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City of Crescent City
Where the Redwoods Meet the Sea

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February 20, 2019

Ms. Michelle Siebal
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
PO Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Lower Klamath Project

Dear Ms. Siebal,

Crescent City supports removal of the Klamath River dams as analyzed in the State Water Resources Control Board’s recent Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

Crescent City serves as the home port for numerous commercial and recreational fishing vessels. The fishing industry is a major source of income for the City and includes fishing, seafood markets, seafood processing and support for local businesses like marine repair and supply services, restaurants and grocery stores. Many of our residents depend on these industries for their livelihood.

The Klamath River was once the third-largest salmon-producing river on the West Coast, and salmon played a large part in our fishing industry’s prosperity. However, Klamath River dams blocked the migration of adult fish to historic upstream spawning grounds, greatly reducing salmon populations, and the region’s commercial fishing industry has been severely compromised by these reduced salmon runs.

Crescent City-based recreational fishing has suffered as well, putting an unwelcome drag on our economy and pressuring city budgets and services.

We strongly believe, based on the DEIR, that a free-flowing Klamath will revitalize both segments of our fishing industry, and in turn create jobs and bring revenue to Crescent City that will allow us to better serve our residents.

For the reasons outlined above, Crescent City supports the Proposed Project reviewed in the DEIR and looks forward to the benefits it will provide to our region.

Sincerely,

Blake Inscore
Mayor
City of Crescent City