MONUMENTAL DECISIONS:

PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON'S USE OF THE 1906 ANTIQUITIES ACT

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I. Brief History of the 1906 Antiquities Act
A) Why it was passed and what it allows presidents to do
B) President Theodore Roosevelt’s initial implementation of the Act, setting the precedent for future presidents to follow
C) Key presidential proclamations under the Antiquities Act: Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jimmy Carter, and Bill Clinton
D) How the Act’s original purposes have evolved and broadened over its one hundred year history

II. President Clinton’s Use of the 1906 Antiquities Act for Environmental Protection
A) The establishment of 23 national monuments encompassing 6 million acres of federal land
B) Where they are and what they protect
C) The political controversy surrounding the creation of some of the new national monuments – e.g., Grand Staircase-Escalante in Utah
D) Case Study of the Giant Sequoia National Monument in California: Implementation of President Clinton’s 2000 executive proclamation establishing the Monument
1) Initial supporters and opponents of the Monument, and attempts at finding common ground
2) The role of the Secretary of Agriculture’s Science Advisory Board in formulating the initial management plan
3) Results: What has been accomplished to date by Clinton’s executive proclamation protecting the Giant Sequoia

III. Conclusion: The Clinton Legacy in Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Protection
A) Other environmental policy initiatives during the Clinton Administration
B) “The Boldest Action:” Using the 1906 Antiquities Act to further protect 6 million acres of the nation’s land