

Thaler, Parker@Waterboards

From: Bradley Smith <bradleyporter_@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 4:56 PM
To: Thaler, Parker@Waterboards
Subject: Remove the Klamath Dams

While dams can greatly benefit society, they can also cause considerable harm to rivers. The dams in question on the Klamath River are prime examples of the later. (Even their owners know it). They were constructed during an era with the best available information possible at the time. Now in the 21st century we have learned a great deal more. These dams have depleted one of the greatest fisheries in the lower 48. Many people are unaware of the Klamath River's potential for productivity because they have never seen it in their lifetime since these dams were constructed. They have largely to blame for the degraded river ecosystems, and diminished recreational opportunities on nearly the entire length of the river! As a water quality hydrologist I have studied this first hand, the water becomes stagnant and warm, a breeding ground for harmful algae blooms creating a toxic soup that isn't even safe to touch in the upper reaches of the watershed. This harmful toxin, microcystis, has even known to kill people's dogs every year and is becoming a problem more and more into the future. Today, these dams are old, unsafe and no longer serve their intended purposes, they hold no water, create non-green energy, they are relics of a by-gone era. What are the true costs on a society of having these monoliths of crumbling concrete remain? Help create a healthy and safe-guarded future by removing these dams! It's time! It's time to progress with the best information science has to offer and the science doesn't lie.

- Bradley Smith
Klamath Falls, OR