United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Klamath Basin Area Office
6600 Washburn Way
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603

IN REPLY REFER TO

JUN 04 2002

KO-700
RES-3.10

Subject: Klamath Project 2002 Annual Operations Plan

Dear Interested Parties:

Enclosed is the **Klamath Project 2002 Annual Operations Plan.** This Plan is being provided for your information.

Sincerely,

For Dave Sabo
Area Manager

Enclosure

June 4, 2002

Klamath Project
2002 Annual Operations Plan

Introduction This memorandum describes the 2002 Annual Operations Plan (Plan) for the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Klamath Project (Project), which is located within the Upper Klamath River Basin in southern Oregon and northern California. This Plan, consistent with prior years, describes Project operations from June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2003, based upon current and expected hydrologic conditions.

Reclamation has completed consultation (May 31, 2002) with National Marine Fisheries Service and Fish and Wildlife Service on the species that are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. Reclamation notified the two services of its decision on June 3, 2002, to operate in conformance with the Biological Opinions (BO).

Water Operations Planning Process Reclamation has prepared the 2002 Plan to serve as a planning aid for interested parties. A long-term planning process for Project operations from April 2002 through March 2012 is ongoing.

Streamflow Forecast The Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) April 1 forecast, at a 70% exceedance, indicates the inflow volume to Upper Klamath Lake to be approximately 333,000 acre-feet during the period of April through September. This year's conditions are projected to be characterized as a "below average" water year type, as defined by the planning model (KPOPFOR). The forecast at a 50% exceedance (385,000 acre-feet) also characterizes the water year type as "below average." The May 1 forecast of inflow volume has not changed appreciably from the April 1 forecast. The April 1 streamflow forecast was used in the development of this Plan.

2002 Operations The 2002 Plan provides a water supply for Project purposes while staying within the operations regime observed from water year 1990 through water year 1999 (ten-year period), consistent with the findings of the National Research Council's Interim Report of February 2002. The observed values for the lake levels and river flows that occurred during the ten-year period were used to develop operating criteria. Operations are also consistent with the BOs' Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives for a below average water year type.

Table 1 - 1990 through 1999 Averages for Below Average Water Year Type		
Date	Klamath River Flows Below Iron Gate Dam[1] (Cubic Feet per Second)	Upper Klamath Lake Elevations (Feet)
2002		
June 1-15	959	
June 16-30	746	4142.1
July 1-15	736	
July 16-31	724	4140.7
August 31	1000	4139.6
September 30	1300	4138.9
October 31	1345	4138.8
November 30	1324	4139.0
December 31	1621	4138.8
2003		
January 31	1334	4139.5
February 28	1806	4141.7
March 1-15	2190	
March 16-31	1896	4142.7

Note: Down ramping rates below Iron Gate Dam: (1) decreases in flows of 300 cfs or less per 24-hour period and no more than 125 cfs per four -hour period when IGD flows are above 1,750 cfs; or (2) decreases in flows of 150 cfs or less per 24-hour period and no more than 50 cfs per two-hour period when IGD flows are 1,750 cfs or less.

Change in Conditions In the event that conditions are significantly different than forecasted, this Plan will be reviewed and adjustments made as appropriate.

Coordination and Consultation Reclamation will continue to seek information from and consult with various groups and individuals concerning the 2002 operations. These groups will include, but will not necessarily be limited to: tribal governments, Project water users, PacifiCorp, other Federal agencies, local government agencies, state agencies, and the public.