

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

COMMENT SHEET

Environmental Impact Statement on the Draft Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River

Thank you for your interest in the Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River. Please complete the appropriate sections of this form to provide scoping comments. Written comments can be submitted at the Scoping Meeting, faxed to (530) 275-2441, e-mailed to sha-slo-klamath-LTP@usbr.gov, or mailed to:

Paul Zedonis, Bureau of Reclamation, Northern California Area Office,
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd., Shasta Lake, CA 96019

Comments should be received by August 20, 2015, to be considered in defining the scope of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. For more information about the project, visit [http://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/docs/long-term plan protect lower klamath 04-2015.pdf](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/docs/long-term%20plan%20protect%20lower%20klamath%2004-2015.pdf).

Name: monique Kirk E-Mail: _____

Organization and Address: _____

Hoopa ca 95848

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

my ^{2 year old} Daughter Jeannie got impetigo bad
from swimming in the river
it was over 105 and our water
was shut from the fires we had to
cool off at the river then we all
got impetigo

All comments become part of the public record.

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Name: Billy Kirk E-Mail: _____

Organization and Address: [REDACTED] Hoopa CA 95546

Phone (optional): _____

I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.

I prefer electronic communication.

I prefer paper mailings.

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We need nice water if makes us sick and it bad for ~~are~~ are fish

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Name: Alicia McGinnis E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: 
Loleta CA 95516

Phone (optional): 

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

We need our water, our water is our life and if the river is sick we will not be in good ceremonial feelings.

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Name: Erica Williams E-Mail: _____
Organization and Address: [Redacted] Fortuna CA 95540

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

I heard the fish have sores on them
are they ok to eat?

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Name: Roy Amman E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: Forestry

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

Need more water

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Name: Catrina Vial E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Organization and Address: [REDACTED]

Hesperia Ca 95546

Phone (optional): [REDACTED]

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I prefer electronic communication.

I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

We rely on the water for our life style that has
been us since the water began =!! We need
the water for life !!

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Name: Jada McCreedy E-Mail: _____

Organization and Address: _____ Hoopa CA 95340

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

Gimmie my damn water back!

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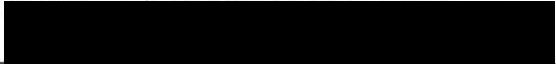
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Name: David Blane E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: HVT Forestry

Phone (optional): 

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

No fish for consumption, DANCES,
No Good DRINKING WATER. RIVER
HAS VISIBLY CHANGED & WARMED UP
LAST 2 YRS.

1
2
3

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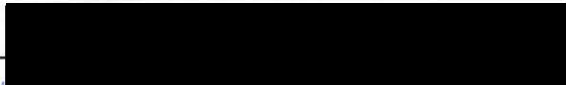
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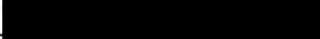
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Name: Aymee Perry E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: Yurok tribe / Hoopa
 Hoopa, ca 95546

Phone (optional): 

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

Our water isn't good for our tribal members to
to drink, or even swim in. The river is a huge part
of our culture and it is being kept from us.
It is hurting our fish they can't survive
in this water. Which hurts us as a valley
because it is such a huge part of our culture.

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Name: Lindsey Billings E-Mail: 

Organization and Address:  Heopka CA 95546

Phone (optional): 

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

Killing the salmon and the waters not good
to swim or drink. The river is a huge
part of our valley and community.

All comments become part of the public record.

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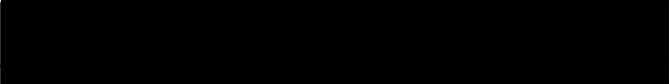
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Name: Stacy McCoy E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

We want our functional flows
Back

All comments become part of the public record.


COMMENT SHEET

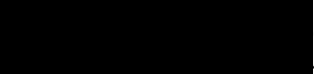
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Name: Leo C. III E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: Hoop valley Tribal member 6529 roll#


Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

The river is bad, they need to release some water.

Give our Water Back!

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Name: Violet Aubrey E-Mail: _____

Organization and Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
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Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

The big part of the valley live off the river and the water from the creeks. I didn't grow a garden this year due to the low water.

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Name: Karen Masten Skoglund E-Mail: [REDACTED]

Organization and Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
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Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

More water for the river - fish - people -
I will pass information on the the Native
Youth.

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Name: LINDA CRAWFORD E-Mail: _____

Organization and Address: _____

Hoopa Crawford

Phone (optional): _____

I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.

I prefer electronic communication.

I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

I am a Senior Citizen —
We are suffering from the smoke we
cannot breath - the river is so Low!
The helicopters CANNOT dip the
buckets in the river to pour
on the fires - it is too Low!

All comments become part of the public record.

We cannot breath -
we depend on water in the river
for lives - drinking - fish -
we have nothing!

I cannot Breath - No
fish cannot breathe Water

Please fold, staple, stamp, and mail.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Paul Zedonis
Bureau of Reclamation
Northern California Area Office
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd.
Shasta Lake, CA 96019



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

AUG 20 2015

Mr. Paul Zedonis,
Northern California Area Office
Bureau of Reclamation
16349 Shasta Dam Boulevard
Shasta Lake, California 96019

Subject: Notice of Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Long-Term Plan for the Protection of Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River, Humboldt County, CA

Dear Mr. Zedonis:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Federal Register Notice published July 14, 2015 requesting comments on the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's decision to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Long-Term Plan for the Protection of Adult Salmon in the lower Klamath River. Our comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

Reclamation is beginning the preparation of a DEIS to evaluate the effects of increasing lower Klamath River flows primarily with releases of water stored in Trinity Reservoir. The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce the likelihood and severity of fish die-offs due to pathogen infections. According to the scoping notice, in addition to pathogens, contributing factors to the fish die-off in 2002 were determined to be warm water temperatures, low water velocities and volumes, high fish density, and long fish residence times. The proposed action is intended to address these causes.

EPA understands the need to address salmonid health in the lower Klamath River, particularly during drier than normal hydrologic conditions. To assist in the scoping process for the project, EPA has identified several issues for consideration in the development of the DEIS.

Purpose and Need

The DEIS for the proposed project should clearly identify the underlying purpose and need for the project and for which alternatives are being proposed (40 CFR 1502.13). The *purpose* of the proposed action is typically the specific objectives of the activity, while the *need* for the proposed action may be to eliminate a broader underlying problem or take advantage of an opportunity.

The purpose and need should be a clear, objective statement of the rationale for the proposed project, as it provides the framework for identifying project alternatives. The DEIS should concisely identify why the project is being proposed, why it is being proposed now, and should focus on the specific desired outcomes of the project (e.g. protect habitat of threatened species) rather than prescribing a predetermined resolution.

Range of Alternatives

All reasonable alternatives that fulfill the project's purpose and need should be evaluated in detail, including alternatives outside the legal jurisdiction of Reclamation (40 CFR Section 1502.14(c)). The DEIS should provide a clear discussion of the reasons for the elimination of alternatives which are not evaluated in detail, including non-flow alternatives. In developing alternatives, include a discussion of the potential effectiveness of including habitat enhancement and restoration methods to reduce water temperatures to those that would support fish migration, particularly through the use of large woody debris and varying channel velocity.

A reasonable range of alternatives will include options for avoiding significant environmental impacts. The DEIS should clearly describe the rationale used to determine whether impacts of an alternative are significant or not. Thresholds of significance should be determined by considering the context and intensity of an action and its effects (40 CFR 1508.27). The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing NEPA state that alternatives should include appropriate mitigation measures not already included in the proposed action or alternatives (40 CFR 1502.14(f)).

The environmental impacts of the proposal and alternatives should be presented in comparative form, thus sharply defining the issues and providing a clear basis for choice among options by the decision maker and the public (40 CFR 1502.14). The potential environmental impacts of each alternative should be quantified to the greatest extent possible (e.g. acres of wetlands impacted; change in water quality).

Water Quality

Each of the Action Alternatives should include a robust discussion of impacts to water quality. This discussion should include identifying the applicable water quality standards and beneficial uses, including those for the lower Klamath River, the Trinity River and Reservoir, and the Sacramento River.

The analysis should include a description of the impacts from increasing flows to the lower Klamath in the late summer, including, but not limited to, any impacts to water quality, flow, and beneficial uses in the lower Klamath and Trinity rivers, and in the Sacramento River basin. We note that the Trinity River is a primary source of drinking water for the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The water quality analysis should address the alternatives' impacts to this beneficial use.

Coordination with Tribal Governments

Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments (November 6, 2000), directs federal agencies to establish tribal consultation and collaboration processes for the development of federal policies that have tribal implications, and is intended to strengthen the United States government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes.

The DEIS should describe the process and outcome of government-to-government consultation between Reclamation and each of the tribal governments within the project area, issues that were raised (if any), and how those issues were addressed in the selection of the proposed alternative. Tribal governments within the project area include the Yurok Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribe, Resighini Rancheria, Karuk Tribe, and Quartz Valley Indian Community.

Consultation for tribal cultural resources is required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Historic properties under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) are properties that are included in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or that meet the criteria for the National Register. Section 106 of the NHPA requires a federal agency, upon determining that

activities under its control could affect historic properties, consult with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer/Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO/THPO). Under NEPA, any impacts to tribal, cultural, or other treaty resources must be discussed and mitigated. Section 106 of the NHPA requires that Federal agencies consider the effects of their actions on cultural resources, following regulation in 36 CFR 800.

Executive Order 13007, Indian Sacred Sites (May 24, 1996), requires federal land managing agencies to accommodate access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites by Indian Religious practitioners, and to avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity, accessibility, or use of sacred sites. It is important to note that a sacred site may not meet the National Register criteria for a historic property and that, conversely, a historic property may not meet the criteria for a sacred site.

The DEIS should address the existence of Indian sacred sites in the project area. It should address Executive Order 13007, distinguish it from Section 106 of the NHPA, and discuss how Reclamation will avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity, accessibility, or use of sacred sites, if they exist. The DEIS should provide a summary of all coordination with Tribes and with the SHPO/THPO, including identification of NRHP eligible sites, and development of a Cultural Resource Management Plan.

Climate Change

We believe the Council on Environmental Quality's December 2014 revised *draft guidance for Federal agencies' consideration of GHG emissions and climate change impacts in NEPA*¹ outlines a reasonable approach to analyzing climate change issues, and we recommend that Reclamation use that draft guidance to help outline the framework for its analysis of these issues. Accordingly, if applicable, we recommend the DEIS include an estimate of the GHG emissions associated with the project, qualitatively describe relevant climate change impacts, and analyze reasonable alternatives and/or practicable mitigation measures to reduce project-related GHG emissions. In addition, we recommend that the NEPA analysis address the appropriateness of considering changes to the design of the proposal to incorporate resilience to foreseeable climate change. The draft and final EIS should make clear whether commitments have been made to ensure implementation of design or other measures to adapt to climate change impacts.

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More specifically, we suggest that the "Affected Environment" section of the DEIS include a summary discussion of climate change and ongoing and reasonably foreseeable climate change impacts relevant to the project, based on U.S. Global Change Research Program² assessments, to assist with identification of potential project impacts that may be exacerbated by climate change and to inform consideration of measures to adapt to climate change impacts. Among other things, this will assist in identifying resilience-related changes to the proposal that should be considered.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impact analyses describe the threat to resources as a whole, presented from the perspective of the resource instead of from the individual project. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR §1508.7). Discussions of cumulative impacts are usually more effective when included in the larger discussions of environmental impacts from the action (the environmental consequences chapter), as opposed to discussing cumulative impact analyses in a separate chapter. The DEIS should consider the cumulative impacts of other projects that may impact water availability and flows in the affected systems, including

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¹ www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/nepa_revised_draft_ghg_guidance_searchable.pdf

² www.globalchange.gov/

the California Water Fix, operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, alterations to Shasta Dam, the Trinity River Restoration Program, and climate change.

The DEIS should describe the methodology used to assess cumulative impacts. We recommend Reclamation consider the methodology developed jointly by EPA, the Federal Highway Administration, and the California Department of Transportation.³ While this methodology was developed for transportation projects, the principles and steps in this guidance offer a systematic way to analyze cumulative impacts for any project.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the preparation of the DEIS. Please send one hard copy and one CD of the DEIS to this office (mail code ENF-4-2) at the same time it is officially filed with our Washington D.C. Office. If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 947-4167 or prijatel.jean@epa.gov

Sincerely,



Jean Prijatel
Environmental Review Section

³ www.dot.ca.gov/ser/cumulative_guidance/approach.htm

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

COMMENT SHEET

Environmental Impact Statement on the Draft Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River

Thank you for your interest in the Long-Term Plan for Protecting Late Summer Adult Salmon in the Lower Klamath River. Please complete the appropriate sections of this form to provide scoping comments. Written comments can be submitted at the Scoping Meeting, faxed to (530) 275-2441, e-mailed to sha-slo-klamath-LTP@usbr.gov, or mailed to:

Paul Zedonis, Bureau of Reclamation, Northern California Area Office,
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd., Shasta Lake, CA 96019

Comments should be received by August 20, 2015, to be considered in defining the scope of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. For more information about the project, visit http://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/docs/long-term_plan_protect_lower_klamath_04-2015.pdf.

Name: *Marjorie Colgan* E-Mail: _____
Organization and Address: _____

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

Just keep protecting.

All comments become part of the public record.

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation


COMMENT SHEET

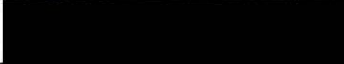
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Name: Laura Lee George E-Mail: 

Organization and Address: Individual Tribal Member

Herpa, CA 95546

Phone (optional): _____

- I would like to stay informed about the progress of the project. Please include my name on the mailing list.
 I prefer electronic communication. I prefer paper mailings.

Please write comments, questions or concerns below. Continue on the back or a separate sheet if necessary.

I have lived by the Trinity River for 69 years. I have watched the decimation of the fisheries, wildlife, and plants since the dam was built in 1964. Today as I look out at the river it is so low that I can wade across (about waist deep). We used to have to swim!! Today the Trinity River is clogged with moss and algae, is warm and plagued with bacteria. We dare not

All comments become part of the public record.

(over)

let our children play in the river. When the dam was built, there was guaranteed water flows for the Trinity River. Please adhere to the guarantees for water flows

We no longer can rely on the salmon runs to feed our family or to serve at our ceremonies.

We were never supposed to have to beg for "our" water for our religious ceremonies, yet that is what we are reduced to doing. Our ceremonies start on 8-16-15 and there are no fish or enough water to float our traditional Jugout canoes. Yet a recent trip to Bakersfield revealed many new orchards being planted in their desert.

Please fold, staple, stamp, and mail.

RECEIVED

AUG 17 2015

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AREA OFFICE



Paul Zedonis
Bureau of Reclamation
Northern California Area Office
16349 Shasta Dam Blvd.
Shasta Lake, CA 96019