time when our nation and its leaders face a deluge of problems and where campaign promises are too often forgotten after election day, we stand together to thank the Biden administration and the congressional leaders behind the efforts to designate national monuments. We look forward to President Biden conserving more vital places across the country to fulfill our obligations to current and future generations."



Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County, Colorado Commissioner

Photo Credit: EcoFlight

Camp Hale - Continental Divide National Monument

"The Vail community is very excited about the designation of Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument. Camp Hale is a prominent cultural landscape that connects with our ski history. We also appreciate the President's recognition of the diverse local stakeholders who support the designation, and the ecological restoration of the Eagle River headwaters and surrounding mountain wetlands. The designation of Camp Hale-Continental Divide as a national monument will increase in importance and impact over time, priceless for our future generations."



Former Town of Vail, Colorado Former Mayor Kim Langmaid

"The designation of a Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument is an important tribute that celebrates mountain communities' role in helping the entire nation through World War II with the help of the 10th Mountain Division Ski Troops that trained at Camp Hale and the surrounding Ten Mile Range. Establishing these areas as a National Monument will bring great benefits to our Western mountain communities and is an important step towards providing our Western communities with a bright future while honoring the past."



Former Summit County, Colorado Commissioner Elisabeth Lawrence

Camp Hale - Continental Divide National Monument

"The mountains between the historic Camp Hale and the peaks of the Tenmile Mountain Range are a vital part of our community. The creation of the Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument shows a commitment to protect our public lands. This designation not only shows our commitment to our rich history and the lands that have lasting impact on our collective story, but also to all of the groups that came together to make a public lands plan that gave everyone a voice. This monument tells a story that links our lands, to a turning point in world history, to Colorado's most important economic driver, the recreation industry. We celebrate this designation - our lands, our history, and our future."

Town of Frisco, Colorado Mayor Hunter Mortensen



"With the designation of Camp Hale-Continental Divide National Monument, President Biden has protected the Tenmile Range - a scientific and geographically interesting and beautiful area our visitors and community members love. In fact, the most hiked peak above 14,000 feet in Colorado, Quandary Peak, is located in the Tenmile Range. Bringing additional resources to the Tenmile Range will help preserve the scientific importance of the area and make it more resilient so that future generations can enjoy it as much as those of today."

Summit County Commissioner and Former Town of Breckenridge Mayor Eric Mamula

Photo Credit: Mullen Ecostock

COLORADO - President Biden Designated National Monuments

"President Biden's designation of the Camp Hale-Continental Divide is a unique and powerful tribute to those who served our country in World War II, then came home to lead our outdoor preservation ethic, and to build America's skiing and outdoor recreation economy. For Coloradans and for all Americans, these are the sources of our clean air and pure water, and they are the wellspring of our inspiration, identity, and history. These iconic areas are most worthy of conservation. We thank President Biden for taking action to protect this important place. Protection of national monuments engenders respect for the land and history. As more Americans vacation domestically and flee the heat of lower urban areas, preservation of rural wild lands and riparian areas for all to enjoy becomes more important. Our mountain communities must be prepared to welcome people who feel a connection to nature, and this necessarily includes enhanced protections of wild places so our children and future generations can share them also."



Pitkin County, Colorado Commissioner and 10th Mountain Division descendant Greg Poschman

78

percent of Colorado residents believe protecting, promoting, and enhancing the Continental Divide Trail is important to the well-being of businesses, jobs, and their community's economy.

Photo Credit: EcoFlight

Dolores Canyons

Over the course of millions of years, the Dolores River has carved one of America's most stunning canyon systems. From its upper reaches in the forested peaks of the San Juan Mountains through ponderosa gorges and slickrock canyons to its confluence with the Colorado River near the Utah border, the Dolores River cuts an extraordinary path through our public lands.

The Dolores River has been the backbone of life in the region for millennia, supporting Indigenous communities, nurturing vibrant wildlife and unique plant species, sustaining small towns weathering the boom and bust of the mining industry, and inspiring unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities. A recent report from the Colorado Wildlands Project found that this area has some of the highest biodiversity of anywhere in the state. But the river and its wildlands are increasingly fragile as they remain unprotected, which places the future of this biodiversity at risk.

Today, the future of the Dolores Canyons is uncertain—imperiled by the long-term impacts of climate change, by renewed interest in uranium mining, and by mismanaged recreation.

It's time to make sure that these extraordinary public lands have the resources necessary to provide present and future generations the opportunity to experience this spectacular place. We aim to help preserve existing ecosystems, restore what has been lost, renew our communities, and reconnect people to this remarkable place.

Photo Credit: Bob Wick

COLORADO - Potential National Monuments

Dolores Canyons

The Dolores Canyons is the ancestral land and territory of the Ute people who were forcibly removed and forced onto reservations by the United States Government during the 19th Century. This land is connected to the Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Southern Ute Tribe, Pueblos of New Mexico, Hopi Tribe, and Navajo Nation. Land protections can, and must, follow the guidance and wishes of Indigenous peoples and honor the legacy of people who have stewarded this land for generations. There is overwhelming support to protect the public lands around the Dolores River



Photo Credit: Rig to Flip

Canyon. A survey of people from the five county region encompassing the Dolores River Canyon and individuals from Colorado's 3rd Congressional district found that those from the five county region were 68% in favor and those from CO-03 were 72% in favor of protections.

After providing more information on the proposed protections, support rose to 73% and 76% respectively. Similarly, the 2023 Winning the West poll found that 84 percent of voters in Colorado support the Dolores Canyons National Monument proposal.

84

percent of voters in Colorado support the Dolores Canyons National Monument proposal.

Photo Credit: Rig to Flip

COLORADO - Potential National Monuments

Dolores Canyons

"The Town of Telluride has long supported public land protection campaigns and has led the charge for climate action, wildfire resiliency, and forest health initiatives across the region. Protecting our natural resources for generations to come is more important than ever as we see impacts to our water supply, forests, and community well-being from climate change.

Efforts like those to protect the Dolores Canyons as a national monument align with our commitment to environmental stewardship, sustainable tourism, and the preservation of our natural and cultural resources. This area is one of Colorado's last, best wild places. The abundance of cultural resources is only matched by its scenic beauty and biodiversity. Designating a new landscape-scale national monument for the Dolores River and its surrounding public lands is a benefit to the people and communities of Colorado's Western Slope.

For millennia, the Dolores River and surrounding lands have been vitally important to the people of this region, supporting Indigenous Peoples since time immemorial and later sustaining small towns weathering the boom and bust of extractive industries. In recent years, the Dolores has become an unparalleled outdoor recreation destination, drawing people from all over the country and offering new economic opportunities to Colorado's rural communities."



Town of Telluride, Colorado Mayor Pro Tem Meehan Fee

Photo Credit: Rig To Flip

Dolores Canyons

“The City of Grand Junction is deeply committed to preserving and protecting the natural beauty, cultural heritage, and historical significance of the region for the benefit of its constituents and future generations and we recently passed a resolution supporting a Dolores Canyons National Monument.

The area is extraordinary - rich biodiversity, a resilient river system, indigenous cultural sites, a storied mining history, and unique geological formations, including breathtaking red rock canyons and mesas in Unaweep Canyon and the Gateway area. It’s a region of profound ecological significance, supporting diverse flora and fauna, and providing critical habitat for numerous sensitive or imperiled species, making it a priority for conservation efforts.

The designation of the portions of Dolores Canyons in Mesa county as a national monument would enhance its protection, ensuring the preservation of its natural, cultural, recreational, and historical resources for current and future generations.



You only get one shot at preservation—once these spaces are lost to overuse, or extractive industries, they can’t be replaced. We have a duty to future generations to ensure they get to enjoy the same high quality of life and beauty in the world that we get to enjoy now.”

City of Grand Junction, Colorado Mayor Pro Tem Abe Herman

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

Idahoans love public lands. 79% of residents support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments. This aligns with the other finding that 78% of people in this state support the creation of new protections on public lands.

Not surprisingly, Idaho is among the top 11 states with the largest percentage of their GDP coming from outdoor recreation.

"National monuments across the country are important to local communities as they help protect scientific, cultural, and historic places. Places like our nearby Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve and Hagerman Fossil Beds national monuments are places where people and families can explore new landscapes; learn about science and history; and revel in the natural world. I'd love to see more places with cultural, scientific, or historical importance protected through national monument designations."

City of Ketchum, Idaho Mayor Neil Bradshaw



IDAHO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Idaho was ranked #9 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 3.1% of state GDP, \$1.5 billion in wages, 35,530 direct jobs, and added a value of \$3.4 billion to the state economy.

In five of the Idaho landscapes overseen by the National Park Service, including Craters of the Moon National Monument, visitors spent \$37.6 million in 2021. This spending created 535 jobs and an economic output of \$50.8 million. Along with the boon to the economy that this spending was, it also shows the importance of outdoor recreation to this state.

"Protected public lands and national monuments support our local economies, tourism, and outdoor recreation as well as provide certainty for our rural and gateway communities. Blaine County is known and valued for its beautiful landscapes that offer scenic views and endless recreational uses. Places like Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve offer places for locals and visitors to explore caves, ski, picnic, and enjoy a fascinating landscape while hiking up a volcanic cone. The Antiquities Act allows presidents to protect important places for future generations - like Craters of the Moon. I hope more places can be protected so that other communities may benefit as we have."



Blaine County, Idaho County Commissioner Angenie McCleary

Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument | Photo Credit: National Park Service

IDAHO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Idaho	696,380	\$39,400,000	558	\$53,400,000

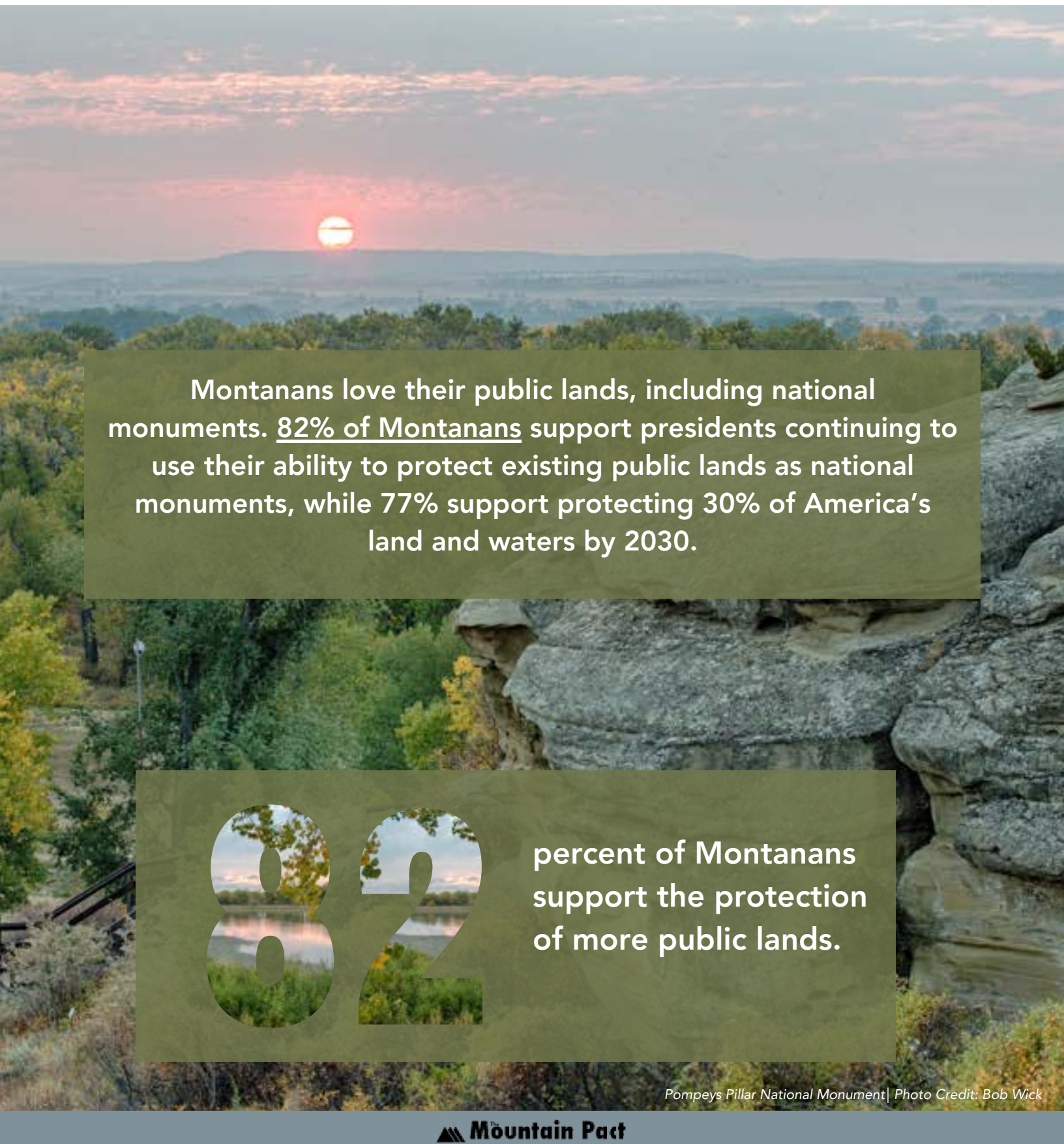
National Park Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Park Unit	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending \$2022	Jobs	Labor Income \$2022	Value Added \$2022	Economic Output \$2022
<u>Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve</u>	237,774	\$9,362,000	124	\$3,438,000	\$5,770,000	\$11,017,000
<u>Minidoka (Idaho) National Historic Site*</u>	4,971	\$98,000	1	\$32,000	\$51,000	\$106,000

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

MONTANA

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



Montanans love their public lands, including national monuments. 82% of Montanans support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments, while 77% support protecting 30% of America's land and waters by 2030.

82

percent of Montanans support the protection of more public lands.

Pompeys Pillar National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

MONTANA

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

"When I arrived in Helena, Montana after fleeing a civil war in my home country of Liberia, my sense of purpose was restored. Helena, like much of Montana, relies on our public lands as a driver of economic development, as well as overall human health and outdoor recreation. One of Montana's greatest natural resources is our abundance of public lands - our national monuments, national and state parks, BLM and Forest Service lands, and local public parks are vital to Montanans and our visitors. These areas create rural jobs, enhance recreation opportunities, and boost the economy both locally as well as regionally.

I value our constitutionally guaranteed right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment. Let's protect even more of the places that mean most to us: our nearby public lands. It is important that we all respect and protect our lands and ensure that the next generation has the ability to do the same."

City of Helena Montana Mayor, Liberian Refugee, and member of the army and naval reserves Wilmot Collins



MONTANA

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

"After college and my service in the Army, I came to Montana and soon realized I had come home. Billings is a great place to live, work, raise a family, and start a business. And when I fill my lungs in Montana's wide-open spaces or in forests or mountains or on the banks of a rushing stream, I inhale a sense of unity with all nature and I know that it must be protected.

National monuments and protected public lands are important to us here in the West. Think of places like Pompeys Pillar National Monument in Yellowstone County just east of Billings, which is named for the massive rock formation with the indigenous petroglyphs. It has a powerful effect on the imaginations of those who come visit. People can explore the Pillar freely, walking around the base, enjoying the trees and river, or climbing to the top for the wonderful view of the hills, the Yellowstone River Valley, and the farmland spread out below. Pompeys Pillar was designated through the use of the Antiquities Act, like the recent national monument designations by President Biden. Protecting our clean air and water, our public lands, and our climate is becoming ever more important for future generations. National monument designations can help provide us that protection."



Former Mayor of Billings, Montana, Past President of the Montana League of Cities and Towns, U.S. Army Veteran of Vietnam, and Billings Businessman Chuck Tooley

MONTANA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Montana was ranked #2 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 4.3% of state GDP, \$1.4 billion in wages, 29,453 direct jobs, and added a value of \$2.9 billion to the state economy.

Montana has one of the fastest growing economies in the country, much of which can be attributed to its robust outdoor recreation sector. In recent years, this is leading to a large influx of college educated residents who are able to further diversify the state's economy. Importantly, business owners whose livelihoods rely on healthy, protected ecosystems support more legislation and action to ensure that Montana retains its beautiful, natural landscapes into perpetuity.



Upper Missouri River Breaks | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

MONTANA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Montana	4,951,583	\$621,100,000	9,460	\$917,900,000

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>Big Hole National Battlefield*</u>	54,781	\$4,371,000	56	\$1,618,000	\$2,416,000	\$4,845,000

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

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

<u>Pompeys Pillar National Monument</u>	According to the <u>2020 Annual Manager's Report</u> , in 2020 Pompeys Pillar National Monument received 14,555 visitors. Fees were waived that year, due to the pandemic, but in 2019 visitation generated \$2,497 in fees.
<u>Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument contributed to real per capita income in nearby Blaine, Choteau, Fergus, and Phillips counties growing by 23%. • <u>Between 2000 and 2020</u>, Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument also supported 48% growth in residential development and 45% growth in service sector jobs.

NEVADA

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

Nevada is home to many national monuments that were designated using the Antiquities Act including Basin and Range, Gold Butte, and the recently designated Avi Kwa Ame National Monument. Support for the protection of public lands in Nevada has steadily been on the rise. This is demonstrated by polling showing that 87% support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments.

87

percent of Nevada residents support presidents using the Antiquities Act to designate national monuments.

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument | Photo Credit: Justin McAfee

NEVADA

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

"I'm lucky that my parents imbued in me and my siblings a love for our public lands. Some of my fondest memories growing up are from being outside - marveling at the redwood forests in California or the blue waters of Crater Lake in Oregon; laying out under the stars in Moab, Utah, and exploring Arches National Park or hiking high in the Uintahs with a church youth group; and parking our beaten-up green motor home in Yellowstone while it rained cats and dogs. My wife and I have tried to give our kids the same experience, visiting national parks and monuments from Mesa Verde in Colorado to Denali in Alaska. But more than anything, we enjoy our backyard treasure, hiking, and biking in Red Rock National Conservation Area, along with Gold Butte and our newest national monument, Avi Kwa Ame. America is truly beautiful.

In Nevada, we recognize the beauty we are surrounded by and the billions in recreational tourist dollars generated by visitation to the many national parks, monuments and protected spaces here in southern Nevada and as a gateway to Southern Utah and Northern Arizona. Many of those same visitors will enjoy places like Bears Ears and the new Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni – Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument."

Clark County, Nevada Commissioner Justin Jones



NEVADA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Nevada was ranked #14 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.7% of state GDP, \$2.8 billion in wages, 53,835 direct jobs, and added a value of \$6.1 billion to the state economy.

Outdoor activities like RVing, motorcycling, ATVing, climbing, hiking, and camping are surging in popularity in Nevada, leading to growth in the outdoor recreation economy and benefits for the people who call this state home. The importance of this sector is being recognized by Nevada State Senators Cortez Masto and Rosen, who announced millions in funding for an industry that they see as “the backbone of our economy here in Nevada.” The outdoor recreation economy will also continue to be supported by the designation of new national monuments. In 2019 these protected landscapes received 14 million visitors throughout the state.

"Protected public lands, like national monuments, are important to Nevadans and Renoites. Places like Avi Kwa Ame, Tule Springs Fossil Beds, Gold Butte, and Basin & Range national monuments bring us peace of mind, protect important cultural resources, and generate economic revenue. Protected places like these help sustain our state's vital outdoor recreation economy, which is why and how so many of our small towns and businesses thrive. The vitality of our communities is linked to the health of our public lands. I encourage President Biden to designate more national monuments across the country."

City of Reno, Nevada Council Member Devon Reese



Basin and Range National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

NEVADA - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Nevada	4,393,768	\$224,100,000	2,357	\$283,400,000

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>Great Basin National Park*</u>	142,115	\$9,151,000	122	\$2,644,000	\$4,847,000	\$9,668,000

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

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

<u>Basin and Range National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2016 study found that <u>Basin and Range National Monument</u>, along with 9 others, contributed \$156 million in revenue and created 1,800 jobs per year. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, in 2021 Basin and Range National Monument received about 5,145 visits and 3,231 visitor days.
<u>Gold Butte National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An analysis estimated that the <u>Gold Butte National Monument designation could produce as much as \$2.7 million in economic output in the nearby community.</u> • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, in FY21 there were an estimated 114,458 visits to Gold Butte National Monument.

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

Located south of Las Vegas, Avi Kwa Ame, roughly translates to “Spirit Mountain” in Mojave. The mountain, which is on the eastern boundary of the newly established 506,814 acre national monument, is sacred to twelve Native American tribes. The new monument was designated by President Biden on March 21, 2023. Through the hard work of these tribes, local residents in the towns of Searchlight, Boulder City, and Laughlin, the Nevada Legislature, and a coalition of conservation and recreation groups, this sweeping landscape has now become Nevada’s



Photo Credit: Justin McAfee

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

4th national monument. Rich in both history and beauty, these protections for Avi Kwa Ame will preserve petroglyphs, historic mining and pioneer-era artifacts, and territory for rare and threatened wildlife such as the Mojave Desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep.

In 2021, Data for Progress found that 62% of voters were supportive of the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument, while in 2022, another poll found that this number had risen to 77%. Then in 2023, the same year Avi Kwa Ame was designated a national monument, the Conservation in the West Poll found 83% of Nevadans support this monument.

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

"President Biden's designation of Avi Kwa Ame as a national monument is a profound validation of our efforts and a fulfillment of a promise deeply cherished. It's an exhilarating moment to finally acknowledge 'Avi Kwa Ame National Monument' — a name that resonates with the sacred pulse of the Tribes whose genesis and creation stories are rooted in these lands. Their tireless work and years of advocacy have brought us to this pivotal moment, signaling a significant and hopeful shift in the federal government's approach to Indigenous peoples.

This historic designation is just the beginning. While we celebrate the protection of Avi Kwa Ame, we remain aware that countless other sacred spaces across Tribal Nations await similar respect and guardianship. In Nevada, we are jubilant to see the dedication of so many come to a successful resolution. Our journey continues as we collaborate with the Biden-Harris Administration to affirm the sovereignty of Tribal Nations and uplift their voices regarding their ancestral lands. Today, as we embrace this landmark achievement, we are invigorated by the promise it represents — a future where the sanctity of Indigenous heritage is acknowledged and honored."

Taylor Patterson, Executive Director of Native Voters Alliance Nevada



Photo Credit: Alan O'Neill

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

"We are grateful President Biden has designated Avi Kwa Ame National Monument. This area in Clark County is rich in both history, wildlife, and beauty. For years, Tribes, local elected officials, community leaders, and businesses have supported the creation of a national monument because protecting the area is both the right thing to do and the economically beneficial approach. Nearby communities like Searchlight and Laughlin will benefit from the financial impact of achieving monument status.

Avi Kwa Ame, the Mojave name for Spirit Mountain, is located in Clark County, Nevada, protecting over 500,000 acres just south of Las Vegas and surrounding the town of Searchlight. This landscape not only represents the origin place for nearly a dozen Yuman-speaking tribes, but is a source of life and livelihood for these Indigenous communities and a sacred place for Hopi and Chemehuevi Paiute people. It is also home to some of the world's rarest species of flora and fauna—desert tortoise and Bighorn Sheep—and the world's largest Joshua Tree forest."



Clark County, Nevada Commissioner Michael Naft

Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

"Clark County is home to more than two million residents who enjoy our public lands. As we've seen over the past three years, access to public lands is more vital to our health and well-being than we ever thought.

We also recognize the devastating worldwide effects of climate change and in our community specifically, with Las Vegas being one of the fastest-warming cities in the country.

The Clark County Commission passed a supportive resolution and joined the overwhelming local support for the establishment of Avi Kwa Ame as a national monument. We thank President Biden for using his authority, under the Antiquities Act, for designating Avi Kwa Ame a national monument! Actions like this thwart the loss of biodiversity and combat climate change and we encourage him to designate more national monuments across the country and here in Nevada."



Clark County, Nevada Commissioner Justin Jones

NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

There is strong support among New Mexicans for the protection of more public lands with 87% of people in the state supporting presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments. 63% of these respondents also consider themselves to be conservationists and 85% are in favor of protecting 30% of Americas land and waters by 2030.

This strong support may be bolstered by the fact that national monuments in New Mexico have been shown to increase spending and visitation. This includes Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and the recently designated Castner Range National Monument, which is just over the state border in Texas.

87

percent of New Mexicans support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments.

NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

"Public lands hold cultural significance, provide recreational opportunities, contribute to the economy, and sustain the natural ecosystems that support a healthy environment in New Mexico. As we celebrate the tenth year since Río Grande del Norte National Monument was established, I've reflected on how important this special place is to so many of the residents and visitors to Taos County. The mighty river and dramatic gorge often welcome many visitors to our community. New Mexico's public lands will continue to benefit from increased protections. We look to President Biden to establish more national monuments so that other communities are able to enjoy the many benefits that come with having a national monument in their region."



Taos County, New Mexico County Commissioner Darlene Vigil

"The Biden administration can reach the goal of protecting more nature by using the Antiquities Act to designate new national monuments proposed through locally and community-led efforts. This will 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."



Mayor Alan Webber of the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

"In the West we know firsthand the powers of the great outdoors, and we're so thankful for our protected public lands like national monuments. For too long, our country has rapidly depleted our natural resources, often at the added destruction of public health, Native rights, and local communities. I appreciate that the Biden administration is proactively working to undo the damage and move forward with smart, sustainable policies, and designating national monuments through the President's authority granted by the Antiquities Act.

Public lands, our deep cultural history, and national monuments play a critical role in helping New Mexico remain the "land of enchantment." Our communities depend upon the world class hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation opportunities these lands provide since our state's culture, heritage and way-of-life are forever connected to these protected lands.

I've spoken with the businesses, families, and communities that rely on the land, not just for its enduring beauty, but for sustenance, mental, and physical health. These lands belong to all of us, not just the CEOs with the closest contacts in Washington D.C. More than that, they belong to the future generations of New Mexicans, and it is the responsibility of all elected leaders to protect those lands for future families. Our national monuments conserve cultural sites and scenic areas, and can help at-risk and endangered species recover. They can also help improve watershed quality, which is especially critical in the arid Southwest.



The damage to our climate and landscapes wasn't done in a day and it won't be undone quickly either, but with President Biden's leadership and a coalition of stakeholders who represent all those concerned, and locally led efforts, we can heal our earth and protect all that it provides. We owe that to our land, ourselves, and our future generations."

Santa Fe County, New Mexico County Commissioner Chair and President of Women of the National Association of Counties (NACo), Anna Hansen

NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

"Our county is grateful to have two national monuments right in our backyard. Our local and regional economy has greatly benefited from the increased tourism generated by these national treasures like the nearly 500,000 acre Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks. Every day residents enjoy being able to recreate, rejuvenate, and recuperate on lands so close to home. Further protections of our vital public lands, and designations of more national monuments, is important as it will add a competitive economic advantage in southern New Mexico but also so that future generations may enjoy them as we have."



Doña Ana County, New Mexico County Commissioner and Vietnam Veteran Shannon Reynolds

NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

"The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks (OMDP) national monument provides a range of recreational opportunities for Las Cruces, while drawing tens of thousands of visitors to our region each year. The positive economic impact has been estimated from \$11-33M/year, and that money is invested back into our community through infrastructure, economic development, and community programming.

In addition to the added economic and recreational benefits of the monument, the national monument designation has led to place-based curriculum in local schools, broader participation in nature-conserving recreation, and elevated a broader understanding of the land's meaning in the context of our cultural and indigenous histories.

While our region has always been extraordinarily beautiful, the national monument designation creates a more clearly articulated sense of place and appreciation for our landscapes.

There are only upsides: a more heartfelt sense of place combined with systematic investments by both residents and visitors in preserving and protecting the land.

Every day, just as the sun is setting, I walk my dog in a nearby desert area. The Organ Mountains loom in the midground and makes these walks feel like I'm living in "America the Beautiful"— my home.

Please up the pace of designation. Communities will match the investment with care, advocacy, and education that will result in a future America that values natural stewardship."

City of Las Cruces, New Mexico Council Member Becky Corran



NEW MEXICO

National Monuments Established Through the Use of the Antiquities Act in New Mexico

"The City of Las Cruces is fortunate to have two national monuments - Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Prehistoric Trackways, and one national park that started as a national monument - White Sands National Park, near our community. I have been pleasantly surprised how many visitors from all over the country and internationally come to visit these amazing places. Any day when I visit, one can see vehicle license plates from everywhere! We have seen economic benefits from having protected public lands in our backyard. In fact, we are so grateful for these national monuments, we supported the establishment of the nearby Castner Range National Monument.

The Chihuahuan desert of New Mexico, west Texas and Eastern Arizona was once 90% grasslands. Now it's merely 25% grass, the rest has succumbed to desertification. In the mid-19th century only 4.8% was in mesquite-dominated sand dunes, whereas now it is over 50%. By protecting our public lands, we protect the habitat for the ever-important diverse wildlife. I encourage all elected officials to work towards preserving public lands for Conservation Areas, National Monuments, National Parks and Wilderness. I encourage President Biden to use his authority soon to declare even more national monuments."



City of Las Cruces, New Mexico Mayor Pro Tem Emeritus Gill Sorg

NEW MEXICO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, New Mexico was ranked #26 for the percentage of their economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 1.9% of state GDP, \$1.1 billion in wages, 27,977 direct jobs, and added a value of \$2.4 billion to the state economy.

It is easy to say that national monuments and other protected landscapes are good for a state's economy, but when it comes to Bandelier National Monument, hard numbers drive home this fact. In 2021, this landscape drew 270,000 visitors who spent over \$18.9 million in the surrounding community.



Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management

Río Grande del Norte National Monument

The designation of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks in 2012 had a similar effect, increasing visitation to the surrounding area three-fold over the last decade. This is why it can be such a hit to a community when outdoor areas have to close, like they did across New Mexico during the Spring and Summer of 2022, when wildfire spread across the state. Research also found that the Gila and San Francisco Rivers in New Mexico contribute 3,900 jobs and \$92.4 million in income to residents of the state and lead to \$427.8 million being added to the state economy. These economic gains would also be exacerbated if these rivers were granted the status of Wild and Scenic. This is shown by the fact that, according to Outdoor Recreation and New Mexico's Economy report, the outdoor recreation economy is growing faster than the state economy, seeing 11% growth between 2012 and 2017 compared to the state's 4%. Moreover, nature based recreation's contribution to GDP grew 14% during this period, compared to other types (urban sports, amusement parks, festivals, etc.), which grew 8%. Contributing to this growth is the fact that residents of New Mexico spend \$4.8 billion on outdoor recreation in the state each year. Access to the outdoors is therefore clearly important to New Mexicans as well as visitors.

NEW MEXICO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument Drives Economic Growth - 2023 Report - Visitation to the monument has more than tripled from 183,900 in 2012, prior to the site's monument designation, to 612,781 in 2022.

- Total cumulative economic impacts since monument designation are more than \$234 million, including \$35 million of positive economic impacts in 2022 alone.
- Visitation to the monument supported 305 Jobs in 2022
- Visitation to the Monument has generated \$12.9 million in increased tax revenue for state, county, and local governments since designation in 2014. In 2022, visitation to the monument generated \$1.9 million in tax revenues.
- Economic impacts from visitation to the monument have exceeded initial predictions made prior to protection by 51 percent.
- The designation of the monument has encouraged more local residents to visit; locals comprise 61 percent of total visitors.



Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management

NEW MEXICO - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
New Mexico	2,261,573	\$139,300,000	1,836	\$174,000,000

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

<u>Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument</u>	Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument saw continual increases in visitation rates, <u>resulting in 117,146 visitors in FY 2019</u> . In 2020 the monument closed due to COVID19 and remains so.
<u>Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2000 and 2020</u>, Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks National Monument contributed to the growth of Dona Ana County's population by 26% and the number of service sector jobs by 45%. • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, this area also saw 17% growth in real per capita income. • Organ Mountain-Desert Peaks now <u>supports 305 jobs</u> and has contributed \$234 million in economic impacts, resulting in \$13 million in tax revenue, over the past decade.
<u>Rio Grande del Norte National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2000 and 2020</u>, the population grew by 15% and tourism related jobs grew by 27% in Taos county. • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, Rio Grande del Norte National Monument also supported 8% job growth, with 11% growth in the service sector, and 27% growth in real per capita income in that county.

NEW MEXICO - 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>Aztec Ruins National Monument</u>	50,396	\$3,328,000	44	\$1,178,000	\$2,097,000	\$3,990,000
<u>Bandelier National Monument</u>	210,941	\$15,018,000	200	\$6,212,000	\$10,742,000	\$19,649,000
<u>Capulin Volcano National Monument</u>	88,541	\$3,029,000	38	\$990,000	\$1,661,000	\$3,160,000
<u>Carlsbad Caverns National Park*</u>	390,932	\$28,452,000	353	\$9,838,000	\$16,890,000	\$31,166,000
<u>Chaco Culture National Historical Park*</u>	41,594	\$2,525,000	33	\$994,000	\$1,722,000	\$3,152,000
<u>El Morro National Monument</u>	60,501	\$4,319,000	56	\$1,307,000	\$2,375,000	\$4,672,000
<u>Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument</u>	43,608	\$2,880,000	37	\$919,000	\$1,602,000	\$3,066,000
<u>Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument</u>	37,190	\$2,456,000	34	\$1,045,000	\$1,770,000	\$3,246,000
<u>White Sands National Park*</u>	705,127	\$42,405,000	572	\$16,168,000	\$26,111,000	\$50,919,000

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

Castner Range National Monument

Abutting Las Cruces, New Mexico, Castner Range National Monument in Texas encompasses 6,672 acres. President Biden designated the new monument on March 21, 2023. The monument is within the Franklin Mountain Range and is located on Fort Bliss. As the first ever national monument to be overseen by the U.S. Army, Castner Range has a unique history that includes 40 years as an Army training grounds as well as numerous archeological sites and importance to the Comanche, Hopi, Pueblo, and Kiowa Indigenous peoples. It is also a critical habitat for multiple endangered species for whom its preservation will provide important ecosystem connectivity. Of particular note, this new monument is famous for its spring blooms of Mexican poppies, which blanket the landscape in orange each year. Due to the presence of dangerous explosive devices, Castner Range is not currently open to recreation, but many are hopeful that with its new protected status, this will change within the next few years.



Photo Credit: Frontera Land Alliance

NEW MEXICO - Potential National Monuments

Mimbres Peak

The stunning mountains and surrounding valleys in Luna County, New Mexico, serve as a gorgeous backdrop treasured by area residents. They also host diverse wildlife and plants and are home to documented cultural and historic sites that hold a spiritual connection for Native people and local communities. These same lands provide opportunities for recreation, subsistence, solitude, and connecting with nature that residents and visitors have valued for many generations.

The proposed Mimbres Peaks National Monument contains some of the most biologically and culturally rich federal public lands in the region. This part of the Chihuahuan Desert is the most biologically diverse desert in the Western Hemisphere. The mountains and their springs and drainages provide critical water resources in an otherwise arid environment.

Paleontological finds show that species have called this region home dating back to Devonian, Paleozoic, Cretaceous, and Mesozoic eras. Rare and endangered wildlife and plant species continue to thrive in this harsh region, including the prized Persian Ibex, pronghorn, quail, fox, mountain lion, mule deer, javelina, coyote, and badger. Recorded sightings of Northern Aplomado Falcons and Long-Billed Curlews indicate use by sensitive and threatened species.

Over the past decade the network of protected public lands around Luna County have also spurred outdoor recreation and served as a key economic driver. National monument protections for some federally managed public lands in Luna County would conserve Indigenous cultural and historical resources, protect wildlife, preserve traditional land uses including hunting and grazing, and boost the local economy.

The idea of a national monument is drawing interest, including from local and federally elected officials, Tribes and Pueblos, the local chamber of commerce, conservation and outdoor recreation groups.

Photo Credit: Jay Hemphill

NEW MEXICO - Potential National Monuments

Mimbres Peak

"The lands surrounding Deming hold stories and a history that have shaped our community for generations. They also hold opportunities for the future. We need to look no further than neighboring counties to know that protected public lands are good for our local economies and the people who call New Mexico home. That's why over the past year he city and county have been looking at the opportunities, the process, and the concept of a new national monument. This hard work has culminated in the launch announcement which opens the door for everyone to get involved and help shape the future of public lands in Luna County."



Luna County, New Mexico County Commissioner Ray Trejo

85

percent of people in New Mexico are in favor of protecting 30% of Americas land and waters by 2030.

Photo Credit: Wayne Suggs

OREGON

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

Oregonians support public lands. 80% of voters in Oregon will not support politicians who vote to sell off public lands and 70% of Oregonians want to see more protected wilderness areas created in their state.

The state outdoor recreation economy contributed \$7.5 billion to Oregon's economy in 2022. Given the impact this has on the state, it is no surprise that Oregonians want to see the designations of more national monuments including protecting the Owyhee Canyonlands.

80

percent of voters in Oregon will not support politicians who vote to sell off public lands.

OREGON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Oregon was ranked #18 for the percentage of their economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.5% of state GDP, \$3.8 billion in wages, 72,737 direct jobs, and added a value of \$7.5 billion to the state economy.



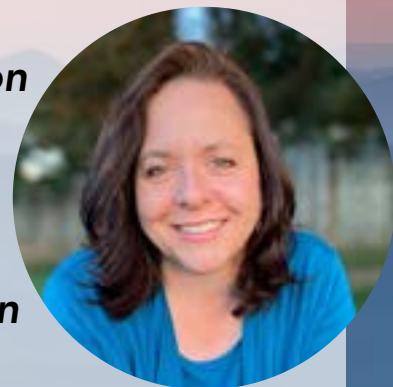
Photo Credit: Bob Wick

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Expanding on these numbers is the Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Oregon report, which found that in 2019 this industry supported \$15.6 billion in spending across the state. Outdoor recreation therefore clearly plays a large role in the state's economics. This influence is only growing, which is evidenced

by the fact that the two busiest years ever recorded in Oregon parks and campgrounds were 2021 and 2022. In 2021, National Parks alone contributed \$137 million to the state economy. These trends are causing people in Oregon to take the need to capture money from the outdoor recreation economy quite seriously. One example of this is the mid-Willamette Valley, where recreation is growing but citizens still have a sense that more could be done.

"Being the closest city to the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, we know that living next to this unique and beautiful monument brings both economic benefits and recreation opportunities for our residents. Protected public lands are so important to communities like Ashland. I encourage President Biden to designate more national monuments across the country so more communities can benefit as we have."



City of Ashland, Oregon Mayor Tonya Graham

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument | Photo Credit: Bob Wick

OREGON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Oregon	1,045,307	\$85,500,000	1,190	\$128,900,000

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>Oregon Caves National Monument</u>	72,923	\$6,763,000	93	\$3,296,000	\$5,111,000	\$9,112,000

See our 2022 Mountain Pact [Oregon](#) National Monuments Fact Sheet for more information.

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

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument supported 14% job growth, with 21% growth in the service sector, 16% population growth, and 12% growth in real per capita income in the surrounding county. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, in FY21 there were an estimated 170,454 visitor days to Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument.

OREGON - Potential National Monuments

Owyhee Canyonlands

The Owyhee Canyonlands has millions of acres of deep canyons, rolling sagebrush grasslands, and rushing rivers worthy of National Monument status. Today, only 5% of the Owyhee Canyonlands is permanently protected, leaving this natural treasure vulnerable to looming threats of industrial development and climate change. Despite its legacy of conservation, Oregon now lags behind other Western states, ranking near last in terms of public lands protected in the last decade. There has been a three-decades-long effort to protect the Owyhee Canyonlands and nearly 80% of Oregonians are in favor of protecting this land. This included 89% of Democrats, 65% of Republicans and 80% of people who identify as independents.

The momentum to protect the Owyhee Canyonlands is undeniable, in large part due to the convening of a broad and diverse coalition of conservationists, hunters, recreationists, tribal members, and others in support of permanent protection.

"We Oregonians cherish our public lands - they are crucial to the economic and cultural vitality of many Western communities, including ours in Bend. They are the foundation for a unique way of life for residents, support our important outdoor recreation economy, and keep us healthy and resilient. I encourage President Biden to create more national monuments across the country for ours and future generations. Places like the Owyhee Canyonlands should be permanently protected as a national monument. Protected public land conserve our important places and the vast expanse of our breathtaking history."



City of Bend, Oregon Council Member Barb Campbell

Photo Credit: Jon Muyskens

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

People in Utah love the outdoors, and protected public lands are important to Utahns. 72 percent of Utahans participate in outdoor recreation each year. Moreover, outdoor recreation is the number one factor drawing tech sector employees to live and work in Utah. This contributes to a large outdoor recreation economy in the state. In fact, in Utah, outdoor recreation jobs support more than twice as many direct jobs in Utah than mining and energy jobs combined.

73% of people in Utah support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments. Furthermore, 63% of those polled consider themselves to be conservationists, and 78% support the creation of new protections for public lands.

The beauty and uniqueness of Utah's landscape draws many tourists, making this unsurprising. This is shown by the fact that in 2023 more than three times the population of the entire state visited its state parks alone.

A large, stylized number '73' is centered in the lower half of the page. The digits are filled with a scenic landscape of a desert valley with mountains in the distance under a cloudy sky. The number is set against a light blue background that also contains the text to its right.

73 percent of people in Utah support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments.

UTAH - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments



Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

In 2021, Utah was ranked #10 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 3.2% of state GDP, \$3.6 billion in wages, 71,677 direct jobs, and added a value of \$8.1 billion to the state economy.

Furthermore, in 2023 9.29 million people visited the state parks alone, a number that is almost three times the size of the state's total population. This number is dwarfed by the staggering 15.8 million people who visited Utah's National Parks in 2021, spending about \$1.6 billion across the state. These visitation rates are part of a larger trend that saw Utah's

outdoor recreation economy grow by an incredible 27% in 2021. This growth is great, but it's not without challenges. In Utah, many people are rising to the occasion to meet these challenges and to make sure that their outdoor recreation economy meets the needs of communities. Smart growth plans are being implemented in booming rural recreation towns and researchers are coming up with new tools to help places navigate these changes.

UTAH - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Utah	13,554,654	\$1,656,100,000	23,312	\$2,597,700,000

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

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Bears Ears National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three years after the designation of Bears Ears National Monument, there was <u>positive economic expansion</u> in the retail trade, professional services, and food service sectors in the areas around the monument. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Managers Report</u>, in 2021 Bears Ears National Monument received an estimated 370,430 visitor days, over half of which were to the Newspaper Rock petroglyph site.
<u>Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Between 2001 and 2015</u>, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument supported 24% job growth, with 42% growth in the service sector, 13% population growth, and 17% growth in real per capita income in Garfield and Kane counties. • According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u>, in FY2021 Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument saw 1.3 million visitors, which is a dramatic rise from the 950,000 it received in 2020.

UTAH - 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>Arches National Park*</u>	1,460,652	\$274,172,000	3,558	\$112,310,000	\$188,653,000	\$335,174,000
<u>Bryce Canyon National Park*</u>	2,354,660	\$218,608,000	3,019	\$69,296,000	\$118,191,000	\$234,954,000
<u>Capitol Reef National Park*</u>	1,227,608	\$105,561,000	1,462	\$32,199,000	\$62,120,000	\$121,297,000
<u>Cedar Breaks National Monument</u>	688,644	\$50,025,000	653	\$19,416,000	\$33,285,000	\$62,189,000
<u>Dinosaur National Monument</u>	351,019	\$23,829,000	270	\$9,194,000	\$15,517,000	\$27,064,000
<u>Hovenweep National Monument</u>	28,446	\$2,028,000	26	\$761,000	\$1,341,000	\$2,482,000
<u>Natural Bridges National Monument</u>	71,249	\$5,028,000	58	\$1,955,000	\$3,296,000	\$5,797,000
<u>Rainbow Bridge National Monument</u>	81	\$5,000	0	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
<u>Timpanogos Cave National Monument</u>	155,995	\$10,301,000	145	\$5,122,000	\$8,670,000	\$15,589,000
<u>Zion National Park*</u>	4,692,417	\$672,427,000	10,777	\$277,900,000	\$492,714,000	\$961,270,000

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

UTAH - President Biden Restored National Monuments

The Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante landscapes are full of cultural, historic, fossil, geologic, and biological resources - all of historic and scientific interest that fall under the scope of the Antiquities Act. From the world-class dinosaur remains unearthed in the Grand Staircase-Escalante to the immense cultural importance of Bears Ears, these areas are national treasures. A supermajority of Westerners, including Utahns, love these national monuments and support their protections.

On October 8, 2021, President Biden restored protections for Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine national monuments. His proclamation protected sacred lands in Utah and vibrant ocean ecosystems in the Atlantic.

President Biden's actions fulfill a promise to restore conservation protections illegally ripped away from national monuments while also working towards his administration's commitments to address climate change, build a more equitable society, and invest in jobs and the economy.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument



*Photo Credit: Bureau of Land Management
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument*

President Biden restored protections to Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, safeguarding a spectacular Utah landscape home to untold numbers of unique and undiscovered fossils and a treasure trove of natural wonder. This land has deep ties to Native peoples, a bounty of dinosaur bones, and world-class recreation.

UTAH - President Biden Restored National Monuments

Bears Ears National Monument

The designation of Bears Ears was historic as the first national monument proposed by an unprecedented coalition of Tribal Nations. President Biden's actions honor that original promise, safeguard cultural sites, and restore protections to one of the most significant cultural landscapes in the nation. It signals that protecting public lands and honoring Tribal sovereignty can and should go hand in hand.

"National monument designation, funding, and management are all key to successfully balancing conservation, access, and enjoyment of public lands. Arches National Park was first designated as a national monument, and is now a top destination for visitors and locals alike. National monuments improve the quality of life and economic vitality of the region, and because of that, the City of Moab formally supported the designation and restoration of Bears Ears National Monument. By President Biden restoring the boundaries designated by President Obama, he has greatly advanced the protection of these lands, supported Tribally-led conservation, and prioritized restoration and preservation of this culturally and ecologically rich landscape."



Former City of Moab, Utah Council Member Kalen Jones

UTAH - President Biden Restored National Monuments

Bears Ears National Monument

"Our small Town of Bluff, Utah, nestled in the southeastern corner of the state, sits among the grandeur of the American Southwest. For miles in any direction, we are surrounded by sweeping landscapes, the kind many only see on postcards. I'm proud to live here and proud to serve my neighbors as the town's first mayor.

Bluff sits adjacent to 1.36 million-acre Bears Ears National Monument. Bears Ears is unique because it is the first national monument that came about because of the efforts of five sovereign Tribal Nations - the Navajo Nation (Diné), the Hopi Tribe, the Ute Mountain Ute, the Ute Indian Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

Bears Ears has more than 100,000 estimated archaeological sites, as well as extensive and irreplaceable fossil sites and treasured natural resources throughout. I am grateful that the Biden administration is participating in robust Tribal collaborative management and incorporating Indigenous Traditional Knowledge into the management of this matchless cultural landscape."

Town of Bluff, Utah Mayor Ann Leppanen



"Southern Utah's many national monuments like Bears Ears, Grand Staircase, and even Arches National Park which started as a national monument, help make our communities what they are. We are thankful that irreplaceable national treasures have been protected through the Antiquities Act. I thank President Biden for restoring protections to Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments and these priceless cultural, historic, and natural treasures."

Grand County, Utah Commissioner Mary McGann



Photo Credit: Mason Cummings

UTAH - President Biden Restored National Monuments

“Bears Ears National Monument represents the first truly Native American national monument in U.S. history. As Native Americans, we are accustomed to being put aside, on the back-burner, being a check mark on someone’s list. No real change is ever achieved, and yet it was and is being achieved with the work and partnership of five tribes - Ute Mountain Ute, Hopi Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni, Diné Nation, and Ute Indian Tribe – coming together in a sense of healing.

In this fight, I was really surrounded by a lot of the knowledge and experience of my elders and ancestors. You can’t separate a Native American from the land. We’re so strongly tied to our land. It’s our history. It’s our teacher. It’s our culture and identity. The artifacts left by the ancestors of today’s Tribes — cliff dwellings, kivas, petroglyphs — need to be preserved. Our legacy is on the walls of the canyon. I can’t afford for anybody to destroy what is there for my grandchildren. It’s very important that we protect every aspect of our natural resources, our air and our water.

Our Earth is crying for healing. The Earth is our mother, and she does everything for us. She protects us. She’s always with us. She’s always with me. So when you walk out on this sacred ground that we have the honor to put our feet on every day, we have to give thanks and gratitude.

I share gratitude for the courage of President Obama embracing the moment to change history rather than repeat history by designating Bears Ears National Monument with Tribal entities recognized as sovereign voices. I’m also so thankful to President Biden for restoring Bears Ears – the ancestral home to my Ute Mountain Ute people, as well as to the Hopi, Zuni, Pueblo, Diné, Ute Indian Tribe, and other Native communities.

We must continue to take care of one another and be good neighbors, be good stewards of the land, because that’s what our ancestors have told us through the stories that have been left on the walls of the canyons.”

Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk, former Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Council member and former co-chair of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition



Photo Credit: Tim Peterson LightHawk

WASHINGTON

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

People in Washington support the continued protection and restoration of public lands. This was shown in a 2018 poll that found that 73% of voters in Washington wanted to see the reinstatement of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Among other things, this fund supported programs that enhance recreational opportunity by investing in public lands and other outdoor spaces across the state. Similarly, 71% of Western voters are more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes protecting and investing in national parks and monuments for the public.

Washington's economy is deeply entwined with outdoor recreation and the public lands that make recreation possible. This is reflected by the \$20 billion that recreation contributed to the state economy in 2022. Moreover, national monuments are a critical component of what drives recreation in parts of the state, including San Juan and Benton counties.

73

percent of Western voters are more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes protecting and investing in national parks and monuments for the public.

WASHINGTON

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

"Our community and nearby communities are surrounded by protected public lands - they make our towns what they are - locals and visitors come to nearby public lands to recreate and experience their beauty and solitude.

These places, including national monuments like nearby Hanford Reach National Monument, also support our growing outdoor recreation and tourism economies. They help provide jobs and revenue to support local employees and projects. The monument, which was designated through the use of the Antiquities Act, also protects important archaeological and historic artifacts; significant geological and paleontological objects; and a diversity of native plant and animal species. I celebrate the designation of new national monuments by President Biden and support more communities benefiting from protected public lands - as we have."



City of Leavenworth, Washington Mayor Carl Florea

"The San Juan Islands are part of our horizon and setting, part of our sense of place. We are thankful to have such a special place protected as a national monument both for visitors and residents - so many of whom love to visit San Juan Islands National Monument for weekend trips."

City of Bellingham, Washington Council Member Michael Lilliquist

WASHINGTON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments



Photo Credit: Jeff Clark and Stephen Baker

San Juan Islands National Monument

In 2021, Washington was ranked #37 for the percentage of its economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 2.7% of state GDP, \$8.3 billion in wages, 121,446 direct jobs, and added a value of \$20 billion to the state economy.

As the numbers above show, the economic contribution of outdoor recreation within Washington is quite large. This holds true in counties located near national monuments. A report released in 2020 showed this by breaking down the economic contribution of

recreation in each county across the state. In San Juan County, which is home to San Juan Islands National Monument, outdoor recreation employed 1,578 people and generated \$16,573 in tax revenue, while in Benton County, home to Hanford Reach National Monument, this sector employed 3,837 people and generated \$35,229 in tax revenue. Similar numbers can be found in Lewis, Cowlitz, and Skamania counties, which are located near Mount St. Helens National Monument. These large numbers are prompting concerted efforts to ensure recreation and tourism in the state are bolstered in a sustainable way. The state is also taking the need for recreation seriously with a grant program to support this sector within small communities.

WASHINGTON - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Washington	8,043,387	\$524,900,000	5,693	\$722,000,000

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>Minidoka (Washington) National Historic Site*</u>	8,746	\$577,000	7	\$217,000	\$403,000	\$670,000
<u>Olympic National Park*</u>	2,432,972	\$227,620,000	2,453	\$117,022,000	\$208,138,000	\$320,238,000

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

WASHINGTON - 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>San Juan Islands National Monument</u>	According to the <u>2021 Annual Manager's Report</u> , in 2021 San Juan Islands National Monument received 117,902 visits.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Monuments Designated Through the Use of the Antiquities Act

Protected Area	Important Economic Indicators
<u>Hanford Reach National Monument</u>	<u>Between 2001 and 2015, Hanford Reach National Monument supported 33% job growth, with 37% growth in the service sector, 37% population growth, and 17% growth in real per capita income in nearby Benton, Franklin, and Grant counties.</u>

WYOMING

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

In Wyoming, 75% of residents support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments. This number is slightly higher than the 74% who consider themselves to be conservationists, and lower than the 79% who want to see new protections created on public lands.

Outdoor recreation is becoming more popular in Wyoming, with parks and historic sites receiving 5.2 million visitors in 2022. This record visitation led Wyoming to rank 5th among states with the highest percentage of their GDP in outdoor recreation in 2021.

75

percent of residents support presidents continuing to use their ability to protect existing public lands as national monuments.

WYOMING

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

"Protected public lands make our community unique, harboring rich populations of wildlife and providing locals and visitors a place to recreate, rejuvenate and take time with family and friends. We would be a much different place without the protected swath of wild valley bottom first designated as a national monument and now part of Grand Teton National Park. It's our wildlife that sets us apart. As much as the iconic mountain scenery, it's the protected land at the base of the Tetons, where wildlife can roam free, that ensures our millions of visitors will have a unique, unforgettable visit."



Teton County Commissioner, climbing and skiing guide, ski patroller, avalanche course instructor, and County planning commissioner Mark Newcomb

WYOMING - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

In 2021, Wyoming was ranked #5 for the percentage of their economy based on outdoor recreation. In 2022, this sector accounted for 4.1% of state GDP, \$0.7 billion in wages, 16,202 direct jobs, and added a value of \$2 billion to the state economy.

In raw numbers, the amount of money that outdoor recreation generated towards Wyoming's GDP in 2021 was \$1.5 billion. Combining this with the contribution that outdoor recreation made to the economy in 2020 brings



Photo Credit: Chris Racay, National Park Service

Red Cliffs at Devil's Tower

the amount generated to nearly \$3 billion. These numbers will likely continue to rise, as state parks and historic sites throughout the state continue to see record visitation. In 2022, these areas saw 5.2 million visitors,

which was down slightly from 2020 and 2021, but remained high above the rates found pre-pandemic.

According to the Wyoming Outdoor Recreation Report, the most lucrative outdoor recreation activities in the state are snowsports, RVing, boating, and fishing.

WYOMING - The Economic Benefits of National Monuments

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

State	Total Recreation Visits	Total Visitor Spending (\$2022)	Jobs	Economic Output (\$2022)
Wyoming	6,148,010	\$870,000,000	11,538	\$1,127,700,000

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>Devils Tower National Monument</u>	480,713	\$34,868,000	459	\$13,824,000	\$24,442,000	\$45,382,000
<u>Fort Laramie National Historic Site*</u>	39,657	\$1,221,000	15	\$397,000	\$657,000	\$1,293,000
<u>Grand Teton National Park*</u>	2,806,223	\$597,470,000	7,608	\$267,468,000	\$438,271,000	\$757,041,000

*Since its initial designation, this location's management and/or name has been updated.



www.TheMountainPact.org



Bears Ears National Monument | Photo Credit: Mason Cummings