BERRYESSA SNOW MOUNTAIN REGION NATIONAL MONUMENT?

As yet there is no environmental legislation news to report from the newly convened 114th Congress and the 2015 session of the California Legislature. There is, however, a newsworthy effort by environmentalists to encourage President Obama to use his authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to give ecologically important areas the protected status of national monuments. One of the areas proposed for national monument status is northern California’s Berryessa Snow Mountain region. The Berryessa Snow Mountain region forms the west wall of the Sacramento Valley for 100 miles. Its northern boundary is Snow Mountain, due west of Butte County. When driving from Paradise to Chico down Skyway, Snow Mountain is clearly visible across the valley. In winter it is usually snow-capped.

The Berryessa Snow Mountain region is a biodiversity rich area containing plants and animals that have disappeared in other parts of California. It consists of 350,000 acres of federally owned and managed lands. Any telephone calls, letters or emails to President Obama asking him to use his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate Berryessa Snow Mountain region a national monument will help the cause. The Secretary of the Interior, Sally Jewell, met with environmentalists in Napa last month and presumably is informed of the importance of protecting the area. What is needed now is a ground swell of political support.

To communicate with President Obama:
Write to The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20500,
Send email to pmailto:president@whitehouse.gov or
Telephone (202) 456-1111.

The full text of bills and the Legislative Analyst’s summary are available on the California Legislature Information website (Click Link Here).

CNPS positions on bills are available at CNPS Legislative Report (Click Link Here).
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