

Wr401program

From: Erin Gillespie <glutenfreenfabulous@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2016 1:59 PM
To: Wr401program
Subject: Clean Water in the Klamath Depends on Dam Removal

Dear Staff and Members of the California State Water Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to support Clean Water Act compliance for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project. As you develop your EIR, we urge you to address the following:

-The dams impact the temperature of the water in the rivers, having drastic negative effects on the creatures whose lives depend on the river, namely the salmon who die before reaching their spawning grounds when the river is too hot. The increased temperatures also allow for toxic algae to thrive, which has the ability to kill creatures that depend on the river for life. This also impacts the health and wellbeing of humans who swim and fish in the river. The rights of the Native Peoples who live on the river to enjoy and care for the river are impacted in an unacceptable way. The dams are perpetuating cultural genocide as well as negatively impacting the ecology of the river. The river must reach the ocean with ease and the waters must be clean and in the correct temperatures to sustain life. Remove the dams.

- PacifiCorp has not demonstrated that it can achieve Clean Water Act compliance through their proposed mitigation measures. Therefore, we urge you to only issue a Clean Water certificate if it requires the retirement and removal of Iron Gate, Copco No. 1, CopCo No. 2, and J.C. Boyle dams from the Klamath River.

- We urge you to fully address your legal responsibility to protect California's water quality impairments from pollution originating in Oregon – particularly water quality impairments generated by J.C. Boyle and Keno dams and reservoirs.

- The EIR should address all water quality standards that have been developed for the Klamath River.

- Finally, it is unlawful to continue delaying mitigation of water quality impairments caused by PacifiCorp's facilities. We urge you to complete the EIR and issue a water quality certification requiring dam removal in a timely manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Erin Gillespie

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