

**Subject:** Redistricting

**From:** "Vonita Bishop" <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 21 Jun 2011 15:26:43 -0700

**To:** <[REDACTED]>

I am a citizen of the City of Etna and grew up on a ranch here all my life. We have a very special county and our representatives know this. I am in opposition to the proposed split of Siskiyou County into separate Assembly, Senate and Congressional Districts, as I believe that the several communities of interest in the county would be adversely affected. Your commission's proposal for Siskiyou County will result in splits of Supervisorial Districts 5 including the incorporated cities of Fort Jones and Etna. Supervisorial District 3, Siskiyou County Board of Education Areas 3,6,7, Siskiyou Community College District Areas 3 and 7, Yreka Union High School District Areas 3 and 7, Siskiyou Union High School District, Scott Valley Fire Protection District and Gazelle Fire Protection District.

The proposal in its present form will result in several areas of Siskiyou County being split/separated from common social and economic interests including shared living standards, shared public transportation and shared access to the same media of communication relevant to election processes. In addition, it is my personal belief that by splitting Siskiyou County, effective Federal and State representation will be diluted. We will have a county divided against itself, with no one with the knowledge of our area needs.

I believe this is a move to destroy the water and agricultural life which exists here in Siskiyou County. For the above reasons, please keep our County whole in you redistricting process.

Vonita Bishop  
[REDACTED]  
Etna, Ca. 96027

**Subject:** Wrong split for Siskiyou County

**From:** John Menke <[REDACTED]>

**Date:** Tue, 21 Jun 2011 16:31:52 -0700

**To:** [REDACTED]

**CC:** [REDACTED] "Adishian, Ashley" <[REDACTED]> Marcia  
Armstrong <[REDACTED]> [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

June 21, 2011

TO: Citizens Redistricting Commission

FROM: Dr. John W. Menke, A.A. Mathematics, B.S. Range and Wildlands Science, M.S. Agronomy, Ph.D. Range Systems Ecology, Assistant Professor through Full Professor University of California-Berkeley (1973-78) and University of California-Davis (1978-1998), and rancher in Siskiyou County since 1993.

The dividing of Siskiyou County along a minor ridge between Scott and Shasta Valleys is a purposeful effort to divide and conquer us. Recently, many of us in Siskiyou County have joined two grassroots organizations (SVPOW and SCWUA) to begin to work to take back control from corrupted governments and regulators at all levels--we are celebrating our first anniversaries presently. This split of the county would do us unnecessary harm by separating us from good representation we presently have in state government. Our local government has been convinced that a government employee in every family is the only solution to low incomes in our region of California, when in fact we are very rich in agriculture and natural resources if managed well. This government solution to jobs is a falacy that has become dogma in America, our Federal and State governments are both on the verge of bankruptcy. We have local offices full of State and Federal land and resource management agency personnel doing next to nothing but collecting their salaries. I did a 5-year Intergovernmental Personnel Agreement assignment with the Klamath National Forest and the University of California--Davis from 1992-1997, and saw the demise of an excellent resource management agency (Klamath NF) to the point now that they produce almost no renewable natural resources. It all has been locked up by the environmental elitists.

West of the Scott River the dominant activity outside Scott Valley northeast of the Trinity River is illegal drug production and marketing in very sparse populations of otherwise unproductive peoples and illegal alien workers. The native American peoples, the Hupas, the Yuroks and the Shastas are the exception--they are making use of the fisheries in a fair manner, and in the case of the Shastas they are fully integrated into American society. Environmental elitists have captured some of these folks into their Agenda 21-driven motivations with outside funding from wealthy donors. Coastal fishermen have joined the fray by suing our County to get control of irrigation water in Scott Valley costing the County money better spent for human resource needs. Corrupted units within some Federal and State fishery management agencies have worked for decades to

list fish species to foster the stupid plan to remove four perfectly maintained and functioning Klamath River hydroelectric dams for which nearly 80% of the diverse citizens of Siskiyou County voted last November to keep producing green power for our needs. And we don't run air conditioners in our County, the naturally cool nights and mornings do not require such wasteful use of power. Pooling Scott Valley farmers and ranchers with these folks to the west makes no sense when our historical friends and co-producers are in Shasta Valley and Butte Valley to the east.

Poor water quality of the Klamath River is caused by naturally high phosphorus parent materials of volcanic origin in the Upper Klamath Basin and Shasta Valley watersheds. The Klamath River is the only river in the world that drains interior basins with such a high natural nutrient loading. During summer the water quality above all the dams and their reservoirs is putrid--certainly not due to downstream dams for heavens sake! It is a resource management hoax of historical proportion that this river's problem is due to man's activities. Klamath means 'stinking water' in native American language and culture for good reason, it was stinking before white settlement and it will always be stinking. Horses and mules ridden by the first white explorers to the Upper Klamath River would not drink the water (recorded in their trip diaries). Poor water quality leads to poor fish-rearing habitat. What better than to make an Endangered Species Act ploy than using hatchery introduced and artificially-reared coho or silver salmon to alarm the lay public and the press. Maximize your effort when you have a President who doesn't care about The Constitution, and when the ocean currents cause most salmon to stay in the northern Pacific Ocean waters where the bait fish they live on for most of their life are abundant due to favorable upwelling of foods. The marine mammals went north with the salmon for good reason--to eat! Never let a crisis go to waste! Coho salmon are coastal spawners, that for regions this far south need summer-fog-belt coastal stream habitats to successfully rear. It is the corruption of the century that the supposedly professional fish management agencies and water quality control boards claim Shasta Valley as potentially good coho habitat. Yes, we need to keep Scott Valley in the same State and Federal legislative districts as Shasta Valley, Butte Valley and Tulelake since we share corrupt agency actions that are best controlled by united landowners. The government is supposed to work for the people not against them.

While serving as volunteer County representative on the Klamath Basin Fisheries Task Force Technical Workgroup for one year in 2005-6, I made multiple trips to Arcata on the coast for every other meeting between there and Yreka. The five-plus hour trip was time consuming and dangerous driving. Expecting us to go to Eureka or Santa Rosa for our involvement in State Government affairs is completely unreasonable. Redding is our current contact point with Sacramento and it needs to stay there. Redding is 1.5 hours away, Santa Rosa is over 8-hours away. Many of us saw Congressmen Herger and McClintock debate the congressional representative for the Eureka/Arcata area over funding for dams removal on C-SPAN. There is no way this person could share our values and help us maintain what fabric is left of our custom and culture--we are cowboys and cowgirls, farmers, loggers and miners, not tourists, joggers, skateboarders, drug dealers and Hollywood movie goers. Everywhere in California doesn't have to be like San Francisco and Los Angeles! This is sparsely populated God's country where cold winters and snow makes life tough at times--great so everyone doesn't want to love it to death like the public has done to Yosemite NP and other parks. We tell our friends that we can take a hike in

the Marble Mountains, it is like Yosemite used to be, without the people! Yes, we would take a dog, cow or a horse any day over another neighbor! Leave us alone!

Either make the split along the ridge line at the top of the Trinity Alps, Russians, and Marble Mountain Wilderness Areas (Pacific Crest Trail) to our west or leave our county whole for God's and our sake!

Thanks for the opportunity to comment--a public hearing would be appropriate as well since we are the only county facing such a blatant act of splitting us up!

Sincerely, John and Jennifer Menke, Quartz Valley Red Angus, [REDACTED] Fort Jones, California 96032, [REDACTED]

P.S. I would be happy to answer any questions you would like answered--yes I have all the references to back up my statements at hand.