



OPPortunities

Bringing You the Latest News on the OPP

Volume I, Issue 6

Technical Memorandum No. 7

Dry year conditions in the Upper Klamath Basin, coupled with priorities arising from the initiation of the judicial phase of the most complex adjudication in Oregon's history, temporarily pulled resources from the Klamath Water and Power Agency (KWAPA), resulting in the delayed release of On-Project Plan (OPP) Technical Memorandum (TM) 7.

TM 7—Proposed Program and Implementation/Administration Stages of the OPP—will build upon TMs 1- 6 to develop a strategy to align water supply and demand in light of a limitation on diversion of diversion of Klamath water for use in the Klamath Project that will arise under the KBRA in the future if certain events have occurred.

A combination of option categories—including water conservation

and efficiency, other selected measures, groundwater and demand management—will be included in the Proposed Program to provide flexibility. Because of its infeasibility, Storage options will not be included in the Proposed Program.

The concept of “blocks” (see Table 1) was developed to provide a suggested approach to guide implementation and assist in how best to utilize the categories of options to meet supplemental water need in any given year.

The approach to the Proposed Program is to: 1) Pursue water conservation and efficiency project in order to reduce demand; 2) Facilitate the use of groundwater in a sustainable manner as necessary to meet the supplemental water need; and 3) As a “last re-

sort” and if necessary, compensate landowners to reduce demand through demand management activities (temporary cropland idling).

TM 7 is currently in draft form and has been reviewed by the On Project Plan Advisory Committee (OPPAC). The final draft of TM 7 and a Summary Report will be presented to OPPAC for review in early 2014. Public meetings are scheduled for January 2014 to present TM 7 to the local community and to discuss other aspects of the OPP.

This edition of OPPortunities summarizes TM 7 and describes other recent Klamath water developments that impacted the final release of TM 7 and completion of the OPP.

Table 1: Summary of Proposed Program Blocks

Time Period to Define and Estab-	Block	Estimated Quantity	Source	Description
2015–2017	A	Up to 20 TAF	Water Conservation and Efficiency and Other Selected Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recent water conservation projects Recirculation (Klamath Straits Drain to LKNWR, and TID Sump 1A) Permanent shift from surface to groundwater on limited acreage
2015–2021	B	Up to 50 TAF	Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater substitution quantity based on the dry year average per USGS optimization model
	C	Up to 25 TAF	Groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional pumping to reach peak pumping in dry year optimization scenario per the USGS optimization model
	D	Up to 30 TAF	Demand Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full and partial year

Welcome to OPPortunities!

You are reading the sixth edition of a series of newsletters that have been issued periodically over the course of the past two years.

The focus will be exclusively on providing updates on the On-Project Plan (OPP).

Public Meetings Scheduled Prior to Finalization of the On-Project Plan

January 28 - 6pm, Klamath Basin Extension Center, Klamath Falls

January 29 - 2pm, Civic Center, Merrill

See page 9 for more details

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OPP Mission Statement

Develop, through an open, transparent, and collaborative interdistrict approach, an integrated plan that provides a strategy with various options for aligning water supply and demand consistent with the KBRA to preserve the On Project Plan Area agricultural, industrial, and municipal economies, and environmental resources.

Summary of Proposed Program

The Proposed Program is KWAPA's long-term strategy developed as part of the OPP to permanently align supply and demand. As specified in the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA), the Proposed Program will be conducted in two stages - implementation (2015- 2022) and administration (2022 and beyond).

Additionally, key efforts including the surface and groundwater measurement and monitoring will be critical to the success of the Proposed Program in both the implementation and administration stages.

The implementation stage will focus on making the necessary agreements, constructing facilities, and coordination with the Klamath Basin National Wildlife Refuge Manager to allow for implementation of the Proposed Program. This stage will include infrastructure im-

provements to improve water management and efficiency, as well as permanent agreements with those landowners interested in foregoing from use of surface water by either utilizing groundwater and/or idling lands temporarily and infrequently.

"Actions taken within this stage will assist toward the ultimate implementation of the Proposed Program," said Marc Van Camp, of the OPP consultant team. "It will also inform KWAPA as to the target quantities identified in the proposed Blocks and lessons learned during the implementation stage."

The administrative stage of the Proposed Program will occur once implementation has been completed, and will include the identification of the supplemental water need each year and how best to meet need for a given year utilizing the agree-

ments, and tools developed during the implementation stage.

Supplemental water need (as described in TM 4) will vary each year, and is anticipated to range from approximately 0 – 100,000 acre-feet based on historic hydrology. Development of the supplemental water need estimate each year, as well as how best to utilize the options included as part of the Proposed Program will be determined by the KWAPA Board with guidance provided by the proposed Operations Committee and KWAPA staff.

The implementation and administrative stages are detailed further on Pages 4-5 of this edition of OPPortunities.

A summary report that provides a condensed overview of the OPP and all of the TMs is under development and will be publicly released in early 2014.

Technical Memo Approach to Developing the OPP

TMs and OPP Development Phases Explained

The OPP is being developed on a "build-as-you-go" approach to accommodate input from its irrigation constituents, partners, and OPP stakeholders. To support this, the OPP is being developed through a series of Technical Memorandums (TMs) that will build upon one another and culminate in a summary document.

"From a communications perspective, the TM-based approach provides a useful tool to generate consistent, timely and focused updates to stakeholders on progress being made on the OPP," said Dan Keppen, who provides outreach consulting for the OPP consulting team.

The OPP Work Group has completed TMs 1-6; you can see them in their entirety by going to www.kwapa.org.

OPP Development

The development of the OPP is divided into four distinct phases to assist in the overall planning and resource allocation effort.

Phases 1 through 3 encompassing the completion of TMs 1-6—are now complete. The individual TMs are summarized in a related article on Page 3 of this edition of *Opportunities*. As an ongoing effort, each of the Phases included outreach efforts and implementation of an

agreed upon communication plan.

Phase 4 is now underway and is scheduled to finish in February 2014. Before the completion of Phase 4, the NEPA/CEQA compliance effort with the Bureau of Reclamation will begin, with expected completion in 2015(see *inset box, this page, for more on NEPA/CEQA*).

Since the last edition of *Opportunities* (March 2013), TM 6 has been completed. Much of the work completed on the OPP in recent months relates to TM 7, which is the primary focus of the current edition of *Opportunities*.

What is NEPA? - The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a federal environmental law that establishes procedural requirements for all federal government agencies to identify the environmental effects of proposed federal agency actions.

What is CEQA? - CEQA, or the California Environmental Quality Act, is a statute that requires California state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental impacts of new projects and to avoid or mitigate those impacts, if feasible.

Relationship of TM 7 to Previous TMs

The latest technical memorandum is the seventh in a series of TMs to develop the OPP for KWAPA. The content of TMs 1 through 6 is as follows:

- TM 1 identifies the project goals/objectives and approach for development of the OPP.
- TM 2 identifies the water supply and operations for the OPP Area (OPPA).
- TM 3 estimates individual irrigation district water requirements/demands within the OPPA.
- TM 4 estimates the supplemental water need of the OPPA.
- TM 5 presents the surface water “flow path” within the OPPA
- TM 6 identifies the water management and supply options for the OPPA.

TM 7 differs from TM 1 through TM 6 in a fundamental way, says Marc Van Camp, (MBK Engineers), with the OPP consulting team.

“In particular, TM 7 describes how KWAPA will be in a position, by the OPP implementation deadline—March 1, 2022 - to assure on an on-going basis, supply and demand will be in alignment in the OPPA,” said Mr. Van Camp. “TM 7 is thus a strategy and proposed action or sets of proposed actions that are based on, and informed by, the previous TMs.”

For example, TM 4 provides insight on the foreseeable difference between supply and demand that may exist and need to be developed under an OPP or similar undertaking. TM 6 identifies tools (options) that can be used to eliminate the gap, including groundwater substitution (see Figure 2, below).

“TM 7 proposes the available tools, how they will be brought to bear, and the extent to which each will be used,” said Mark Oliver, with CH2M HILL.

An example of how the tools outlined in TM 7 might be administered is included in the

inset text box on this page. This example is an extremely simplified outline and is provided for purposes of illustration only. There are a great many possible strategies and combinations of options. Therefore, this initial version of the OPP identifies a framework or a strategy for proceeding to align water supply and demand.

As new information becomes available it may be necessary for KWAPA to modify or deviate from this current strategy. TM 7 begins with discussion of the key water needs identified in TM 4. The options that have been carried forward from TM 6, and “whittle them down” based on what actually appears feasible and desirable are then identified.

A broad description of the options evaluated in previous TMs which have led to the Proposed Program of the OPP is provided. Detail concerning the nature of landowner contractual arrangements - based on input from the OPPAC as to what is feasible - is also included in TM 7.

Sample Year Example of Administration of OPP (For Illustrative Purposes)

Starting Year Conditions

Assumed hydrologic conditions:

- 2001 inflows
- Previous two years dry and each required +50 TAF groundwater pumping
- Prior year monitoring indicates groundwater levels are low

Confirmed during Implementation Stage

- 20 TAF from Block A, “Water Conservation & Efficiency”
- Contractual agreements with willing participants in place

Determine / Meet Supplemental Water Need

Operations Committee estimates supplemental water need:

- TM 4 identifies a supplemental water need of 70 TAF
- Current knowledge of Operations Committee and Block A allows for a reduction in TM 4 estimate by 20 TAF to 50 TAF

Actions to meet the supplemental water need of 50 TAF:

- 30 TAF of groundwater + 20 TAF from demand management

Measure, Monitor & Report

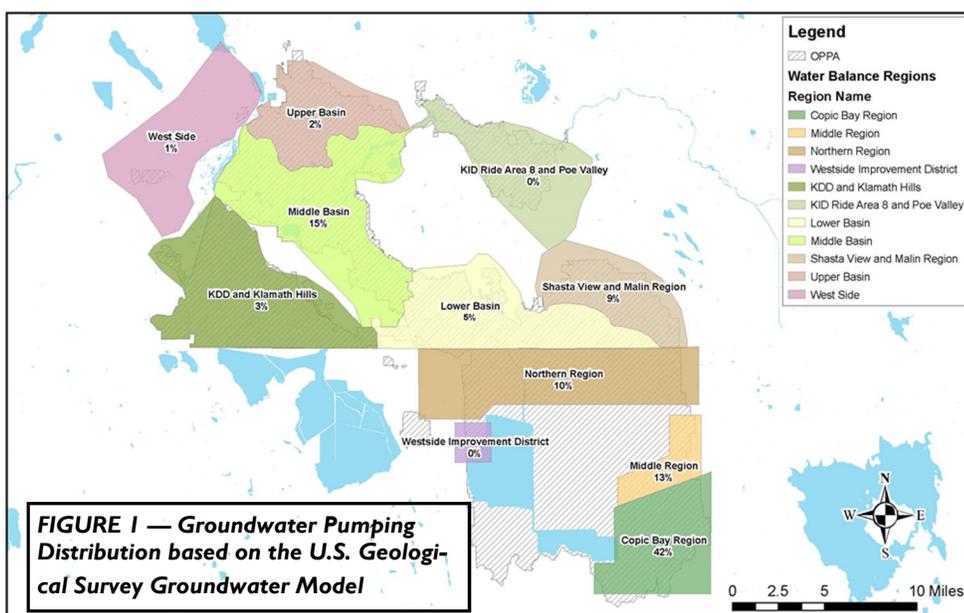


FIGURE 1 — Groundwater Pumping Distribution based on the U.S. Geological Survey Groundwater Model



On-Project Plan Advisory Committee

Bob Flowers - Ady District Improvement Company

Shane McDonald - Enterprise Irrigation District

Ed Bair - Klamath Basin Improvement District

Luther Horsley - Klamath Drainage District

Rocky Liskey - Klamath Hills District Improvement Co.

Dave Cacka - Klamath Irrigation District

Luke Robison - Malin Irrigation District

Curt Mullis - Pioneer District Improvement Company

Jason Chapman—Poe Valley Irrigation District

Gary Derry - Shasta View Irrigation District

Pat Patterson - Sunny Side Irrigation District

Earl Danosky - Tulelake Irrigation District

David Jensen - Van Brimmer Ditch Company

Steve Kandra - Westside Improvement District

Implementation Stage (2013-2021)

Implementation of the Proposed Program will include a variety of activities including:

- Infrastructure design and improvements installation
- Development and signing of landowner agreements
- Identification and installation of improved measurement approaches and devices

- Refinement and implementation of an improved groundwater monitoring program

- Development of necessary technical information and approaches to support the administration phase

KWAPA will gain knowledge during the implementation stage which will assist in the utilization of the various options developed in TM 6 that were subsequently included as part of the Proposed Program to assist in meeting supplemental water need as well as with respect to the quantity and pattern of DIVERSION.

Securing the ability to utilize the quantities in each category will require the installation of facilities for some options (e.g. water conservation and efficiency projects) while others will require permanent agreements be entered into with individual landowners (e.g. groundwater and demand management).

In the case of water conservation and efficiency projects, the installation of a given project would result in water being available in all years subsequent

to project completion. Water made available through contractual agreements would be utilized as necessary through making a “call” in a given year based on the terms of contracts entered into during the Implementation Stage. Water made available through a call affecting lease lands would result from the application of the Proposed Program as approved by the Refuge Manager.

“Blocks” of Options

The concept of “blocks” (see Table 1) was developed to provide a suggested approach to guide implementation and assist in how best to utilize the categories of options to meet supplemental water need in any given year.

“The block approach is intended to provide guidance related to the pursuit of activities within the OPPA (including lease lands) in the context of timing and water supply source,” said Mark Oliver (CH2M HILL).

Priorities

As a first priority, it is proposed that specific conservation and efficiency projects be designed, constructed and operated in a manner that would provide for a permanent decrease in future supplemental water need.

Additionally among the other applicable actions is the development of agreements with willing participants to provide for a permanent shift from surface water to groundwater use in limited geographic areas. The total amount of water anticipated from these efforts toward reducing future supplemental water need is estimated

to be up to 20,000 acre feet.

In general, demand management remains a “last resort” action.

The need for utilizing options within the groundwater and demand management categories to assist in meeting supplemental water would increase if options within the water conservation and efficiency and such agreements could not be fully implemented.

Confirmation of the quantity of water produced by conservation and efficiency projects will require the improved ability to track water use.

“The ability to better track water use will also improve water management resulting in additional potential efficiencies,” said Mr. Van Camp. “In support of this improved surface and groundwater measurement and monitoring will be developed and fully implemented which will utilize and improve on the existing measurement and water management approach.”

This improved measurement will also support the accurate monitoring of DIVERSION amounts and be a critical part of the Proposed Program in both the implementation and administration stages, says Mr. Van Camp.

In addition to projects proposed as part of the water conservation and efficiency category, supplemental water needs will be met through the sustainable use of groundwater.

“Groundwater will be a key component each year supplemental water need is required to be met,” said Hollie Cannon, KWAPA Executive Director.

.....Continued on Page 5

Administration Stage (2022 and Beyond)

The administration of the Proposed Program developed as part of the OPP is the long-term alignment of supply and demand, using the tools developed during the implementation stage.

Administration of the Proposed Program will require coordination and input amongst parties/stakeholders on an annual basis to support KWAPA in the decision making process to determine: 1) annual supplemental water need; 2) which contracts to call upon; and 3) review and utilization of ongoing monitoring and reporting.

Decisions each year as to which contract(s) to call upon will be determined based on a review of what quantity of water is needed (supplemental water need), how the Proposed Program was operated

during the previous years, and input from the technical staff and program participants.

Input will include review and analysis of effects of groundwater pumping as evident by the groundwater basin response (groundwater elevations) by the USGS, OWRD, or similar entity, as well as use of the USGS model in order to guide future groundwater use.

The improved surface water measurement and monitoring will inform the identification of supplemental water need as well as ensure DIVERSIONS are tracked properly.

“The lessons learned through additional technical efforts to support the administration of the Proposed Program will provide valuable insight into the

administration process,” says Marc Van Camp (MBK Engineers). “The need to allow for flexibility and adaptability in administration will be important to ensure the sustainability of the actions for the Proposed Program.”

This approach will provide the potential for proper consideration of potential future adjustments, as necessary to meet the goals and objectives of the OPP.

Administrative Procedure

Following the determination of the Limitation on DIVERSION on March 1 of each year, the KWAPA Board (with input from staff and Operations Committee) will determine the supplemental water need, if any.

As necessary, the contractual arrangements procured in the implementation stage will be called upon to meet demand. The “call” on contractual arrangements will need to take into account the lessons learned in the implementation stage along with the previous year’s administration of the Proposed Program.

For example, if a field was idled the previous year, and sufficient redundancy is in place to fallow fields in a different location within the OPPA to meet demand, that field (and contract) may not be called upon to participate in that year’s program.

Similarly, arrangements dictating groundwater use will be based on the regional distribution to be developed and confirmed in the implementation stage.

Implementation Stage (Continued from Page 4)

It is estimated that groundwater could provide up to 50,000 acre-feet as required, and up to 75,000 acre-feet in particularly dry years.

Use of groundwater will be tracked based on a regional distribution approach to be confirmed and finalized with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), which has developed a sophisticated modeling tool for the local area. Use will also need to be monitored utilizing the existing monitoring network. Improvements to the network will be identified and

implemented as necessary, and the USGS groundwater model will continue to be used and calibrated to supplement the on the ground monitoring effort as also necessary.

Landowner Agreements

Meeting supplemental water need through either the use of groundwater or demand management options will require the development long term-agreements with landowners during the implementation stage. These agreements will provide KWAPA the ability to “call” surface water use in fu-

ture years (such that in a year that it is “called”, a given parcel of land cannot be irrigated with surface water).

Agreements are anticipated to allow the use of wells on those lands currently having access to a well, unless otherwise agreed to with the landowner. Agreements may include flexibility to allow irrigation of land that would otherwise be idled if the landowner arranges an offset of the land’s consumptive water use for that year, with the approval of KWAPA and the affected district. Calls may

cover a full irrigation season or part of a season.

In any given future year, lease lands could also be “called” up to the percentage of total lease land acres equal to the percentage of non-lease land acres in the OPPA being called in that year. “Called” lease land acres would have the ability to nonetheless irrigate if the lessee arranged for its demands to be met with groundwater pumping, directly or indirectly, if approved by KWAPA and the affected district in the given year.

Key Items of Proposed Program

- Supplemental water need (0 – 100 TAF depending on hydrology) must be met as needed each year in perpetuity
- Confirmation of range (including maximum) of quantities of water consistently available from each of the categories of options
- Arrangement of permanent agreements that reduce surface water use (e.g. groundwater and/or land idling) in some years as needed
- Acquisition of sufficient contractual agreements to obtain redundancy to ensure objectives are met and administrative flexibility
- Define and ensure applicability of OPP to lease lands, and future lease land management, via approvals of OPP by USFWS and BOR
- Water made available through water conservation would be an annual supply available every year on a permanent basis

Update on “Farmer Leaseback” Program

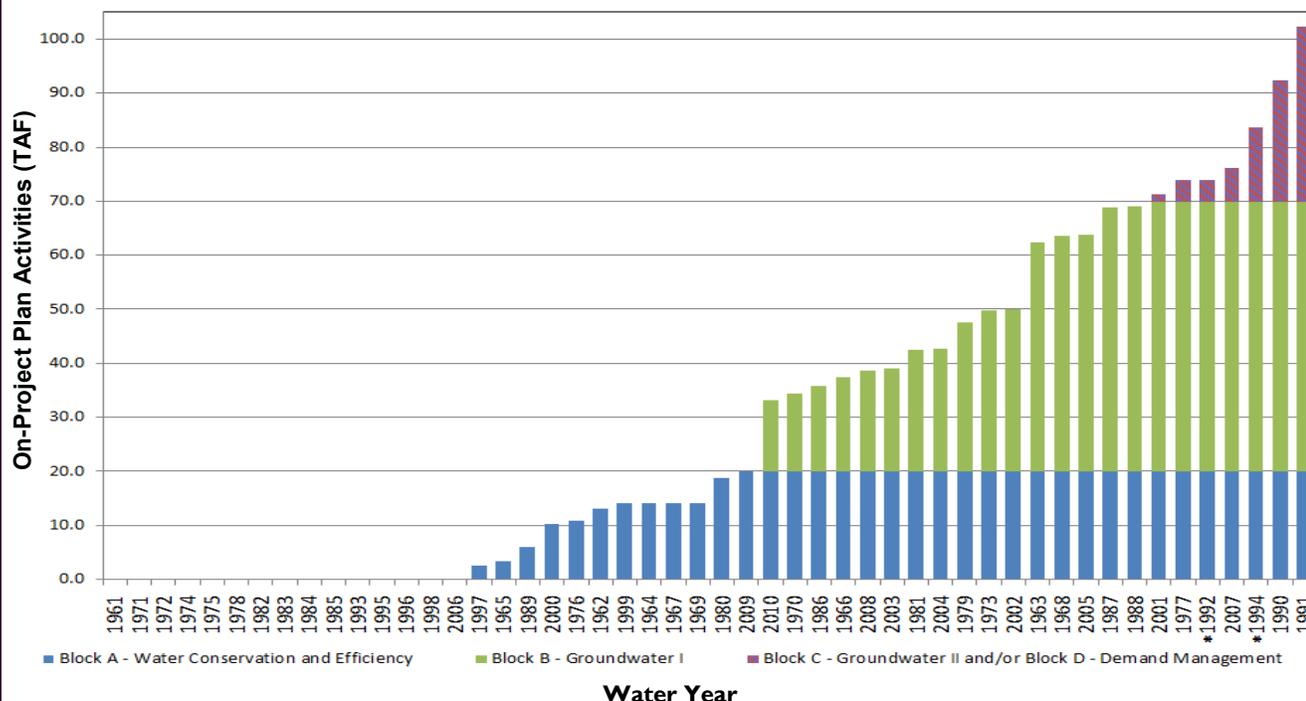
At the last OPPAC meeting considerable discussion centered on one potential demand management option still under consideration—the “Farmer Leaseback Program” or “Beginning Farmer Program”. If this option were implemented, KWAPA would use up front money to purchase land outright, and use these lands over the long-term to help provide a means of generating water savings through demand management activities. For those years where hydrology and the Limitation on DIVERSION would require demand management options to be activated, these are the lands that would be idled. For years where demand management is not required, these land would be leased to local producers, possibly with pricing incentives that would favor young or beginning farmers as a means of drawing new farmers in the Klamath Project.

Emphasizing certain benefits will certainly cause people to view this program one way or another. While this option would likely be much easier to implement and administer than some of the other temporary idling programs, this concept is very controversial and could be met with local resistance, since there is a very strong local reaction towards government ownership of land, even though local oversight would be provided via the KWAPA board or some other locally-appointed board consisting of landowners. Annual leases would be structured in a way to be affordable and give priority – e.g. right of first refusal – for beginning farmers. This option would also provide annual lease revenues to KWAPA and / or the Klamath Project districts. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a “Beginning Farmers and Ranchers” Program. If KWAPA used a definition similar to that used by USDA for “Beginning Farmer” it may then link well with operating money from the USDA.

KWAPA and OPPAC have yet to decide if KWAPA should own or have long-term leases on land if the costs associated with implementing the proposed program is equivalent or near the value of the property. Thus, a decision has not yet been made as to whether or not a “beginning farmer” type program is an attractive alternative to pursue.

FIGURE 2: Potential Frequency of Proposed Program Blocks

The quantities identified in each block were applied to the estimated supplemental water need to determine the potential frequency of a “call” on the blocks, on the basis of historical hydrology. Figure 2 provides the potential frequency of a call on the blocks based on the target quantities previously identified in Table 1. In all but 7 of the 50 years, the combination of Blocks A and B appears to be sufficient to meet the estimated supplemental water need. The call on Blocks C and D in terms of priority and quantity would be based on considerations of balancing the goals of sustainable groundwater pumping and minimizing demand management type activities and as such Figure 2 identifies these years as interchangeable or a mixed call to meet the supplemental water need.



Adjudication Finding of Determination Fallout Delays Release of OPP

The release and related aftermath of an important water rights adjudication document last March has shifted local water users' priorities this year, meaning the final release of the OPP will be delayed until February 2014.

On March 7, 2013, OWRD submitted its Finding of Determination (FOD) for the Klamath River Basin Adjudication to the Klamath County Circuit Court.

"The FOD is the culmination of a 38-year administrative process, and provides the basis for water rights-based regulation in the Upper Klamath Basin until the Circuit Court has issued a judgment after its trial on exceptions to the FOD that parties may file," said Paul Simmons, a Sacramento attorney who is a member of the OPP Work Group.

The Klamath Adjudication is the most complex adjudication in Oregon's history. The FOD represents the Oregon Water of Resource's Department (OWRD) determination of the validity of certain rights to Klamath Basin water diverted or used in Oregon. Specifically:

The FOD initiates the beginning of the Adjudication's judicial phase, in which water rights claimants and contestants will have the opportunity to file exceptions to OWRD's order in Klamath County Circuit Court.

Between the issuance of the order of determination by OWRD and the final decree by the Circuit Court, which may be a gap of many years, OWRD is required to regulate water use according to the FOD.

Significant Findings

There are some very significant findings embedded in the FOD. The United States filed the largest number of claims of any claimant in the proceedings. Of greatest potential consequence to existing diversions, the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs filed claims on behalf of the Klamath Tribes for instream water levels to protect fisheries on the former Klamath Indian reservation (and the Klamath Tribes asserted those same claims). The Klamath Tribes have federal reserved rights to water to support hunting and fishing on former reservation land, and such rights have a priority of "time immemorial." The FOD recognizes substantial instream rights for flows in streams traversing the former reservation and rights to elevations of Upper Klamath Lake. Considerable reduction of junior consumptive uses (primarily irrigation above Upper Klamath Lake) will be necessary in order to provide flows to meet the senior tribal rights recognized in the FOD.

The FOD also recognizes water rights under state law for the Klamath Reclamation Project with a priority of 1905 (and earlier for some limited areas of the Project).

"The FOD finds that the United States exclusively owns the storage right for the Project, but finds also that irrigation districts and users are holders of rights of use of natural flow and stored waters," Mr. Simmons said.

The FOD also recognizes federal reserved rights for Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges, both of which receive water through Project or Project-related facili-

ties. These two refuges had claimed the 1905 Project priority for wetland uses on the refuges, but those claims were not upheld because flooding of wetlands was determined not to be within the purpose of the Project or its water rights. There are recognized, however, federal reserved water rights that are junior to the Project's state law rights.

Relationship to KBRA/OPP

The submission of the FOD brings to an end the long administrative process for the Adjudication. While it only begins the judicial process in the Oregon courts, it is highly significant because Klamath water rights in Oregon will be regulated according to the FOD. Once court proceedings end, the Circuit Court decree is conclusive as to all prior rights and existing claimants.

Many members of the OPP Working Group were also directly involved with the administrative process for the Adjudication and the judicial process, which featured several hearings conducted this spring and summer. This high priority matter took precedence over development of TM 7, which has resulted in a delay in the final release of the OPP until this December. The final OPP report was originally scheduled to be completed in July 2013.

The FOD has implications for Klamath Project water supply and water users who irrigated from tributaries upstream of Klamath Lake that were felt this year and that will extend into the future.

"A new water management paradigm is now in place, and this has implications for the KBRA and the OPP," said Bill Ganong, counsel for KWAPA.

The FOD is significant from the perspective of the Klamath Project, which has in the past seen its use regulated based on the Endangered Species Act. With the determination of rights in the Project, Project water users will have an ability to seek water rights regulation outside the Project based on the appropriation doctrine. These two developments are among those that may result in difficult circumstances in the Upper Klamath Basin due to the first-time enforcement of "first in time is first in right."

Based on agreements reached in the KBRA, irrigation water users in the Project will not have their use curtailed as a result of senior tribal rights to water levels in Upper Klamath Lake, at minimum, until after the court's decree. (potential curtailment thereafter is a function of whether the KBRA is implemented as well as the outcome of the decree). The KBRA provides a framework for a similar resolution that would avoid and mitigate impacts of the tribal rights on irrigation areas upstream of Upper Klamath Lake as well, although specific terms of that agreement have not been developed. Potential curtailment thereafter is a function of whether the KBRA is implemented as well as the outcome of the decree. And, the water management scheme envisioned by the OPP for the refuges is far preferable to the grim water supply situation now facing the refuges.

At a more fundamental level, the KBRA has not been authorized by Congress and thus cannot be fully implemented.

"Until it is, substantial challenges lie ahead," said Hollie Cannon, Executive Director for KWAPA.

**KLAMATH WATER
AND POWER
AGENCY**

On-Project Plan
Public Meetings
Please join us for the last round
of public meetings before the
OPP is finalized.

Phone: 541-850-2503
Fax: 541-883-8893
E-mail: info@kwapa.org

We're on the web!
www.kwapa.org

**On-Project Plan
Public Meetings
Please join us for the
last round of public
meetings before the
OPP is finalized.**

January 28 - 6 p.m.
Klamath Basin Research &
Extension Center
6923 Washburn Way
Klamath Falls

January 29 - 2 p.m.
Merrill Civic Center
365 West Front Street
Merrill (on Highway 39).

MEETING AGENDA

Introductions
Brief background of OPP
Advisory Committee role
Goals and objectives of
OPP Technical
Memo Approach
Proposed Program
Environmental Review
Process
Project schedule
Question and answer



**Working together towards locally based solutions to energy issues, water management issues
and coordination in other areas to the benefit of the whole community.**

The Klamath Water and Power Agency (KWAPA) is a joint powers / inter-governmental agency whose members are water agencies within the Klamath Reclamation Project.

KWAPA provides programs to align water supply and demand, generally within the Klamath Project. We seek to reduce power costs for irrigators in the Klamath Project.

KWAPA is working to obtain and provide transmission and delivery of Federal preference power for eligible On-Project and Off-Project Power Users and investigate power generation that would offset power costs.

Background and Development of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement

Representatives of diverse communities in the Klamath Basin, working with federal, state, and county governments, and with other interested organizations, developed the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA) to rebuild fisheries, sustain agricultural communities, and resolve longstanding disputes related to the allocation of water resources. KWAPA and its member entities are parties to the KBRA. Relevant key provisions of the KBRA related to water supply include the following:

- An ultimate limitation on diversions (DIVERSION is a term in the KBRA defined as the total amount of water from the Klamath system diverted from specific Upper Klamath Lake and Klamath River diversion facilities).
- Reliability and certainty regarding water that will be available for a sustainable agricultural community and national wildlife refuges.

For more information on the KBRA, go to <http://kwapa.org/kbra>.

OPP Goals and Objectives

- **Meet commitments specified in the KBRA**
- **Maintain long-term sustainability of Klamath Reclamation Project agriculture**
- **Minimize reductions in irrigated agriculture in the On-Project Plan Area (OPPA) and avoid any uncompensated reduction in irrigated agriculture**
- **Ensure equitable treatment among districts, avoid impacts on district operations, and seek opportunities for improved water management operations within and across districts**
- **Develop fair, equitable, and transparent strategies for aligning water supply and demand**
- **Consider cost effectiveness of alternatives to the overall Klamath Basin economy and minimize third-party impacts**
- **Avoid adverse impacts on groundwater as a result of OPP implementation or administration**
- **Use groundwater in a long-term and sustainable manner, and address all relevant in-basin groundwater management objectives, including identifying and addressing potential impacts on areas directly adjacent to the OPPA**