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The Mountain Pact Thrilled by the Expansions of the San Gabriel Mountains and Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monuments

DURANGO, CO - Today President Biden [expanded](#) both the San Gabriel Mountains and Berryessa Snow Mountain national monuments by designating additional acreages to the existing monuments. In response to the news, Anna Peterson, Executive Director of [The Mountain Pact](#), an organization that works with local elected officials in over 100 communities across the Western U.S., released this statement,

“We are thrilled that President Biden has listened to the 20-year, locally-led effort to expand the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument.

The San Gabriel Monument expansion will help increase equitable access to nature for the 18 million people who live within 90 miles of these public lands, conserve one-third of Los Angeles County’s drinking water, protect critical habitat and wildlife corridors, and honor the historical and cultural significance of the landscape.

The expansion of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument to protect Molok Luyuk will safeguard public lands sacred to the [Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation](#), protect a critical wildlife corridor for imperiled species and plants, and improve access to the outdoors for residents of the region.

The Mountain Pact is supportive of the many locally-led efforts to urge President Biden to expand national monuments across the country. We urge the President to add to the list of national monuments he has designated through the use of the Antiquities Act. Upcoming nation monuments he could designate include Chuckwalla, Kw’tsán, and Sáttítla - Medicine Lake Highlands in California; Dolores Canyons in Colorado; the Great Bend of the Gila in Arizona; Bahsahwahbee in Nevada; Mimbres Peak in New Mexico; Owyhee Canyonlands in Oregon; as well as to designate monuments that will honor the 1908 Springfield Race Riot in Illinois; the Historic Greenwood District/Black Wall Street in Tulsa; and Julius Rosenwald and Rosenwald Schools National Monument in Illinois and Maryland.”

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