**REGULATORY PROGRAM**

**PERMIT ACTION**

**Lower Klamath Dam Removal**

APPLICANT: Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC)

CORPS FILE NUMBER: 2003-279850

AREA: Upper Klamath River, Siskiyou County, CA and Klamath County, OR

DESCRIPTION: The applicant proposes to remove four dams (J.C. Boyle, Copco No. 1, Copco No. 2, and Iron Gate) on the Klamath River located between River Mile 234 to 193. The Proposed Project includes the deconstruction of the J.C. Boyle Dam and Powerhouse, Copco No. 1 Dam and Powerhouse, Copco No. 2 Dam and Powerhouse, and Iron Gate Dam and Powerhouse, as well as associated features. Associated features vary by powerhouse, but generally include: powerhouse intake structures, embankments and sidewalls, penstocks and supports, decks, piers, gate houses, fish ladders and holding facilities, pipes and pipe cradles, spillway gates and structures, diversion control structures, tunnels, aprons, sills, tailrace channels, footbridges, powerhouse hazardous materials, transmission lines, switchyards, a remnant cofferdam near Copco No. 2 Dam, portions of the Iron Gate Fish Hatchery, and various buildings.

The Proposed Action’s primary activities to be performed through in-water work include dam and ancillary structure removal, temporary work pad and access road construction, temporary and permanent road/culvert/bridge upgrades, assisted sediment evacuation within the mainstem of the Klamath River and high-priority tributaries, restoration in the former inundated reservoir areas, Klamath River tributary reconnection, City of Yreka water supply line construction, Fall Creek Hatchery modifications, construction of boat ramps at new permanent recreation sites, and adaptive management related to restoration. To access the dams for deconstruction, the Renewal Corporation would perform a controlled reservoir drawdown using both existing and modified infrastructure. Dam demolition would occur over approximately four months using multiple techniques, including blasting and hydraulic excavators. Anticipated import materials include gravel, sheetpile or H-piles, topsoil, seed and mulch materials, ready-mix concrete, reinforcing steel, mechanical equipment materials for the road, bridge and culvert improvements/replacements, and signage. Staging areas and disposal sites would also be created for each of the dams within the Proposed Project Limits of Work, and offsite waste disposal would likely be hauled to the Yreka Transfer Station (Class III sanitary landfill). Hazardous materials would be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations. Following dam removal activities, the temporary fill associated with the aforementioned activities will be removed, and grading and re-contouring will occur during restoration per the applicable grading plans.

ISSUES: The project spans two states and requires close coordination with the Portland District. Continuing high levels of public and tribal interest both for and against dam removal. The project represents one of the largest dam removal efforts in the history of the U.S. and has been in the works for over 20 years. Several federally recognized tribes are involved.

STATUS: the San Francisco District has been designated as the lead district, with Portland district support. FERC as the lead federal agency will be preparing the NEPA document and conducting necessary consultations. The Corps has been designated as a cooperating agency from FERC. The public notice is being finalized. Water quality certifications have been received from both states.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

* California 1st Congressional District, Congressman Doug LaMalfa
* California 2nd Congressional District, Congressman Jared Huffman
* Oregon 2nd Congressional District Cliff Bentz

POINTS OF CONTACT:

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