

Hoopa Valley Tribe Press Release

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Hoopa Valley Tribe oppose upper Klamath Basin Agreement because of its linkages to KBRA and its degradation of Tribal water rights

Hoopa, Ca. The Hoopa Valley Tribe opposes the Upper Klamath Basin Water Agreement (Agreement) because the Agreement threatens the long term survival of Klamath-Trinity River salmon fishery that the United States holds in trust for our Tribe under federal law. Here's why:

- 1) In 2010, the Secretary of the Interior and California's and Oregon's governors held a signing ceremony for the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA) and the Klamath Hydro Settlement Agreement (KHSa) . Those agreements call for \$1 billion infusion of federal funds and have not been approved by Congress. Our Tribe objected to those agreements because they would damage our water and fishing rights. We will continue to oppose them until our rights are protected.
- 2) As a result of ongoing adverse water management policies and drought conditions California's Klamath River salmon fishery faces critically low water supplies and severely degraded water quality for the third year in a row.
- 3) In the twelve years since the 2002 Lower Klamath River adult salmon die off--the worst ever recorded--the Departments of the Interior and Commerce have used Trinity River water to offset chronically low flow conditions on the lower Klamath River caused by water withdrawals in Oregon.
- 4) The Department of the Interior agreed to develop a long term Lower Klamath flow management plan in 2013. The Agreement does not account for the Department's commitment to a long term flow plan. Instead, the Agreement reallocates 30,000 acre-feet of Upper Basin Klamath water among claimants in Oregon under terms that virtually assures that none of the water will reach the Klamath River in California.
- 5) The Department, along with our Tribe, the Yurok Tribe, and the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations, are in litigation with CVP contractors who dispute the usage of Trinity River water to compensate for lower Klamath River flows.
- 6) Representatives of the States of California and Oregon are pressing legislative agendas in the U.S. Congress (S. 2016, S. 2198, H.R. 3964, H.R. 4039, H.R. 4239) that have no regard for the

laws that support the Klamath River basin's tribal, sport and commercial salmon fishery in California.