



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2025

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City of Blythe Calls for Amended Boundaries to Chuckwalla National Monument

Blythe, CA — On January 7, Former President Biden signed an executive order officially designating the [Chuckwalla National Monument](#). While the City of Blythe recognizes the importance of preserving natural resources, it continues to stand firm in its opposition to the proposed boundaries of the monument as outlined by the [California Wilderness Coalition \(CalWild\)](#).

The current designation encompasses over 624,000 acres of land stretching from the Coachella Valley to the Colorado River. The City urges federal officials to consider amending and reducing the monument's boundaries to balance environmental conservation with the community's economic and recreational needs.

"The proposed boundaries severely restrict public access to a vast area of land that has long been vital to our community and regional economy," said Mayor Joseph DeConinck. "We believe a more measured approach to the monument's boundaries can preserve the environment while allowing continued access for activities like hunting, mining and outdoor recreation, which are crucial for Blythe's residents and visitors alike."

Currently, the designated land is managed by the Department of the Interior, allowing residents and tourists to engage in activities such as hunting and mining. Stripping this land from public use under the guise of preservation could severely impact tourism and the economy of surrounding communities, like the City of Blythe. The community's right to access and utilize these lands must be preserved.

The City of Blythe remains firm in its position that the boundaries of the Chuckwalla National Monument must be amended and reduced. This approach will ensure that public access, recreational opportunities and the economic viability of Blythe and surrounding communities are not compromised.

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About the City of Blythe

Blythe is a dynamic community known for its rich history and strategic position as a gateway between California and Arizona. The city is committed to fostering sustainable growth, economic development, and maintaining a high quality of life for its residents.