

Oregon Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Re: SB 206, 264, 265 Public Comment

3/22/2015

I am one of 4 generations living at the same location on and in the Klamath River we love. Her waters literally flow in our blood. We live directly below where Iron Gate Dam now exists at the claimed focal point of dams' impacts. I have personally experienced the conditions before and after Iron Gate Dam, and know the pre-Klamath Project conditions area residents and my grandfather experienced before me. I have seen the increased riparian stability, power generation benefits, fisheries enhancement, flood damage prevention, and water quality, temperature, and distributed flow improvements resulting from the dams. I have seen one of the country's most productive hatcheries made possible only BECAUSE of the dam, allowing consistently producing exceptional fisheries historically never known in our 'natural' pre-dams river reach.

I am here today because of the collusion of KBRA lies and deception. I am blunt today because nearly two decades of political correctness trying to educate unaffected decision makers has fallen on deaf ears. Those years have seen regionally documented history, locally uncontested experience, current site specific studies, and economic alternatives contradicting KBRA assertions be routinely ignored in favor of agenda driven rhetoric. As such, I will not repeat that synopsis of information here but that offer is available. Instead, in my brief time and attention allotted, I will simply state some facts:

The core of the three Klamath Basin agenda 'coercions' is the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement from which the originating participants fabricated the KHSA and UKBCA, which I will cumulatively call the KBRA. The KBRA was illegally formed and self-appointed in secret. It set unsubstantiated pre-defined conditions of dams removals and resource confiscation as a requisite for participation. It contravened the existing legislated affected jurisdiction and balanced resource management of the Klamath Basin Compact, and it formed 'agreements' affecting unrepresented public and private rights and vested resources. It set up a self-appointed self-benefiting structure based upon intractable hypothetical environmental agenda theories and policies. Those theories have resulted in ZERO attributable statistical sucker and coho improvement in over 15 years of 'memorandum of understanding' implementations. Those implementations have seen the attrition of thousands of regional homes and futures lost with no accountability or consequence for failed 'decisions'. That premise has failed in every KBRA promised aspect except for the profit potential of participating members. Ensuing years have seen site specific scientific studies proving the false KBRA premise, studies vindicating the dismissed regional majority. Realization of that corrupt and failed premise is why nearly 80% of the most dams-affected Siskiyou County voted AGAINST dams removals, and why Klamath County voted Commissioners into office running solely on a platform of opposition to the KBRA.

The will and knowledgeable understanding of the most affected regional majority in opposition to dams removals and the KBRA is clear. Passing all or any of SB 206, 264, and 265 commands public resources and regulatory directives against that most affected majority, and would support an as yet unsanctioned, unethical, and ineffective special interest collusion impacting that unrepresented majority. Listen beyond the rhetoric, alternatives answering the needs of ALL beneficial uses are available and feasible at a fraction of the cost. Please do not pass these Bills.

Sincerely,

Rex Cozzalio
Hornbrook, CA