

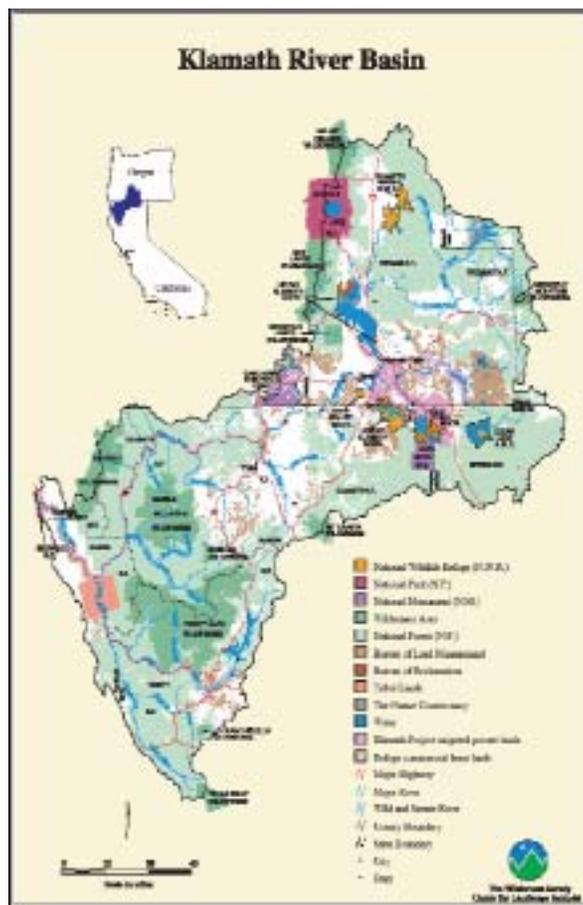
Klamath River Dam Removal and Sedimentation Studies

Project Description

In 2008, at the request of the States of Oregon and California and three Indian Tribes, the Secretary of the Interior entered into negotiations with hydropower producer PacifiCorp over removal of four of its dams on the Klamath River. The negotiations culminated in an Agreement in Principle (AIP) signed by the Governors of California and Oregon, the President of PacifiCorp, and the Department of the Interior in November 2008.

The AIP calls for the Secretary to undertake an investigation and make a Secretarial Determination by 2012 whether the benefits of dam removal outweigh the detriments. The parties are to address and quantify the potential benefits, liabilities, environmental risks, and effects on downstream resources resulting from dam removal.

This investigation is the primary focus of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA).



Project Benefits

The engineering, biological and economic analyses of the effects of dam removal and the study of sedimentation behind the dams will allow a multi-agency team to:

- Develop information regarding the benefits and costs of dam removal including the disposition of sediments behind the dams and dam removal strategies and sequencing.
- Develop important information regarding the benefits of dam removal to fishery resources in the Klamath River.
- Complete the required Federal and State environmental compliance processes for the Secretarial Determination effort allowing extensive public input.

Budget Information

Recovery funding: \$4 million.



For more information

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