



Bureau of Land Management's *Acting* Director William Perry Pendley Reinstated Again and Again. Now? Indefinitely.

Contact: **Anna Peterson**, Executive Director, The Mountain Pact, 612-735-2402,
anna@themountainpact.org

Durango, Colorado (June 5, 2020) – In response to the 5th reinstatement, and now apparent indefinite appointment of William Perry Pendley as *Acting* Director of the Bureau of Land Management, without Congressional approval, Anna Peterson, the Executive Director of The Mountain Pact, issued this statement:

“The continued re-appointment of William Perry Pendley as the Acting Director of the Bureau of Land Management, in defiance of Congressional oversight and approval, threatens our public lands. And now indefinitely?”

“Simply put, in direct opposition to what nearly three quarters of Americans say that the agency should do, Mr. Pendley prioritizes increasing oil and natural gas development and selling off America’s public lands than he does on conserving and expanding our natural wild spaces.

“William Perry Pendley is not qualified to lead the Bureau of Land Management, and he and the Department of the Interior are blatantly attempting to circumvent the Senate's constitutional "advice and consent" role in confirming high-level nominees. His continued re-appointment as Acting Director and now indefinite appointment sets a dangerous precedent in allowing an individual in a temporary, non-Senate confirmed position to make permanent and detrimental decisions about the management of America’s public lands.

“Mr. Pendley’s continued role as Acting Director and the absence of an official presidential nomination is an egregious abuse of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act, and he must be removed.”

###

More about The Mountain Pact

Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](https://www.themountainpact.org) is an organization that works with over fifty mountain communities in all eleven states across the American West to empower them to build resilience in the face of economic and environmental stresses through a shared voice on federal policy related to climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation.