

From: orleyskfalls@aol.com
To: [Wr401program](#)
Subject: Lower Klamath Project
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019 1:47:12 PM

RE: Klamath River Dam Removal Project

We purchased our property in Siskiyou County at Iron Gate Lake Estates in 1999. We began our fight to save the Dams on the Klamath River in 2003-2004, we then built our home at Iron Gate Lake Estates in 2005. We have one of the best wells ever drilled for our water and now the KRRC is wanting to put a meter of some sort into our well to see if Dam Removal will effect our water, levels, silt etc... We have declined this procedure and will continue to fight the Dam Removal. As a resident and property owner we implore you to please stop the removal of these Dams.

Being raised down river since the 60's we understand what the river can do during very wet years and very dry years. We also know how the hydroelectric dam is providing clean energy, renewable energy to over 70,000 residents and businesses in Northern California and Southern Oregon. The Dams play a very vital part to this county.

As a resident and property owner here in Siskiyou County I implore you to please stop the removal of these dams. I feel that the real reason behind the removal is more of one of dollars than it is a betterment for the river and fish. The dams play a very vital part to this county. They provide clean energy, flood control, enough water in the river for the salmon to return and spawn, water for wild fire protection, a bird and turtle refuge, and many more benefits. What happens to all of us property owners when all of this is destroyed by dam removal?? No one wants to answer our questions or concerns. Will this effect our water tables? Will all of us that have properties near the existing lakes lose our wells? Who will compensate us for our devaluation of property if our wells are gone? Where will the CDF and local volunteer fire departments obtain water for fighting fires? What about the current established eco-system that exists here? What about the local farmers and ranchers that depend on the lakes and rivers for crops and livestock? The wildlife, ranchers, and residents, do we not have a voice in this matter? Pacific Power have nothing to lose as they will come out on top either way this goes as does KRRC.

This year with all of the wildfires in Northern California and Southern Oregon these lakes were crucial in the fighting of these devastating fires. Although we were evacuated the Irongate Lake saved us and many others from total burn out. The waters from all of the lakes in this removal project were used to supply water for all of the water drops done by fire fighters. We have been speaking with the Cal-Fire employees and whether or not the big wigs in Cal-Fire agree or not is irrelevant, the employees, the ones with the boots on the ground and fighting these wildfires will tell you KRRC plans of dry hydrants and/or deep pools in the river to be used for firefighting is not a viable solution. It has been stated by a local firefighters, with concern, that in this time with the kind of fires that we have experienced and will very likely be experiencing in the future, along with the loss of life and property that we have seen, it is just beyond belief that dam removal with loss of such water resources is still on the table. The reservoirs are used every year and the loss of these resources are inconceivable, and could result in loss of life and property!

In addition to the environmental impact, the fire fighting resources, potential devaluation of property, and the strong possibility of a change in the groundwater tables and loss of our wells, there is the loss of a source of clean energy from the hydro-plant on Irongate Lake. Ex Governor Jerry Brown just signed into law that all energy in the state of California by 2045 must be from a clean energy source. So why would it be agreeable to take out an existing clean energy source only to turn around and have to build another?? This defies all logic and reasonable sense.

As a resident of Irongate Lake Estates I find KRRC's plan for the removal and restoration totally unacceptable. It is filled mostly with speculation of how it will go and end up, with no sound science backing any of it up. And their plan for just piling up the debris of concrete, dirt, clay and whatever else in to hills, covering it up with topsoil and planting local plants on it to make it blend in to surroundings totally

absurd. If this is so appealing to them then let them build these hills of debris in their back yards!!!!

You have the opportunity to stop this tragedy now instead of waiting until it all goes terribly wrong and reaping the consequences of the error of your decision to remove these dams.

Ultimately when all is said and done and this whole scenario goes totally array we will hold **YOU** responsible and liable.

Sincerely,
Charlene and James Walden
Residents of Iron Gate Lake Estates
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