



**MILLENNIUM DIGGERS  
ASSOCIATION  
Keizer, Oregon**



**Secretary/Editor: Penny Esplin**

**\*PRESIDENT: Karen Darnell\***  
**\*VICE PRESIDENT: Bill Moore\***  
**\*TREASURER: Alice Phillips\***

**March 26, 2015**

**Notes from the President:**

If you missed the monthly meeting last week, you missed some fun tales of southern Oregon adventure told by our honored guest, Tom Bohmker. Maybe you were able to talk to him at the GPAA Gold & Treasure Show in Portland last weekend. He was there with part of the new collection he found last summer.

I'll recap and expand on part of his lecture in this column. Tom left us some very good clues on how and where to look for treasure. He exposed the faulty assumption to which surely we've all succumbed - "It's an old, well-known spot, so I'm sure it's already been cleaned out." This is not the correct way to begin a treasure hunt! I'm laughing right now, because it's so true that I tell myself this falsehood and have to fight it every single time.

Learn about sites from the past, and look at them like they are brand new, because you may be the only one to visit the site in 80 years or more! Or you may be the only one who searched to the east of the site, or west of the site. It was by refusing to heed the "it's been worked over" voice that led Tom and his team to finding tens of thousands of dollars worth of gold last summer at one of the earliest and most famous areas in Oregon mineral history! So go for it!

One resource that Tom highly recommends is the DOGAMI Bulletin 61, "Gold and Silver in Oregon." This important work lists mines and prospects in both eastern and western portions of Oregon and can be combed through for clues. The old-timers of the 1850's to 1940's may have been fortunate to get the easy gold, but today we have some new and highly sensitive electronic equipment that allows us to virtually see through dirt and rock. I'm not sure I'd call it a fair trade, but I'll take it! There is still treasure out there for you!

For those folks who like to stick around the valley, the DOGAMI Bulletin 14D, "Metal Mines of North West Oregon" might be something to consider. We may not have the gold and silver notoriety up here (we do at Little North Fork!), but we have had some mining and prospects that could yield other exciting treasures - like artifacts and trinkets from mine camps and mill sites.

There is a lot of dirt out there hiding some fantastic objects. Learn where the old-timers went and go there - see what they left behind for you!

Happy treasure hunting!  
Karen

### **Call to Order**

### **We all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag –**

**Attendance:** There were 17 members and 8 guests in attendance.

**Approval of Raffle:** Armadillo Mining (Grants Pass) donated to us a **sluice** (worth \$109.00) and **accessories** (worth \$25.00). It was discussed that we sell raffle tickets at each meeting for \$2.00 each, and will draw the winning ticket at our Christmas Party, approx. 9 months from now. Delmon made the motion and Terrie seconded. All in favor? Unanimous "Aye".

**Minutes from February:** Minutes from February were approved and accepted unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Alice gave us a report on our finances. The report was approved and accepted.

**Karen introduced our guest speaker Tom Bohmker,** and he rewarded us with some of his wonderful tales about his adventures hunting for and finding "**pocket gold**". We all truly benefited from his talk, and feel so honored when he can actually take the time from his ever-so-busy schedule to come and devote himself to us! We all thank you again and again Tom!

**Presentation of Past President's miner pin:** Karen awarded the pin to Penny.

**Membership Renewals Due Now!** Be sure to get your membership renewal forms in!

**Claims Info:** Penny mentioned getting a work party together to do some maintenance work on the trail on our Jeeter Crk claim. She agreed to come up with a date and time for April. She also agreed to contact Christoph regarding this.



**Penny gets pinned with gold miner pin, only available to former MD presidents.**



**A sampling of some of Tom's topics for discussion**



**Ken Orndorff and Tom Bohmker**

**“D” rocks Penny brought:**



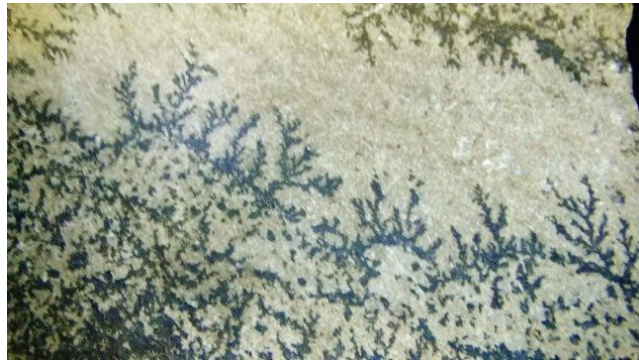
**Danburite (*calcium boro silicate*)**



**Dendrites of Pyrolusite (*manganese dioxide*)**



**Dendrites**



**Dendrites**

**Letter for April is "E"**

**Raffle:** There were many winners and great prizes won from our table raffle tonight, including some real nice plants (succulents) that Tim Kelly donated from his own private stock. He cultivated and grew these in his greenhouse. Nice! Thank you Tim!

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY APRIL 23<sup>rd</sup> Be There!**

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Visit our website at <http://www.millenniumdiggers.com/>

The Millennium Diggers Club is a group based in Keizer, Oregon, which is near Salem, Oregon. The club is for people that share an interest in searching for things of value. The club's charter is to provide members with a club that will help promote the hobbies of metal detecting, prospecting, rock hounding, and treasure hunting. Part of our yearly dues pay for mining claims that are available for all club members to use. We use club meetings to share information about locating gold, silver, coins, jewelry, gemstones, fossils and metal detecting. We plan club outings each month where we can help each other learn all aspects of our hobbies. This is a great family activity, bring the kids! Please feel free to drop in on one of the monthly meetings or outings.

**We meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m, at:**

**Clear Lake United Methodist Church**  
**920 Marks Drive**  
**Keizer, OR 97303**

We meet in the church's Fellowship Hall; a real a nice meeting place complete with tables, chairs and a kitchen. The church is located across the street from the Clear Lake Fire Station. There's plenty of parking in the church's parking lot located behind the church.

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**Gold & Mining**

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**Oregon NPDES 700PM Water Quality General Permit**

March 28, 2015

DEQ has revised the NPDES 700PM water quality general permit, which will become effective May 15, 2015.

This permit regulates wastewater discharges from small-scale placer mining operations used to recover precious metals and minerals from streambed sediments.

The permit, application form and other information are available on DEQ's website:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/wqpermit/mining.htm#700pm>.

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**Gold Dredging Uncertainty is Rapidly Coming to a Head in California!**

Dave Mack, President, The New 49'er Gold Prospecting Association, April 4, 2015

As you are probably aware, the San Bernardino Superior Court Ruled on 12 January 2015 that both the Legislature's Moratorium against gold dredging, along with the Department of Fish & Wildlife's (DFW) recent adoption of dredge regulations in 2012, are illegal and not enforceable as a matter of law. Here is the court's Decision:

<http://www.goldgold.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/113806-1-Ruling.pdf>

Since that time, DFW has been acting as if the Superior Court never Ruled, and they have been informing the public that they intend to continue enforcing the State's illegal Moratorium. This is quite clear on DFW's web page which was updated as recently as the 2nd of March. Check it out right here:

<http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing/Suction-Dredge-Permits>

At the same time, based upon the San Bernardino Ruling, suction dredgers statewide have been preparing for the upcoming mining season, which has already begun on those waterways which have historically been open to dredging year-round within all previous California regulations. Suction dredging is already taking place along the Klamath River near Happy Camp!

New 49'er policy concerning suction dredging is that we will follow the San Bernardino Ruling and direct our legal resources to strenuously defend any member or supporter who is harassed or prosecuted by State authorities attempting to enforce regulations which have already been deemed illegal by the California court system.

We fully intend to have a productive 2015 suction dredge season on the Klamath River!

Because we believe this is all coming to a head very quickly, today our attorney served the following revised Proposed Order to the San Bernardino Court and all parties within the ongoing litigation. Our revised Proposed Order directs California to immediately begin issuing suction dredge permits pursuant to the previous regulations which were adopted in 1994; and during the meanwhile also Orders State authorities to not prosecute anyone who is operating within those regulations. All exhibits, including the Proposed Order, follow the document here:

<http://www.goldgold.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/statement-support-amended-proposed-order-4-2-15.pdf>

Breaking news: This is all evolved into the first standoff today between two DFW wardens and one of our longstanding members, Derek Eimer. The wardens told Derek he was breaking the law by suction dredging in the Klamath River. When Derek handed them the San Bernardino Decision, the wardens appeared not to know anything about it! After reading the Order, they departed without making an arrest or even issuing a citation.

Meanwhile more members are arriving in Happy Camp with their dredges by the day.

We will provide more information about the developing situation in our April newsletter.

Please keep your fingers crossed for our side,

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**CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL No. 637**

Introduced by Senator Allen

February 27, 2015

An act to add Section 13172.5 to the Water Code, relating to water quality.

legislative counsel's digest

SB 637, as introduced, Allen. Water quality: suction dredge mining: permits.

Existing law prohibits the use of any vacuum or suction dredge equipment by any person in any river, stream, or lake of this state without a permit issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (state act). The state act, with certain exceptions, requires a waste discharger to file certain information with the appropriate regional board and to pay an annual fee. The state act additionally requires a person, before discharging mining waste, to submit to the regional board a report on the physical and chemical characteristics of the waste that could affect its potential to cause pollution or contamination and a report that evaluates the potential of the mining waste discharge to produce acid mine drainage, the discharge or leaching of heavy metals, or the release of other hazardous substances.

This bill would require, by July 1, 2017, the State Water Resources Control board to establish a permitting process for suction dredge mining and related mining activities in rivers and streams in the state, consistent with requirements of the state act. The bill would require that the regulations, at a minimum, address cumulative and water quality impacts of specified issues. A person who violates these regulations would be liable for an unspecified penalty. The bill would provide that the state board is not prohibited from adopting regulations that would prohibit suction dredge mining, if the state board makes a certain finding relating to water quality objectives, to the extent consistent with federal law. The bill would prohibit these provisions from affecting any other law, including the California Environmental Quality Act and specified provisions relating to streambed alteration requirements.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.



*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 13172.5 is added to the Water Code, read:

13172.5. (a) On or before July 1, 2017, the state board shall establish by regulation a permitting process for suction dredge mining and related mining activities in rivers and streams in the line state. The regulations shall be consistent with the requirements of this division and, at a minimum, address cumulative and water quality impacts of each of the following:

- (1) Mercury loading to downstream reaches of rivers and streams affected by suction dredge mining.
- (2) Methylmercury formation in water bodies.
- (3) Bioaccumulation of mercury in aquatic organisms.
  - (b) A person who violates a regulation adopted pursuant to this section shall be liable in the amount of \_\_\_\_ (\$\_\_\_\_).
  - (c) Nothing in subdivision (a) shall prohibit the state board from adopting regulations that prohibit suction dredge mining if the state board finds that prohibition is necessary to regulate waste line discharges that violate or impair water quality objectives or other criteria under this division, to the extent consistent with federal law. In making this determination, the state board may consider, but is not limited to, soil types, fueling and re-fueling activities, and horsepower limitations.
  - (d) This section does not affect any other law, including the California Environmental Quality Act (Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife's streambed alteration  
1 requirements described in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section  
2 1600) of the Fish and Game Code.

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## **MINERS DECLARE INDEPENDENCE**

### **Minerals and Mining Advisory Council [MMAC]**

Early on a crisp and clear February morning in the California Desert, a group of hardy individuals met to cheer the formation of the Federal public lands stakeholder organization: Minerals and Mining Advisory Council (MMAC). It is not often an event of great historical significance occurs; and usually the full magnitude of what those events mean are not realized at the time by those participating. I believe one of those historical events occurred near Randsburg, CA on Feb. 25th, 2015 at the Sleepy Bear Mine. It was with great pride that I joined nearly 80 patriot miners and those fighting to keep public lands open, to be a part of the launch of what is becoming the voice for mining and public land users across America. 80 people may not sound like many, but

remember, there were only 56 signers on the original Declaration of Independence, and you know where that went! There were many clubs, organizations and businesses represented by those in attendance.

Our strength is in the individual, grass roots if you will. Our strongest public property rights outside the Constitution were the rights granted to us under the 1872 Mining Law. The 1872 Mining Law was based on the laws that miners had established by self-initiation when they formed Mining Districts throughout the West. Those laws/rules were working and so they became codified into Law. We have the FEDERALLY GRANTED RIGHT to access, prospect and extract minerals from our mining claims, regardless of what arbitrary designation was slapped onto the land in the latest round of land and road closures. It has been said that the people perish for lack of knowledge, and the people lose their rights for the same lack of knowledge. It's time for us to pick up the legal tools granted to us under Federal Mining Law and get to work reversing the trend that has been hammering away at our rights. We need to pick up the pieces that have been chipped off and reconstruct what has been lost. The first thing MMAC is doing is exactly that! By organizing the historic Mining Districts in the 19 western states, miners will again have a say in what happens on public lands with Congress and BLM. This is only the first step in regaining control over the destiny of the Public Lands and our mining rights.

Just as when the Mining Districts were first formed, people were elected to run the Districts and watch out for the rights of the individuals. Mining Claim rules were successfully worked out to such a degree that the basic rule structure that was in place was preserved in the 1866 and 1872 Mining Laws and have also been reinforced by court cases and additional clarification laws down through the years. MMAC is educating folks, informing them that the rights they have are far stronger than what they realized, and they have been losing those rights by not being informed and organized.

Miners are not afraid of doing hard work and getting dirty. They know how to use picks and shovels to wrest gold and other minerals from the earth, thus creating wealth. The bureaucrats in DC and around the country seem to have forgotten this all important point: "If it's not grown, it's mined." MMAC has been created to do just that, and much more. It is the voice the miner, the off roader, the hunter, hiker, fisherman and anyone that gets "out there" on our public land. MMAC is the voice and the muscle needed to preserve the freedom to use and enjoy OUR public lands, preserving the intent of what our country and mining laws were are based on, public property rights, which in turn also protect our private property rights. When you own a Federal Mining claim, you own the minerals on that claim, which are your private property. You do not own the land, it remains Public Land.

The Mineral and Mining Advisory Council's mission is four-fold:

- ★ Bring together all the groups and organizations that are fighting for the same thing.
- ★ Organize, Modernize, Institute and Unify all Nation-Wide Mining Districts. (By May 31st 2015)
- ★ Minerals and Mining (MMAC) to be recognized as Federal Public Land Stakeholders. This has happened regionally and now MMAC is going for National Recognition.
- ★ To become Legal Federal Agents, all under ONE VOICE: MMAC!

MMAC shall be the unified voice of the Mining Districts, providing guidance and balance to the important homeland strategic minerals, metals and rare earths; as well as general mining and public land use as originally intended, coexisting with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In accomplishing this mission, MMAC will tear off the bonds of over-regulations, duplicate regulations and agencies, cutting down on paperwork, law suits, and debunking flawed studies, analysis and information. This will cut state and federal spending on behalf of minerals and mining, clarify who is in charge and establish a working relationship, coexisting with BLM. In completion of this mutual coexistence, MMAC will be creating thousands of brand new, long-term, high-paying jobs. This includes mining, parts, vendors, manufacturing, rentals, wholesalers and retailers. Again, remember, "If it is not grown, it's mined".

Mining claim owners under MMAC will be electing District Administrators for all Mining Districts, as well as other positions needed in the organization to move MMAC ahead successfully. Applications are being accepted for positions in your MMAC Administrative District until April 30th on-line at the MMAC website: <http://www.mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org> or the short version: [www.usammac.org](http://www.usammac.org) Voting begins May 1st, and runs through May 31st, 2015. Get on the ballot and get out the VOTE! Spread the word about what is happening in the mining community. MMAC District Administrators will be the head and voices of their individual districts.

It takes all of us working together to make this happen. It is our time to get involved. Obviously, what we have done in the past (mostly nothing or next to it), hasn't worked. We have continued to lose access to our public land. Have you seen a land use map of our country lately? It is beginning to look a lot more like the Crown King's forest than open, free public land. I'm all for preserving pristine landscapes for future generations to enjoy, but we must have balance between preservation, the economy and recreation. Too much of any one and the other two suffer.

It's time for all of us to put our minor (and Miner!) differences aside and work together to preserve our mining and public lands rights for our kids and grandkids. As Walt

Wegner, President of Public Lands for the People is fond of saying: "It's time to take it back and KEEP IT!"

MMAC's goal is to be recognized as Federal Public Land Stakeholders by summer 2015 (This actually happened on February 28th, 2015 3:30 pm PST), and a Federal Agency by the end of 2015. For more info contact:  
[info@mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org](mailto:info@mineralsandminingadvisorycouncil.org)

Ron Kliewer  
Vice President, Public Lands for the People  
[www.publiclandsforthepeople.org](http://www.publiclandsforthepeople.org)

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## **Prospecting for Gold With the New 49ers**

**The latest entry in a series of interviews about subculture in America.**

[Paul Bisceglia](#), Pacific Standard, Mar 5, 2015

<http://www.psmag.com/business-economics/prospecting-for-gold-with-dickey-melton-and-the-new-49ers>



**Dickey Melton, 65, New 49ers member**

. (Photo: Mark McKenna)

Prospecting for gold in the Sierra Nevada foothills is not the most popular way to get rich in California anymore, but it's still a going concern for a few thousand romantics and fortune seekers. Modern prospectors converge on Northern California in the summer months and during holidays. One group, the [New 49ers](#), has about 2,500 active members, and is based in the Siskiyou County town of Happy Camp.

### **What drew you to prospecting?**

I love old-time history.... In high school, I remember getting these old True West magazines. I spent a lot of time in my mind living in those books. And then to actually visit some of the old 49er spots up out of Marysville, California, and up in Timbuctoo and Smartsville—for me, gold prospecting is living those fantasies.

### **How do you even know where to look for gold?**

Anything heavy—nails, lead weights—take a certain route in a flood. That's when gold moves. So you have to learn that route: If there's gold there, it would probably settle here, and that's where you look. So you get your gold pan and dig a little bit here, dig a little bit there. There's an art to it, and once you learn that, it's a game. What have I got to do to get to this next step?

### **Besides panning, what are the different techniques involved?**

Panning is the smallest way: shovel dirt in your pan, go to the river, pan it out. Then the next step up is a sluice box, which you lay that in the ripples, and you shovel dirt into it. That's a little faster than panning. Then you have the high-banker: You dig buckets of dirt, and then have this little machine that you pump water into, and spoon feed the dirt in. Then the dredge, that's the big step up from the high-banker. In the state of California, there's a moratorium on dredging, though.

Obviously the more dirt you run the more gold you're going to get. I would probably get more gold if I didn't pan so much, but panning is fun. You can walk all over the place. You see an area.

### **Getting rich doesn't seem to be your number one goal, then. What do you like about prospecting?**

I like the noise of the river, the quietness a little bit away from the river. I've had bear encounters, cougar encounters through the years. Bald eagles.

Sometimes I come up with these little conversations with the critters I see—like kid stories. I told my granddaughter about a skink. I told her, "He said his name was Larry the Lizard, and then he laughed, and said, 'Well, I'm laughing because my name isn't really Larry and I'm not a Lizard.'" I did it with a turtle, too. He was hitchhiking, and I got a little selfie with the him. I asked him if he wanted a ride, and he said, "Nah, I don't ride with strangers."

### **Are other prospectors more serious about making money? Can people make a living off this?**

The people that I know who [prospect] all the time have another income. Even the guys that are there everyday during the season, say May through November—very few people I know do it and make payment.

I've seen people down at Happy Camp who buy a lot of equipment and camp gear, banking on paying all of their bills by finding gold. And they get out there and are just bummed out, you know? No gold. I would look at those people and think that's the same mentality that the old 49ers had. The difference is that, today, they can get here quicker and get back home quicker. But they still lost everything.

A good day highbanking for someone like me who's playing around would be a pennyweight [of gold]. Right now an ounce is like \$1,100, and it's 20 pennyweight to an ounce. The price was way up higher than that, but it's dropping. So you figure one-twentieth of a thousand bucks, let's say. You can do much better than that, but you can do worse than that, too.

### **How do people react when they strike it big?**

When some club members find gold, you'll never know where they're mining at. There's a club rule that you have a 60-foot radius that no one can come into without your permission, and they don't want somebody coming down there when they're not there. They like being secretive.

This is an incident I'm thinking about from a long time ago: This couple was getting a little bit of gold from dredging, so somebody went down and told them they should try a different area up a ways. They ended up moving there, and got help moving. But then they started getting into about a quarter ounce a day. Somebody went to move close to their area, and there was verbal abuse and that. So, where before, they were making one pennyweight or less a day and they didn't care about people being around them, when they moved to where they were getting a quarter of an ounce, all of a sudden they changed. I've seen people [at Happy Camp] that come and they say, we've been lied to, we've been set up. Some people get really displeased and you hardly ever see them again.

Gold's a strange thing. You could have five dollars on a table, and you could have 50 cents worth of gold lying there next to it. If somebody was to steal, they'd steal the gold before they'd steal the five bucks.

### **What do you think is special about its appeal?**

For me, it's that gold has looked like this forever. Iron rusts, copper turns colors, everything goes through changes. But gold don't change. What you're looking at—what I got out of the river last week—has looked that way forever. You can't change it. You can't corrode it. Gold is gold.

### **What is Happy Camp like?**

People from all over the world go to Happy Camp. My wife and I met a couple from Germany there. We dredged with them for a little bit. We ended up over in Germany just before Christmas with this family looking down on the Rhine River in an ancient castle. I've met people from Korea, from all over the United States. People start

showing up every year with their travel trailers around the same time, and we have potlucks. Every Saturday night, there's a big potluck.

The one thing that you have is the social structure doesn't really matter. You have doctors that belong to the 49ers. You have government officials from Washington, D.C. You have people that are homeless. There are people who come to Happy Camp in helicopters, and then you have people driving 1962 Ford pick-ups with the doors wired shut. And they all go to potluck and sit together and talk about finding gold.

**If you did happen upon a ton of gold, what do you think you'd do?**

I don't think I'd change much.... Just a few months ago, somebody said, "So what are you going to do if you hit a big old pocket of gold, and you make a million bucks?" And I said, "I'm going to hire somebody to manage it, and I'm going to be back out there finding more."



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## **Global Climate Change**

### **U.N. climate chief admits goal of calls for regulation is worldwide redistribution of wealth**

By [Jeff Dunetz](#), Liberty Unyielding, March 3, 2015

<http://libertyunyielding.com/2015/03/03/u-n-climate-chief-admits-goal-of-calls-for-regulation-is-worldwide-redistribution-of-income/>



**Christiana Figueres**

A high UN official has admitted the real reason for the climate hysteria: to transform the world economy, redistributing income between from rich nations to poorer ones. Christiana Figueres, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), warned that the fight against climate change is a process and that the sought-after transformation of the world economy will not be decided at one conference or in one agreement.

At a press conference in Brussels, Figueres stated:

*This is probably the most difficult task we have ever given ourselves, which is to intentionally transform the economic development model, for the first time in human history.*

*This is the first time in the history of mankind that we are setting ourselves the task of intentionally, within a defined period of time to change the economic development model that has been reigning for at least 150 years, since the industrial revolution. That will not happen overnight and it will not happen at a single conference on climate change, be it COP 15, 21, 40 — you choose the number. It just does not occur like that. It is a process, because of the depth of the transformation.*



In 2011 [speech in Madrid](#) Figueres claimed that the recent unrest in Egypt was caused by rising food-prices which were in turn caused by global warming.

*On a global level, increasingly unpredictable weather patterns will lead to falling agricultural production and higher food prices, leading to food insecurity. In Africa, crop yields could decline by as much as 50% by 2020. Recent experiences around the world clearly show how such situations can cause political instability and undermine the performance of already fragile states.*

She added that if we took part of our defense spending and invested it in reducing carbon we could avoid the "horrors" associated with global warming.

Decisions on future defense spending are intricately linked to decisions on immediate climate investment through the different future risk assessments. What will be better?

*Even under current trends, the rate of defense spending growth could account for a major part of the money needed to cut global emissions and to help the vulnerable, often in the most unstable areas of the world, to protect their societies from crumbling under climate pressures.*

In other words, we should cut defense spending and give that money to other countries so they can solve their carbon problems. A similar point was made in 2010 by United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) official [Ottmar Edenhofer](#):

*But one must say clearly that we redistribute de facto the world's wealth by climate policy. Obviously, the owners of coal and oil will not be enthusiastic about this. One has to free oneself from the illusion that international climate policy is environmental policy. This has almost nothing to do with environmental policy anymore, with problems such as deforestation or the ozone hole.*

**It is a rare occurrence when the supporters of the climate change hypothesis tell the truth about why they are pushing their plan.**

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# A Victory for Academic Freedom and a Defeat for Junk Environmental Science

By [David French](#), ACLJ, March 9, 2015

<http://aclj.org/free-speech/victory-for-academic-freedom-and-a-defeat-for-junk-environmental-science?sf36828662=1>

In 2012, my colleagues and I at the ACLJ filed suit against multiple officials at UCLA on behalf of Dr. James Enstrom, a researcher *fired after he blew the whistle on the junk science used to justify draconian new emissions regulations in California.*

The facts of the case were astounding. As the *environmentalist Left pushed new, job-killing regulations in the interests of “public health,”* Dr. Enstrom took his own look at the data and determined that the health threat from diesel emissions was being wildly overstated. As he looked further, he discovered that the lead researcher pushing the new regulations actually possessed a fraudulent degree, purchased from “Thornhill University,” a shady, long-distance diploma mill. Moreover, members of the state’s “scientific review panel” tasked with evaluating the science had in some cases overstayed term limits by decades. At least one was a known ideological radical. (He was a member of the infamous “Chicago Seven.”)

Dr. Enstrom did what a scientist should do. He exposed public corruption, called out fake scientific credentials, and worked to save California from onerous and unnecessary regulations.

So UCLA fired him. After more than 30 years on the job.

Dr. Enstrom’s suit survived UCLA’s efforts to dismiss the case, and last week the case was settled, on favorable terms:

Not only did the Regents agree to pay Dr. Enstrom \$140,000, but they also have effectively rescinded the termination, agreeing to Dr. Enstrom’s use of the title “Retired Researcher” (as opposed to acknowledgment as a non-titled terminated employee) and his continued access to UCLA resources he previously enjoyed during his appointment.

Dr. Enstrom’s victory comes at a critical time, reminding the public that *the scientific establishment is hardly infallible. Indeed, it’s subject to all the same failings as any human institution, including greed, corruption, and bias.* It’s worth remembering as the House once again takes up the Secret Science Reform Act, a bill that would render the EPA more transparent by requiring it to make available for public review the “scientific and technical information used in its assessments.”

It shouldn't take an act of job-risking courage to bring transparency and honesty to science, but ***in the Leftist-dominated academy, dissent from progressive orthodoxy is seen as toxic, instead of patriotic.*** Here's hoping that with more victories like Dr. Enstrom's (and Dr. Mike Adams's jury verdict last year), universities will learn that censorship is expensive. Protecting academic freedom may lead to less scientific "consensus," but it will certainly lead to greater integrity. And we won't stop litigating until universities get the message.

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## **White House, Global Warming 'Deniers' Shouldn't Have A Say On UN Treaty**

Michael Bastasch, Daily Caller News Foundation, April 1, 2015

[http://dailycaller.com/2015/04/01/white-house-global-warming-deniers-shouldnt-have-a-say-on-un-treaty/?utm\\_source=CFACT+Updates&utm\\_campaign=1ea27b15a7-](http://dailycaller.com/2015/04/01/white-house-global-warming-deniers-shouldnt-have-a-say-on-un-treaty/?utm_source=CFACT+Updates&utm_campaign=1ea27b15a7-)

[Obama\\_s\\_executive\\_order\\_on\\_climate4\\_1\\_2015&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_a28eaedb56-1ea27b15a7-270344661](http://dailycaller.com/2015/04/01/white-house-global-warming-deniers-shouldnt-have-a-say-on-un-treaty/?utm_source=CFACT+Updates&utm_campaign=1ea27b15a7-Obama_s_executive_order_on_climate4_1_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a28eaedb56-1ea27b15a7-270344661)

White House spokesman Josh Earnest told reporters Tuesday that senators who "deny" man-made global warming probably shouldn't have any say over an international agreement to cut carbon dioxide emissions.

"Well these are individuals whom, many of whom at least, deny the fact that climate change even exists," Earnest said when asked by a reporter. "So I'm not sure they would be in the best position to decide whether or not a climate change agreement is one that is worth entering into."

The Obama administration submitted a plan to the United Nations Tuesday to cut carbon dioxide emissions 26 to 28 percent by 2025 as part of an agreement the president made with China last fall. In return, China said it would peak emissions by 2030 and use more green energy.

Republicans, however, have criticized Obama's UN plan, saying they would never approve an international climate deal. But therein lies the rub for Republicans, because Obama has no intention of crafting an agreement that requires Senate approval.

Indeed, the New York Times reported that Secretary of State John Kerry "and other State Department officials are working closely with their foreign counterparts to ensure that the Paris deal does not legally qualify as a treaty" which means it won't need Senate approval.

The White House, however, tried to deflect away from questions regarding the legal status of the agreement, saying it would be good for the economy.

“The fact is, the kind of agreement that the president succeeded in striking with China, and is implementing here in the United States, is one that will have a positive impact on carbon pollution, will have a positive impact on trying to make the air safer for Americans here in our country,” Earnest said. “And will have a positive impact on our economy. That’s why the president is pursuing this so aggressively. We certainly would welcome any kind of support that we could get from Congress on that measure.”

But reporters pressed him further, asking Earnest if this climate agreement would require congressional approval. Earnest again questioned whether or not global warming “deniers” should even be allowed to vote on the agreement.

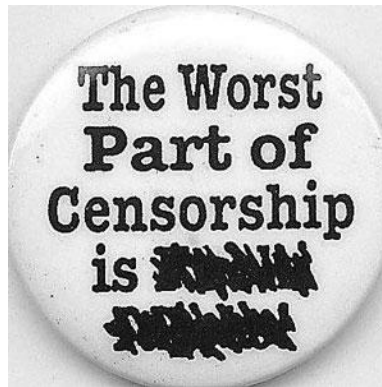
“Well, again, I think it’s hard to take seriously from some members of Congress who deny the fact that climate change exists, that they should have some opportunity to render judgment about a climate change agreement,” Earnest said.

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Craig Rucker, Executive Director, March 9, 2015

<https://us-mg6.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=buekj6pdlufov#7295268405>



Academic freedom is essential to science.

Sadly, there is a major push on right now to censor any opinions or data that deviate from the global warming party line. This cannot be permitted.

This effort has been seen most dramatically on Capitol Hill, where Senator Edward Markey (D-MA) and Congressman Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) recently sent letters to institutions that employ or support climate change researchers whose work questions

claims that Earth and humanity face unprecedented manmade climate change catastrophes.

The attack letters allege that the skeptical researchers may have “conflicts of interest” and must fully disclose funding sources.

The most important thing to remember is this – *Global warming campaigners do not fear that their opponents’ arguments may be false. They fear that they are valid.* Hence they've now employed the tactic: *“If you can’t destroy the message, destroy the messenger.”*

Of course, what you don't hear from the attackers is any call for global warming advocates to reveal the details of their funding. If they did, it would reveal just how biased and ridiculous their charges are.

[As CFACT senior policy analyst Paul Driessen recently pointed out in an article on this subject,](#) **IRS 1090 reports reveal that during the 2010-2012 period, six Green environmental groups received a whopping \$332 million from six federal agencies – more than 270 times what the skeptics reportedly received from their sources being questioned!**

The money is clearly weighted on the side of the alarmists.

What this episode sadly reveals is just how far the alarmists will go to prevent the public from learning, for instance, that the UN's climate computer models have consistently called for a warmer world than scientific observations show since the 1990's.

The Earth is not warming as they said it would.

Neither are the seas rising, nor extreme weather striking in any way other than normal.

That's why global warming pressure groups want to make it heresy to say so.

They'd also love to “burn at the stake” anyone who questions the faulty economics underlying global warming-inspired wealth redistribution, or the massive costs, miniscule benefits and huge fortunes being made from "renewable" energy.

Freedom of thought and speech is under assault.

Time to fight back with facts.

For nature and people too,

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## The Tip of the Climate Spending Iceberg

Paul Driessen, CFact, March 31, 2015 by

[http://www.cfact.org/2015/03/31/the-tip-of-the-climate-spending-iceberg/?utm\\_source=CFACT+Updates&utm\\_campaign=9696403494-climate\\_spending\\_iceberg3\\_31\\_2015&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_a28eaedb56-9696403494-270344661](http://www.cfact.org/2015/03/31/the-tip-of-the-climate-spending-iceberg/?utm_source=CFACT+Updates&utm_campaign=9696403494-climate_spending_iceberg3_31_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a28eaedb56-9696403494-270344661)

Lockheed Martin, a recent Washington Post article notes, is getting into renewable energy, nuclear fusion, “sustainability” and even fish farming projects, to augment its reduced defense profits. The company plans to forge new ties with Defense Department and other Obama initiatives, based on a shared belief in manmade climate change as a critical security and planetary threat. It is charging ahead where other defense contractors have failed, confident that its expertise, lobbying skills and “socially responsible” commitment to preventing climate chaos will land it plentiful contracts and subsidies.

As with its polar counterparts, 90% of the titanic climate funding iceberg is invisible to most citizens, businessmen and politicians. The Lockheed action is the mere tip of the icy mountaintop.

The multi-billion-dollar agenda reflects the Obama Administration's commitment to using climate change to radically transform America. It reflects a determination to make the climate crisis industry so enormous that no one will be able to tear it down, even as computer models and disaster claims become less and less credible – and even if Republicans control Congress and the White House after 2016. Lockheed is merely the latest in a long list of regulators, researchers, universities, businesses, manufacturers, pressure groups, journalists and politicians with such strong monetary, reputational and authority interests in alarmism that they will defend its tenets and largesse tooth and nail.

Above all, it reflects a conviction that alarmists have a right to control our energy use, lives, livelihoods and living standards, with no transparency and no accountability for mistakes they make or damage they inflict on disfavored industries and families. And they are pursuing this agenda despite global warming again being dead last in the latest Gallup poll of 15 issues of greatest concern to Americans: only 25% say they worry about it “a great deal,” despite steady hysteria; 24% are “not at all” worried about the climate. By comparison, 46% percent worry a great deal about the size and power of the federal government.

But Climate Crisis, Inc. is using our tax and consumer dollars to advance six simultaneous strategies.

**1) Climate research.** The US government spends \$2.5 billion per year on research that focuses on carbon dioxide, ignores powerful natural forces that have always

driven climate change, and generates numerous reports and press releases warning of record high temperatures, melting icecaps, rising seas, stronger storms, more droughts and other “unprecedented” crises. The claims are erroneous and deceitful.

They are consistently contradicted by actual climate and weather records, and so alarmists increasingly emphasize computer models that reinvent and substitute for reality. Penn State modeler Michael Mann has collected millions for headline-grabbing work like his latest assertion that the Gulf Stream is slowing – contrary to 20 years of actual measurements that show no change. Former NASA astronomer James Hansen received a questionable \$250,000 Heinz Award from Secretary of State John Kerry's wife, for his climate crisis and anti-coal advocacy. Al Gore and 350.org also rake in millions. Alarmist scientists and institutions seek billions more, while virtually no government money goes to research into natural forces.

**2) Renewable energy** research and implementation grants, loans, subsidies and mandates drive projects to replace hydrocarbons that are still abundant and still 82% of all US energy consumed. Many recipients went bankrupt despite huge taxpayer grants and loan guarantees. Wind turbine installations butcher millions of birds and bats annually, but are exempt from Endangered Species Act fines and penalties.

Tesla Motors received \$256 million to produce electric cars for wealthy elites who receive \$2,500 to \$7,500 in tax credits, plus free charging and express lane access. From 2007 to 2013, corn ethanol interests spent \$158 million lobbying for more “green” mandates and subsidies – and \$6 million in campaign contributions – for a fuel that reduces mileage, damages engines, requires enormous amounts of land, water and fertilizer, and from stalk to tailpipe emits more carbon dioxide than gasoline. General Electric spends tens of millions lobbying for more taxpayer renewable energy dollars; so do many other companies. The payoffs add up to tens of *billions* of dollars, from taxpayers and consumers.

**3) Regulatory fiats** increasingly substitute for laws and carbon taxes that Congress refuses to enact, due to concerns about economic and employment impacts, and because China, India and other countries' CO2 emissions dwarf America's. EPA's war on coal has already claimed thousands of jobs, raised electricity costs for millions of businesses and families, and adversely affected living standards, health and welfare for millions of families. The White House and EPA are also targeting oil and gas drilling and fracking.

Now the Obama Administration is unleashing a host of new mandates and standards, based on arbitrary “social cost of carbon” calculations that assume fossil fuel use imposes numerous climate and other costs, but brings minimal or no economic or societal benefits. The rules will require onerous new energy efficiency and CO2 emission reduction standards that will send consumer costs skyrocketing, while

channeling billions of dollars to retailers, installers, banks and mostly overseas manufacturers.

As analyst Roger Bezdek explains, water heaters that now cost \$675-1,500 will soon cost \$1,200-2,450 – with newfangled exhaust fans, vent pipes and condensate removal systems. Pickup trucks with more fuel efficiency and less power will nearly double in price. Microwaves, cell phones, vacuum cleaners, hair dryers, toasters, coffee pots, lawn mowers, photocopiers, televisions and almost everything else will cost far more. Poor and middle class families will get clobbered, to prevent perhaps 5% of the USA's 15% of all human CO2 emissions toward 0.04% of atmospheric CO2, and maybe 0.00001 degrees of warming.

**4) A new UN climate treaty** would limit fossil fuel use by developed countries, place no binding limits or timetables on developing nations, and redistribute hundreds of billions of dollars to poor countries that claim they have been harmed by emissions and warming due to rich country hydrocarbon use. Even IPCC officials now openly brag that climate policy has “almost nothing” to do with protecting the environment – and everything to do with intentionally transforming the global economy and redistributing its wealth.

**5) Vicious personal attacks** continue on scientists, businessmen, politicians and others who disagree publicly with the catechism of climate cataclysm. Alarmist pressure groups and Democrat members of Congress are out to destroy the studies, funding, reputations and careers of all who dare challenge climate disaster tautologies. At President Obama's behest, even disaster aid agencies are piling on.

New FEMA rules require that any state seeking disaster preparedness funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency must first assess how climate change threatens their communities. This will mean relying on discredited, worthless alarmist models that routinely spew out predictions unrelated to reality. It likely means no federal funds will go to states that include or focus on natural causes, historical records or models that have better track records than those employed by the IPCC, EPA and President.

**6) Thought control.** In addition to vilifying climate chaos skeptics, alarmists are determined to control all thinking on the subject. They are terrified that people will find realist analyses and explanations far more persuasive. They refuse to debate skeptics, respond to NIPCC and other studies examining natural climate change and carbon dioxide benefits to wildlife and agriculture, or even admit there is no consensus.

They want the news media to ignore us but cannot put the internet genie back in the bottle. The White House is trying, though. It even sent picketers to FCC Chairman Tom



Wheeler's home, to demand that he knuckle under and apply 1930s' telephone laws to the internet, as a first step in content control

States must refuse to play the climate crisis game. Through lawsuits, hearings, investigations and other actions, governors, legislators, AGs and other officials can delay EPA diktats, educate citizens about solar and other natural forces, and explain the huge costs and trifling benefits of these draconian regulations.

Congress should hold hearings, demand an accounting of agency expenditures, require solid evidence for every climate claim and regulation, and cross-examine Administration officials on details. It should slash EPA and other agency budgets, so they cannot keep giving billions to pressure groups, propagandists and attack dogs. Honesty, transparency, accountability and a much shorter leash are long overdue.

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## **United Nations Agenda 21**

### **SCIENTIFIC FRAUD INFESTS FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE TOP RANKS**

#### **Whistleblower Hearing Traces Corruption and Retaliation Back to Director's Door**

PEER, Feb 25, 2015

<http://www.peer.org/news/news-releases/2015/02/25/scientific-fraud-infests-fish-and-wildlife-service-top-ranks/>

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Washington, DC —An explosive whistleblower hearing transcript paints a vivid picture of rampant scientific misconduct, callous reprisal and systemic mendacity within the upper echelons of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS), according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) which posted the full texts today. The transcript also illustrates how a highly-touted agency Scientific Integrity Policy has become a tool for just the opposite.

This whistleblower case is striking because it involves a high-level manager rather than a field biologist; Gary Mowad is a 28-year FWS veteran and former Deputy Director for law enforcement. For the past few years, Mowad had been the FWS Texas Administrator for the Ecological Services Division, handling a parade of thorny endangered species and natural resource issues arising out of the Lone Star State.

The hearing took place because Mowad challenged being placed on an open-ended "detail" causing him to leave Austin for Albuquerque for a position with no apparent duties. The reassignment followed his reporting a number of scientific integrity concerns, including what he termed a blatantly political decision by the FWS

hierarchy to reverse the staff recommendation that the dune sagebrush lizard, with habitat in the heart of Texas oil country, be listed under the Endangered Species Act

In an August 18, 2014 hearing before the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board, testimony indicated:

- ★ Widespread scientific fraud, such as using models to classify paved parking lots as endangered species habitat, is facilitated by top FWS officials to accommodate a network of politically connected consultants called the “Texas mafia;”
- ★ Within hours after Mowad's disclosure to the FWS Scientific Integrity Officer, it was relayed to top headquarters officials, and he was ordered to vacate his office. An arrangement to end Mowad's exile was personally quashed by FWS Director Dan Ashe; and
- ★ The Whistleblower Ombudsman for Interior's Office of Inspector General testified that “Months of pointed discussions and stern warnings...have not resulted in any formal and permanent action” to discipline managers guilty of misconduct or protect whistleblowers from further retaliation.

Mowad's case quickly settled after MSPB Judge Mary Ann Garvey summarized what she had heard by saying “it appears that the history of the Fish and Wildlife, and specifically ...Regional Director Benjamin Tuggle, [Deputy Director Rowan] Gould, and Ashe is that whistleblowing retaliation is tolerated or even condoned. Apparently someone got promoted or something good happened to them after they retaliated.”

“Political skewing of science in today's Fish & Wildlife Service is just as rife and blatant as it was during the darkest days of the Bush years,” stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch, whose organization represented other FWS scientists working in the Southwest Region under Tuggle. “The Service's entrenched culture of corruption persists with the full knowledge and blessing of Director Dan Ashe.”

Currently, PEER is in federal district court trying to pry records out of FWS detailing the role Ashe and his top deputies played in derailing scientific misconduct cases. Ashe's office maintains that no records exist documenting what others have testified about his actions. Adding injury to insult, the Interior Department, FWS' parent agency, weakened its Scientific Integrity Policy, just before Christmas to make it even harder to discipline managers who override science in pursuit of agency agendas.

“After reading this transcript, it is hard to dispute that emerging safeguards against politicized science are stillborn,” added Ruch. “Until these agencies admit the problem exists, there will be no progress. The first meaningful step toward reform would be removing Dan Ashe as Director.”

[Read key excerpts from the hearing testimony](#)

[View the full 673-page hearing transcript](#)

[Volume I](#)

[Volume II](#)

[See PEER lawsuit on FWS Director's role in fraud cases](#)

[Note recent weakening of Interior's Scientific Integrity Policy](#)

[Review recent FWS scientific integrity scandals](#)

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**County Board of Supervisors**

**Plumas County Courthouse, 520 Main Street, Room 309**

**Quincy, CA 95971**

For Additional Information, Contact:

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** MARCH 18, 2015

QUINCY, CALIFORNIA – The Plumas County Board of Supervisors has announced that Plumas County has joined co-plaintiffs Butte County, the California Off-Road Vehicle Association (CORVA) and the Sierra Access Coalition (SAC) in filing a lawsuit in federal court, challenging the Plumas National Forest (USFS) Motorized Travel Management Plan – Record of Decision and Final Environmental Impact Statement that were released on October 27, 2010.

The plaintiffs are being represented by Pacific Legal Foundation in Sacramento.

Plaintiffs contend that the Plumas National Forest utterly failed to “Coordinate” with Local Governments under the Travel Management Rule. The act of “coordination” is a special requirement upon the US Forest Service, established by Congress. Plaintiffs cite the following examples as consequences of the Plumas National Forest in failing to properly “coordinate” with Plumas County and Butte County:

- The Record of Decision closed 918 miles of existing unclassified roads and trails to motorized vehicle use and banned cross country travel across the more than 1.14 million acres of the Forest.
- A substantial number of additional roads and trails, representing approximately 1,107 miles, which had been lawfully used for motorized travel for years by the public, became subject to closure, all of which now, or will, impede recreational and access opportunities in Plumas National Forest.
- Plaintiffs are challenging Federal Defendants’ decision to prohibit motorized travel on thousands of unclassified routes in Plumas National Forest that had been historically and lawfully used by the public for recreation, thereby preventing human access to a vast portion of the Forest, thus negatively affecting the human environment.
- Such decisions were made on the basis of the unexamined assumption that continued motorized access on many of the historically used routes would cause an unacceptable level of environmental harm. That conclusion was reached without the benefit of site specific environmental impacts analysis, as required by NEPA.
- A 36-acre area motorized open area, which was included as part of the preferred alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, was also eliminated in the decision, without any public comment.

Equally compelling are the plaintiff’s contentions that:

- The Closure of roads, segments and trails deprives disabled persons, who require motorized vehicle transport, to enjoy many parts of Plumas National Forest.
- The Forest Service’s decision also negatively impacts residents of Plumas and Butte Counties who depend upon access to the Forest for low-cost sources of food and fuel as well as adversely affecting numerous commercial interests in Plumas and Butte Counties that derive income from providing services related to motorized vehicle use and recreation, both for county residents and tourists attracted by the Forest’s recreational opportunities.
- Failure to follow the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to sufficiently analyze impacts to the “Human Environment.”

"The forest belongs to the people, and, in a responsible way, we ought to be able to use it," said

Plumas County Supervisor Terry W. Swofford. "This lawsuit is about the freedom to access public lands," added Plumas County Supervisor Sherrie Thrall.

Filed with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, the case is titled as *Granat et al v. United States Department of Agriculture*. The Complaint is available for public viewing on the internet at: <http://www.countyofplumas.com/DocumentCenter/View/12476> Further information, including a video, a podcast, and an explanatory blog post, may be viewed at: [www.pacificlegal.org](http://www.pacificlegal.org)

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## **Montana Legislative "Consent" Destroys Citizen Protection if SB262 Passes**

***MONTANA in the 70's: When the State Stood Tall for Its People and Its Lands vs. the Self-Inflicted Injury of the Proposed CSKT Compact.***

Elaine Willman, Author of *Going to Pieces . . .the dismantling of the United States of America*, February 25, 2015

There was a time when the Montana legislature was at the forefront of environmental policy, state sovereign authority and diligent protection of the rights of Montana citizens. Look at this interesting time line of events from 1970 through 1981 when Montana legislators were taking excellent care of their State and citizens:

**1970 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).** This federal mandate requires assessment and analysis for all significant projects affecting the environment, across the country.

**1971 Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).** Farsighted legislators passed, 99-0, a state mandate, MEPA, requiring assessment and analysis for all significant projects affecting the environment. MEPA stepped up the "spirit" and strength of the federal act, NEPA, and significantly expanded the public right to participate in government decisions. Perhaps now we better understand why both of these environmental mandates have been avoided at all costs. The proposed CSKT Compact is in direct violation of NEPA, MEPA, and the Administrative Procedures Act of 1946, requiring due process and a remedy for grievances against government decisions. MEPA was preparatory to the development of a new Constitution for the State of Montana, adopted in 1973.

**1973 Montana State Constitution.** Legislators adopted a Constitution that incorporated the intent of MEPA into Article IX of the new Constitution, and additionally provided

Montanans with 35 enumerated rights in Article II, including popular sovereignty, the right of participation, and the right of self-government.

**1975 Indian Education and Self-Determination Act** (Public Law 93-638) provided tribes with the right to *self*-government and management of their own federal funds through contracted services. Unfortunately, many tribes ignored the critical word prefix *self* in **self**-determination and took actions toward asserting tribal government authorities to tax and govern non-tribal persons and properties.

**1981 Montana v. U.S. 450 U.S. 544**. In 1973 the Crow Tribe attempted to assert its jurisdictional authority over non-tribal lands and persons. The State of Montana argued valiantly for many years to protect Montana citizens, and obtained the ruling in *Montana v. U.S.* that continues to be a landmark Supreme Court case protecting citizens in Montana and across the country from tribal governance over non tribal persons and lands.

Throughout the 1970s and into the 1980s the Montana governors and state legislators were diligently protecting state sovereign authority, state natural resources and the individual rights of Montanans. So what happened between 1981 and 2015?

The emerging coalition of a powerful triumvirate: 1) federal Executive branch over-reaching; 2) tribal government political influence and tribal government over-reaching; 3) coalitions of environmental extremists; the trendy aboriginal and United Nations movement, and the globalists promoting Agenda 21. All of these folks are on the same page, singing from the same hymnal and absolutely dedicated to the demise of State sovereignty, citizen and property rights. This cumulative political and financial power has had oppressive and intimidating success among elected officials at every level of state government and academia in Montana. The 2015 Montana State Legislature does not remotely resemble the Montana Legislature of the 1970s, when the State was acting like a State and damn proud of it.

What will be the end result of the CSKT Compact if Montana's legislators breathe life into this legislative Beast? Look again at the policies and laws noted in the time line above. The CSKT Compact will render irrelevant the U.S. Constitution, the Montana Constitution, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Montana Environmental Policy Act, and this is just openers. Current state legislators passing the Compact will ensure their ongoing and future irrelevancy as elected officials of a state intentionally enfeebled by the CSKT Compact. Oaths of office and the Pledge of Allegiance are now just meaningless, irrelevant rituals. One of the finest State Constitutions in the country, Montana's 1973 Constitution becomes toilet paper.

Another irony: Passage of the Compact will also overturn hard-fought protections from tribal governance over non-members in 1981 Supreme Court case of *Montana v. U.S.* for Montana citizens; however, the rest of the country will remain protected by this

Landmark ruling of the High Court because the ruling protects citizens from tribal governance absent their individual *consent*. The Compact legislatively removes individual citizen *consent* for some 350,000 Montana citizens in 11 counties that will be subject to tribal government control of their water, their water rates, and water-dependent land use.

The Compact is not just about water. It is now about the Rule of Law as well. Our federal and state Constitutions matter, or they don't. Our federal and state environmental mandates matter, or they don't. Supreme Court rulings matter or they don't. Exactly what *does* matter to current legislators and an entire cadre of well-paid Montana state attorneys? It certainly does not seem to be to uphold the Rule of Law in the State of Montana. The once youthful and muscle-bound State of Montana is voluntarily surrendering its Statehood to Assisted Living in perpetuity, to be governed by tribes, the federal government and International organizations intent on destroying State authorities, property rights and the rights of the Popular Sovereignty of each and every citizen. Montana is already buckling at the knees; the proposed CSKT Compact begins the process of turning off the State's life support as a State. The battle then goes to all of the other Western States.

One more sad irony: There is within the rule of law the Doctrine of *Parens Patriae*. This is a legal doctrine wherein a State within its sovereign capacity may provide protection, and may even sue on behalf of, citizens unable to care for themselves. The proposed Compact will render tribal and non-tribal landowners, 11 counties and their municipalities, and some 350,000 Montanans needing water for the homes and businesses, hard pressed to pay high water rates, or take care of themselves in the future. Do you suppose your current or future Governors and State Legislator will step in to help them?

A victorious CSKT Compact opens the door for the federal government, tribal governments and globalists to ***fundamentally transform*** Montana to something unlike the proud State that existed in the 1970s. **Montana legislators passing this Compact may just as well turn off the lights in the Helena Capitol because the CSKT Compact is a fatal, self-inflicted injury to State sovereignty and all of Montana's waters. Legislators voting for the Proposed CSKT Compact are assuring their future as useful idiots to federal, tribal and international influence.**

Elaine D. Willman, MPA

*Author, Going to Pieces . . .the dismantling of the United States of America*

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# **WOTUS' Promise of Ag Protection Not Convincing**

Kerry Halladay, Editor, Western Livestock Journal, March 23, 2015

[http://www.veritasresearchconsulting.com/Water/WOTUS\\_is\\_back-now\\_called\\_Clean\\_Water\\_Rule.pdf](http://www.veritasresearchconsulting.com/Water/WOTUS_is_back-now_called_Clean_Water_Rule.pdf)

## **—EPA administrator admits mishandling of proposed rule**

WOTUS is back. But now we're supposed to call it the "Clean Water Rule." Last Monday, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy addressed the National Farmers Union (NFU) at their annual conference in Kansas. In her speech, she offered some insight into the new and improved Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule.

The very next day, the House Agriculture Committee's Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee announced the findings of its review of the rule, calling it damaging to U.S. agriculture and rural communities, as well as being outside the congressionally-granted purview of the EPA

## **McCarthy**

McCarthy stressed that the new version of the "Clean Water Rule" will be clear, guided by the overwhelming volumes of input, and practical to the needs of farmers, ranchers, and the rest of the country. "The spirit of this rule boils down to three simple facts: First, one in three Americans get their drinking water from streams and wetlands that lack clear protection from pollution today. Second, our economy—from manufacturing and brewing to farming and ranching—can't function without clean water. And third, the species we depend on and the places we love for recreation can't survive without it," said McCarthy in her prepared comments at the conference.

"We have listened to you and everyone else that took the time to comment or attend meetings with us. You will see your input reflected in the final rule. Do I expect that everyone will applaud the Clean Water Rule when it is finalized? No, that would again be a bit naive. This rule is based on two things: one, what the Supreme Court told us, and two, what the science tells us."

Supposedly, the new final rule—set to be released sometime "this spring," according to McCarthy—will be leaner and more specifically targeted. She spoke about the complexities of water systems and the need to focus on waters that truly need to be protected.

The final rule will also supposedly be accompanied by a question-and-answer style guide with images to better explain what portions of their land may be regulated.

"You will have a catalog of your questions answered by putting together real-life things that you're doing on your farms and ranches," she said.



## **Mea Culpa**

Though there was no actual apologies directly stated, McCarthy expressed regret over how WOTUS was originally presented and how it was handled.

“First, I want to tell you up front that I wish we had done a better job of rolling out our Clean Water Rule— from calling it WOTUS instead of the Clean Water Rule, to not being more crystal clear out of the gate about what we were and were not proposing, to not talking to all of you and others before we put out the Interpretive Rule,” she said to the NFU.

She also acknowledged the issues with WOTUS' lesser sibling, the Interpretive Rule.

“We know it was right to withdraw the Interpretive Rule. We wrote it to support agriculture, but when farmers and ranchers themselves worried that the rule would be used to limit the way conservation practices were conducted and supported, it made sense to withdraw it.”

McCarthy made a point to try to reassure her agricultural audience of what the final form of the “Clean Water Rule” will and will not do. Top among those: “We’re not going to regulate puddles.”

She spoke at length regarding the coverage and definition of ditches, the definition of tributaries, and the impacts on agriculture.

“One thing absolutely won’t change—and that’s the exclusions and exemptions for agriculture in the Clean Water Act. This rule doesn’t touch them. And I want to remind folks of what that means: even in the limited number of cases where this rule will mean that a stream or wetland is clearly covered by the Clean Water Act, normal agricultural activities will continue with their current exemptions. So farmers and ranchers still won’t need an Army Corps permit to go about their business. It’s that simple, and we’ll keep it that way.”

## **Unconvinced**

The day after McCarthy’s speech at the NFU conference, the House Agriculture Committee’s Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee held a public hearing to review the WOTUS/Clean Water Rule. At this public hearing, Steve Foglesong, past National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA) President, very vocally countered a point McCarthy often repeated; the EPA listens and engages stakeholders.

“There was zero outreach to us in the agriculture community before the rule was proposed,” said Foglesong. “And despite what the EPA and Army Corps are saying, they did not have a meaningful dialogue with the small business community as a whole.”

He echoed a point McCarthy had made in that everyone involved wants and needs clean water. That is not at issue.

“Farmers and ranchers rely on clean water to be successful in business. But, expanding the federal regulatory reach of the EPA and Army Corps does not equal clean water.”

In their announcement regarding the public hearing, the House Subcommittee came to the conclusion the rule exceeded the scope of power Congress initially granted to the EPA and that it would cause harm to agriculture and rural communities.

“Despite strong bipartisan opposition from Congress and the public, the Obama Administration has acted to expand its federal authority,” Subcommittee Chairman Representative Glenn Thompson (R-PA5) was quoted as saying. “The EPA’s proposed rule could have serious consequences for our nation and prove to be a severe detriment to our economy, with a particularly strong impact in rural counties. Hasty movement from the EPA will only invite costly litigation, burden states and counties with compliance costs, and create obstacles to building and replacing our national infrastructure.”

It was later recommended that the EPA’s best course of action would be to “pull this regulation, work with state and local stakeholders to develop a new and proper set of recommendations, then submit these recommendations to Congress for consideration and approval.” Other participants in the public hearing were also unconvinced by claims that agricultural exemptions and more specific definitions would safeguard agriculture.

“It is impossible to know how many farmers, ranchers and forest landowners will be visited by [EPA] enforcement staff or will be sued by citizen plaintiffs’ lawyers—and it is impossible to know when those inspections and lawsuits will happen,” said Ellen Steen, General Counsel for the American Farm Bureau Federation, according to the group’s official response to the hearing.

“What is certain is that a vast number of common, responsible farming, ranching and forestry practices that occur today without the need for a federal permit would be highly vulnerable to Clean Water Act enforcement under this rule.”As mentioned, the final rule is expected sometime this spring.

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## **Government**



### **Mercury incident at Yakima home requires EPA emergency cleanup**

*EPA and local agencies responded to home where children played with mercury for two months*

**CONTACT:** Hanady Kader, EPA Public Affairs, 206-553-0454, [kader.hanady@epa.gov](mailto:kader.hanady@epa.gov)

(Seattle—April 6, 2015) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has completed an emergency cleanup of elemental mercury at a residential home in the South 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Nob Hill neighborhood of Yakima, Washington. EPA worked closely with Yakima Health District and the Washington State Department of Ecology to complete the cleanup and ensure that public health and the environment were not harmed.

On March 19, the Washington State Department of Ecology received a call from a concerned citizen about an elemental mercury spill at a home in the neighborhood. The citizen had observed children at the home playing with mercury. A tenant of the home confirmed that the children had found mercury in a small vial and had been playing with it for two months. In addition, the tenant had used a broom to sweep up mercury in the driveway. This is the third such mercury exposure reported in the Yakima area in recent years.

“The citizen who reported this mercury and stopped the children’s exposure is a hero,” said Dr. Chris Spitters at the Yakima Health District. “Mercury poisoning can have serious and permanent effects on the brain, especially in children. We worked with the affected families and with their health care providers to ensure that all the exposed children and adults received a proper medical evaluation.”

Mercury is a highly toxic substance that builds up in human body tissue. In young children, exposure to mercury can lead to learning disabilities and damage to the nervous system. In adults, exposure may cause cardiovascular and central nervous system problems. Mercury can be especially harmful if its fumes are inhaled.

Vacuuming or sweeping mercury spreads it into the air and into smaller droplets, contaminating the home and the vacuum or broom.

EPA recovered about four fluid ounces of mercury from the home. Air monitoring indicated mercury measurements up to 50 times higher than safe occupancy levels. The contamination required disposal of the washer, dryer, clothing, bedding, and carpet. In addition, EPA excavated soil where the children played with mercury. EPA cleanup costs for residential mercury contamination have ranged from \$100,000-\$400,000.

“Once you have mercury contamination, cleanup is expensive and difficult because the mercury spreads easily from room to room, as was the case at this property,” said Jeff Fowlow, EPA On-Scene Coordinator. “We urge anyone who finds mercury stored in their home to contact the Yakima County Hazardous Waste program at (509) 574-2450. Correct handling and disposal will avoid an unfortunate incident like this, which was difficult for the family and resulted in a lot of belongings that had to be disposed.”

Metallic mercury appears as a thick, silver colored liquid that forms small drops or beads and breaks into smaller pieces easily. This and other mercury-containing products should be handled with extreme care and carefully transported to a household waste facility. Spills should be reported immediately to the Department of [Ecology regional office](#) closest to you or 1-800-258-5990. For health concerns related to mercury spills, contact your health care provider or the Yakima Health District at 509-249-6508.

For information on how to handle mercury, visit <http://www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm>

**From:** "US Environmental Protection Agency" <noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 6, 2015 10:46:53 AM  
**Subject:** Mercury incident at Yakima home requires EPA emergency cleanup

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## **Dr. Charles Krauthammer A BRILLIANT MAN!**

Author Unknown

1. Born: March 13, 1950
2. Birthplace: New York City , New York
3. Raised in Montreal , Canada
4. Attended McGill University and Harvard Medical School
5. 1972 diving accident left him paralyzed from the neck on down.
6. Directed psychiatric research for the Carter administration
7. Began writing career in 1981 with The New Republic
8. Helped develop the "Reagan Doctrine" in the 80's

## 9. Appointed to Presidential Council on Bioethics in 2002

Dr. Krauthammer is frequently on the Fox News Channel. He is an M.D., a lawyer and is paralyzed from the neck down. A friend went to hear Charles Krauthammer. He listened with 25 others in a closed room. What he says here is NOT 2nd-hand but 1st. The ramifications are staggering for us, our children and their children.

Last Monday was a profound evening. Dr. Charles Krauthammer spoke to the Center for the American Experiment. He is a brilliant intellectual, seasoned & articulate. He is forthright and careful in his analysis and never resorts to emotions or personal insults. He is NOT a fear monger, nor an extremist, in his comments and views. He is a fiscal conservative and has received a Pulitzer Prize for writing. He is a frequent contributor to Fox News and writes weekly for the Washington Post.

The entire room was held spellbound during his talk. I have summarized his comments, as we are living in uncharted waters economically and internationally.

Even 2 Democrats at my table agreed with everything he said! If you feel like forwarding this to those who are open minded and have not drunk the Kool-Aid, feel free.

### **Summary of his comments:**

- ★ Mr. Obama is a very intellectual, charming individual. He is not to be underestimated. He is a cool customer who doesn't show his emotions. It's very hard to know what's behind the mask. The taking down of the Clinton dynasty was an amazing accomplishment. The Clintons still do not understand what hit them. Obama was in the perfect place at the perfect time.
- ★ Obama has political skills comparable to Reagan and Clinton. He has a way of making you think he's on your side, agreeing with your position, while doing the opposite. Pay no attention to what he SAYS; rather, watch what he DOES!
- ★ Obama has a ruthless quest for power. He did not come to Washington to make something out of himself but rather to change everything, including dismantling capitalism. He can't be straight forward on his ambitions, as the public would not go along. He has a heavy hand and wants to level the playing field with income redistribution and punishment to the achievers of society. He would like to model the USA to Great Britain or Canada .
- ★ His three main goals are to control ENERGY, PUBLIC EDUCATION and NATIONAL HEALTHCARE by the Federal government. He doesn't care about the auto or

financial services industries but got them as an early bonus. The cap and trade will add costs to everything and stifle growth. Paying for FREE college education is his goal. Most scary is his healthcare program because if you make it FREE and add 46,000,000 people to a Medicare-type single-payer system, the costs will go through the roof. The only way to control costs is with massive RATIONING of services, like in Canada. God forbid!

- ★ He has surrounded himself with mostly far-left academic types. No one around him has ever even run a candy store. But they are going to try and run the auto, financial, banking and other industries. This obviously can't work in the long run. Obama is not a socialist; rather he's a far-left secular progressive bent on nothing short of revolution. He ran as a moderate but will govern from the hard left. Again, watch what he DOES, not what he says.
- ★ Obama doesn't really see himself as President of the United States but more as a ruler over the world. He sees himself above it all, trying to orchestrate & coordinate various countries and their agendas. He sees moral equivalency in all cultures. His apology tour in Germany and England was a prime example of how he sees America as an imperialist nation that has been arrogant, rather than a great noble nation that has at times made errors. This is the first President, ever, who has chastised our allies and appeased our enemies!
- ★ He is now handing out goodies. He would like to blame all problems on Bush, from the past, and hopefully his successor in the future. He has a huge ego and Dr. Krauthammer believes he is a narcissist. (the Dr. IS a psychiatrist)
- ★ Republicans are in the wilderness for a while but will emerge strong. Republicans are pining for another Reagan but there will never be another like him. Krauthammer believes Mitt Romney, Tim Pawlenty & Bobby Jindahl (except for his terrible speech in February) are the future of the party. Newt Gingrich is brilliant but has baggage. Sarah Palin is sincere and intelligent but needs to really be seriously boning up on facts and info if she is to be a serious candidate in the future. We need to return to the party of lower taxes, smaller government, personal responsibility, strong national defense and State's Rights.
- ★ The current level of spending is irresponsible and outrageous. We are spending trillions that we don't have. This could lead to hyperinflation, depression or worse. No country has ever spent themselves into prosperity. The Liberal Media loves the democratic agenda. But eventually the bill will come due and people will realize the huge bailouts didn't work, nor the stimulus package. These were trillion-dollar payoffs to Obama's allies, unions and the Congress to placate the left, so he can get support for #4 above

I hope this gets you really thinking about what's happening in Washington and Congress. There is a left-wing revolution going on, according to Krauthammer, and he encourages us to keep the faith and join the loyal resistance. The work will be hard but we're right on most issues and can reclaim our country before it's far too late.

All our futures and children's futures depend on our good understanding of what is really going on in DC and our action pursuant to that understanding!

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## **Russian Strategist Suggests Nuking Yellowstone**

**Rest of world would see catastrophe, but 'U.S. will cease to exist'**

[Bob Unruh](#), WND, 03/31/2015

<http://www.wnd.com/2015/03/russian-strategist-suggests-nuking-yellowstone/>



The best way for Russia to solve its problem with America would be to trigger a nuclear weapon at Yellowstone National Park and hope it would set off a supervolcano, destroying the continent, according to the chief of a Russian think tank.

The suggestion is attributed to Konstantin Sivkov, who wrote in an article at [the Russian language VPK News](#) that as “a result, the U.S. will cease to exist.”

While the rest of the world, he noted, would suffer a “catastrophe,” Russia likely would suffer little “due to the distance from the eruption site, the size of the territory and the location.”

While the stress of such a disaster would affect all of civilization, he wrote, such a weapon “has the possibility” of stopping “all thought of aggression against Russia.”

In the alternative, he wrote, a nuke on the San Andreas fault might set off earthquakes that also could decimate large parts of America. His hope would be that it would create a tsunami a mile deep that would wash across the U.S. nearly 1,000 miles inland.

Sivkov, described as a geopolitical analyst, also accused the West of moving “to the borders of Russia” already.

The article was translated from Russian by [the Sydney Morning Herald](#), where reporter Su-Lin Tan wrote, “He has a conspiracy theory that NATO – a political and military alliance which counts the U.S., UK, Canada and many countries in western Europe as members – was amassing strength against Russia, and the only way to combat that problem was to attack America’s vulnerabilities to ensure a ‘complete destruction of the enemy.’”

Sivkov, the head of the Academy of Geopolitical Problems in Moscow, wrote: “Geologists believe that the Yellowstone supervolcano could explode at any moment. There are signs of growing activity there. Therefore, it suffices to push the relatively small, for example the impact of the munition megaton class to initiate an eruption. The consequences will be catastrophic for the United States – a country just disappears.”

He continued: “Another vulnerable area of the United States from the geophysical point of view, is the San Andreas fault – 1,300 kilometers between the Pacific and North American plates ... a detonation of a nuclear weapon there can trigger catastrophic events like a coast-scale tsunami which can completely destroy the infrastructure of the United States.”

The Herald noted that Sivkov spoke at the 2013 Moscow Economic Forum.

He said that by 2020 or 2025, Russia would have “asymmetric weapons” in its arsenal for the attack.

He lamented, according to the Herald, the “weakened economic potential in Russia, the loss of the ‘spiritual core of what was the communist idea,’ and [with] the lack of large-scale community allies in Europe such as the Warsaw Pact, Russia simply cannot compete against the NATO and its allies.”

The analyst, described in the article as a military strategist, told Pravda previously that the ultimate goal of the U.S. is to “destroy Russia.”



And he charged that “American politicians” have participated in international crimes, but he doubts whether they will be held accountable.

An online translation of the [VPK article](#) quoted Sivkov noting that for Russia, the situation now is “incomparably worse” than during the 1950s and 1960s at the height of the Cold War.

That's because “Western-oriented oligarchs and related liberal officialdom” are in charge.

Yellowstone presents an opportunity for Russia, he said, but it depends on the “political will” of the Russia’s leaders.

“The power of this supervolcano” would prove “disastrous” for the U.S., he said.

“Geologists believe that the Yellowstone supervolcano could explode at any moment. ... Therefore it suffices to push the relatively small [explosion] ... to initiate an eruption.”

[The National Park Service claims](#) there have been several major volcanic eruptions in the Yellowstone area in what it says were the last 2 million years, the last only about 174,000 years ago when the West Thumb of Yellowstone Lake was created.

A huge landslide in the 1950s created another lake on the northwest edge of the park.

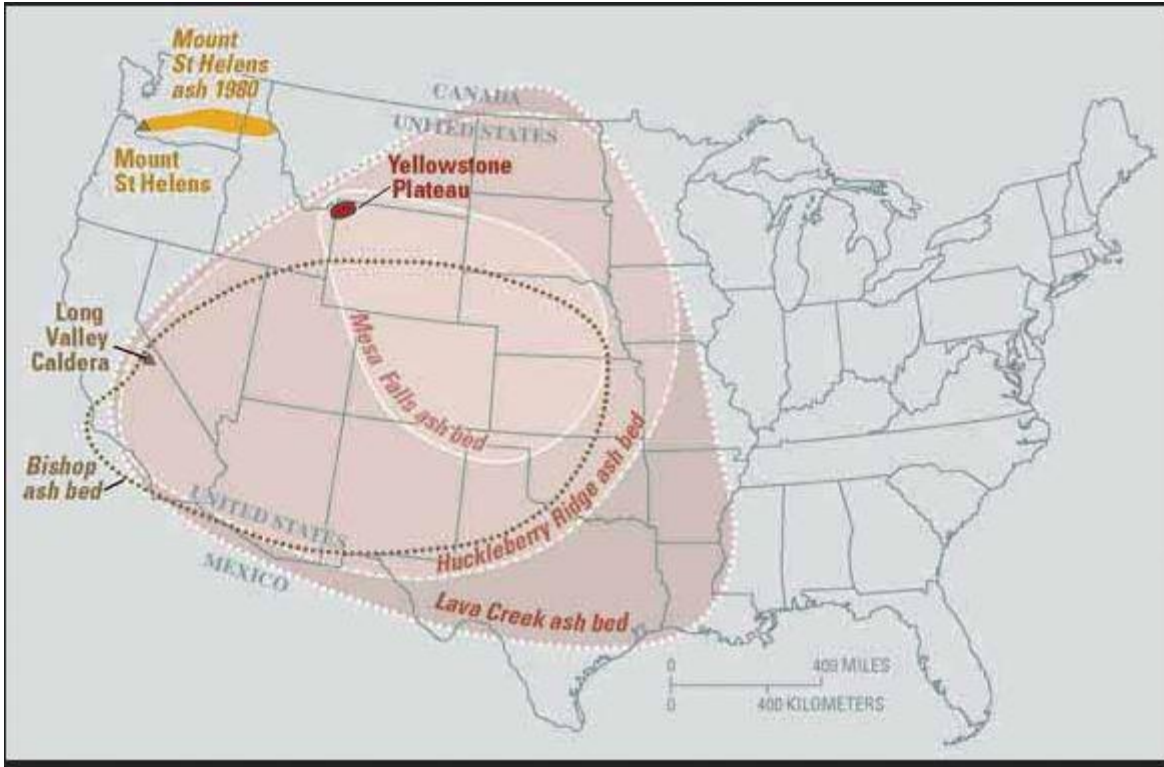
The Park Service adds that the Yellowstone Caldera was created about 640,000 years ago, a region that is now 30 miles by 45 miles.

“The Yellowstone volcano is still active,” the government reports. “Evidence for the activity of the Yellowstone volcano are the 1,000 to 3,000 earthquakes per year, active ground deformation, and the over 10,000 geothermal features found in Yellowstone.”

It is considered a “supervolcano” because it is believed to have the capability of erupting more than 240 cubic miles of magma.

On the Park Service website, there is the cryptic advice to visitors: “Nothing can be done to prevent an eruption.”

*See a government map of the area of impact experts believe was affected in the U.S. during historic Yellowstone eruptions:*



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## Oregon Government

### BAD WEEK, BUT JUST THE START

Senator Jeff Kruse, February 27, 2015

<https://us-mg6.mail.yahoo.com/neo/launch?.rand=12b80dinjgo35#8957105540>

Before I get into this week I want to respond to a couple of emails. There was a picture in several papers of Governor Brown and me embracing after her swearing in. The comments I got were a "true conservative" would not be friends with someone like her. My short response was a "true conservative" would get all the facts before making a judgment. The fact is the Governor and I disagree on a wide variety of issues, the first this Session will be the Low Carbon Fuel Standards bill which she has said she supports. But it is also a fact that we have worked together successfully on several subjects over the years as well. The subject we were talking about that day was the foster care system, which we have been working together to improve for over a decade.

The balance of power in Salem has definitely moved significantly to the left this year. **Elections do have consequences, and in a representative republic the winners do get to set the agenda.** The reality in the Oregon State Senate is the Democrats can pass anything they want. Just going by the numbers it would require only two Republicans to be present when bills come to the Senate floor for a vote to meet the quorum

requirement. We are already seeing some heavy handed actions taking place. Under most circumstances the chairperson of a committee has the ultimate authority over the activities of the committee. There have already been a couple of times when the members of the committee were attempting to work towards a compromise on a bill only to get direction from leadership to pass the bill un-amended. That is the power of a super majority.

At the beginning of this Session the Senate President and the Speaker of the House convened a workgroup of ten legislators to begin work on a transportation package. I was asked to be part of the group, and over the last four weeks we have made significant progress towards the development of a very good plan. This package would not only help with commuter and freight traffic, but would also create a lot of jobs. I made it very clear to both the Speaker and the President at the front end that the passage of the low carbon bill would kill any plan we came up with because the proposed gas tax in the plan would be referred to the voters and defeated. I told them their choice was very clear, create jobs in Oregon and deal with an immediate need or pass a bill with no immediate benefit except to out of state corporations. Last night, when the low carbon bill passed out of the House committee their choice became very clear. Because there had been comments made in the media tying the republicans in the workgroup to both bills, we were given no choice but to leave, which we did at six o'clock last night.

I think it is going to be interesting as this one-party agenda moves forward to look at who is actually benefitting from the actions and what the political ties are. Clearly the whole low carbon issue can be tied to Cylvia Hayes and John Kitzhaber, but I would suggest the connections actually go deeper than that. Hopefully the current investigation will be very thorough in its scope.

In politics as in life, it is all about relationships. I started this letter talking about Governor Brown, but that is really just one example. My relationship with the Governor is actually relatively simple to explain. We work together where there is agreement; on some areas of disagreement we try to find middle ground; and in other areas we just simply disagree. What is common in all of these scenarios is we are honest with each other and respect the other person's right to their opinion. I have the same type of relationship with the Speaker, President, and most members of the Assembly. I say most members because there are new people in the House I have not met yet.

This job can be very frustrating at times and I have been asked why I still do it. I think a good response would be a line Tom Hanks had in the movie Philadelphia. When he was asked why he liked being a lawyer, this was his response, "Because occasionally, not often but occasionally, you get a chance to do something that helps someone." It is my hope that over the next few months while we will be doing things that I don't think are in the best interests of our state we will be able to do some things that will

actually be helpful. I continue to be optimistic that we will not totally lose sight of the core principles that make our State of Oregon unique.

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## **Money Management**

### **401Keg Retirement Plan**

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in Delta Airlines one year ago, you would have \$49 today.

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in AIG one year ago, you would have \$33 today.

If you had purchased \$1,000 of shares in Lehman Brothers one year ago, you would have \$0 today.

But, if you had purchased \$1,000 worth of beer one year ago, drank all the beer and then turned in the aluminum cans for recycling, you would have received \$214.

Based on the above, the best current investment plan is to drink heavily & recycle. It's called the 401-Keg Plan.

A recent study found that the average American walks about 900 miles a year. Another study found that Americans drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year. That means that, on average, Americans get about 41 miles to the gallon!.

Makes you proud to be an American!

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## **Local News Bias**

### **Letter: Environmental Coup?**

*The following letter was published in the Corvallis Gazette-Times Opinion Section. I thought it was well written and worthwhile to share with the readers of this newsletter. I decided to go to the online site and copy the content rather than type it all out. I was surprised to find that this letter had not been added to the internet publication. However, the two articles that were published alongside this one did appear in the online edition. That made me curious. Was this an oversight or bias. So, I went to the online addition of the Corvallis Gazette-Times sister Publication the Albany Democrat- Herald. **And there it was.** I suppose this should not be a surprise since both Corvallis and Benton County are members of the United Nations developed ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives.).*

*What does ICLEI (pronounced ICK-LY) stand for? International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. It was created as a non-governmental spin-off by the United Nations in 1990 to implement Agenda 21 locally across the world. It is a membership organization for cities; 7,807 worldwide as of 2012. You can find more information at the site "Democrats Against Agenda 21": <http://www.democratsagainstunagenda21.com/iclei-when-they-say-local-they-mean-it.html>*

*ICLEI–Local Governments for Sustainability is the leading global network devoted to local governments engaged in sustainability, climate protection, and clean energy initiatives. The organization was formerly known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives. They deny any relationship with the United Nations and claim it is all a conspiracy theory. For a disclaimer from ICLEI you can go to: <http://www.icleiusa.org/about-iclei/faqs/faq-iclei-the-united-nations-and-agenda-21>*

## ALBANY Democrat-Herald

Online Opinion Section March 8, 2015

### Letter: Environmental coup?

Jim Day's recent report about a **Corvallis City Council** meeting briefly mentioned a letter submitted by the **Sierra Club**. This caught my attention. What is the Sierra Club plotting? "Bag ban" ran in my ears!

I tracked down a copy of the letter at City Hall. The writer, Debra Higbee-Sudyka, requested that the city **reduce public participation to save cost and time** and count the time volunteers committed **working on the climate action plan task force as the public participation**. She mentioned that task force members are willing to work with city staff to take advantage of environmental funding sources. (Hidden agendas?)

This is the same strategy she used with the bag ban. She protested outside influence by bag makers while loading the stakeholders' committee with state level environmental executives. They wrote our bag ban!

Debra's plan; move the city to **comply with the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives'** (UN established, headquarters Bonn, Germany) monitoring and tracking requirements. Recently built high density apartments with limited parking exemplifies one **ICLEI strategy**: Any local repercussions there? Without voter approval, Corvallis pays tax revenue to support ICLEI's worldwide revolution to control all water, land, and societal issues under the name of sustainability, subjugating U.S. policy. UN

Secretary General Maurice Strong has said that "the affluence of Americans is a threat to the planet."

Debra once said the bag ban was just the beginning of much bigger things to come, like ... an environmental worldwide coup?

Milt Weaver  
Corvallis (March 4) ?

The screenshot shows the Corvallis Gazette-Times website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for e-Edition, Mobile Apps, Submit News, Subscriber Services, Contact Us, Mobile Site, and Advertise. On the right, there are links for Join the conversation, Log In, Register, and Subscribe. The main header features the newspaper's logo, a weather widget showing 55° Clear with a weekly forecast, and a sponsored advertisement for Albany Stoves with the phone number 541-928-4986. Below the header is a secondary navigation bar with categories like News, Obits, Sports, Opinion, Entertainment, Special Sections, Photos/Video, Blogs, Classifieds, Shop, and Jobs. The main content area is titled "Mailbag" and contains four letters. A red box with a question mark and an arrow points to the fourth letter. The sidebar on the right includes an advertisement for "Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies" by Samaritan Health Services, a "50 Objects Of Corvallis" banner, and a "Most Popular" section with a list of articles.

Home / News / Opinion / Mailbag

## Mailbag

**Letter: Tinkle's a class act**  
What a class act! The decision by OSU basketball coach Wayne Tinkle to start the five Oregonians who are "walk-ons" was a great decision that ...  
3 hours ago (0)

**Letter: Vaccines save lives**  
The Gazette-Times reported recently of the dismal immunization rates of children in local schools.  
3 hours ago (0)

**Letters: Counties should cooperate on a Hwy. 20 bike path**  
Regardless of where you site the Highway 20 corridor bike path to Albany, there will be some unhappy campers. Did anyone else see the article ...  
March 06, 2015 9:00 am (4)

**Letters: OSU remodeling priorities follow a top-down model**  
I recently read that the sixth floor of the Kerr Building was going to be remodeled. This is the executive suite of Oregon State University's ...  
March 06, 2015 9:00 am (1)

**Letters: In fact, IRS has offered assistance to low-vision taxpayers**  
Some readers were misled by the headline, written by a probably overworked Gazette-Times editor, for my Feb. 27 letter, "IRS filing rules are ...  
March 06, 2015 9:00 am (6)

**Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies**  
Register for a free seminar today!  
Samaritan Health Services

Download Flash Player

**50 Objects Of Corvallis**

**Most Popular**  
Articles | Comments | Facebook

- DA: Woman beaten, raped escapes days-long ordeal; man arrested
- Local landmark up for sale
- Neighbor saves beating victim; 'He probably would have killed her'
- Missing Pita Pit owner found alive
- Corvallis homicide investigation continues with no arrests



Home / News / Opinion

## Opinion



### Dianne Roth: Miscellaneous musings

BY JIM DAY

Often, at the beginning of a school year, students would come to me in the morning and ask if I had seen something on television the night bef...

3 hours ago (0)

### Letter: Vaccines save lives

The Gazette-Times reported recently of the dismal immunization rates of children in local schools.

3 hours ago (0)

### Letter: Environmental coup?

Jim Day's recent report about a Corvallis City Council meeting briefly mentioned a letter submitted by the Sierra Club. This caught my attenti...

3 hours ago (0)

### Letter: Tinkle's a class act

What a class act! The decision by OSU basketball coach Wayne Tinkle to start the five Oregonians who are "walk-ons" was a great decision that ...

3 hours ago (0)



### Sydney Roberts: Why we must talk about depression

I was diagnosed with clinical depression almost two years ago.

3 hours ago (0)



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## Most Popular

Articles | Comments | Facebook

- DA: Woman kidnapped for a week, raped, beaten repeatedly
- Neighbor saves kidnapping victim; 'He probably would have killed her'
- Fired subcontractor employee charged in thefts at Selmet
- Albany police investigating shooting
- Lebanon hotel nears completion
- Public Safety Log (March 4)

### Democrat-Herald Tweets

Tweets from a list by Mid-Valley Media

Democrat-Herald @dhnews 1h  
Fifth-year programs in jeopardy; ow.ly/K4y63 pic.twitter.com/Hcct0k17eK



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