To Whom It May Concern,  
May 28, 2015

As scientists with extensive professional experience related to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems in the Pacific Northwest, we write to express our full support for expansion of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument (hereafter "Monument"). The existing Monument is located in southwest Oregon on the California border.

Established by presidential proclamation in June 2000, the Monument is unique among the BLM's National Conservation Lands in that it was established specifically to preserve an area of "remarkable biological diversity." Sitting at the crossroads of four distinct ecoregions and encompassing a wide range of topography, climate and geology, the greater Cascade-Siskiyou landscape is widely recognized as one of the most biologically diverse places in North America. The Monument proclamation describes it as an "ecological wonder" that is "home to a spectacular variety of rare and beautiful species of plants and animals, whose survival in this region depends upon its continued ecological integrity".  

While we applaud the initial creation of the Monument as a means to conserve this area's treasure trove of biological resources, scenic beauty and recreational values, we are concerned that existing Monument boundaries are insufficient to assure persistence of the many biological "Objects of Interest" that the Monument was established to protect. As summarized in a 2011 scientific report on this topic, there are several important reasons why existing boundaries are unlikely to sustain the ecological integrity of this area:


Many special-status plant and animal populations referenced in the Monument's proclamation, as well as high quality examples of the area's unique plant communities, remain outside existing boundaries, where they are vulnerable to incompatible management;

Some existing boundaries have no ecological basis (e.g., the Oregon-California state line, incomplete watersheds), which over time, may compromise the integrity of the Monument;

Climate change in the region is altering the ranges of plants and animals that are the focal points for conservation, in some cases pushing them outside of currently protected areas³;

The human population of southwest Oregon is growing rapidly. As a result, more areas immediately adjacent to the Monument are facing increased development or intensive land use pressures (e.g., logging, residential expansion, water diversions) that are likely to undermine long-term persistence of the Monument’s biological resources.

Without additional conservation investment, available scientific evidence suggests that some of the most valuable biological resources both within and immediately adjacent to the Monument are at high risk of irreversible degradation and loss.

Given these significant and overarching concerns, it is our professional opinion that expansion of the Monument is necessary for the area's extraordinary values to be sustained over the long term. Specifically, we endorse including five carefully selected areas of adjoining BLM and other public lands within the Monument, as recommended by the scientists' 2011 boundary report and detailed in an updated summary of these areas.⁴ Proposed additions described in this report:

- were identified using an interdisciplinary, science-based process;
- contain many biological "Objects of Interest" that were highlighted in the Monument proclamation;
- play a vital role in maintaining ecological integrity of the landscape the Monument was established to protect, and;
- improve habitat connectivity with nearby federal lands, a factor that is critical for sustaining populations of wide-ranging species.

Perhaps most importantly, expansion of the Monument to include these proposed additions will significantly increase the ability of native plants and animals to adapt to a changing climate, an issue that was not considered when initial Monument boundaries were created, but that will become critical to biodiversity conservation in the coming decades.


As professional scientists who value and understand the many benefits of biological diversity and ecological health, we appreciate the opportunity to offer our recommendations for the future of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and urge decision-makers to expand the boundaries of the Monument so that it can successfully achieve the proclamation's stated goal of protecting the area's outstanding biological resources for present and future generations.

Sincerely,

**Scientists that Contributed to the 2011 Cascade-Siskiyou Monument Boundary Study**

*affiliations for identification purposes only

Pepper Trail, Ph.D., Ornithologist
Ashland, OR

Dennis Odion, Ph.D., Vegetation Ecologist
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Jack Williams, Ph.D., Chief Scientist
Trout Unlimited, Medford, OR

Evan Frost, M.Sc., Conservation Biologist
Wildwood Consulting, Ashland, OR

Steve Jessup, Ph.D., Botanist
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Darlene Southworth, Ph.D., Professor (Emeritus), Department of Biology
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Frank Lang, Ph.D., Professor (Emeritus), Department of Biology
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Richard Brock, M.Sc., Senior Botanist
Siskiyou BioSurvey LLC, Ashland, OR

Paul Hosten, Ph.D., Terrestrial Ecologist
Kualapu’u, HI

Dominick DellaSala, Ph.D., Chief Scientist
Geos Institute, Ashland, OR

Michael Parker, Ph.D., Aquatic Ecologist, Department of Biology
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Daniel Sarr, Ph.D., Ecologist
Flagstaff, AZ
Scott Hoffman Black, M.Sc., Ecologist and Executive Director
Xerces Society, Portland, OR

Jeannine Rossa, M.Sc., Aquatic Ecologist
Ecolink Consulting, Kualapu'u, HI

Brian Barr, M.Sc., Fisheries Biologist
Gold Hill, OR

Additional Scientists in Support of Cascade-Siskiyou Monument Expansion*
*affiliations for identification purposes only

David A. Perry, Ph.D., Professor (Emeritus)
Department of Forest Science
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Gary Tabor, Ph.D., Conservation Scientist
Center for Large Landscape Conservation
Bozeman, MT

Arthur J. Boucot, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor of Geology
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Jack W. Sites, Jr., Ph.D.
Professor of Biology/Curator of Herpetology
Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

Calvin Maginel, M.Sc. (candidate)
Department of Natural Resources
University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

Thomas Rooney, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
Wright State University, Dayton, OH

Gary Roemer, Ph.D., Professor
Dept. of Fish, Wildlife &
Conservation Ecology
NM State University, Las Cruces, NM

William D. Anderson, Jr., Ph.D.
Professor (Emeritus), Marine Biology
College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

Ke Chung Kim, Ph. D., Professor (Emeritus)
and Former Director, Center for Biodiversity
Research, Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA

Jay Lininger, M.Sc., Senior Scientist
Center for Biological Diversity
Ashland, OR

Vicky Meretsky, Ph.D.
Professor of Conservation Biology
Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Michael J. Vandeman, Ph.D.
Conservation Biologist
San Francisco Bay Area, CA

George Wuerthner, M.Sc., Senior Scientist
Foundation for Deep Ecology
San Francisco, CA

Mitchell M. Johns, Ph.D.
Professor of Soil Science
California State University-Chico
Chico, CA

Melissa Savage, Ph.D., Associate Professor
(Emeritus), Department of Geography
University of California, Los Angeles, CA

James H. Marden, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Biology
Penn State University, University Park, PA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title, Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Mardonovich, M.Sc.</td>
<td>Department of Botany, Miami University, Oxford, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Scott Samuels Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor of Biological Sciences, University of Montana, Missoula, MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Bahls M.Sc.</td>
<td>Fisheries Biologist, Northwest Watershed Institute, Port Townsend, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter B. Moyle, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Distinguished Professor, Dept. of Wildlife, Fish, &amp; Conservation Biology, University of California, Davis, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne D. Spencer, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Director of Conservation Assessment, Conservation Biology Institute, San Diego, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Schaeffer, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Miami University, Oxford, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Stuart Chapin III, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor (Emeritus), Department of Biology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen G. Weller, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California-Irvine, Irvine, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vicki Tripoli, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Biologist, Moorpark, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas J. Frederick, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Dept. of Forestry &amp; Environment Sciences, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary K. Meffe, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Wildlife Ecology &amp; Conservation Biology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bitty Roy, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Biology / Smithsonian Research Associate, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don Waller, Ph.D.</td>
<td>John T. Curtis Professor of Botany and Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gustav Paulay, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard O. Bierregaard, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Research Associate, Academy of Natural Sciences, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Rubino, M.Sc.</td>
<td>Conservation Biologist, Dept. of Applied Ecology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Salter, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Biology, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dina Roberts, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Biology, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel E. Golden, M.Sc.</td>
<td>Department of Environmental Science and Public Policy, George Mason University, Arlington, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Myers, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor (Emeritus), Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter F. Brussard, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor (Emeritus), Department of Biology, University of Nevada, Reno, NV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Ford, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Craig W. Benkman, Ph.D., Professor  
Department of Zoology and Physiology  
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Malcolm K. Cleaveland, Ph.D., Professor  
(Emeritus), Department of Geosciences  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

Rick Van de Poll, Ph.D., Principal  
Ecosystem Management Consultants  
Center Sandwich, NH

Glenn R. Stewart, Ph.D., Professor  
(Emeritus), Biological Sciences Department  
California State Polytechnic University  
Pomona, CA

Bruce G. Baldwin, Ph.D., Professor  
Department of Integrative Biology  
University of California, Berkeley, CA

David Janos, Ph.D., Professor  
Department of Biology and Cooper Fellow  
University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL

Robert Michael Pyle, Ph.D.  
Lepidopterist and Founder  
The Xerces Society, Portland, OR

Jon Rhodes, Ph.D.  
Hydrologist  
Planeto Azul Hydrology, Portland, OR

Jon Evans, Ph.D.  
Professor of Biology  
The University of the South, Sewanee, TN

Erik Jules, Ph.D., Professor  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA

Daphne Stone, Ph.D., Botanist  
Biodiversity Research Collective  
Eugene, OR

Trygve Steen, Ph.D., Professor  
Department of Environmental Studies  
Portland State University, Portland, OR

Jason Clark, M.S.  
Senior Botanist  
Siskiyou BioSurvey LLC, Ashland, OR

David Olson, Ph.D.  
Conservation Earth Consulting and  
Biodiversity & Wildlife Solutions,  
Washington, DC

Craig C. Downer, Ph.D.  
Wildlife Ecologist  
Andean Tapir Fund, Minden, NV

Robert L. Beschta, Ph.D., Professor  
(Emeritus), Forest Ecosystems and Society  
Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

Dennis Murphy, Ph.D.  
Adjunct Research Professor  
University of Nevada, Reno

Thomas Michael Power, Ph.D.  
Professor (Emeritus), Dept. of Economics  
The University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Reed F. Noss, Ph.D.  
Provost's Distinguished Research Professor  
Department of Biology  
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Rowan J. Baker, MS  
Independent Environmental Consultant  
Portland, OR

David J. Berg, Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Biology  
Miami University, Oxford OH

Raymond A. Saumure, Ph.D.  
Herpetologist and Director  
WildFauna, Las Vegas, NV
Karen Stone, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Biology
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, OR

Douglas A. Miller, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Geography
Penn State University, University Park, PA

William Bridgeland, Ph.D.
Wildlife Biologist
Bandon, OR

Susan Harrison, Ph.D., Professor
Dept. of Environmental Science & Policy
University of California, Davis, CA

Gordon H. Orians, Ph.D., Professor (Emeritus), Department of Biology
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Frito Dolisca, Ph.D.
Forest Resource Policy and Conservation
Orange, NJ

Stephen C. Trombulak, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Biology
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT

Sam Rich, M.Sc.
Conservation Land Manager
Wild Restoration LLC, Seattle, WA

Barry R. Noon, Ph.D., Professor
Dept. of Wildlife & Conservation Biology
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

Jeff Wells, Ph.D., Senior Scientist
Boreal Songbird Initiative
Seattle, WA