



# **The Mountain Pact**

## **Presentation to Colorado Association of Ski Towns**

***Anna Peterson, Executive Director***  
***March 4, 2021***

# ABOUT US

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 80 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.



Photo: Tim Peterson

# HOW WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE



## **CLIMATE + ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS**

Are impacting our  
landscapes  
& local economies



## **POWER IN NUMBERS**

We ensure our voices  
are heard by  
speaking as one



## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION**

We select policy  
priorities that both  
impact mountain  
communities and  
mountain communities  
can have an impact on



## **AFFECT CHANGE**

Begin to see federal  
attention paid to  
mountain communities  
on climate & public  
lands issues

# TACTICS



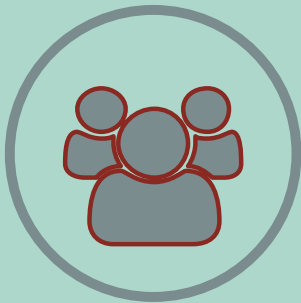
Letters to key political leadership  
(Sign on & Individual elected, or  
organizational)



Media Attention –  
Press statement and releases



Public Testimony



In Person Congressional  
& Agency Meetings



Op-Eds and Letter to the Editor



Education  
(Policy Webinars & Reports)



# SIGN ON LETTERS

## Past Six Months

- **January 2021** - A [letter](#) signed by over 130 western local elected officials to President Biden, Congress, and Representative Deb Haaland includes calls to halt new oil and gas leases and industry bailouts; support local governments in relief packages; restore protections for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante national monuments and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; increase environmental and public health safeguards; and work to conserve 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.
- **October 2020:** Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act letter signed by 111 Colorado local elected officials
- **Fall 2020:** Payment in Lieu of Taxes letter signed by 75 local elected officials asking for a Gateway Community Dividend to be added to the PILT program
- **Summer 2020:** Land and Water Conservation Fund Letter signed by 150 local elected officials asking for full and permanent funding for the LWCF.

## **The Mountain Pact**

Town Trustee, Marie Cenac, Town of Estes Park, Colorado  
 Town Trustee, Patrick Martchink, Town of Estes Park, Colorado  
 Town Trustee, Ron Norris, Town of Estes Park, Colorado  
 Town Trustee, Ken Zornes, Town of Estes Park, Colorado  
 Mayor Gary Wilkinson, Town of Frisco, Colorado  
 Mayor Pro Tem Hunter Mortensen, Town of Frisco, Colorado  
 Council Member Steve Davis, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Mayor Jonathan Godes, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Council Member Tony Hershey, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Council Member Shelley Kaup, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Council Member Paula Stepp, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Council Member Rick Voorhees, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Council Member Charlie Willman, City of Glenwood Springs, Colorado  
 Mayor Pro Tem Polly Christensen, City of Longmont, Colorado  
 Mayor Laila Benitez, Town of Mountain Village, Colorado  
 Council Member Patrick Berry, Town of Mountain Village, Colorado  
 Mayor Corinne Platt, Town of Ophir, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Patti Clapper, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Kelly McNicholas Kury, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Greg Poschman, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Steve Child, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner George Newman, Pitkin County, Colorado  
 Mayor John Clark, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Mayor Pro Tem Eric Johnson, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Council Member Ninah Hunter, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Council Member Tessa Cheek, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Council Member Beth Lakin, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Council Member Russ Meyer, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 Council Member Robb Austin Meyer, Town of Ridgway, Colorado  
 County Commissioner M. Elizabeth Melton, Routt County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Timothy V. Corrigan, Routt County, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Douglas B. Monger, Routt County, Colorado  
 Mayor P.T. Wood, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Harald Kasper, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Dan Shore, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Jane Templeton, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Justin Critelli, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Cheryl Brown-Kovacic, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Mike Bowers, City of Salida, Colorado  
 Council Member Sonja Macys, City of Steamboat Springs, Colorado  
 County Commissioner Karn Stiegelmeier, Summit County, Colorado  
 Mayor Sean Murphy, Town of Telluride, Colorado  
 Mayor Pro Tem Todd Brown, Town of Telluride, Colorado  
 Council Member Lars Carlson, Town of Telluride, Colorado  
 Council Member Delanie Young, Town of Telluride, Colorado  
 Council Member Travis Coggin, Town of Vail, Colorado  
 Council Member Kim Langmaid, Town of Vail, Colorado  
 Mayor Jimmy Lahrman, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Mayor Pro Tem Nick Kutumbos, Town of Winter Park, Colorado

## **The Mountain Pact**

Council Member Chuck Banks, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Council Member Jim Myers, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Council Member Mike Perolat, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Council Member Chris Seemann, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Council Member Art Ferrari, Town of Winter Park, Colorado  
 Mayor Hyrum F. Johnson, City of Driggs, Idaho  
 Mayor Neil Bradshaw, City of Ketchum, Idaho  
 Mayor Shelby Rognstad, City of Sandpoint, Idaho  
 City Commissioner Ed Noonan, City of Helena, Montana  
 Alderman and City Council President Bryan von Lossberg, City of Missoula, Montana  
 Mayor William Larson, City of Red Lodge, Montana  
 Council Member Rob Weamer, City of Red Lodge, Montana  
 Mayor John Muhlfeld, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Deputy Mayor Richard Hildner, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Andy Feury, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Frank Sweeny, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Ryan Henner, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Melissa Hartman, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Katie Williams, City of Whitefish, Montana  
 Council Member Devon Reese, City of Reno, Nevada  
 City Council Member Renee Villarreal, City of Santa Fe, New Mexico  
 Mayor Daniel R. Barrone, Town of Taos, New Mexico  
 Council Member Nathaniel Evans, Town of Taos, New Mexico  
 Council Member Darien D. Fernandez, Town of Taos, New Mexico  
 Council Member George "Fritz" Hahn, Town of Taos, New Mexico  
 Council Member Pascualito Maestas, Town of Taos, New Mexico  
 Mayor Christof Brownell, Village at Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico  
 Council Member Jeff Kern, Village at Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico  
 Council Member Roger Pattison, Village at Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico  
 Council Member Chris Stagg, Village at Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico  
 Council Member Tom Wittman, Village at Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico  
 Council Member Rich Rosenthal, City of Ashland, Oregon  
 Council Member Gena Goodman-Campbell, City of Bend, Oregon  
 Mayor Harris Sondak, Town of Alta, Utah  
 Mayor Emily Niehaus, City of Moab, Utah  
 Council Member Rani Derasary, City of Moab, Utah  
 Council Member Mike Duncan, City of Moab, Utah  
 Council Member Karen Guzman-Newton, City of Moab, Utah  
 Council Member Kalen Jones, City of Moab, Utah  
 Council Member Tawny Knuteson-Boyd, City of Moab, Utah  
 Mayor Andy Beerman, City of Park City, Utah  
 Council Member Steve Joyce, City of Park City, Utah  
 Council Member Tim B. Henney, City of Park City, Utah  
 Council Member Nann Worel, City of Park City, Utah  
 Council Member Michael Lilliquist, City of Bellingham, Washington  
 Council Member Gene Knutson, City of Bellingham, Washington  
 Council Member Mia Bretz, City of Leavenworth, Washington  
 Mayor Pete Muldoon, Town of Jackson, Wyoming  
 Councilman Jim Stanford, Town of Jackson, Wyoming

## **The Mountain Pact**

Councilman Jonathan Schechter, Town of Jackson, Wyoming  
 Vice Mayor Hailey Morton Levinson, Town of Jackson, Wyoming  
 Councilman Arne Jorgensen, Town of Jackson, Wyoming  
 County Commissioner Mark Newcomb, Teton County, Wyoming

# INDIVIDUAL LETTERS



EAGLE COUNTY

July 7, 2020

The Honorable Scott Tipton  
United States House of Representatives  
218 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Tipton,

In this time of public health emergency, our pu  
our economy and our communities' wellbeing.  
and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and votin

## Board of County Commissioners

970-328-8605  
970-328-8629(f)

[eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us](mailto:eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us)  
[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)



June 22, 2020

Honorable Scott Tipton  
U.S. Representative  
218 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: LWCF funding and Great American Outdoors Act vote

Dear Congressman Tipton:

In this time of public health emergency, we hope you will invest in our parks, public lands, and outdoor recreation in recognition of their importance to our economy, and to our communities' wellbeing through full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and voting for the Great American Outdoors Act.



Office of the City Council  
City of South Lake Tahoe

1901 Lisa Maloff Way, Ste. 203  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
[www.cityofsltl.us](http://www.cityofsltl.us)

cy, the below listed local elected official and the City of South  
our parks, public lands, and outdoor recreation in recognition of  
d to our communities' wellbeing through full funding of the Land  
;F) and voting for the Great American Outdoors Act.



# MEDIA OUTREACH

AlbuquerqueJournal

GREENWIRE

THE  
HILL



BILLINGS GAZETTE



TELLURIDE DAILY PLANET

CASPER  
Star Tribune

THE DAILY SENTINEL

U.S. News  
& WORLD REPORT

FLATHEAD  
BEACON



Missoulian

SUMMIT DAILY

The Bulletin  
Serving Central Oregon since 1903

DENVER  
BUSINESS JOURNAL

cp coloradopolitics

THE DENVER POST

SKY-HI NEWS

The Register-Guard

THE Durango HERALD

The Gazette

PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING JOURNALISM, EST. 1872

Aspen  
PUBLIC RADIO

Daily Camera

# ON THE GROUND

## Washington D.C. Fly Ins (or Virtual!):

Every year The Mountain Pact brings four to six mountain community local elected officials to D.C. to participate in meetings with Senators, House of Representative members, White House, Department of Interior, and US Forest Service leadership.





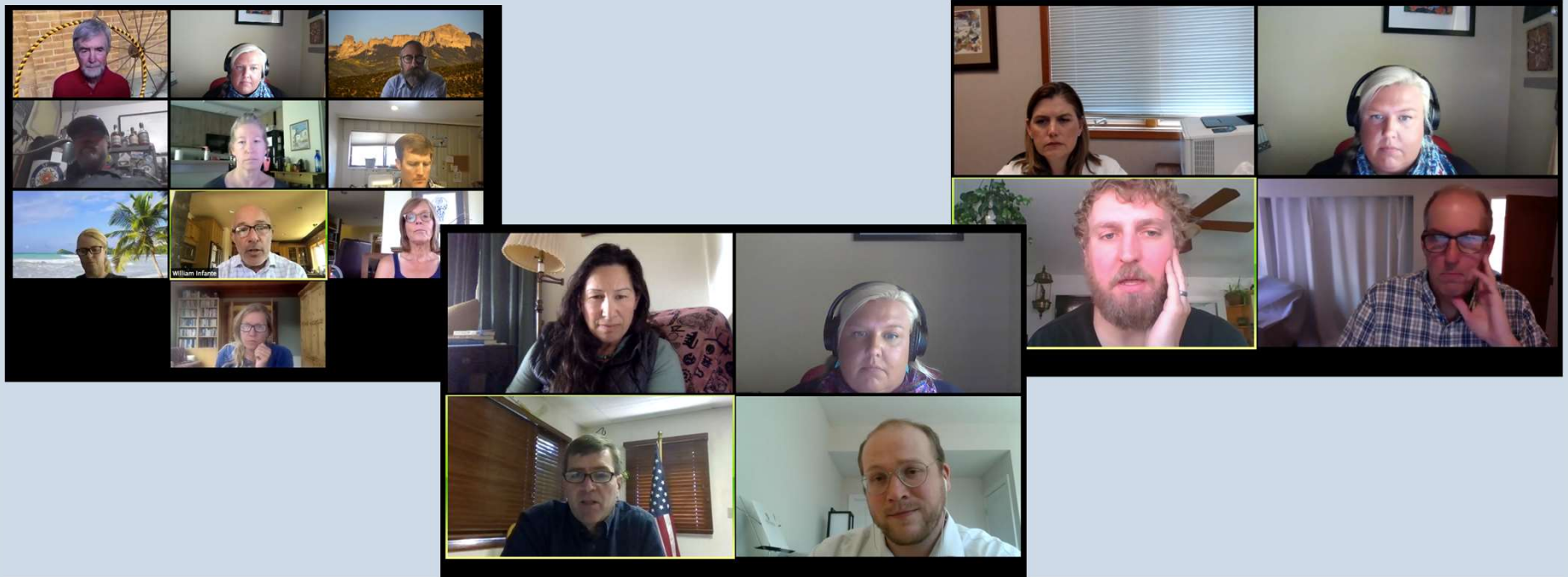






# Virtual Fly-ins

Due to COVID, instead of hosting our annual Washington, D.C. fly-in this spring, The Mountain Pact convened meetings with over 20 Western local elected officials and congressional offices. County commissioners, mayors, and town/city council members took time to talk with members of their congressional delegation in California, Montana, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Wyoming, New Mexico, and Arizona about the [Land and Water Conservation Fund](#), the [Great American Outdoors Act](#), the Department of Interior, and COVID relief among other topics.



# REPORTS

- **January 2021:** [Building Back Better: How Congress and The Biden Administration Can Support Climate-Resilient Western Mountain Communities & Reverse The Damage Caused By The Trump Administration](#)
- **Summer 2019:** [Public Lands Conservation in the Trump Era.](#)
- **Summer 2018:** [The Case for Reauthorizing and Fully Funding The Land and Water Conservation Fund - Why Congress Must Act](#)
- **Spring 2018:** [The Case for Balanced Public Lands Use for Western Communities: Recommendations After One Year Into The Trump Administration](#)
- **Spring 2017:** [The Antiquities Act: A Vital Part of Our Natural Heritage.](#)
- **Fall 2016:** [Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities: Protecting Western Forests in the Era of Climate Change and Wildfire.](#)
- **Spring 2016:** [How Federal Coal Reform Could Help Mountain Communities Mitigate the Costs of Climate Change](#)
- **2015:** [Paying the Costs of Climate Change](#)

# REPORTS

## BUILDING BACK BETTER:

HOW CONGRESS AND THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION CAN SUPPORT CLIMATE RESILIENT WESTERN MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES & REVERSE THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

 **The Mountain Pact**  
January 2021



## ENERGY DOMINANCE IMPACT ON PUBLIC LANDS AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

On top of bailing out the failing oil and gas industry, the Trump administration's prioritization of its "energy dominance" agenda and its increase in antiquated energy source development is also exacerbating the climate crisis. For the past four years, the federal government has [offered 50 million acres for oil and gas leasing](#) through draft and finalized resource management plans overseen by federal land agencies. This laser focus on [oil and gas development](#) on public lands and [deregulation](#) is jeopardizing public health

and contributing to the climate crisis through the release of vast amounts of potent greenhouse gas emissions. In fact, [if U.S. public lands were a country](#), they would rank 5th in the world for greenhouse gas emissions and greenhouse gas emissions associated with oil, gas, and coal from public lands equal 20% or more of total emissions. This increase in climate emissions directly affects Western mountain communities that are dealing with several dire, long-term, and costly [health](#) and [climate](#) impacts.

### THE RELEASE OF METHANE GAS

- Emissions from public lands are on track to [drastically exceed](#) the level that leading climate science says is necessary to avoid the worst effects of warming. The production of natural gas releases methane, a powerful greenhouse gas that [exacerbates](#) the health impacts of climate change. [Toxic chemicals](#) such as hydrogen sulfide, toluene, xylene and benzene are also released alongside methane during oil and gas industry production activities. [Data from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#) suggests that more than half of the warming we will experience over the next two decades due to current emissions will be from the continued release of methane and other short-lived pollutants into the atmosphere.
- Even though methane is a powerful greenhouse gas, the Trump administration has [weakened methane regulations](#) on oil and gas companies that drill on public lands by relieving them of the requirement to detect and repair methane leaks.



Paonia, Colorado Trustee Dave Knutson said, "The biggest threat to our community of Paonia is climate change, exacerbated by the Bureau of Land Management's new Management Plan for the area. By opening up all nearby public lands to drilling instead of honoring our rural community's input. By increasing climate emissions, we are accelerating impacts that hurt our community. This year's drought required some of our irrigation ditches to be shut down prematurely due to "calls" on the water systems. Lack of irrigation water impacted our fruit and organic vegetable crops where we grow over half of the organic food for the State of Colorado. And finally, lack of snow has impacted recreation and has decreased capacity for irrigation which is critical to our ranchers and farmers."



# REPORTS

## HEAT, DROUGHT, FLOODS, AND WILDFIRE

Severe heat and drought, conditions linked to climate change, are [making wildfires more frequent and intense](#) with catastrophic blazes spreading in unusual places and outside of normal fire seasons.

- Wildfire smoke causes an [increase in asthma, heart attacks, and strokes](#) although the long-term impacts [remain unclear](#). Farmworkers are particularly vulnerable to COVID and [suffer immeasurably](#) with the impacts of smoke from wildfires.
- Wildfires cause [more subtle impacts](#) including the closure of major transportation routes, which can impact businesses and consumers across the country. The closure of Colorado's Interstate 70 through Glenwood Canyon last summer while the [Grizzly Creek fire](#) raged disrupted lives, commercial trucking routes, and tourism.
- Climate change is already [straining the budgets](#) of mountain towns with concerns around availability and quality of drinking water and other infrastructure costs.
- The 2019 Verisk Wildfire Risk Analysis estimates that [more than 4.5 million U.S. properties](#) are at high to extreme wildfire risk.

Climate change is [increasing the likelihood of precipitation extremes](#), including droughts as well as heavy rainfall and resulting floods. Climate projections show large reductions in snowpack, which is a key source of water in the Southwest during the spring and summer and a draw for tourists in the winter.

Ophir, Colorado Mayor Corrinne Platt said, "We're seeing less snow and less runoff which is our primary municipal water source. Last fall we had a fire within a mile of our town limit. We need to be looking forward to help out small communities, not a polluting and antiquated industry."



Glenwood Springs, Colorado Mayor Jonathan Godes said, "2020 was a hard year for Glenwood Springs. Between the quarry expansion and the Grizzly Creek Fire, our community has been dramatically impacted by a warming planet and the extraction industry. "Our Federal government should prioritize helping small communities and businesses across the country, and focus on the new renewable energy economy."



Steamboat Springs, Colorado Council Member Sonja Macys said, "This summer we were overtaken by dust and ash from nearby fires. It made outdoor recreation nearly impossible due to the danger and the greatly diminished air quality. We also continue to see Yampa River flows fall to dangerously low levels. For the past decade we've purchased additional water from the Stagecoach Reservoir for strategic water releases to keep the river alive. This year the Yampa River was placed on call for only the second time in its history. We need the federal government to prioritize communities over failing industries."



## DUST ON SNOW

- Changing climate patterns are [causing an increase in windblown dust](#) in the Southwest. This dust lands onto the snowpack, and causes an increase in the absorption of solar radiation and an earlier snowmelt, contributing to drought conditions and early spring runoff.

Tourism is [negatively impacted](#) as dirty snow isn't nearly as appealing as clean snow and snow that melts faster means fewer skier days.

Driggs, Idaho Mayor Hyrum Johnson said, "Our Yellowstone ecosystem is fragile, and very susceptible to the impacts of climate change. Over the last decade we've witnessed shorter winters, the ensuing worries about irrigation water for local agriculture, and a negative impact to our winter tourism businesses. We've also experienced extreme impacts from wildfires which impacts our summer tourism season and economy."



City of Aspen Mayor Torre said, "Aspen's ecosystems and tourism economy are heavily dependent on winter snowfall. Higher average temperatures over recent decades have shortened the winter season, resulting in a diminished snowpack. These changes to the snowpack have contributed to more consistent and severe drought conditions in the summers, as well as an increase in wildfire danger."



Town of Frisco, Colorado Mayor Hunter Mortensen said, "Energy development on public lands really impacts our snowpack from the dust on snow events, which then leads to difficult water management for our town water supply. Furthermore, the faster the snow melts off from the dust events, the drier the forests become, increasing our wildfire risk and catastrophic potential impacts to our town."



Town of Telluride Pro Tem Mayor Todd Brown said, "In my home in Southwest Colorado, we are again experiencing exceptional drought and seeing the long-term impacts of climate change that threaten our tourism-based economy. I am a ski instructor at our world-class ski resort whose seasons are experiencing less snowfall, warmer temperatures, and earlier melting in the spring. That earlier and faster snowmelt is impacting our water-based summer tourism, as well as the health of our surrounding forests. Sitting on the edge of the Four Corners Methane Hotspot, we experience more days of atmospheric haze every year, exacerbated by wildfire smoke as our drying climate contributes to longer and more intense wildfires."

# POLICY UPDATES/CONSERVATION UPDATES



## January 2021 Conservation Update

In this Conservation Update, we report that over [125 western local officials](#) signed a [letter](#) organized by The Mountain Pact in conjunction with [a report](#) calling on President Biden and Congress to protect our public lands, take bold action on climate change, and support Western mountain communities; that President Biden has signed executive orders that indicate his strong commitment to tackling the climate crisis including one that pauses new oil and gas leases on public land and promotes protecting 30% of our lands and waters by 2030; and more around how federal conservation policies are impacting western mountain communities.





# LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

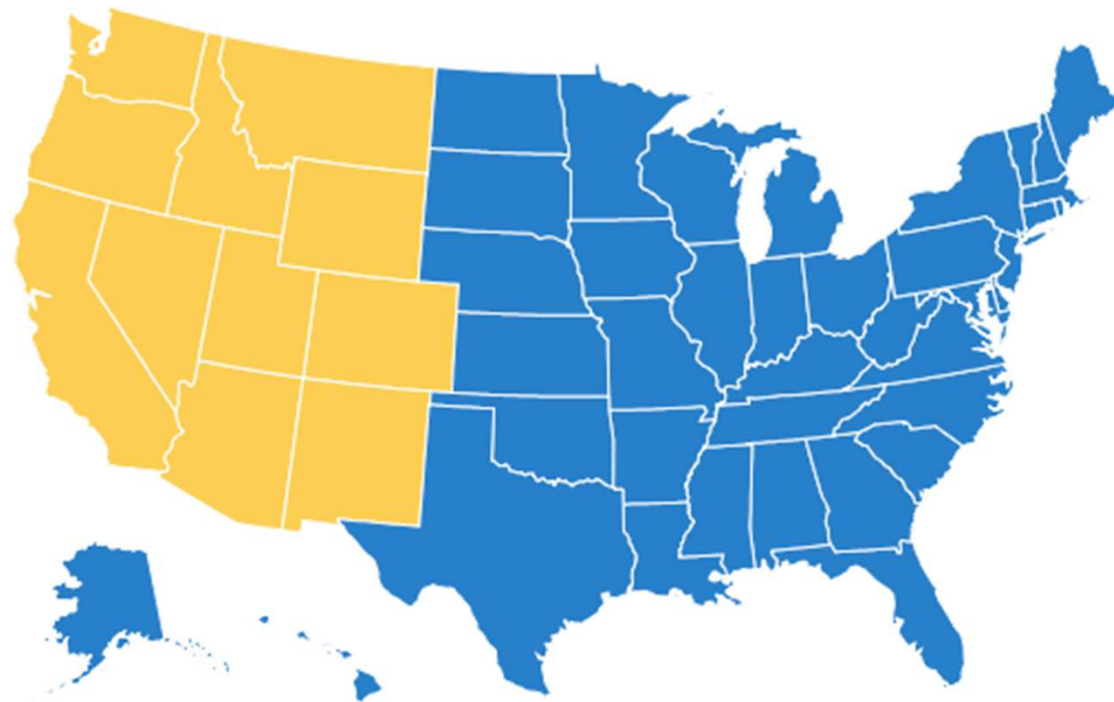


The Mountain Pact follows an 'opt-in' strategy where towns and counties can participate in our policy efforts as they see fit for their community.

These local and county governments represent the most engaged communities in The Mountain Pact. The Mountain Pact also works with other local and regional governments, chambers of commerce, and economic development corporations in addition to those listed below.

## STATES WITH PARTICIPATING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Mountain Pact has engaged with communities across all 11 western states.





# Communities who have council members who have been involved with The Mountain Pact

## **Arizona:**

Coconino County  
City of Flagstaff

## **California:**

City of Big Bear Lake  
City of Bishop  
Inyo County  
Mono County  
Town of Mammoth Lakes  
Town of South Lake Tahoe  
Town of Truckee

## **Colorado:**

City of Aspen  
Town of Avon  
Town of Basalt  
City of Boulder  
Town of Breckenridge  
Town of Carbondale  
Town of Crested Butte  
City of Durango  
Eagle County  
Town of Estes Park  
Town of Frisco  
City of Glenwood Springs

## **Colorado Continued:**

City of Longmont  
Town of Mountain Village  
Town of Ophir  
Ouray County  
Town of Paonia  
Pitkin County  
Town of Ridgway  
Routt County  
City of Salida  
San Miguel County  
Snowmass Village  
City of Steamboat Springs  
Summit County  
Town of Telluride  
Town of Vail

## **Idaho:**

Blaine County  
City of Driggs  
Town of Hailey  
City of Ketchum  
City of Sandpoint  
Teton County

## **Montana:**

City of Bozeman  
City of Helena  
City of Missoula  
Missoula County  
City of Red Lodge  
City of Whitefish

## **Nevada:**

Clark County  
Tahoe Regional Planning  
Agency  
City of Reno

## **New Mexico:**

City of Las Cruces  
Town of Red River  
City of Santa Fe  
Santa Fe County  
Town of Taos

## **Oregon:**

City of Ashland  
City of Bend

## **Utah:**

Town of Alta  
Town of Bluff  
Grand County  
City of Moab  
Salt Lake County  
Summit County

## **Washington:**

City of Bellingham  
City of Wenatchee  
Town of Winthrop

## **Wyoming:**

Teton County  
Town of Jackson

# Some Engaged Communities

## SOME OF OUR ENGAGED MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES:



The Mountain Pact follows an 'opt-in' strategy where towns and counties can participate in our policy efforts as they see fit for their community.

# HOW TO PARTICIPATE



## GET ON OUR CONTACT LIST

Stay informed on Mountain Pact efforts



## OPT-IN POLICY

Engage where & when you want to



## CONTINUE TO JOIN POLICY CAMPAIGNS

# OUR 2021 PRIORITIES



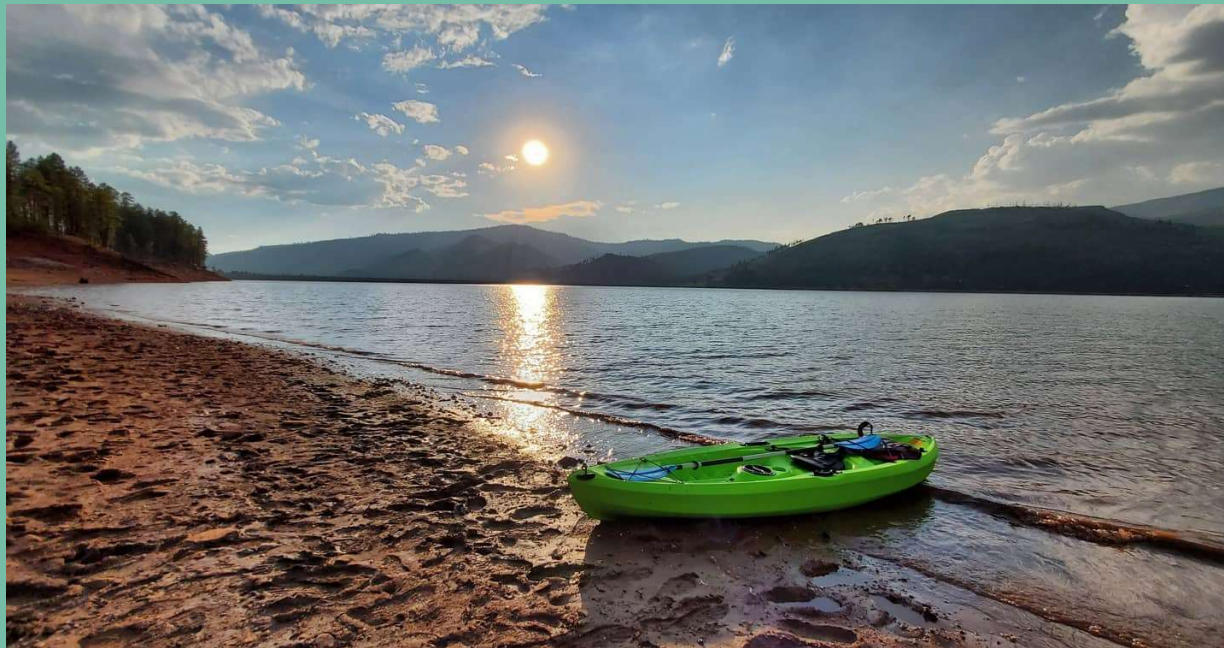
Photo: Anna Peterson

1. President Biden Executive Orders
  - Advocating for protecting 30% of our lands and water by 2030.
  - Supporting pause on new oil and gas leasing.
  - National monuments restoration
2. Department of Interior
  - Secretary of Interior Nominee Deb Haaland
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Actions
3. State Specific Federal Public Lands Protections
  - CORE Act
  - Grand Canyon Protection Act

# **PRESIDENT BIDEN EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

## **Efforts around 30x30**

The national and international effort to protect 30% of land and water by 2030 is included in the third of the three executive orders signed by President Biden on January 27, 2021.





# How to Take Action

Upcoming Webinar: The Mountain Pact will be hosting a webinar with the U.S. Director of the [Campaign Nature](#) about President Biden's 30x30 conservation goal of protecting 30% of land and water by 2030 and how we can work to implement this goal in our communities. We invite you to fill out a [Doodle poll](#) so we can select a date and time that works for the most local elected officials in The Mountain Pact network.



# PRESIDENT BIDEN EXECUTIVE ORDERS

## Pause on *New Oil and Gas Leasing* on Federal Public Lands

The pause on new oil and gas leasing on federal public lands was one section out of three in President Biden's executive orders.





# How to Take Action

- Connect with Anna for background materials.
- Ask your Town/City/County governing body to pass a [resolution](#) (Anna can send a draft) to show support for the pause on new oil and gas leasing.



# **PRESIDENT BIDEN EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

## **National Monument Restoration**

As a part of a day one executive order, President Biden directed the Department of Interior to protect our nation's treasures by reviewing the boundaries and conditions of the Grand Staircase-Escalante, Bears Ears, Northeast Canyons, and Seamounts Marine National Monuments and placing a temporary moratorium on all oil and natural gas leasing activities in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.



# DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

## Secretary Nominee NM Representative Deb Haaland

In late February, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources held a confirmation hearing for New Mexico Representative Deb Haaland, the nominee for Secretary of the Interior. A full vote on the nomination is expected by mid-March. The Mountain Pact supports her nomination.



# DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

## Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

In February, the Acting Secretary of Interior signed [Secretarial Order 3396](#) which revokes an order signed on November 9, 2020 (Secretarial Order 3388) by former Secretary David Bernhardt that unilaterally imposed new restrictions to inhibit the availability of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding for federal land and water acquisitions.





# STATE SPECIFIC FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS PROTECTIONS

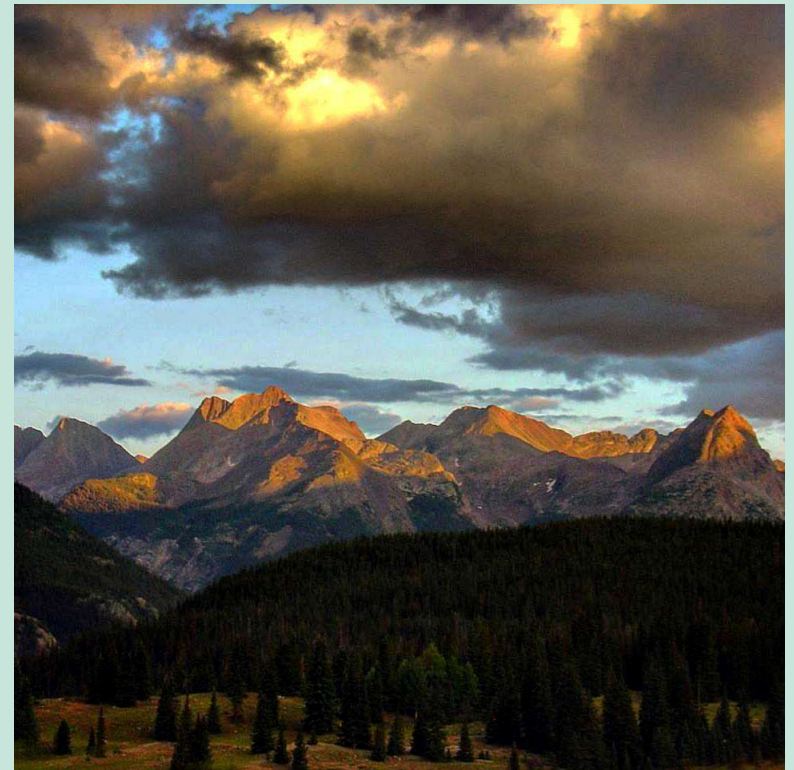
In late February, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the [Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act](#) which designates approximately 1.49 million acres of public land as wilderness and incorporates more than 1,000 river miles into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through public lands protections in California, Colorado, Arizona, and Washington. Two provisions of this legislation, the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act and Grand Canyon Protection Act include public lands near Mountain Pact network communities.



# STATE SPECIFIC FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS PROTECTIONS

## Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act (CORE)

The [Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy \(CORE\) Act](#) was reintroduced in February in both the House and Senate and passed the House on Feb 26, 2021. It will protect 400,000 acres of Colorado public land and designate nearly 80,000 acres as new recreation and conservation management areas that preserve existing outdoor uses such as hiking and mountain biking. It is the most significant and broadly-supported effort to protect Colorado's most cherished lands, waters, and forests in a generation and is the result of over a decade of engagement with a wide range of bi-partisan stakeholders.



# STATE SPECIFIC FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS PROTECTIONS

## Grand Canyon Protection Act

The Grand Canyon Protection Act was reintroduced in the House and Senate in February 2021 and passed in the House on February 26, 2021. The legislation prohibits new uranium mining around Grand Canyon National Park, protecting Arizona's water supply, outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and tribal communities. Currently, the Grand Canyon welcomes over six million visitors a year, contributes \$1.2 billion to local economies, and supports over 12,500 jobs in the region.





# Thank you!



## CONTACT US

**Anna Peterson, Executive Director**

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