

Subject: Northwestern California**Date:** Saturday, May 21, 2011 12:01 AM**From:** Diane Beck <[REDACTED]>**To:** Citizens Redistricting Commission <[REDACTED]>**Conversation:** Northwestern California

Dear Commissioners:

I regret to say that I was not paying attention to redistricting--in particular the significance of the Citizen's Redistricting Commission--until I read, today, the lead story in my local newspaper, the Eureka Times-Standard.

Coastal areas of northern CA--particularly Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties--have a great many interests in common and smallish populations. In common we share similar concerns over fisheries, coastal streams, public and private timber management, national forests, and national and state wildlife areas, parks, and conservation areas. All three include populations of Native Americans in federally recognized areas with similar concerns.

The California Coastal Commission's North District representative may be appointed from one of these three counties. Additionally, in 2010, under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), these three counties comprised the North Coast Sub-Region and was the only one of four coastal Sub-Regions to submit a Single Proposal to the CA Fish and Game Commission for consideration.

These three relatively lightly populated coastal counties are largely rural and include a great amount of federal land. My perception is that our north coast concerns are understood well by our presently constituted political representatives in the U.S. Congress and the state Senate and Assembly.

Like Del Norte County, Trinity County has a very small population and a large percentage of federal land--national forest and wilderness. Their forest and fisheries issues are similar to Humboldt County's. The Trinity River in Trinity County is the major tributary of the Klamath River, the second largest salmon stream in California after the Sacramento River. Trinity County representation should be the same as the three coastal counties.

At present, the very large Siskiyou County has different representation from Humboldt, Trinity, and Del Norte counties. But geographically, it is obvious that western Siskiyou County (perhaps to around I-5)--with a very small, entirely rural population and a great percentage of federal land and the Klamath River running through it--would be far better served by representatives who deal with the same issues of concern to north coast and Trinity counties.

I doubt deeply that western Siskiyou County, with its great percentage of federal land and small population of largely Native Americans, is represented much at all as it is presently "districted." And yet, their issues of concern are similar to many of those of Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties--which in the National Geographic Atlas are all within the Klamath Mountains and all have Native American, forest, river, fisheries, and federal land issues in common.

Humboldt, Mendocino, Del Norte, Trinity, and western Siskiyou counties have a great deal more in common than they do with most of the cities and towns

of the I-5 corridor east of us. Redding has a population of 90,000, as compared with the 28,000 of Eureka, Humboldt County's largest city and the largest city north of Santa Rosa along the Hwy. 101 corridor.

The Times-Standard article (5/20/11) indicates that the Commission has not visited the north coast. I wish you could drive up Hwy. 101, spend a bit of time and hold a meeting or two, and fly back over our coast, forests, ag lands, and rivers.

As well as I understand the process, I appreciate what the Commission is trying to do and thank you for it. You do not have an easy task!

Yours sincerely,

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