

ARTICLE ABSTRACT

President Clinton's Designation of the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument: Using Statutory Interpretation Models to Determine the Proper Application of the Antiquities Act

*Scott Y. Nishimoto\**

President Clinton's use of executive orders to designate national monuments through the Antiquities Act of 1906 has met both praise and criticism. This article uses the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, a protected segment of federal land larger than the state of Rhode Island, as a model to analyze President Clinton's compliance with the Antiquities Act.

Nishimoto provides a background of the Antiquities Act, executive orders, national monuments, President Clinton's national monument designations, and the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument. The statutory interpretation theories of originalism, textualism, and dynamism are explained. Those three theories are implemented to examine the designation of the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument under the Antiquities Act. The article concludes with a discussion of the ways President Bush may, or may not, change or limit President Clinton's national monument designations.

\* Scott Y. Nishimoto is a graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa with degrees in Sociology (B.A., 1997) and Law (J.D., 2002). He has also served on the Hawaii State Legislature.