

Thanks, President Biden

Biden-Harris Administration acts to conserve America's lands and waters



Avi Kwa Ame National Monument

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At the March 21 White House Conservation in Action Summit, President Biden announced major new actions to conserve and restore lands and waters across the nation, including the establishment of Avi Kwa Ame National Monument in Nevada and Castner Range National Monument in Texas. The President also directed the Secretary of Commerce to consider exercising her authority to protect all U.S. waters around the Pacific Remote Islands,

which would achieve the goal of conserving 30% of U.S. ocean waters by 2030. (The Administration has released the [America the Beautiful Annual Report](#), an update on progress made to support locally-led conservation and restoration efforts and meet the President's "30 x 30" goal to conserve at least 30% of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.)

During his first year in office, President Biden protected more lands and waters than any president since John F. Kennedy, including restoring protections for [Bears Ears, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Northeast Canyons and Seamounts National Monuments](#) and dedicating the new national monument, [Camp Hale – Continental Divide](#) in Colorado.

Thanks to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, President Biden has invested over \$10 billion in conservation initiatives – more than any other modern president.

Other federal actions to conserve, restore, and expand access to lands and waters:

- The [United States Ocean Climate Action Plan](#) is a roadmap to protecting ocean health and addressing the climate crisis, outlining new actions on the Administration's ocean-climate priorities, including efforts to advance climate solutions, promote environmental justice, support healthy communities, and ensure a sustainable ocean economy.

●**Wildlife Corridors Guidance:** The White House Council on Environmental Quality is issuing [new guidance](#) to Federal agencies on how to better incorporate ecological connectivity and wildlife corridors into federal planning and decision-making. The guidance highlights the importance of connectivity across terrestrial, marine, and freshwater habitats, encouraging collaboration across management and ownership boundaries with states, Tribes, local governments, and private landowners.

●**New Partnership to Protect Military Readiness and Preserve Green Space:** The Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense are partnering to allocate \$80 million through a combination of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and matching funds from DoD's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program to preserve green space around military installations and improve access to outdoor recreation for millions of Americans.

●**\$100 Million Tribal Conservation Funding Pledge:** Native Americans in Philanthropy, in collaboration with Biodiversity Funders Group and 15 philanthropies, has launched the Tribal Nations Conservation Pledge with an initial commitment of more than \$100 million. This is a new platform for philanthropic organizations to support the conservation work of Tribal Nations and public-private partnerships between the Biden-Harris Administration, Tribes, and philanthropy. The pledge calls on funders to commit to a self-determined amount of funding, or a self-determined percentage of annual programmatic funding, to support the biodiversity and conservation efforts of Tribes, inter-Tribal organizations, and Tribal consortia.

●**New Partnership to Accelerate the Conservation of At-Risk Species:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Alliance of Forest Owners and the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement Inc., will formalize the Wildlife Conservation Initiative, a collaborative partnership focused on advancing the conservation of at-risk and listed species within private working forests nationwide. The announcement comes as the Department of the Interior celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Endangered Species Act and highlights the landmark law's importance in preventing imperiled species' extinction, promoting the recovery of wildlife, and conserving the habitats upon which they depend.

●**Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program:** The Federal Highway Administration and the Department of Transportation will open applications for the first-of-its-kind \$350 million Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program. The program will build infrastructure that is proven to improve roadway safety – particularly in rural communities – and bring down the more than one million collisions every year between vehicles and wildlife.

●**State Wildlife Grants:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is distributing [over \\$56 million](#) for state fish and wildlife agencies through the State Wildlife Grant Program to support conservation and stewardship efforts for imperiled wildlife and their habitats.