

From: Hebrard.Mike@CALFIRE
To: [Wr401program](#)
Subject: Public Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Lower Klamath Project License Surrender
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 14803
Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 12:07:17 PM
Attachments: [Public Comments on Draft EIR.pdf](#)

Please accept this Public Comment document. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Hebrard
CNR Assistant Region Chief
CAL FIRE
Cell (530)744-4472

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 653-7772
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



February 25, 2019

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

RE: Public Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Lower Klamath Project License Surrender Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 14803

Ms. Siebal,

The Water Board Environmental Impact Report found that the removal of the dams would have a “significant and unavoidable” impact due to the “elimination of a long-term water source for wildfire services” and a potential substantial increase in response time for suppressing wildfires.

The possible impact of the dam removals on CAL FIRE's wildland firefighting is a very complicated issue. It is fair to say the possible impact of the dam removal on firefighting would depend on a variety of factors including: Location of fire, type of fire, fire behavior, firefighting resources assigned to the fire, time of year when fire occurs, the water flow of the Klamath River on the day of the fire, etc.

Ultimately, the impact of the dam removals will have to be evaluated on a case by case basis. CAL FIRE is used to fighting wildland fires in a large variety of circumstances and will adapt to whatever conditions we encounter at each fire. Also, CAL FIRE understands that the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC) will be working with CAL FIRE on KRRC's Fire Management Plan to address the analyzed issues.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Hebrard".

Mike Hebrard
Assistant Region Chief
CAL FIRE Northern Region