

# 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*



*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*

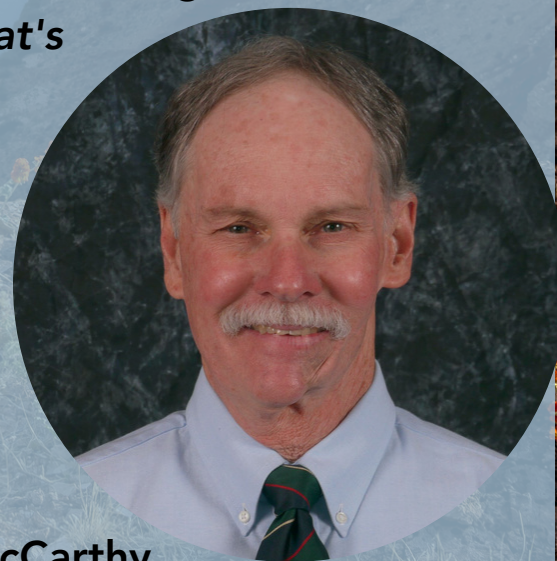
# ARIZONA - President Biden Designated National Monuments

## *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