

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JOSEPHINE
IN AND OF THE STATE OF OREGON**

**IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION)
REGARDING NATIONAL MONUMENT)
PROPOSALS IN JOSEPHINE COUNTY)** **RESOLUTION 2011-012**

WHEREAS, Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands is advocating Congress and our local representatives for the creation of a “Siskiyou Crest National Monument;” and

WHEREAS, the contemplated National Monument is conceived as establishing a one million acre land bridge of wilderness area connecting the Marble Mountains to the south, the Kalmiopsis wilderness to the north and west, and the McDonald Roadless Area and Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument to the east; and

WHEREAS, the entire landmass of Josephine County in total only consists of slightly more than one million acres and a significant portion of the proposed monument would lie in our County; and

WHEREAS, Josephine County has already contributed a large percentage of its federal landmass to wilderness management in the Kalmiopsis, the Rogue River Wild and Scenic Area, the newly expanded Rogue Corridor, and the Oregon Caves National Monument; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, granted that the mineral lands of the public domain, both surveyed and unsurveyed, are free and open to exploration, occupation, and location by all citizens of the United States, under the Mining Act of 1866 and reaffirmed by the Placer Act of 1870, The Act to Define and Protect the Rights of Miners of 1871 and the Act to Promote the Development of Mining of 1872.

WHEREAS, historic communities and private property are intertwined and checker-boarded throughout these federal lands; and

WHEREAS, the vitality of local communities, the economic health of the County, and the public safety of local residents depends upon continued access, active resource management, aggressive fuels reduction, continued historic private use, and economic development of our natural resources; and

WHEREAS, this National Monument will not promote the interests of local economies, public safety or private property ownership; and

WHEREAS, National Monuments do not readily allow active adaptive management in response to arising environmental issues affecting wildlife, landscapes or human activities; and

WHEREAS, Josephine County has a responsibility to its citizens to ensure that federal land management acknowledges and respects the private rights and interests affected by federal decisions; and

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WHEREAS, the Josephine County Board of Commissioners unanimously adopted Resolution 2009-068 asserting legal standing for purposes of coordinating with federal and state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the County concludes the additional contribution required of the County and its residents would have an intolerably detrimental effect upon the government, economy and citizens of Josephine County; and

WHEREAS, the County concludes that public notice to our senators and representatives in Congress of the detrimental effect of the proposed National Monument is both desirable and necessary.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Josephine County Board of Commissioners that it is to be the policy of Josephine County that any proposal for a National Monument or portion of a National Monument in Josephine County must actively coordinate and seek approval of the Board of Commissioners on behalf of the citizens of Josephine County prior to any formal consideration for National Monument status; and

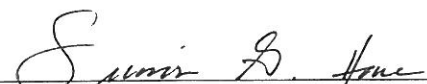
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Josephine County herewith makes public proclamation of its opposition to the proposed "Siskiyou Crest National Monument" because its establishment would be contrary to the best interests of Josephine County.

Notice of the foregoing Resolution will be forwarded to every United States Senator and members of the House of Representatives from Oregon, as well as to the public news media including the Grants Pass Daily Courier, the Illinois Valley News, the Medford Mail Tribune, the Portland Oregonian, and local television and radio stations.

DATED this 1st day of March, 2011.

JOSEPHINE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


S. Cassanelli, Chair


Simon G. Hare, Vice-Chair


Dwight F. Ellis, Commissioner