

**Attachment to Comments submitted by
Friends of the Kalmiopsis and Kalmiopsis Audubon Society**

Regarding: Pacific Northwest and Pacific Southwest Regions of the U.S. Forest Service's proposed Amendments to the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan - *Federal Register*/ Vol. 88, No. 241, December 18, 2023 Notice

Figure 1 - Shows Siskiyou National Forest's close proximity (red circle) to the Pacific Ocean and its high concentration of Inventoried Roadless Area/Wilderness watersheds. See Figure 2 for Northwest Forest Plan Late-Successional Reserve overlap with Inventoried Roadless Areas.

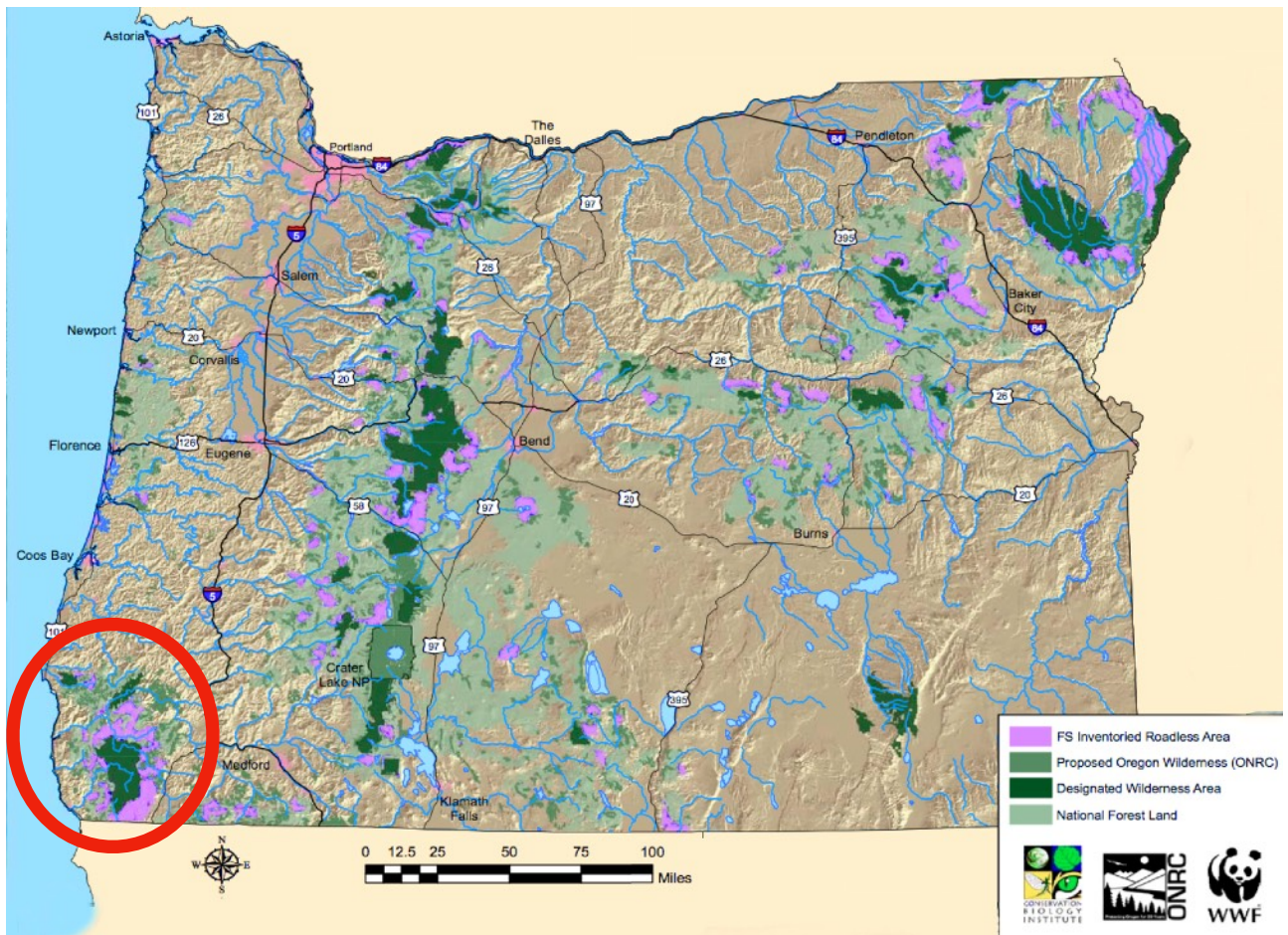
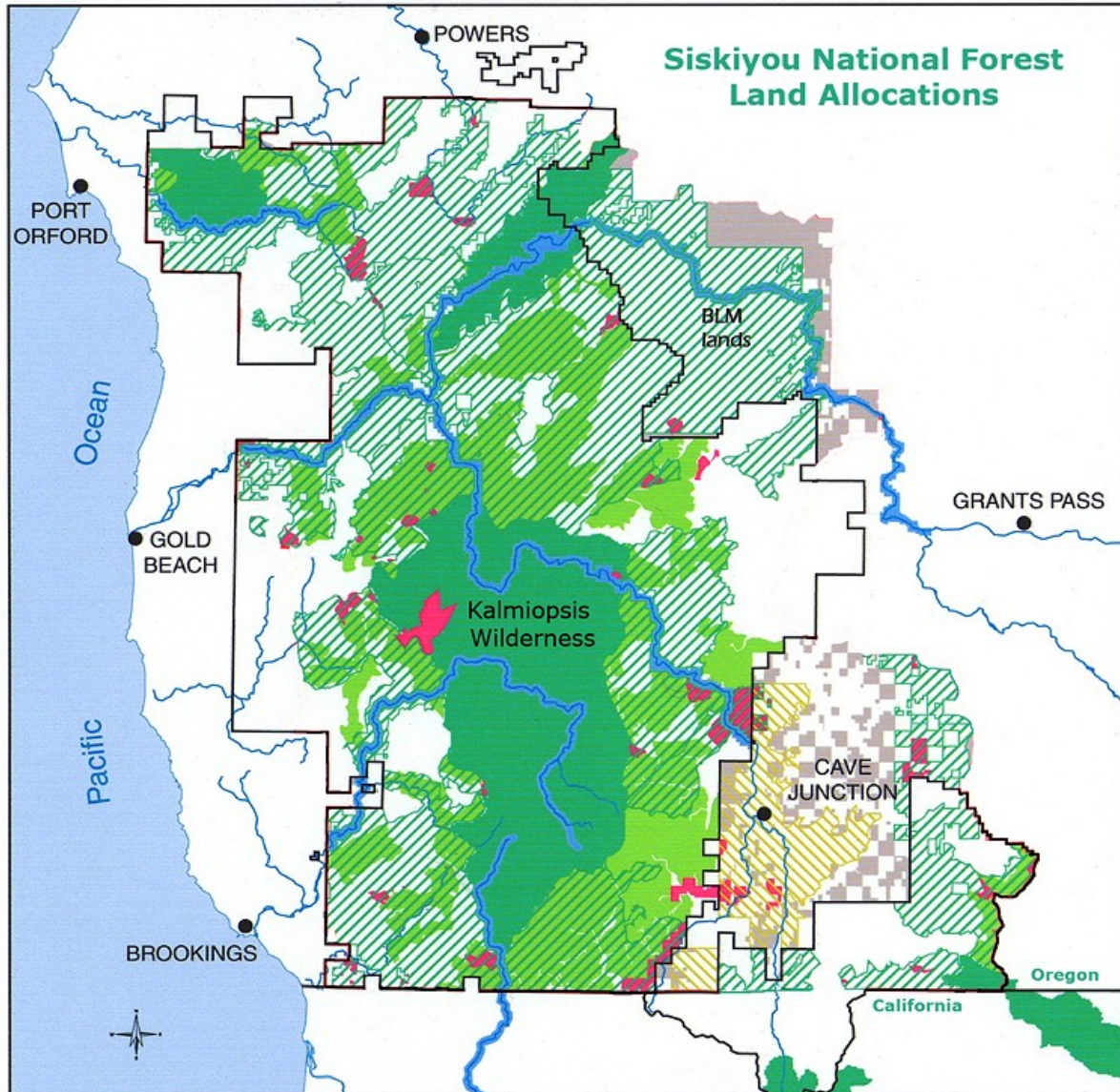


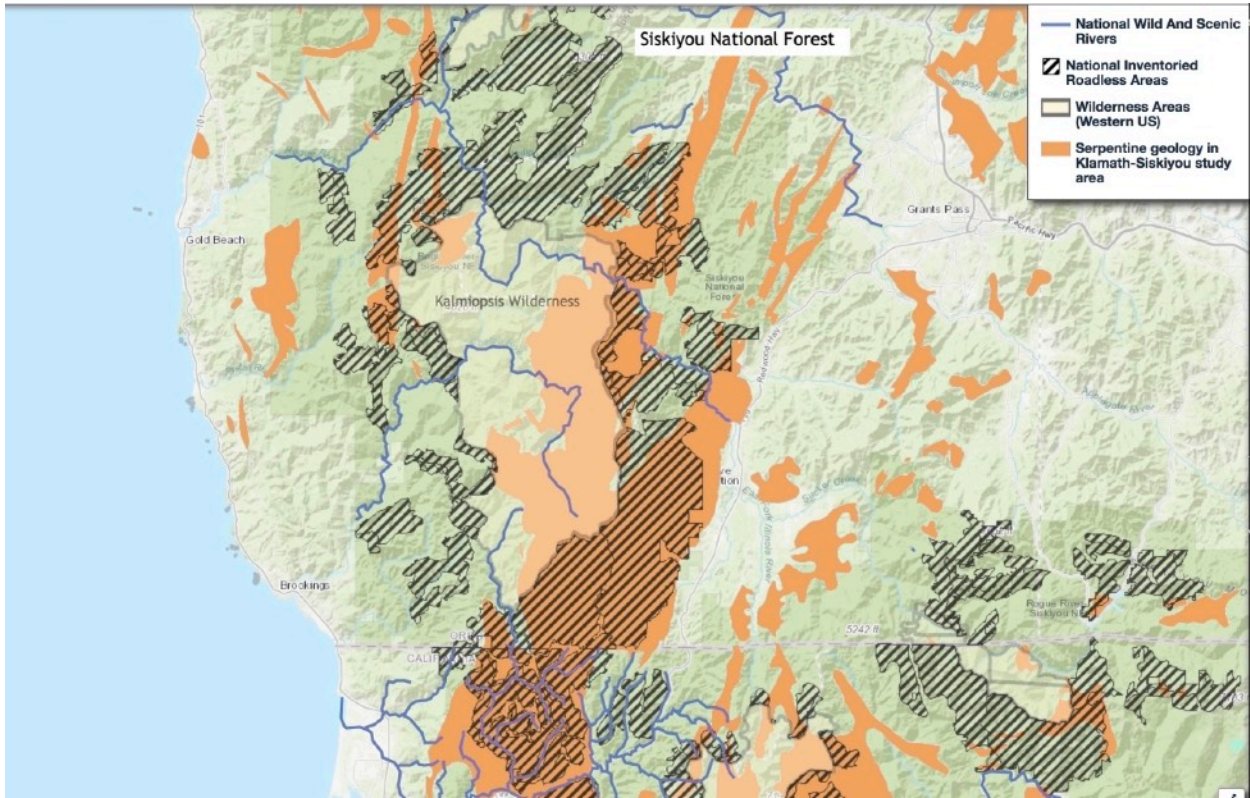
Figure 2 - Siskiyou National Forest post Northwest Forest Plan land allocations. Shows overlap of the forest's Inventoried Roadless Areas and Late-Successional Reserve network. The Copper Salmon Roadless Areas in the Elk River Watershed have since been added to the National Wilderness Preservation System and tributaries to the National Wild and Scenic Elk River added to the National Wild and Scenic River System



- Siskiyou National Forest Boundary
 - Rivers
 - Wilderness Areas
 - Wild and Scenic Rivers
 - Inventoried Roadless Areas
 - Bureau of Land Management (Other than Wilderness & LSR)
 - Special Areas: Research Natural Areas; Botanic, Geologic, & Historic Areas; Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
 - Illinois Valley Botanical Special Interest Area
 - Late-Successional Reserves
- 0 5 10 15 20
Miles



Figure 3 - Siskiyou National Forest Serpentine Geology and Inventoried Roadless Areas



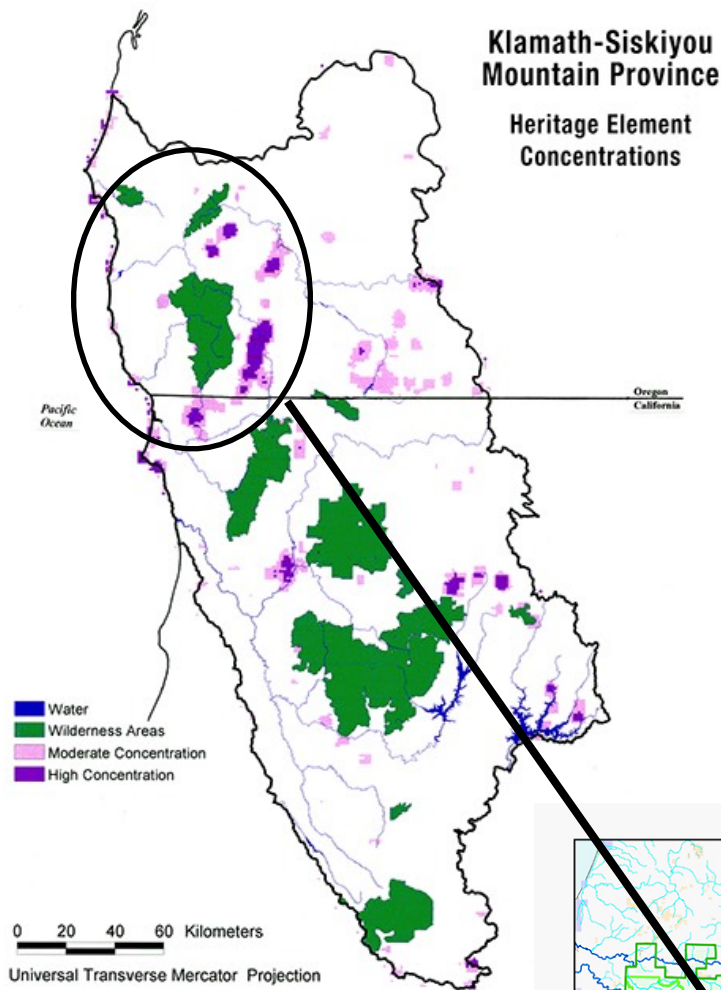


Figure 4 (upper left) Concentrations of heritage elements (special status plants and animals) in the Klamath Mountain Province.

Figure 5 (lower right) Same concentrations of special status plants and animals zoomed into Siskiyou National Forest.

Special status plant and animal concentrations from Oregon and California Natural Heritage data in 1999. It does not reflect more recent rare plant surveys conducted on the Siskiyou National Forest showing additional concentration of rare plants associated with newly identified serpentine *Darlingtonia* wetlands in the Josephine Creek Watershed, South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area, Siskiyou National Forest.

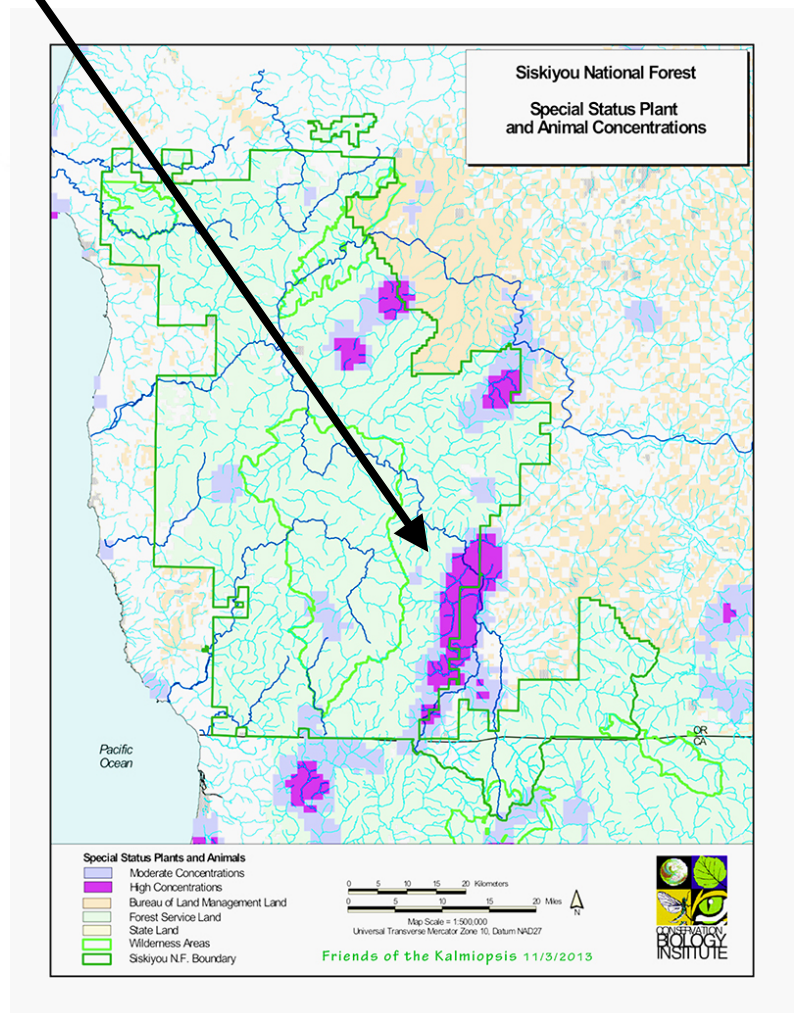


Figure 6 - National Forests in Oregon and California's Klamath Mountain Province (gray), the general area of the serpentine terrain of the Josephine ophiolite (dotted line) and the location of known (mapped) serpentine *Darlingtonia* wetlands (black triangles).

The serpentine wetlands are groundwater dependent ecosystems, one of the rarest habitat types in North America and found only in the Klamath Mountain Province.

Five rare taxa associate with the serpentine *Darlingtonia* wetlands are subject to a joint U.S. Fish and Wild Service, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Conservation Agreement and a USFS and BLM Conservation Strategy. A number of areas on the Siskiyou Forest have yet to be surveyed for rare plants and serpentine wetlands.

See Figure 2 and location of Botanical and Research Natural Areas, Figure 5 and high concentrations of special status plants and animals on the east side of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness and west side of the Illinois Valley in the South Kalmiopsis, indicating a need to expand the Siskiyou National Forest Botanical and Research Natural Areas and provide greater protection for the area's exceptional scientific and ecological values.

