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The Mountain Pact Celebrates the Biden Administration for Designating Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument

DURANGO, CO - In response to President Biden today <u>designating</u> the Tribally-Led proposed *Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of Grand Canyon National Monument*, <u>The Mountain Pact</u>, an organization that works with local elected officials in over 100 communities across the Western U.S., released the below statement:

"We are so thankful to President Biden for designating the tribally developed Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument today. President Biden used his authority under the Antiquities Act to protect lands around the Grand Canyon region and watershed, which has cultural connections to at least 12 Tribes and Nations.

We applaud this Biden administration for the designations of Camp Hale-Continental Divide, Avi Kwa Ame, Castner Range, Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley national monuments, and to now add protections to Baaj Nwaavjo I'tah Kukveni - Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument.

Protecting important lands by establishing national monuments has always been a bi-partisan effort and one that all Americans can celebrate. Nationally, since the Antiquities Act was passed, 18 presidents - nine Democratic and nine Republican - have designated or expanded, as of today, 163 national monuments across the country.

We thank President Biden for protecting these important places for current and future generations." - Anna Peterson, Executive Director of <u>The Mountain Pact</u>.

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Founded in 2014, <u>The Mountain Pact</u> 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.