



May 13, 2024

Camille Calimlim Touton
Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-001
SENT VIA EMAIL

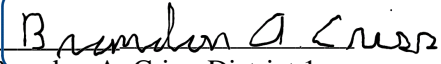
Subject: Increase the Klamath Project Water Supply

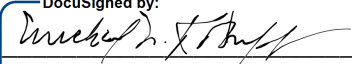
Dear Commissioner Touton:

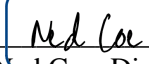
The counties of Klamath, Oregon, and Modoc and Siskiyou, California (Tri-Counties) are calling for the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to immediately revise the Klamath Project allocation to provide full water deliveries for 2024 from Upper Klamath Lake and the Klamath River. In early April the Tri-Counties sent a similar letter requesting a full allocation, and we were disappointed by Reclamation’s announcement of less than two-thirds of irrigation needs. Current hydrologic conditions and snowpack are more than adequate to provide a full allocation. In fact, recent precipitation events have required flood control operations be initiated.

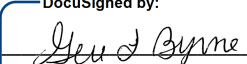
It appears that current Klamath Watershed restoration activities are having a negative impact on balancing the needs of irrigation, refuges, lake levels, and river flows. We want to be a good partner on restoration activities, but not to the detriment of balancing the system. Anything less than a full allocation to the Klamath Project is unacceptable, especially given adequate water supplies for fisheries, and recent efforts, spearheaded by Klamath Project irrigators, to secure water deliveries to the Tule Lake and Lower Klamath Lake National Wildlife Refuges.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Brandon A. Criss, District 1
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

DocuSigned by:

Michael N. Kotsch, District 3
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

DocuSigned by:

Ned Coe, District I
Modoc County Board of Supervisors

DocuSigned by:

Gen Byrne, District V
Modoc County Board of Supervisors

DocuSigned by:

Derrick DeGroot
Klamath County Commissioner

cc: Congressman Doug LaMalfa
Congressman Cliff Bentz