



Klamath County Commissioners

Tom Mallams, *Commissioner*
Position One

Kelley Minty Morris, *Commissioner*
Position Two

Jim Bellet, *Commissioner*
Position Three

March 23, 2015

RE: SB 206, SB 264, and SB265

Chairman Edwards and Committee Members:

We as elected officials need to step back and take a long and serious look at what is happening on the Klamath River Watershed. Common sense and reasoning is being subverted by rushing to make rules and legislation that is not only not needed at this time, but may never be necessary in the future.

We have to be cognizant of the fact that the agreements have yet to be ratified by the federal government. If that action by the federal government does not happen then the so called agreements disappear. These are not agreements at all but just the hope of an agreement with funding in the future. We should never allocate money or resources to a program or project that we do not have the authority to do. I believe we are seeing this on the federal level and I hope the State of Oregon does not follow their path.

Please look at these bills with the thought of "why are we doing this" and spending money and time on something that may not happen. Waiting and being patient to see what the federal government is going to do would be prudent at this time. Do not rush into something that may cause regret later on. There is time in the future for a more informed decision.

Sincerely,

James Bellet, Klamath County Commissioner

