Hi Redistricting Committee,

Thank you for your work. I live in Arcata, CA in Humboldt County, and would be considered to be in Zone A. I would like to comment in favor of keeping our district together, with the North Coast (Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, Mendocino, Sonoma, Lake, and Napa Counties).

Our coastal-moderated ecosystems share the same ecological history, which in turn has shaped the culture and economy of the area. The threats facing Northwest California are also similar, whether from sea level rise, drought, or climate change. Our environment and economy are best served by keeping Northwest California together.

Northern California’s coast and immediately adjacent areas share a common economy and culture; by contrast, we are less similarly aligned with our fellow residents to the east (such as Tehama, Siskiyou or Shasta County). These areas are more culturally conservative and their economies are still more tied to extractive economies, making them a poor “fit” with our area. Northwest California is often very rural, we are noticeably different from much of rural California. Environmental protection, love of public lands, and concern about climate change are values shared in Northwest California.

Best,
Rhiannon

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Rhiannon Lewis-Stephenson
Development and Communications Coordinator
Environmental Protection Information Center