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## **Biased Science Behind the Siskiyou-Cascade Monument:**

*On the Trail of Pepper Trail & Environmental Science Agendas*

The Thursday 10/27/2016 Meeting of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners was very interesting. The format was 1:1 speakers (opposed vs. supporters). BUT THE CROWD... The crowd was filled with a majority of citizens opposed to the monument expansion by my count. I applaud the Jackson County Commissioners for recognizing the COMPLETE LACK OF PUBLIC PROCESS involved in this project.

Many supporters of the monument were rude, heckling two elderly citizens that spoke and giggling like children at anything they disagreed with. One poked fun at how a rancher was dressed. Another supporter kept crying foul every time someone opposed to the monument spoke. They often spoke of education and science acting as if anyone opposed must be uneducated. I have an education, and all people have education through life experience. I'd love to see one of those folks shoe a horse, survive a successful elk hunt to feed a family, or extract a 4x4 stuck in the snow. It was horrible behavior. Psychology classes in college, very basic social science, and my family taught me that there is a certain amount of respect for elders required in society. Polite public communications, decorum in public meetings and general diplomacy is expected in a civil society.

There were speakers from the environmental SPECIAL INTERESTS that were good speakers, had good data, and were polite. Unfortunately, how they pressed it though, at the request of Ron Wyden who would love to have his name on a monument, and without including the County Commissioners was unconscionably biased. Only including Ashland & Talent Mayors in the process over our elected County Officials is GROSS NEGLECT of public process and transparency. Flooding the ONLY public meeting on this subject prior to the County Commissioners special meeting about the monument with Klamath-Siskiyou Wild members is disingenuous at best. It is also disgusting misuse of the Antiquities Act of 1906, which Theodore Roosevelt (a hunter & outdoorsman) signed to protect small pieces of land with historical and geological value. It was intended to protect Crater Lake, the Fossil Beds in Eastern Oregon and Indian Burial Grounds. Anything to suit their goals and over-reaching environmental agenda is fair game. No respect is offered the culture of people who have managed, tended and used the land to provide for and feed their families since the mid-1800's.

Politicians like Wyden & Merkley request lots of studies to serve their need to be the founders of a piece of monument. President Obama will surely sign it and then the County Commissioners of Jackson, Klamath and Siskiyou Counties will need to sue on behalf of the Citizens to have the land rightfully returned. You will hear from the supporters: "It is not being closed." Those that use forest to hunt, fish, log, 4x4, hike, mountain bike and shoot photography were DUPED by two prior monument projects. With the Soda Mountain Monument and Bill Clinton, then again with the Cascade-Siskiyou Monument and G.W. Bush. I can show anyone the road closures. Have a horse? Unless you can hike 30 miles, you will NEVER see the places we used to go weekly.

FRESH ON THE TRAIL: So where do these claims of valid, unbiased scientific studies come from??? As exposed by the Jackson County Commissioners meeting, the studies were primarily developed, collected and managed by a fellow named "Pepper Trail" from Ashland. Google him. Heck, Google me. Google tends to take what publicly known people do in their life and list it by volume of work – a simple algorithm. Pepper, who we are supposed to believe is credible and without bias as a scientist, pledges his first allegiance to the JACKSON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY. His second allegiance is the Democrat supported Jefferson Public Radio (JPR). Even poetry, Facebook and the Audubon Society rank before Pepper's published scientific works in his life. I'm not discounting his education, but his BIASES ARE OBVIOUS. For being such a widely known Scientist, it is odd that Pepper admitted in a public meeting that he donated his time. High end consultants don't work for free unless they have a cause to support. I am supporting the cause at [NoMonument.com](http://NoMonument.com). I am a well-paid marketing consultant. I'm not hiding that and when you Google me, it is pretty easy to find out what I do for a living.

HERE IS THE CLENCHER... ARE YOU READY??? Pepper openly admitted he was asked to do the studies by

Ron Wyden. Interesting. A politician called in favors for free work from a lesser-known scientist that has strong ties to a political party: FOR FREE. Looks like Ron Wyden, Jeff Merkley and Barack Obama are hoping for a monument to false kings to me.

Another supporter of the monument, Ashland City Councilor Pam Marsh, has her eyes on the Oregon House District 5 Representative seat vacated by Alan DeBoer. Alan, a solid public servant, stepped up to fill the Senate seat after the sad and sudden loss of Senator Bates. Pam Marsh supported this project that locks up public land through monument status protections. Pam just happens to have interests in the Greensprings Inn near Hyatt Lake. Their advertisements tout the monument's beauty, and they benefit from tourism trying to see it from a distance. Other property owners hoping to keep the citizens off public lands and far away from their properties or upgrade their market values for resale are in support, of course.

The biased studies lay claims to a bio-diverse region connecting the Siskiyou and Cascade Mountain Ranges with flora and fauna like no others in the world. I AGREE. I have photographed, hiked, 4x4'ed, hunted and fished in the area for DECADES. It is beautiful and like no other place in the world. The outdoorsman, loggers and ranchers have maintained the area for DECADES. They fix culverts and roads, cut dead trees out of roads, clean up trash and more. Oregon Hunters Association, Ducks Unlimited, Black-Tail Deer Association and Rocky Mountain Elf Foundation are famous for their conservation efforts. Minor offenses like the occasional trash from a camper or target shooter are easily cleaned up. THERE IS NO PROBLEM IN THE AREA that warrants closure. The flora & fauna being "protected" grow throughout our region.

The area has been retaken by nature since the clear cut logging, strip mining and gravel processing of the early 1900's. Southern Oregon Citizens are the best stewards of the forest in the history of civilization in this area. The No Monument Tribe, a culture of local history and outdoor recreation lovers protects the region just fine without political agendas getting involved.

I urge you to keep politics OUT OF OUR FOREST. Write and tell the your county commissioners to file a class action law suit against the Federal Government on behalf of the ranchers, loggers, mills, outdoorsmen and all Citizens. All public land is purely managed by BLM and the Forest Service for the Citizens. The natural resources, access roads, trails, views and other features of the land are intended for the responsible use of the citizens. THAT IS LAW. TELL RON WYDEN & JEFF MERKLEY TO STOP BREAKING THE LAW.

Please go to [NoMonument.com](http://NoMonument.com) to learn more.  
Vote [SteveRichie.com](http://SteveRichie.com) for District 5 South Jackson County.

Ryan R. Mallory

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