AGENDA WORKSHEET

Consent ☐ Regular ☑ MEETING DATE: April 5, 2011
TIME NEEDED: 10 minutes

Contact Person/Department: Office of Siskiyou County Counsel
Address: 205 Lane Street, P. O. Box 659, Yreka, CA 96097
Telephone: (530) 842-8100

Person(s) Appearing & Title: Thomas P. Guarino, County Counsel

Subject/Summary of Issue
Discussion, direction and action regarding letter to Klamath Basin Coordinating Council on Draft Drought Plan.

Financial Impact? Yes ☑ Please describe impact, indicate funding source & amount budgeted. No ☐ Please explain why there is no financial impact.

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<th>Fund:</th>
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For Contracts only – Vendor Selection Process? (Please explain how vendor was selected)

Recommended Motion:
Action as the Board deems appropriate.

REVIEWED AS RECOMMENDED BY POLICY
County Counsel 
Personnel
Auditor
County Administrator

CLERK’S INSTRUCTIONS
Certified Minute Order(s) ☐ How many?
Other

NOTE: TO ENSURE PLACEMENT ON THE AGENDA, THE ORIGINAL AGENDA WORKSHEET ALONG WITH 8 STAPLED, THREE-HOLE PUNCHED COPIES MUST BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE BOARD CLERK BY 12:00 P.M. ON THE WEDNESDAY BEFORE THE BOARD MEETING.

For Clerk’s Use Only
Reviewed for completeness: Pages Scanned:
Number of Pages Scanned: Entered on Agenda:

Revised August 2009
VIA E-MAIL AND US MAIL

Klamath Basin Coordinating Council
c/o Ed Sheets Consulting
(and attached list)
3055 N.W. Cumberland Road
Portland, OR 97210

Re: Draft Drought Plan

Gentlemen:

This letter is written on behalf of the Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and Siskiyou County with respect to the Draft Drought Plan circulated by Mr. Sheets on March 11, 2011. Both the County and the District have substantial concerns with the proposed Drought Plan.

In addition to operational concerns with respect to the Drought Plan, both the County and the District object to the KBCC and the TAT and the associated entities undertaking drought plans and operations within their jurisdictions without appropriately consulting with them or following appropriate processes and procedures.

The proposed Drought Plan is also violative of the California Environmental Quality Act in that there is no attached environmental analysis as to the impacts of the reallocation of water during drought periods. The Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District has jurisdiction in the County with respect to water conservation measures. Siskiyou County possesses, among other things, the authority to declare when a drought may exist. None of the entities that are part of the KBCC should be undertaking any drought activities or drought planning activities without the approval of the District and/or County.
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The County of Siskiyou specifically objects to the County of Humboldt, the State of Oregon, the federal government, and various non-resident NGOs and water districts undertaking drought planning activities within the County. Both the state and federal agencies involved in these activities should be coordinating these activities with the County and the District prior to public review. The County and the District hereby specifically demand that coordination be undertaken. Furthermore, such coordination should have occurred before the release of the draft Plan and the governmental agencies involved should have been coordinating on a government-to-government basis with the County and the District.

We also respectfully call to your attention the provisions of the Klamath River Basin Compact. This Compact specifically addresses the distribution and use of water, the prioritization of the use of water and conditions for diversions and use of water in California. To the extent the drought planning and flood control activities seek to undertake diversion and storage of water, these issues are also within the jurisdiction of the Compact. Accordingly, we ask that you let us know at your earliest opportunity (but in no event later than 30 days from the date of this letter) what efforts have been undertaken to comply with the provisions of the Compact.

The County and the District object to the formulation of drought planning policy by the State of Oregon, Humboldt County, the United States, and other members of the KBCC and the TAT within its jurisdiction. All of those entities are without authority to be undertaking such activities in the County of Siskiyou.

Please be advised that the County of Siskiyou and the Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District are, by this correspondence, placing you on notice that you are not to undertake or implement any drought plans or activities within their jurisdictions until such time as appropriate review, coordination, consultation and necessary approvals have been obtained.

Very truly yours,

Jim Cook, Chair  
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors
Attachment List:

Department of the Interior
Department of Commerce/NOAA/NMFS
Department of Agriculture /USFS
State of Oregon/ODEQ, ODFW, OWRD
State of California--CDFG
Klamath Tribes
Yurok Tribe
Karuk Tribe
Del Norte County
Humboldt County
Klamath County
Klamath Reclamation Project/KWAPA