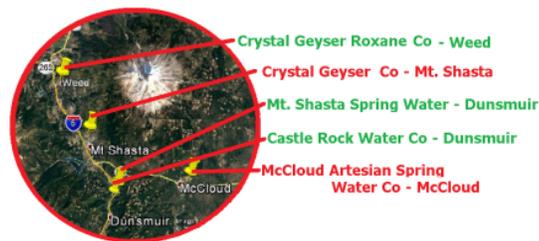


# Vote YES on Measure H

For sensible and fair groundwater management in Siskiyou County



Siskiyou County  
Designated Ground Water Basins



**Siskiyou County's existing groundwater ordinance is intended to ensure the responsible management of water by requiring permits for projects that extract groundwater for commercial resale and export out of Siskiyou County. Measure H fixes two flaws in local groundwater laws that undermine regional water security:**

1. The current ordinance exempts one industry - water-bottling entities - from the permitting process.
2. The ordinance is fragmented, applying only to the basins highlighted in green on the map of Siskiyou County.

South Siskiyou County is a hotspot for the water-bottling industry. **Three active, two pending**, three previous and one failed industrial-scale water-bottling projects have sited at the base of Mount Shasta over little more than a decade. In these times of supply uncertainty, Klamath and Sacramento River stakeholders should proceed cautiously with an industry that can deplete groundwater without communities knowing. Mount Shasta's groundwater flows through volcanic aquifers and spring-fed rivers that deliver water to basins downstream. The Department of Water Resources removed volcanic aquifers from its list of strategic groundwater resources in the 1980's, making water in volcanic regions more vulnerable to unsustainable management. Unprotected by state and local laws, corporations are targeting Siskiyou County's headwater communities and taking advantage of legal loopholes to exploit the regions cold, clean water.

**How can residents prevent the degradation of Mount Shasta area water? We must remove the water-bottling exemption and amend the ordinance to cover all groundwater in Siskiyou County.**

Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors (BOS) opposes Measure H, but their reasons are erroneous:

- **The BOS states that Measure H exceeds County authority by attempting to regulate spring water, therefore inviting litigation;** but in fact, California's Regional Water Quality Control Board already governs spring water. Measure H amendments apply to Chapter 13 which only regulates groundwater extraction and export. The amendments acknowledge that groundwater can emerge to the surface as spring water, but it does not attempt to regulate anything not under Siskiyou County jurisdiction.
- **The BOS states that Measure H circumvents the state's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act;** but in fact, Measure H gets ahead of new state groundwater regulations and ensures local control by demonstrating effective local governance. Let's manage our groundwater sustainably before the state does it for us.
- **The BOS indicates that Measure H will adversely impact local jobs and other groundwater users (agriculture & commercial);** but in fact, Measure H only requires permits from water-bottlers, the same permits that currently apply to other water export projects. Measure H monitors industrial withdraws for direct export and does not regulate other local uses of groundwater. When Measure H passes, it will secure groundwater supplies for higher priority uses, such as agriculture and domestic wells, which genuinely serve economic vitality.

**Measure H ends special privileges for one industry to protect the rights of ALL groundwater users in Siskiyou County.**

**Vote YES on H<sub>2</sub>O November 8, 2016**

Visit [www.siskiyouforward.org](http://www.siskiyouforward.org) to invest in healthy headwaters & advance participatory democracy in Northern California