



## **A Year After Circumventing Rules, Trump Announces Intent to Officially Nominate Pendley as Head of Bureau of Land Management**

**Contact:** Anna Peterson, 612-735-2402, [anna@themountainpact.org](mailto:anna@themountainpact.org)

Durango, Colorado (June 26, 2020) – Today President Trump announced that he intends to [officially nominate William Perry Pendley](#) to be the Director of the Bureau of Land Management. This comes after four reinstatements and an “indefinite” appointment on June 5. These appointments circumvented the Senate's constitutional "advice and consent" role in confirming high-level nominees. Pendley has been running the Bureau of Land Management for almost a year – since July 2019. In response to this announcement, Anna Peterson, Executive Director of The Mountain Pact, issued the following statement:

“It wouldn’t be a Friday without another disastrous announcement for America’s public lands from the Trump administration. During this pandemic, when communities are in the middle of dealing with an astronomical and unprecedented public health crisis, William Perry Pendley has continued the Trump administration’s destructive polluters over people approach. With William Perry Pendley and Interior Secretary David Bernhardt at the helm, the Trump administration’s greed is taking precedence over public health, strong economies, outdoor recreation, conservation, clean air, and clean water.”

“Pendley has greatly limited local input and continues to ignore science and experts when it comes to decisions about our public lands. While mountain communities struggle to navigate the effects of the pandemic, he’s prioritized bailing out fossil fuel CEOs. We welcome the news that this candidate will finally receive the scrutiny and vetting that a position at this level deserves. We’re confident that such a process will confirm what we’ve said for the last year: an anti-public lands zealot has no business overseeing our nation’s precious natural resources.”

“As many celebrate the recent Senate passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, this nomination will be a real test to see which Senators truly support conserving and protecting our public lands. The Senate must reject his nomination.”

###

### **About The Mountain Pact**

*Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) is an effort to educate, mobilize, and empower mountain towns with outdoor recreation-based economies in the American West around federal policy. We work with local elected officials in over 50 mountain communities from all 11 western states to build resilience in the face of environmental stresses and their economic impacts through a shared voice on policies related to climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation.*