

FACT SHEET

Protect Sáttítla

Cultural, Geological & Ecological Treasure in Need of Protection

Nestled 30 miles from Mount Shasta within the Shasta-Trinity, Klamath, and Modoc National Forests of northeastern California, Sáttítla is a culturally significant, geologically unique, and life-sustaining region in need of greater protections.

Since time immemorial these lands have been sacred for the Pit River people and other Native Peoples, including the Modoc, Shasta, Karuk, and Wintu. These sacred lands remain integral to the cultural identity and spiritual practices of these peoples today, and to the nearby community as a whole.

Headwaters of California

Sáttítla is crucial for the health of millions of people, wildlife, and plants. Serving as one of California's headwaters, the aquifers beneath these lands deliver clean, cold water to Fall River and the state's largest spring system. More water is stored in Sáttítla's groundwater aquifers than the combined total of California's 200 largest surface water reservoirs.

The underground volcanic aquifers, which feed the Fall River spring system, provide a buffer from climate change and the increasing drought by ensuring water for millions of Californians and agricultural needs downstream.

Tribal Connections

Sáttítla holds countless tribal cultural resources, reflecting the rich history of the region. The Pit River Nation, among others, maintains a deep spiritual connection to the land and water.

Indigenous people continue to honor tradition and preserve their cultural identities through a deep spiritual connection and being one with the land and water. The continuous use of the area not only includes practicing Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge (ITEK), gathering plant and animal materials for food and making ceremonial items, but the natural features also have a deeper spiritual significance connected to the Pit River Nation's creation story. Pit River families continue to utilize ceremonial spaces within the region for renewal, naming their children, healing, training, and to experience the high quality of silence.



Recreation & Economic Opportunity

The people in communities and towns surrounding Sáttítla also cherish these lands. There is a recognition of what the forest and mountains provide for families, the economy, and the way of life in Northern California.

- Sáttítla is where families camp, hike, bike, and seek solitude.
- Popular snowmobile trails attract winter sport enthusiasts.
- Visitors and homeowners in the region contribute to the local outdoor economy when they escape to these public lands for recreation.
- Sáttítla is home to threatened and endangered wildlife, and water resources that feed streams for Trout and Salmon.

Threats

For decades, the Pit River Nation and allies, including the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center, fought to safeguard these lands from ongoing threats, including more than two dozen leases issued by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for large-scale geothermal energy development.

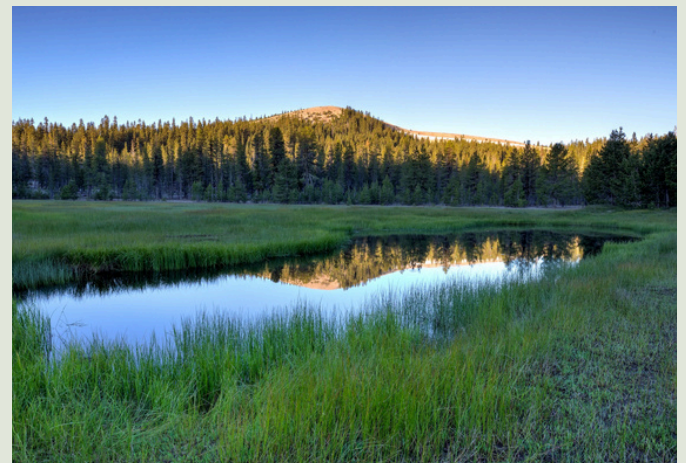
Geothermal power plants, utility lines, clear cutting the forest, and hydraulic fracturing threaten the sacredness and ecological importance of Sáttítla's lands and waters. Development in the national forest would increase traffic, noise, water, and air pollution, threatening a reliable source of pure water for millions of people, plants and wildlife.

The wildlife that call Sáttítla home have long been threatened by development, including bald eagles, black bears, salmon, and prized trout. More than 450 native plant species can be found at Sáttítla with 19 of these species considered rare, threatened, or endangered.

Proposal for Protection

The Pit River Nation has asked President Biden to protect a little more than 200,000 acres of existing public lands managed by the US Forest Service. The monument proposal has garnered significant support from other tribal governments and organizations, elected officials, businesses, scientists, non-profit organizations, veterans, and local sportsmen and women.

U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Laphonza Butler, and Representative Adam Schiff have also issued a letter calling for the President to use the Antiquities Act to designate Sáttítla National Monument. The Antiquities Act is a 1906 law that grants U.S. presidents the ability to designate federal public lands, waters, and cultural and historical sites as national monuments through a Presidential Proclamation.



Many agree with the Pit River Nation that Sáttítla must be protected to preserve this sacred place for future generations and to conserve its rich ecological resources.



TAKE ACTION!

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For more info: info@protectsattitla.org



PROTECT SÁTTÍTLA