

Klamath River Update



Clayton Creager - North Coast Regional Water Board

Erin Ragazzi - SWRCB Division of Water Rights

Marianna Aue - SWRCB Office of Chief Counsel

Parker Thaler - SWRCB Division of Water Rights

Item 3 - April 19, 2018 - Weed, CA

Photo:
Randy
Turner





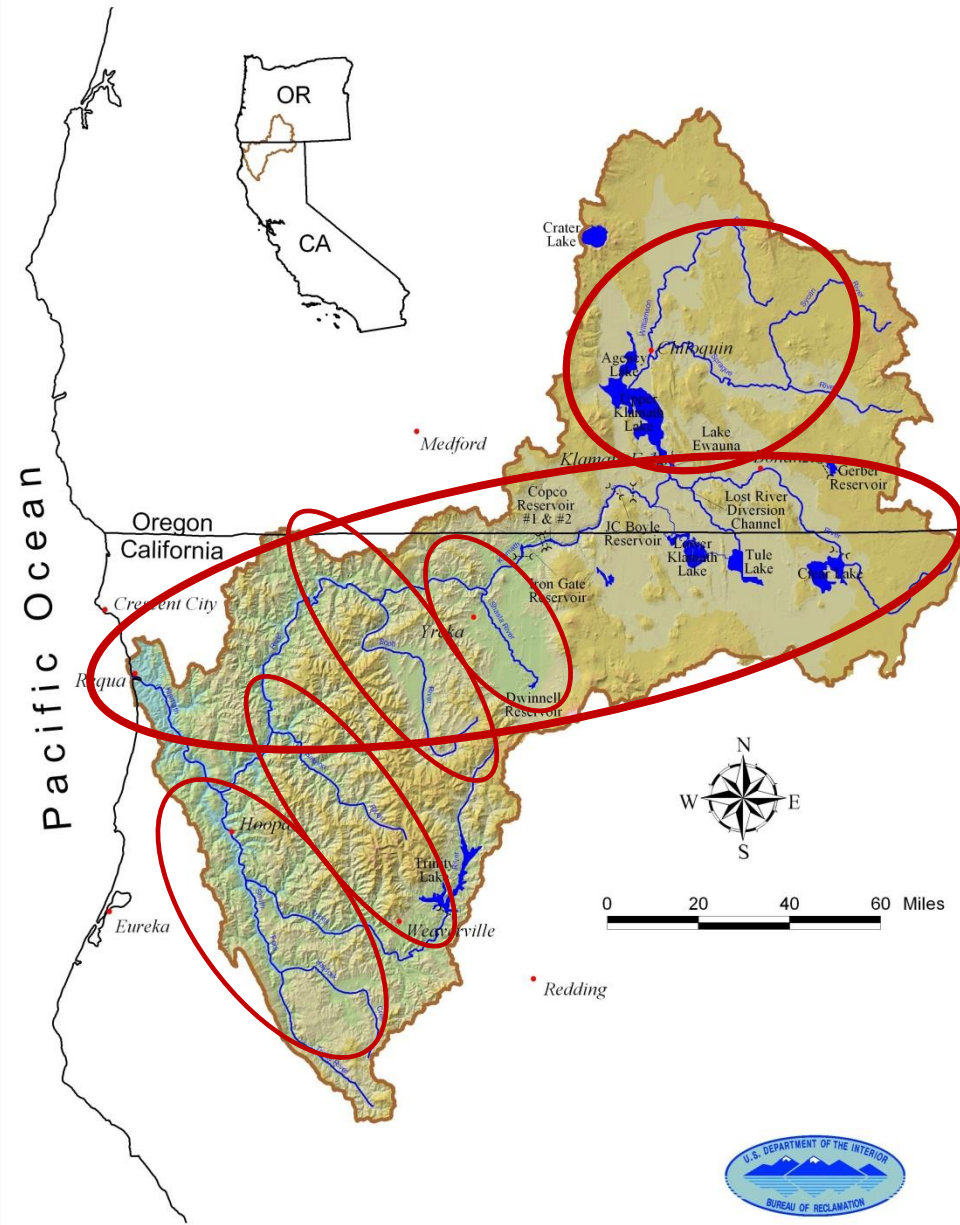
Klamath Presentation Outline

- TMDL Implementation – Clayton Creager
- Klamath Basin Integrated Fisheries Restoration and Monitoring Plan (IFRMP) - Clayton Creager
- Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC) - Clayton Creager
- Lower Klamath River Project Water Quality Certification – SWRCB: Erin Ragazzi, Marianna Aue, and Parker Thaler

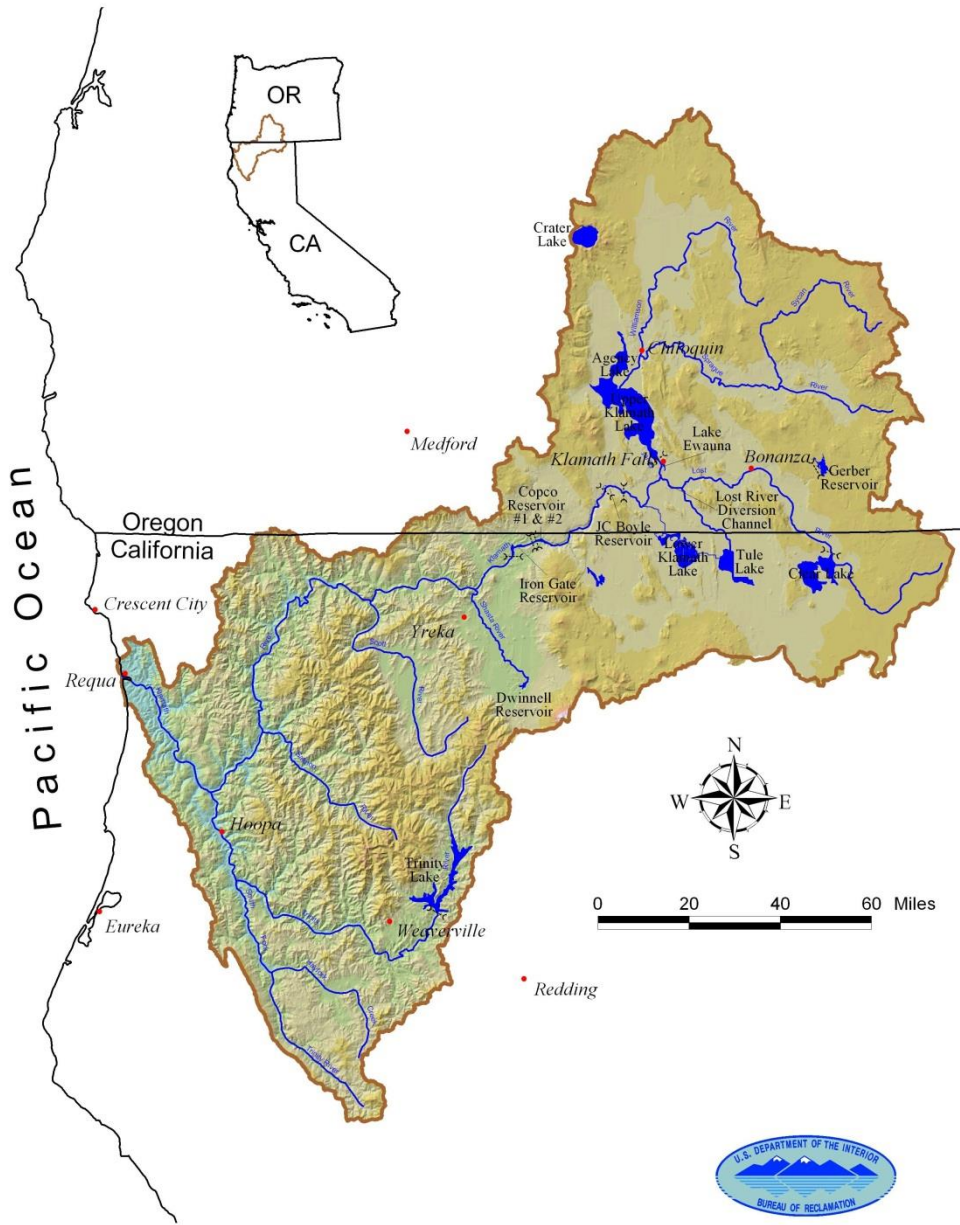
Klamath Basin TMDLs

- Trinity S. Fork, 1998 (sediment)
- Trinity, 2001 (sediment)
- Upper Klamath Lake, Sprague, Williamson, 2002 (temp, DO, pH, Chl(a))
- Salmon, 2005 (sediment, temp)
- Scott, 2006 (sediment, temp)
- Shasta, 2007 (DO, temp)
- Lost River, 2008 & 2010 (pH, nutrients, DO, temp)
- Klamath, 2010 (pH, nutrients, DO, temp, Chl(a), microcystin)

Klamath River Basin



Klamath River Basin



Klamath Basin TMDL Implementation

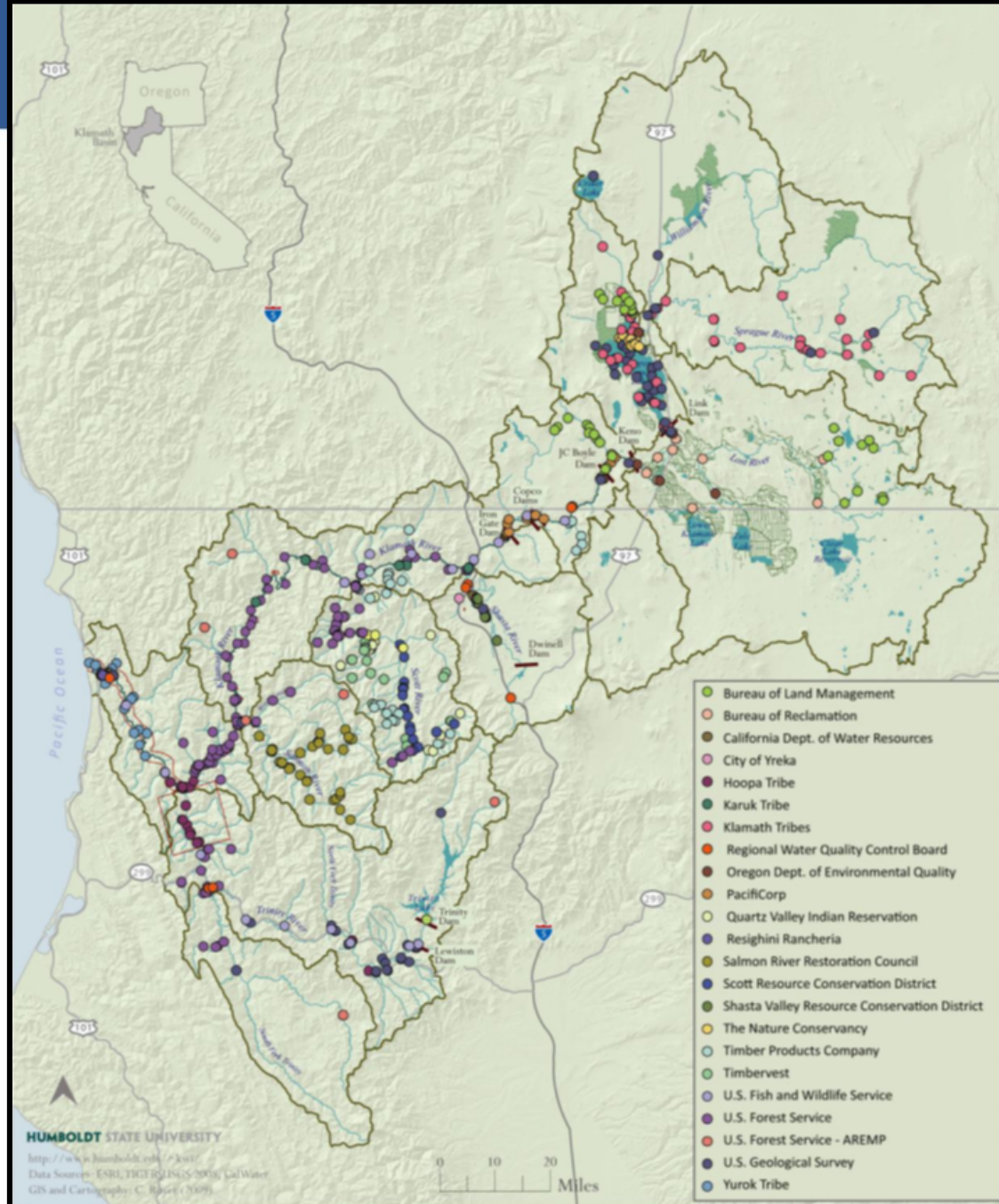
- 1) Klamath Basin Monitoring Program
- 2) Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement: Interim Measure 11 WQ Projects
- 3) Diffuse Source Treatment Wetlands
- 4) Watershed Stewardship Teams



1) Klamath Basin Basin Monitoring Program

- Key to Adaptive Management
- Funding Depleted
- May 2, 2018 may be last meeting

Item 3 - April 19, 2018



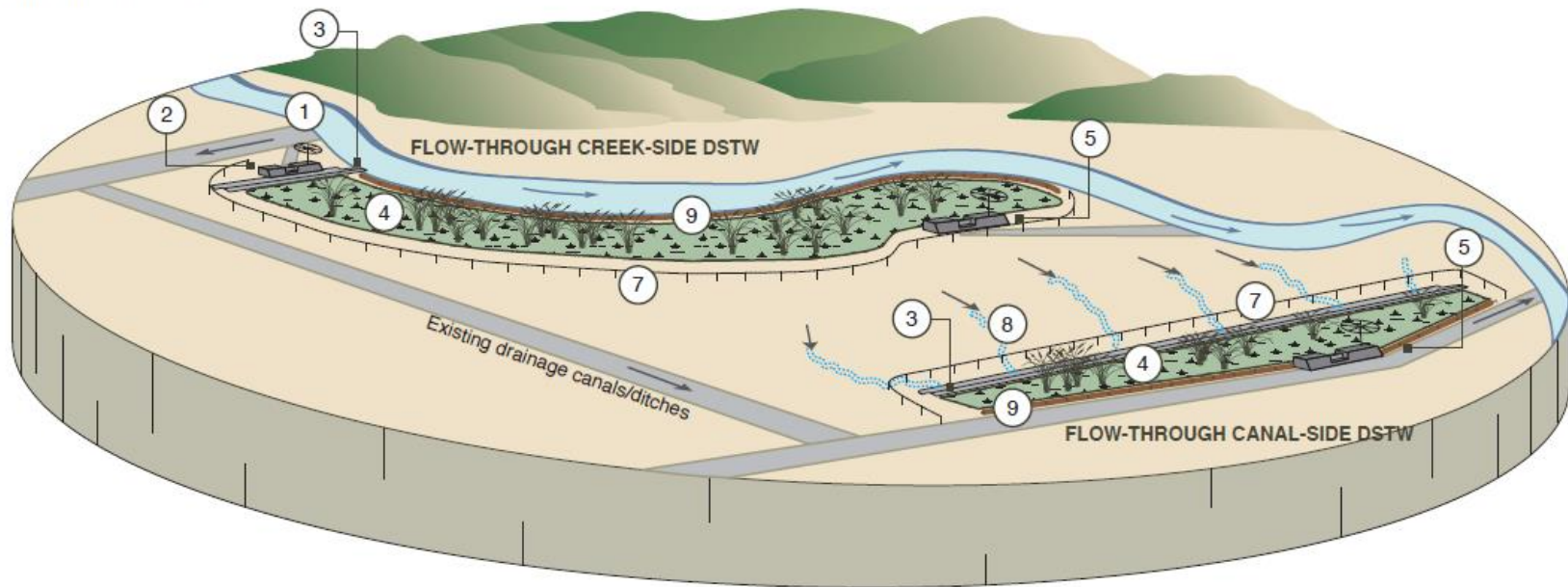


2) IM -11 WQ Improvement Projects

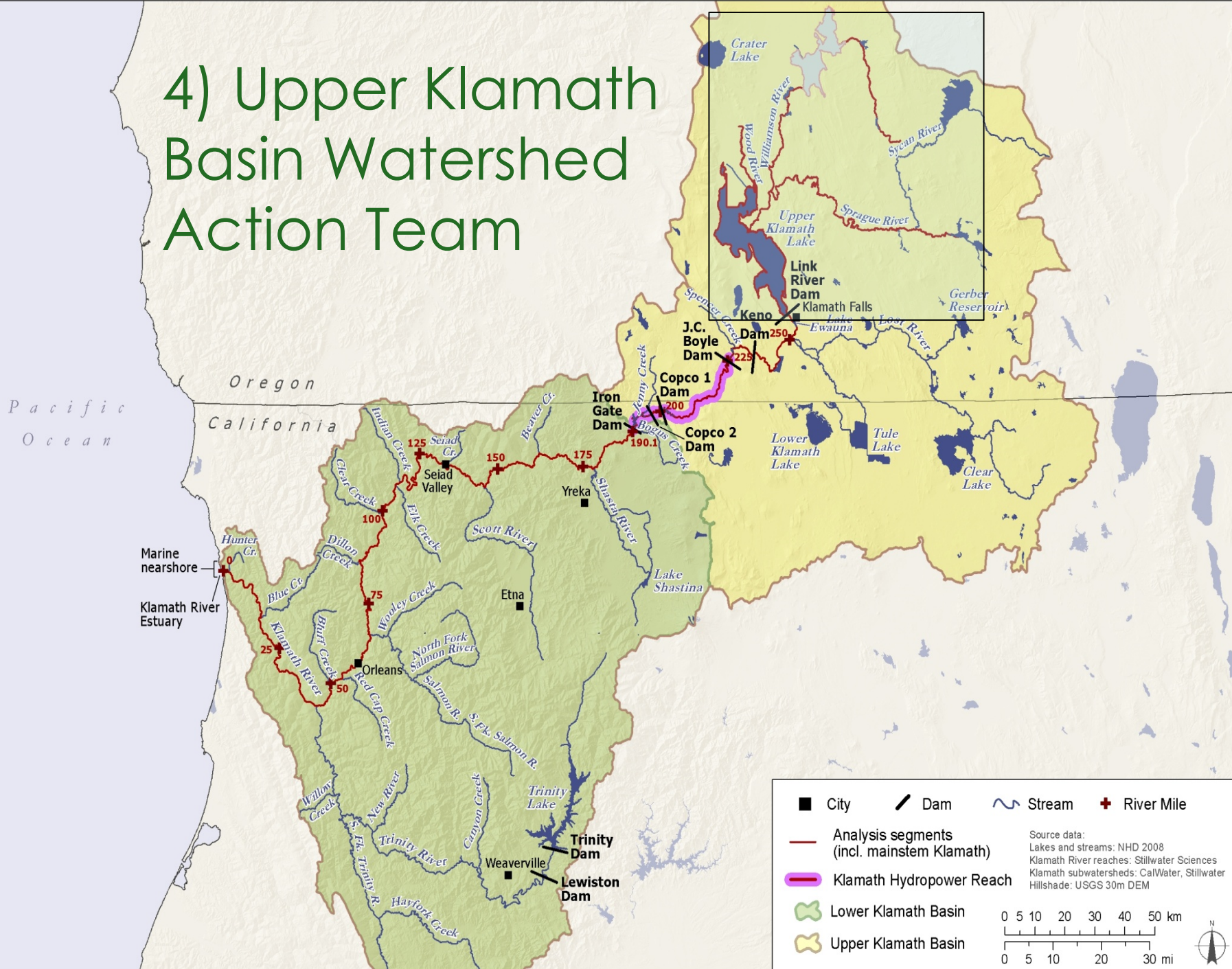
- \$5,400,000 at license transfer
- Priority list of projects
- Four categories of projects
 - ✓ diffuse source treatment wetlands
 - ✓ riparian restoration
 - ✓ lake fringe wetland restoration
 - ✓ agriculture water conservation piping
- Governance pending

3) Diffuse Source Treatment Wetlands

- Wood River: 4 DSTWs – SWRCB Discretionary Contract Fund and CA State Coastal Conservancy
- Sprague River: 6 DSTWs – NPS 319(h) & others



4) Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Team



City
 Dam
 Stream
 River Mile

Analysis segments (incl. mainstem Klamath)

Klamath Hydropower Reach

Lower Klamath Basin

Upper Klamath Basin

Source data:
 Lakes and streams: NHD 2008
 Klamath River reaches: Stillwater Sciences
 Klamath subwatersheds: CalWater, Stillwater
 Hillshade: USGS 30m DEM

0 5 10 20 30 40 50 km
 0 5 10 20 30 mi

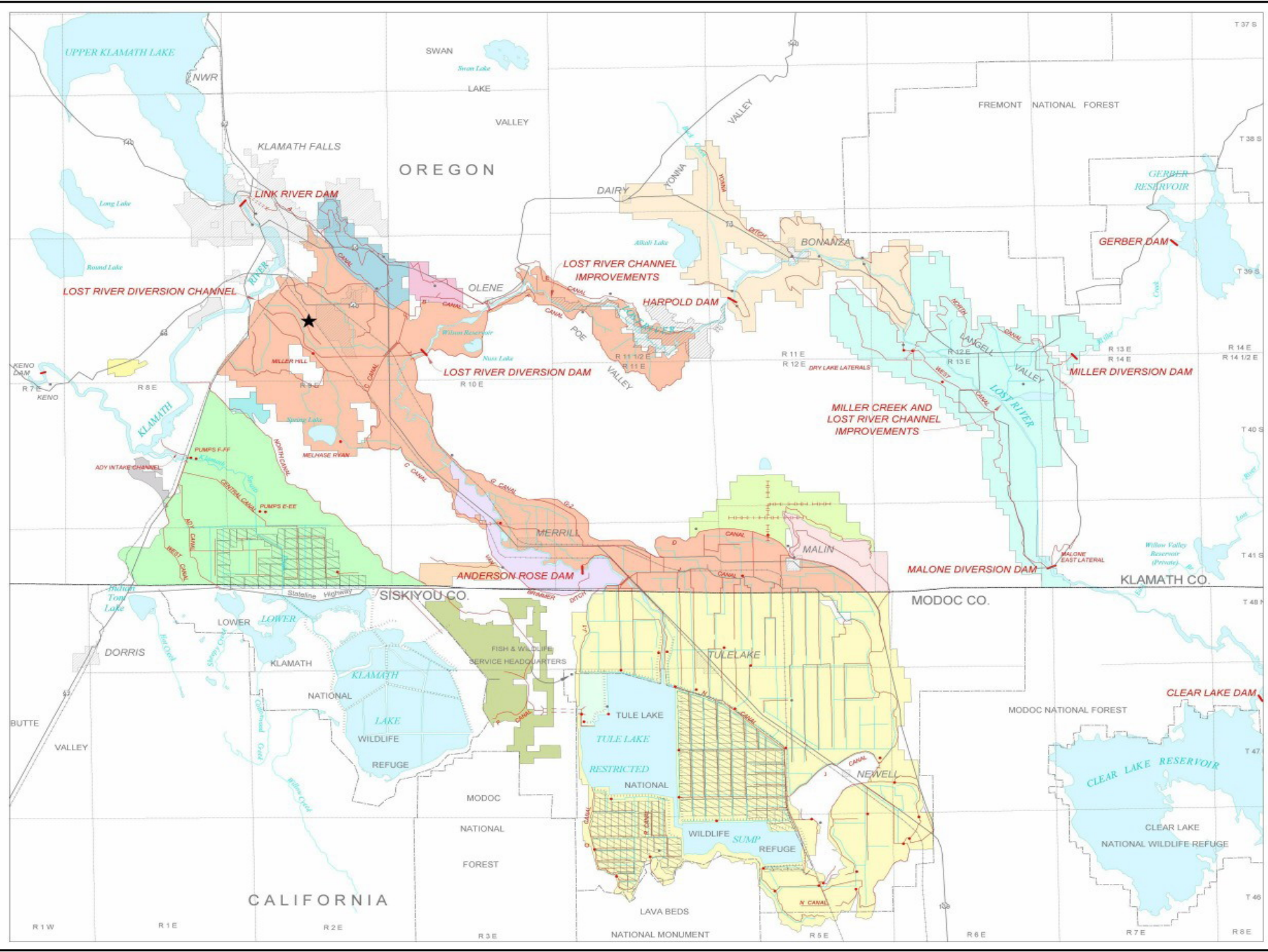
N



4) Upper Klamath Basin Watershed Action Team

- Upper Klamath Lake, Wood River, Sprague River, and the Williamson River
- Partners include: OR TNC, Klamath Tribes, TU, ODEQ, KWP, NCRWQCB, USFWS
- Developing draft adaptive management watershed action plan
- IM – 11 preferred list of projects

Item 3 - April 19, 2018





4) Lower Klamath Lake Watershed Stewardship Partnership

- Upper Klamath River, Lower Klamath Lake, Lost River, Klamath Irrigation Project
- Initial partners include USBR, USFWS, KWUA, IDs, ODEQ, KWP, & NCRWQCB
- Initiating charter / operating agreement
- Water conservation and wetland restoration

Integrated Fisheries Restoration and Monitoring Plan

- USFWS sponsored plan
- Planning Reaches:
Upper Klamath Lake,
Mid-River, and Estuary
- Federal & state
agencies, Tribes, &
NGOs
- Completion by 2020

Klamath Basin Integrated Fisheries Restoration and Monitoring Plan (IFRMP) Synthesis Report

FINAL REPORT

August 14 2017

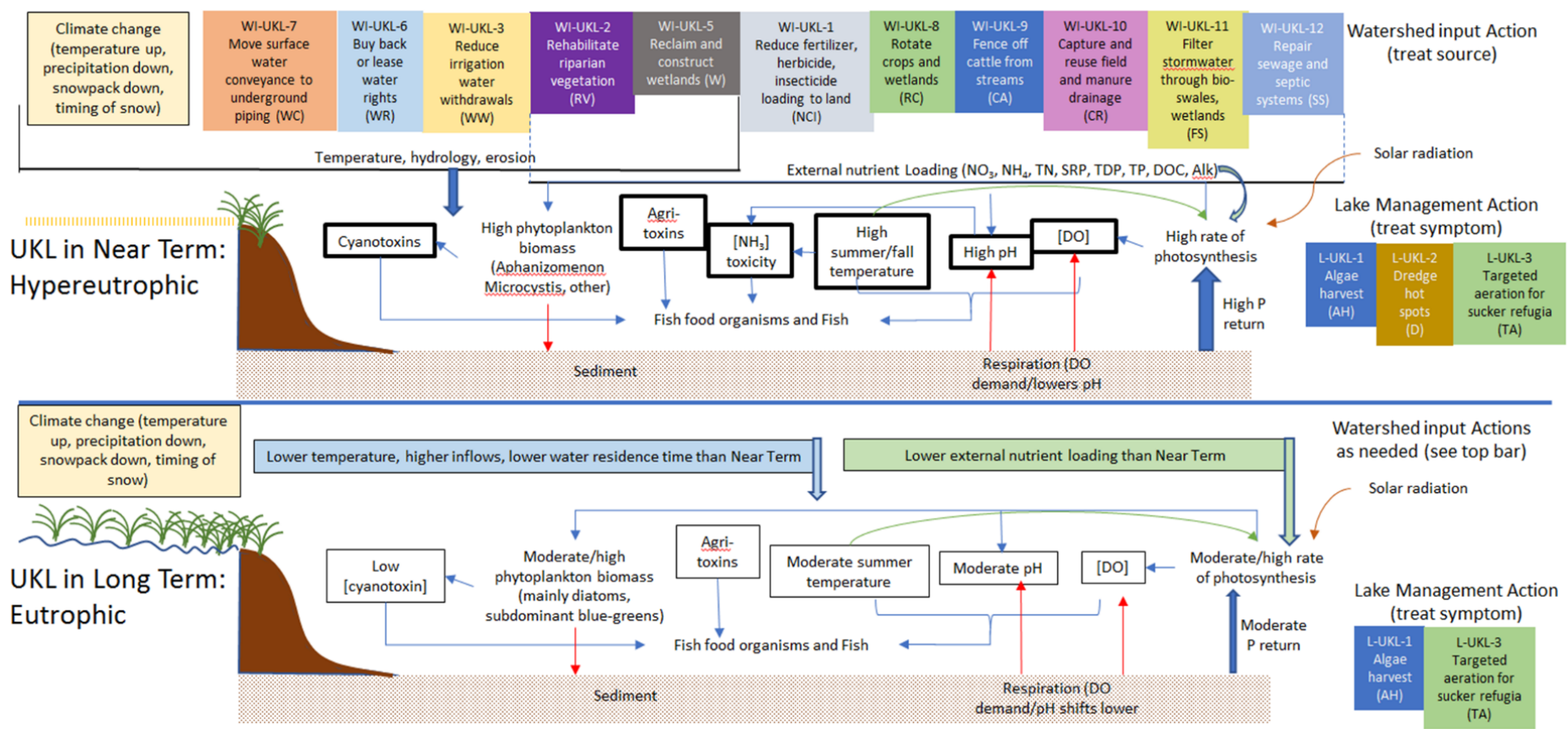
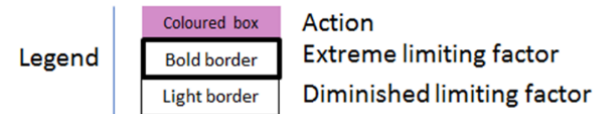


Prepared for the Pacific States Marine Fishery Commission

 ESSA

IFRMP Conceptual Model

Upper Klamath Lake sub-basin; Feb. 14, 2018





KRRC: Dam Removal and Restoration

- Dam removal date revised to 2021
- WQ Monitoring plan to assess post-dam removal
- Continuing ESA field assessments (e.g., spotted owl)
- Informal consultation on biological assessment (BA) NMFS



KRRC: Dam Removal and Restoration

- Regional Water Board providing permitting support for Iron Gate and Fall Creek Fish Hatcheries
- Geotechnical assessments of slope stability in reservoir areas underway
- Collection and cultivation for native plant seed bank
- Developing solicitations for design build contract for deconstruction of dams
- Working on post-dam recreation plan



SWRCB Lower Klamath Project Water Quality Certification

Erin Ragazzi – SWRCB Division of Water Rights
Marianna Aue – SWRCB Office of Chief Counsel
Parker Thaler – SWRCB Division of Water Rights

Photo: Randy Turner

State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Certification and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Update for Lower Klamath Project

**North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Meeting
April 19, 2018**

Parker Thaler
Senior Environmental Scientist, Specialist
State Water Resources Control Board

Presentation Outline

1. State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) & North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (North Coast Regional Board)
2. Lower Klamath Project (LKP) Overview
3. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
4. Water Quality Certification and CEQA
 - Current Status
 - Next Steps
5. Ongoing Coordination/Resources

North Coast Regional Board and State Water Board – Who Considers Clean Water Act, Section 401 Applications?

State Water Board

- Multiple Regions
- Hydropower Projects – licensed by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Water Diversions

Regional Board

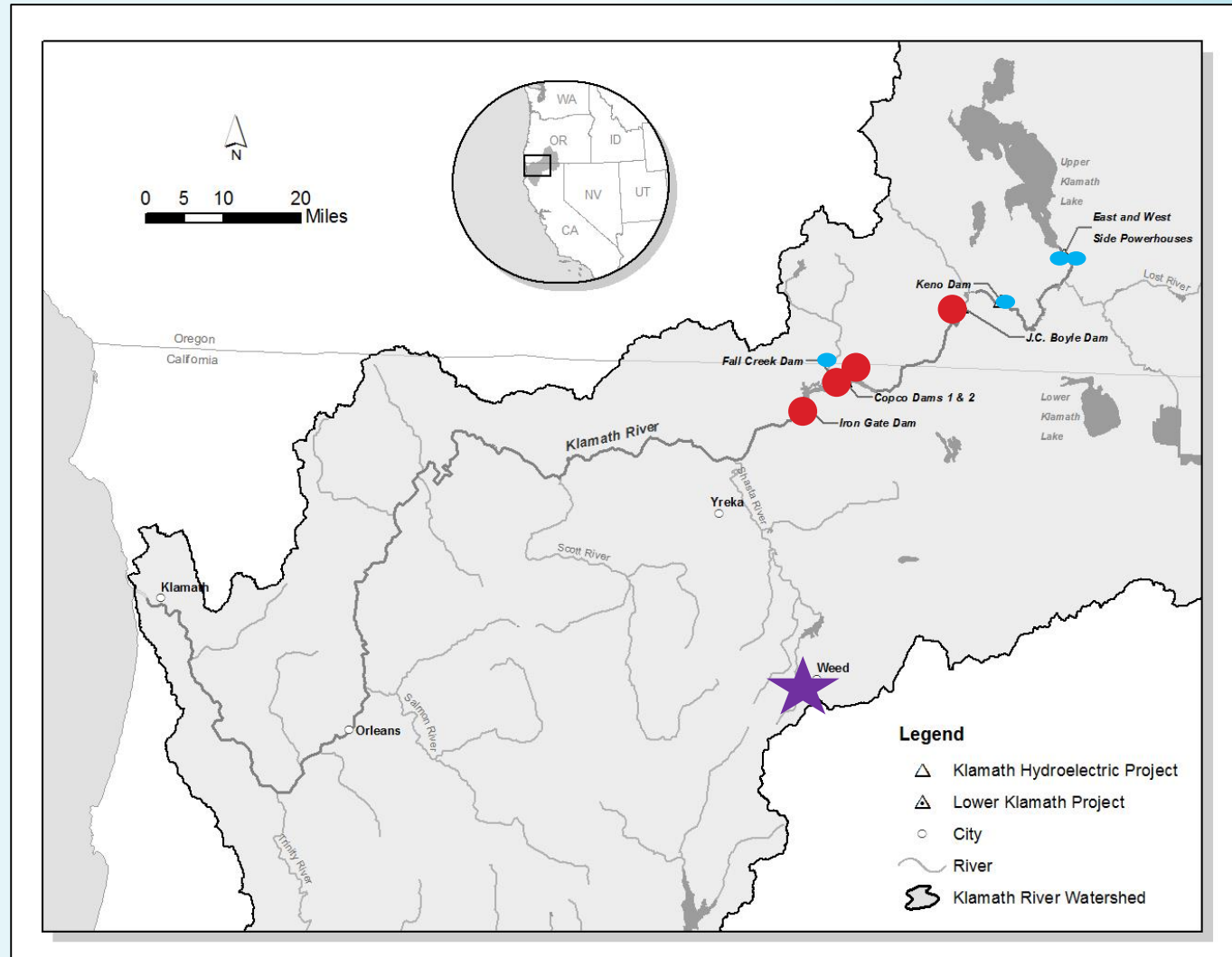
- All other actions requiring compliance with Clean Water Act Section 401

NOTE: State Water Board seeks comments from applicable Regional Board as part of considering Section 401 applications

See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, sec. 3855

Lower Klamath Project Overview

- ▶ East Side (OR)
- ▶ West Side (OR)
- ▶ Keno (OR)
- ▶ JC Boyle (OR)
- ▶ Copco No. 1 (CA)
- ▶ Copco No. 2 (CA)
- ▶ Iron Gate (CA)
- ▶ Fall Creek (CA)



Scope of Authority over Hydroelectric Licensing Actions: State Water Board and FERC

- ▶ FERC: Federal agency with broad authority to license all aspects of construction, operation, and decommissioning of hydroelectric projects
- ▶ State Water Board: Role is to certify whether action proposed before FERC (construction, operations, decommissioning) can meet water quality standards, and to impose mandatory conditions to protect water quality

State Water Board's CEQA Review

- ▶ CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) requires lead agencies to:
 - Undertake broad evaluation of project's potentially significant environmental impacts
 - Identify ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate those identified impacts, where feasible

Water Quality Certification

- ▶ Applications Filed (September 23, 2016)
 - PacifiCorp and KRRC filed joint license transfer application with FERC
 - KRRC filed decommissioning application with FERC
 - KRRC applied to State Water Board for water quality certification associated with pending FERC license surrender/decommissioning application

CEQA

- ▶ Notice of Preparation (December 22, 2016)
 - State Water Board issued a Notice of Preparation of an environmental impact report (EIR), per CEQA, to evaluate environmental impacts
- ▶ EIR Development (through present)
 - Tribal Consultation (Assembly Bill 52)
 - Development of Project Information
 - Development of Alternatives and Mitigation Measures
 - Consideration of Public and Agency Comments

Water Quality Certification/CEQA



Water Quality Certification/CEQA

State Water Board reviews and responds to comments, and prepares final Environmental Impact Report and Water Quality Certification, as appropriate



State Water Board will certify final Environmental Impact Report and takes a final action on water quality certification application



FERC continues its ongoing process to determine whether to approve KRRC's License Surrender Application

Continued Coordination


- ▶ California and Oregon State Agencies
- ▶ Federal Agencies
- ▶ Local Agencies
- ▶ Tribal Consultation
- ▶ Klamath River Renewal Corporation

**Find additional information on
State Water Board's Lower Klamath Project webpage:**

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/lower_klamath_ferc14803.shtml

Receive email updates:

- under Email Subscriptions (Water Rights)
- signup for "Lower Klamath Project License Surrender"



Elephant (not) in the room

- Re-consultation of Klamath Irrigation Project Biological Opinion (BO) flows



Klamath River Update

Questions / Comments

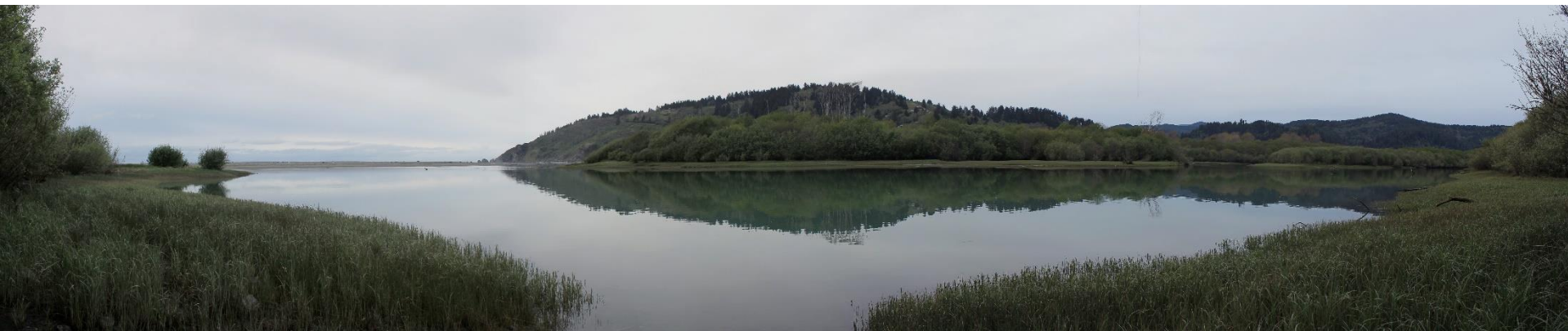


Photo: Randy Turner