

**RESOLUTION OF THE CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS URGING
PRESIDENT BIDEN AND CONGRESS TO DESIGNATE AVI KWA AME AS A
NATIONAL MONUMENT**

WHEREAS, the public lands known as Avi Kwa Ame or Spirit Mountain are sacred and undeveloped natural treasures located near Boulder City, Searchlight and Laughlin, Nevada; and

WHEREAS, the Avi Kwa Ame landscape is sacred to a dozen tribes, including the Chemehuevi Paiute, Hopi, Hualapai, Havasupai, Kumeyaay, Maricopa, Mojave, Pai Pai, Quechan, and Yavapai; and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, representing 27 member tribes, and the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, representing 21 member tribes, have expressed support for the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Boulder City Council, Searchlight Town Advisory Board, Laughlin Advisory Board, Boulder City and Laughlin Chambers of Commerce, and the Laughlin Tourism Commission have all expressed support for the Avi Kwa Ame National Monument proposal; and

WHEREAS, since 2001, Clark County has directed \$2.7 million in conservation investments to the Avi Kwa Ame landscape as part of the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan, and intends to invest another \$3.8 million in 2022, as part of a habitat restoration and mitigation strategy that supports the continued growth of the Las Vegas region; and

WHEREAS, the Avi Kwa Ame landscape plays an important role in supporting responsible clean energy development by serving as a place where land is protected and restored, as part of a mitigation strategy that allow development of the Dry Lake Solar Energy Zone; and

WHEREAS, these public lands contain petroglyphs; historic mining and Western expansion-era artifacts; rare and threatened wildlife such as the Mojave Desert tortoise and desert bighorn sheep; and Walking Box Ranch, the home of 1930s-era film stars Rex Bell and Clara Bow; and

WHEREAS, these public lands are home to part of the world's largest Joshua Tree forest and Nevada's largest Joshua Tree; and

WHEREAS, these public lands are essential to the quality of life in Clark County, providing extensive public recreational opportunities for wildlife watching, hunting, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, sightseeing, biking and off-highway vehicle riding on designated routes, and numerous other outdoor recreational activities, thereby improving the health of our community and its visitors; and

WHEREAS, Clark County seeks to promote responsible off-highway vehicle recreation;
and

WHEREAS, protected public lands create visibility for local communities which can play a pivotal role in attracting and retaining people and businesses, boosting local economies;
and

WHEREAS, many Clark County residents enjoy the natural desert landscape and the outdoor recreational opportunities of Avi Kwa Ame.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Clark County Board of Commissioners that:

1. Clark County does hereby urge President Joseph R. Biden Jr., and the Congress of the United States to designate the area in southern Clark County known as Avi Kwa Ame as a National Monument by legislation or executive action.
2. Clark County requests the continued public lands management of Avi Kwa Ame by the Bureau of Land Management.
3. Clark County will continue its efforts to promote responsible recreational use, such as off-highway vehicle use on designated routes, at Avi Kwa Ame.
4. Clark County will continue its efforts and investment in stewardship and habitat improvements as part of the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan within the Avi Kwa Ame landscape.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this ____ day of February, 2022.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

JAMES B. GIBSON, Chair

ATTESTED:

LYNN MARIE GOYA
County Clerk