

Klamath River Renewal Project

A cooperative effort to revitalize the Klamath River

August 2019

The Definite Plan For the Lower Klamath Project

On June 28, 2018, KRRC submitted the “Definite Plan for the Lower Klamath Project” with the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC) for the proposed removal of J.C. Boyle, Copco 1, Copco 2, and Iron Gate dams.

The Basics

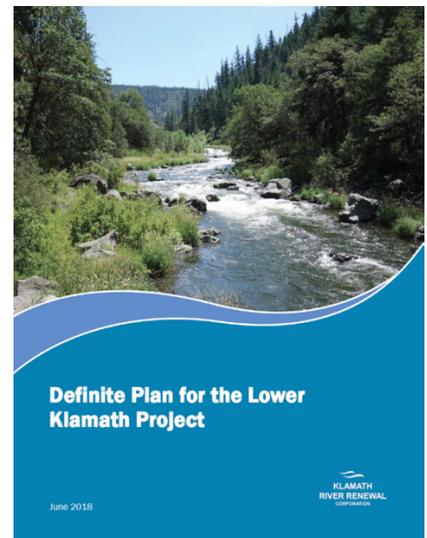
What: The Definite Plan is a 2,300 page document that provides comprehensive analysis and detail on project design, dam removal, reservoir restoration, and other post-deconstruction activities.

Where: KRRC filed this plan with FERC as part of its application to transfer the license for the four dams. The full plan is available at www.klamathrenewal.org/definite-plan.

Who: KRRC’s technical representative, AECOM (www.aecom.com), was the primary author of the plan, under the direction of KRRC’s Executive Director and Board, and with support from KRRC’s legal, technical, and outreach teams.

Why: The Definite Plan provides the information required by FERC to process the license transfer application associated with the four Lower Klamath Project dams, followed by the license surrender application. The Definite Plan also fulfills one of KRRC’s duties under the KHSA. Finally, the Definite Plan is part of the proper due diligence and planning necessary for KRRC to undertake the project of dam removal and site restoration.

What’s Next: FERC and the Independent Board of Consultants (BOC) will review the Definite Plan and may return to KRRC with further questions, information requests, or recommendations on the plan. KRRC will incorporate guidance from the BOC to modify the Definite Plan. Ultimately, FERC will use the information in the Definite Plan, as well as other information provided by KRRC, to make a decision on the transfer application. If FERC approves the transfer application, it will then turn to the surrender application.



J.C. Boyle Dam (Credit: River Design Group)

Plan Highlights

Project Planning Details

- **Reservoir Drawdown (Section 4):** the process for safely and slowly drawing down all three reservoirs over a two to three month period.
- **Dam Removal (Section 5):** the proposal for how and when KRRC will deconstruct the dams following drawdown.
- **Reservoir Restoration (Section 6):** the 5- to 10-year plan to restore formerly inundated lands through revegetation.
- The project must undergo thorough regulatory analyses and technical studies before dam removal may begin. At this time, KRRC anticipates a 2022 drawdown and removal, but that date is subject to change pending FERC and other regulatory agency actions.



Copco Access Road (Credit: AECOM)



Klamath River (Credit: Salmon River Restoration Council)

Cost Update (July 2019)

KRRC has updated its estimate of project costs: our estimate of the most probable project cost is \$434 million. This reflects KRRC's latest understanding of operational expenses, planning, engineering, procurement, environmental compliance, construction, construction management and monitoring. KRRC has concluded that it has sufficient funding (including contingencies) to implement the project based on its extensive analysis and its budget of \$450 million.

Plans for Local Improvements and to Address Local Impacts

The Definite Plan provides new information on many topics, including:

Flood Proofing (Section 7.7): the proposal to make improvements to the few dozen structures in the 18 miles below Iron Gate Dam which will be at slight increased risk of flooding in a 100-year flood event after dam removal.

Groundwater Wells (Appendix N): a plan to identify potential changes to groundwater levels following reservoir drawdown and to perform monitoring as well as mitigations where needed.

Construction Impacts (Section 5): a plan to minimize impacts from construction traffic, noise, dust, and waste.

Roads & Bridges (Sections 5 & 7.4): a list of improvements KRRC will make to roads, bridges, and culverts for the purpose of construction access and post-construction rehabilitation.

Replacing Yreka's Waterline (Section 7.5): several options under evaluation to replace the City's waterline prior to drawdown of the reservoirs.

Recreation (Section 7.6 and Appendix Q): a programmatic draft Recreation Plan that identifies the types and possible locations for recreation facilities that KRRC could develop as part of the dam removal project.

Fire Suppression (Appendix O1): KRRC plans to develop a map of pools for air-based crews as well as permanent dry hydrants from the Klamath River and larger tributaries for ground-based firefighting efforts. KRRC's plan also includes ways to reduce risk and respond to fires during the dam removal project.

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