KLAMATH PROJECT 2005 OPERATIONS PLAN April 7, 2005

INTRODUCTION

This is the 2005 Operations Plan (Plan) for the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Klamath Project (Project), which is located within the upper Klamath River Basin in southern Oregon and northern California. This Plan describes expected Project operations from April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006 based upon current and expected hydrologic conditions and consistent with the biological opinions¹(BOs) issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (formerly the National Marine Fisheries Service). The Plan is initially derived from the April 1, 2005 Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) inflow forecast. Reclamation developed this Plan to serve as a planning aid for agricultural water users, Klamath Basin Tribes, national wildlife refuges and other interested parties. Operating the Project in the manner described in this Plan is consistent with the Department of the Interior's and Reclamation's tribal trust responsibilities in the Klamath Basin and we will continue to consult on a government-to-government basis with the Klamath Basin Tribes throughout the operating year on Project operations. A planning process for multi-year operations of Project through 2012 is ongoing. Attachment A summarizes the planning methodology Reclamation used to develop the Plan. This plan provides an <u>estimated</u> Project water supply to the following areas:

- <u>Upper Klamath Lake delivery area:</u> This area generally includes lands in Oregon and California that receive Project water primarily from Upper Klamath Lake (UKL) and/or the Klamath River. This area also includes the Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges.
- <u>East Side delivery area</u>: This area generally includes lands within the Langell Valley Irrigation District and Horsefly Irrigation District on the east side of the Project area. This area receives water from Clear Lake Reservoir, Gerber Reservoir and the Lost River.

UPPER KLAMATH LAKE (UKL) DELIVERY AREA

Due to the extremely low projected water supply for 2005, the Klamath Project has instituted the Drought Plan, which was initially developed in March of 1991. As requested the districts have provided their projected water use for this water year. As of the date of this Operations Plan there has been no drought allocation for the year, except that no surplus water will be available from the Project in the 2005 operational season.

1. ESTIMATED INFLOW TO UKL DURING 2005:

• The predicted inflow (in acre-feet) to UKL from April 1 through September 30, 2005, using the NRCS forecast at 50% exceedance, is <u>215,000 acre-feet</u> for lake elevation operational criteria²; and at 70% exceedance, is <u>190,000 acre-feet</u> for river flow operational criteria.

2. UKL WATER YEAR TYPE DURING 2005:

• The initial water year type applicable to Upper Klamath Lake is <u>DRY</u> for lake elevation operations planning, subject to changes in actual hydrologic conditions subsequent to April 1. Table 1 shows the <u>four</u> water year types used for lake elevation operations planning:

¹ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinions on Klamath Project Operations from June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2012, respectively dated May 31, 2002.

² In accordance with RPA-Element 1of the Service's May 31, 2002 Biological Opinion (pg. 118).

	Water Year Type				
	Above Average	Below Average	Dry	Critical Dry	
UKL Inflow (1000 acre-feet)	More than 500	500 to 312	312 to 185	Less than 185	
Occurrence(s) during 10-yr period	1993, 1995, 1996,	1990	1991	1992, 1994	
	1997, 1998, 1999				

Table 1. UKL Water Year Types for Lake Elevation Planning

• The initial water year type applicable to the Klamath River is <u>DRY</u> for river flow operations planning, subject to changes in actual hydrologic conditions subsequent to April 1. Table 2 shows the <u>five</u> water year types for river flow operations planning:

Table 2. UKL Water Year Types for River Flow Planning	Table 2.	UKL	Water	Year	Types	for	River	Flow	Planning
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			Water Year Type		
	Wet	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Dry
UKL Inflow (1000 acre-feet)	More than 785.2	785.2 to 568.6	568.5 to 458.4	458.3 to 286.8	Less than 286.8
Occurrences(s) during 10-yr period	1999	1993, 1996, 1998	1995, 1997	1990	1991, 1992, 1994

3. LAKE ELEVATION AND RIVER FLOW OPERATIONAL CRITERIA FOR UKL:

• Reclamation will operate the Project to ensure that elevations in UKL do not recede lower than the average end-of-month elevations that occurred between October 1, 1989 and September 30, 1999 (the "ten-year" period) for the corresponding water year type³. Table 3 displays these elevations:

		Water Y	ear Type	
	Above Average	Below Average	Dry	Critical Dry
March 31	4142.5	4142.7	4141.7	4142.0
April 30	4142.9	4142.8	4142.2	4141.9
May 31	4143.1	4142.7	4142.4	4141.4
June 30	4142.6	4142.1	4141.5	4140.1
July 31	4141.5	4140.7	4140.3	4138.9
August 31	4140.5	4139.6	4139.0	4137.6
September 30	4139.8	4138.9	4138.2	4137.1
October 31	4139.7	4138.8	4138.2	4137.3
November 30	4140.3	4139.0	4139.0	4138.1
December 31	4141.0	4138.8	4139.7	4138.9
January 31	4141.5	4139.5	4140.3	4140.1
February 28	4141.9	4141.7	4140.4	4141.1

Table 3. Lake Elevation Operational Criteria for UKL

• Reclamation will operate the Project to ensure that Klamath River flows at Iron Gate Dam (IGD) meet or exceed the operational criteria in Table 4. Table 4 incorporates revisions made to Table 5.9 consistent with the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative in the final biological opinion⁴.

Table 4. Klamath River Operational Criteria for Flows at IGD

	Water Year Type and Flow (cubic feet/second)						
	Wet	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Dry		
April 1-15	5932	2955	1863	1826	822		
April 16-30	5636	2967	2791	1431	739		
May 1-15	3760	2204	2784	1021	676		
May 16-31	2486	1529	1466	1043	731		
June 1-15	1948	1538	827	959	641		
June 16-30	1921	934	1163	746	617		
July 1-15	1359	710	756	736	516		
July 16-31	1314	710	735	724	515		
August	1149	1039	1040	979	560		
September	1341	1316	1300	1168	731		

³ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Biological Opinion on Klamath Project Operations from June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2012, dated May 31, 2002, pages 11 and 118.

⁴Source: Table 5.9, February 25, 2002 BA, as modified by conversion to five water year types.

		Water Year Type and Flow (cubic feet/second)					
	Wet	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Dry		
October	1430	1346	1345	1345	907		
November	1822	1414	1337	1324	899		
December	1822	1387	1682	1621	916		
January	2792	1300	3618	1334	1030		
February	4163	1300	1300	1806	673		
March 1-15	8018	1953	2143	2190	688		
March 16-31	6649	4009	2553	1896	695		

- The river flow operational criteria include the following down ramping rates at IGD:
 - 1. <u>When IGD flows are above 1750 cubic feet per second (CFS)</u>: Decreases in flows of 300 CFS or less per 24-hour period, and no more than 125 CFS per four-hour period.
 - 2. <u>When IGD flows are 1,750 CFS or less</u>: Decreases in flows of 150 CFS or less per 24hour period, and no more than 50 CFS per two-hour period.
- The lake elevation operational criteria will use a curve to transition from one end-of-month elevation to the succeeding month, as described in Attachment A. A similar curve for river flows is still being developed for future use.

4. PROJECT WATER BANK FOR 2005:

- Beginning on April 1, and extending throughout the irrigation season, Reclamation will release
 water bank water to supplement river flows according to the flow schedule agreed upon between
 NOAA Fisheries and Reclamation (Table 5). As long as these releases, beginning on April 1 and
 continuing throughout the irrigation season, are made in accordance with agreed-upon flow
 schedules, regardless of whether spill conditions contributed to achieving those flows, the BO and
 water bank flow obligations will have been satisfied. Reclamation and NOAA Fisheries have
 agreed to this provision. If the water year type changes, based on changes in inflow, then NOAA
 Fisheries and Reclamation will agree upon the amount of the water bank water remaining in, or
 estimated to accrue to, the water bank to use in a revised augmented flow schedule appropriate
 for the new water year type, in consultation with the Klamath Basin Tribes.
- The Project water bank will be 100,000 acre-feet. During 2005, Reclamation is pursuing reasonable options for securing water to meet the water bank requirement. Table 5 displays the flows (CFS) at Iron Gate Dam (IGD) resulting from NOAA Fisheries' recommended distribution of the water bank (100,000 acre-feet) during a DRY water year type (WYT) (13,718 acre-feet of the water bank was used from February 1, 2005 through March 30, 2005, by agreement between NOAA Fisheries and Reclamation leaving approximately 86,282 acre-feet for distribution April September):

			ž –	Water Bank Amount
	"DRY" WYT IGD Base	Additional	NOAA Fisheries'	used to Provide
	Flow	Flow Provided	Recommended IGD Flow	Recommended Flow
	(Source-Table 4)	by Water Bank	(using Water Bank)	(acre-feet)
Feb 1-28	673	127	800	7053
March 1-15	688	112	800	3332
March 16-31	695	105	800	3332
April 1-7	822	0	822	0
April 8-12	822	378	1200	3749
April 13-15	822	678	1500	4034
April 16-25	739	761	1500	15094
April 26-29	739	686	1425	5443
April 30-May 4	676	674	1350	6684
May 5-9	676	599	1275	5941
May 10-14	676	524	1200	5197
May 15	676	474	1150	940
May 16-19	731	419	1150	3324
May 20-24	731	369	1100	3660
May 25-29	731	319	1050	3164

May 30-31	731	269	1000	1067
June 1-3	641	359	1000	2136
June 4-8	641	309	950	3065
June 9-13	641	259	900	2569
June 14-15	641	209	850	829
June 16-18	617	233	850	1386
June 19-23	617	183	800	1815
June 24-28	617	133	750	1319
June 29	617	83	700	165
June 30	617	8	625	16
July 1-15	516	0	516	0
July 16-31	515	0	515	0
August 1-22	560	0	560	0
August 23-31	560	365	925	6516
September 1-30	731	194	925	11544
		Total V	Water Bank Amount Used	103,374

5. <u>ESTIMATED PROJECT WATER SUPPLY FROM UKL FOR IRRIGATION AND</u> <u>REFUGES DURING 2005:</u>

- <u>Water Supply for Irrigation</u>. The <u>estimated</u> Project water supply (assuming a DRY water year type) for irrigation from UKL from April 1 through September 30, 2005 is <u>299,000 acre-feet</u> based upon the hydrological conditions existing on April 1. This quantity may be reduced under the Drought Plan if hydrologic conditions deteriorate during the season and drought allocations are required. This quantity takes into consideration the 100,000 acre-feet of water acquired for the water bank through land idling and groundwater substitution. This quantity may increase or decrease in response to hydrological conditions after April 1 because actual conditions may differ widely from those assumed by the operation forecast model. Project water deliveries after October 1, would be contingent upon availability of water from UKL consistent with Tables 3 and 4, and hydrological conditions from October 2005 through March 2006.
- <u>Water Supply for Refuges</u>. The estimated amount of Project water from UKL for delivery to national wildlife refuges from April 1 through October 31, 2005 will be <u>25,000 acre-feet</u>. This was estimated in relation to historic deliveries to refuges.

EAST SIDE DELIVERY AREA

ESTIMATED PROJECT WATER SUPPLY FOR THE EAST SIDE DELIVERY AREA DURING 2005:

• The estimated Project water supply for irrigation from Gerber Reservoir and Clear Lake from April 1 through September 30, 2005 is <u>19,000 acre-feet</u>, which amount is <u>only</u> available from <u>Gerber Reservoir</u>. Table 6 displays the projected elevations of Gerber Reservoir and Clear Lake on April 1; the minimum elevations needed to meet the BO requirements for endangered suckers on September 30 (i.e., to provide adequate over-wintering habitat for endangered suckers); and the difference between the April 1 and September 30 reservoir/lake capacities, minus evaporation and seepage. The difference between the reservoir/lake capacity on April 1 and September 30 is the estimated Project water supply for irrigation.

Tuble 6. Estimated Troject (Vater Suppry for East Side Denvery T							
	Projected April 1 Elevation	April 1 Capacity (acre- feet)	ESA Minimum Sept 30 Elevation	Sept 30 Capacity (acre- feet)	April 1 - Sept 30 Evap/Seepage (acre-feet)	Estimated Sept 30 Elevation	Net Diff. Between April 1 and Sept 30 Capacities
Gerber Reservoir	4812.04	21,645	4798.1	1,300	6,400 (est)	4798.1	19,000
Clear Lake	4522.95	72,600	4520.6	41,150	60,000 (est)	4518.8	-0-
Total amount of project water available for East Side delivery area						19,000	

Table 6. Estimated Project Water Supply for East Side Delivery Area

OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO 2005 OPERATIONS PLAN

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED WATER SUPPLY TO HISTORIC DELIVERY:

• <u>The following comparison is provided for information purposes only</u> and uses a DRY water year type for the UKL delivery area (5 WYT) and a DRY water year type for the East Side delivery area (4 WYT). Table 7 compares the 2005 estimated Project water supply for irrigation and refuges to historical deliveries from 1961 to 2004.

Table 7. Comparison of Estimated 2005 Project Water Supply to Historic Deli	Jeries
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	2005 Estimated Supply (1000 acre-feet)	Historic Delivery (1961-2004) During DRY Water Year Types (1000 acre-feet)
UKL Delivery Area	299.0	Ave = 322.7 (299.0 to 344.8)
National Wildlife Refuges	25.0	Ave = 41.9 (25.5 to 63.2)
East Side Delivery Area	19.0	Ave = 68.6 (46.4 to 84.9)

ATTACHMENT A

Klamath Project - 2005 Operations Plan

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF 2005 OPERATIONS PLANNING PROCESS

The 2005 operations plan was developed in accordance with the 2002 Service and NOAA Fisheries biological opinions. The information in the plan is developed as follows:

FOR THE UPPER KLAMATH LAKE (UKL) DELIVERY AREA:

1. ESTIMATE INFLOWS TO UKL:

• Reclamation estimates the inflow (in acre-feet) using the NRCS forecast beginning in early January (for information purposes) and revises the inflow predictions in early February, March and on April 1. The estimate of predicted inflows uses the 50% exceedance for UKL for lake elevation planning considerations⁵ and a 70% exceedance for UKL river flow planning considerations.

2. DETERMINE WATER YEAR TYPE FOR 2005:

• UKL water year types for Project operations planning purposes are defined by actual historic inflow. The methodology used to define the water year type parameters was explained in the Klamath Project 1998 Operations Plan Environmental Assessment⁶. For UKL, water year type is defined by the forecast inflow between April 1 and September 30 annually. In early April (usually on or after April 10), Reclamation will determine the water year type most likely to occur from April through September. As a result of ESA consultation, two sets of water year types have been defined for purposes of annual operations planning⁷. For lake elevation planning, Reclamation will use four water year types: (1) above average; (2) below average; (3) dry; and (4) critical dry. For river flow planning, Reclamation will use five water year types: (1) wet; (2) above average; (3) average; (4) below average and; (5) dry. Reclamation will continue to monitor the NRCS forecasts in May and June. After June, actual inflow to UKL will be regularly monitored. The continued monitoring of predicted and actual inflows will allow Reclamation to adapt Project operation to respond to the actual water year type if precipitation and hydrological conditions after April 1 vary significantly from conditions prior to April 1. The water year type changes to either wetter or drier year types after April 1, in response to actual hydrologic conditions⁸.

3. LAKE ELEVATION AND RIVER FLOW OPERATIONAL CRITERIA FOR 2005:

• Water deliveries for irrigation from UKL will be provided within the operations regime observed from water year 1990 through water year 1999 (ten-year period) consistent with the findings of the National Research Council's Interim Report of February 2002. The observed values for the lake levels and river flows that occurred during the ten-year period were used as criteria to determine the Project's irrigation and refuge deliveries in Reclamation's biological

⁵ In accordance with RPA-Element 1of the FWS May 31, 2002 Biological Opinion (pg. 118).

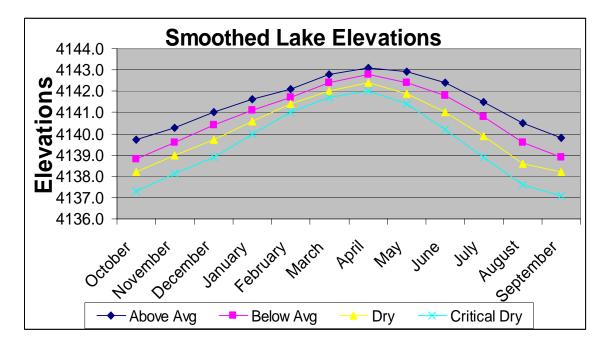
⁶ Klamath Project 1998 Annual Operations Plan Environmental Assessment. Pgs. 14-15.

⁷ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinions on Klamath Project Operations from June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2012, respectively dated May 31, 2002.

⁸ In accordance with Memorandum and Letters to the Service, NOAA Fisheries and Klamath Basin Tribes dated July 10, 2002.

assessment (BA). The operational criteria for river flows have been revised to be consistent with the reasonable and prudent alternative (RPA) in NOAA Fisheries 2002 biological opinion. That biological opinion specifies that during Phase I (2002-2005) Reclamation will operate the Project to meet or exceed the Klamath River flows at Iron Gate Dam described in Table 5.9 of the biological assessment (as modified by conversion to five water year types) plus the additional volume of water to be provided by the water bank ⁹. It also states that the flows would be modified on an annual basis by agreed upon use of the water bank for improved spring flows and/or summer flows and that by March 31 of each year, NOAA Fisheries and Reclamation will determine how this additional water will be distributed for release.

• The lake elevation and river flow operational criteria specify certain elevations/flows at certain time steps (end-of-month for lake elevations and average monthly or semi-monthly for river flows). During Project operations in 2002 and 2003, Reclamation found that transitioning from one time step to the next succeeding step resulted in abrupt changes in elevations/flows, especially when the water year type changed to either a wetter or drier year types after April 1, as described in No. 2 above. Such abrupt changes were at times viewed as being adverse to the lake or river resources. For 2004 and 2005 operations, Reclamation developed a curve, rather than abrupt steps, to permit a smoother transition of lake elevations from one time step to the next¹⁰. The curve was developed in consultation with the Service, Tribes and water users. A similar curve is being developed for river flows but will not likely be available for use during 2005.



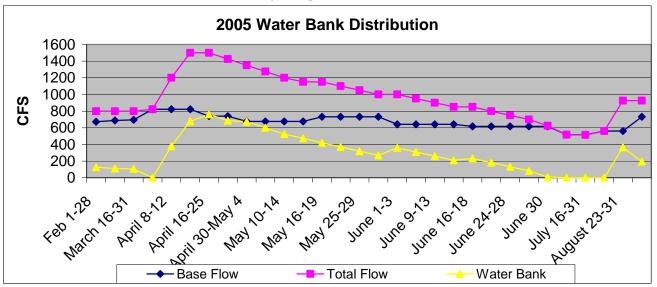
4. QUANTIFY THE PROJECT WATER BANK REQUIREMENTS FOR 2005:

• Reclamation's 2002 BA proposed establishment and use of a "water bank" and that the size of the water bank would be determined using criteria set out in the 2002 BA. However, as a result of ESA consultation, the Service and NOAA Fisheries established the water bank size for 2005 at 100,000 acre-feet in the 2002 biological opinions (page 11 and page 56 in the respective opinions). Therefore, the water bank size has been determined and does not require the

⁹ National Marine Fisheries Service, Biological Opinion on Klamath Project Operations from June 1, 2002 through March 31, 2012, dated May 31, 2002, pages 55-56.

¹⁰ Memorandum from Reclamation to the Service dated April 2, 2004.

calculation as outlined in the 2002 BA. Reclamation has agreed to operate the Project during 2005 consistent with the 2002 biological opinions¹¹.



- During 2005, Reclamation continues to pursue reasonable options for securing water and based on contracts ratified to date, will meet the water bank requirement. Reclamation believes that several sources of water, including regulatory storage, forbearance of surface water use, and groundwater are feasible for the water bank. Forbearance of surface water includes water used for both irrigation and refuges. Forbearance of irrigation use involves farmers voluntarily idling their lands in return for compensation. Groundwater or conjunctive use involves using pumped groundwater from wells to supplement surface water supplies. The refuges are providing approximately 15,000 acre-feet of water to the water bank this year from storage on refuge properties. There may be additional shortages to irrigation and refuge deliveries due to hydrological conditions after the water bank is deducted from the Project water supply. Agricultural users would not be compensated for these additional shortages that result from unanticipated hydrologic conditions.
- Reclamation's compliance with the biological opinions requires a water bank which involves acquiring water from all components of the Project, including refuges. The water bank amount has been established for 2005 (i.e., 100,000 acre-feet). The extent that the irrigation and refuge components of the Project provide water for the water bank will be based upon their Project water use. This means that when Project irrigators are required to reduce a portion of their Project water use through forbearance, then Project water deliveries to refuges would be reduced by a similar proportion.

5. ESTIMATED PROJECT WATER SUPPLY FOR IRRIGATION AND REFUGES FOR 2005:

Reclamation estimated the Project water supply for irrigation and refuges available from the Klamath River upstream from Keno Dam by:

- First, estimating inflow from April 1 through September 30, 2005
- Second, determining the applicable water year type for 2005
- Third, quantifying the applicable water bank amount for 2005
- Fourth, determining the minimum historic amount of water for agriculture based on the year type
- Fifth, using the elevation/flow operational criteria for the applicable water year type

¹¹ Letter from Reclamation's Mid-Pacific Regional Director to the Service and NOAA Fisheries dated January 2, 2003. 2005 Operations Plan-April 7, 2005

• Last, estimating the available Project water supply, after deducting the water bank amount, using the KPOPFOR forecasting model that may be available, keeping in mind that actual conditions may differ significantly from the model

6. <u>REFUGE WATER SUPPLY</u>:

- Project water has historically been delivered to Tule Lake and Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuges during Project operation (see Table 7) for maintaining seasonal and permanent refuge wetlands. Reclamation considered historic refuge deliveries to assist with 2005 operations planning. The Service provided information related to refuge management and operation during various water year types. The refuges receive water year-round, not just during April-September. October-March water deliveries are important to the refuge and affect overall Project operation. Reclamation may be required to adjust refuge Project water deliveries to meet the 2002 biological opinion requirements and irrigation deliveries, when necessary. Should additional requirements for Project water develop then Project water deliveries to refuges could be further reduced. If additional hydrologic shortages occur, refuge deliveries could be completely curtailed.
- Reclamation stated in its 2002 BA that national wildlife refuges, including Tule Lake, Lower Klamath, Upper Klamath Lake and Clear Lake Refuges, are under the jurisdiction of the Service and their operation is subject to the Service's management and control¹². The BA described only those effects on the refuges that resulted from operation of the Klamath Project and not the effects of refuge operation. During 2005, Reclamation will operate the Project consistent with the requirements of the 2002 biological opinions, including establishment/use of a water bank, and provide adequate water to Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuges, when in priority and when water is available¹³. This requires consideration of refuge water deliveries as part of the 2005 operations plan because those deliveries contribute to Reclamation's ability to meet the biological opinion requirements and its legal obligations.

7. OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE OPERATIONS PLAN:

Reclamation considered other information relevant to the operations plan that could influence the UKL Project water supply for irrigation and refuges, such as:

- Comparing the estimated 2005 Project water supply for the UKL delivery area to historic UKL irrigation and refuge deliveries, and comparing the estimated 2005 Project water supply for the East Side delivery area to historic East Side irrigation deliveries. The comparison of estimated supplies to historic deliveries serves to inform both Reclamation and Project water users of potential needs for additional demand reduction/supply enhancement measures. Reclamation may investigate and implement measures to either further reduce demand or enhance supply as a result of the comparison, if needed. Such measures would be in addition to those implemented to establish the water bank.
- Reclamation considered the effects of pre-season fall/winter irrigation of agricultural and lease lands in the UKL delivery area. This pre-irrigation could, during drier hydrologic conditions, affect Reclamation's ability to meet the UKL operational criteria for endangered suckers by reducing the amount of water storage in the lake. If such a circumstance were to arise, then Project operation could be modified in response to pre-season irrigation and/or the available supply for pre-irrigation could be reduced. This condition did not occur prior to April 1, 2005.

¹² Biological Assessment. The Effects of Proposed Actions Related to Klamath Project Operation (April 1, 2002-March 31, 2012) on Federally-listed Threatened and Endangered Species, dated February 25, 2002, pages 13-14.

¹³ Pacific Southwest Regional Solicitor's Memorandum, dated July 25, 1995, regarding certain legal rights and obligations related to the Bureau of Reclamation.

• Precipitation in Klamath Falls, Oregon during February and March establishes the agricultural demand index when the irrigation season starts in early April. This index is integrated into the operation planning model used to predict the Project water supply. Due to extremely low predicted inflow to Upper Klamath Lake this year, Reclamation has initiated the Drought Plan. As a result there will be no delivery of surplus water to "C" contractors; no other restrictions are planned at this time. However, if conditions deteriorate during the operations season, additional restrictions may be necessary.

FOR THE EAST SIDE DELIVERY AREA:

ESTIMATED PROJECT WATER SUPPLY FOR THE EAST SIDE DELIVERY AREA DURING 2005:

• Reclamation will operate the Project reservoirs that serve the East Side delivery area (Gerber Reservoir and Clear Lake) consistent with the 2002 biological opinions, as amended to clarify application of the operational criteria for endangered suckers¹⁴. This operation ensures that reservoir/lake elevations do not recede lower than the minimum elevations needed to protect endangered suckers on September 30, i.e., elevations 4798.1 for Gerber Reservoir and 4520.6 for Clear Lake. Reclamation estimated the Project water supply for irrigation by: (1) determining the April 1 reservoir/lake volume (assuming that the April 1 elevation is no less than the minimum required elevation to protect endangered suckers); (2) adding any inflows and subtracting evaporation/seepage between April 1 and September 30; and (3) subtracting the September 30 reservoir/lake volume at the minimum required elevations to protect endangered suckers.

REFERENCE SOURCES:

Klamath Basin Area Office Water Bank Web Page can be referenced at:

http://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/pilot_water_bank/latest.pdf

General Information on the Klamath Project can be referenced at:

http://www.usbr.gov/mp/kbao/

 ¹⁴ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Amendment to 2002 Biological Opinion on the Effects of the 10-Year Operation Plan for the Klamath P (FWS#1-10-02-F-121), as it Relates to Operation of Clear Lake and Gerber Reservoir. March 4, 2003.
 2005 Operations Plan-April 7, 2005