

Peer Review Plan

Date: 1/17/2012

Source Center: U.S Geological Survey (USGS)
Oregon Water Science Center
2130 SW 5th Ave
Portland, OR 97201

Title: Hydrological Information Products for the Off-Project Water Program of the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement.

Subject and Purpose: The Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement (KBRA) was developed to provide a comprehensive solution to ecological and water-supply issues in the Klamath River Basin of southern Oregon and northern California. The Off-Project Water Program (OPWP), a component of the KBRA, has as one of its purposes to provide an additional 30,000 acre-feet of water per year to Upper Klamath Lake through voluntary retirement of water rights or water uses. The geographic area where the water rights could be retired encompasses 1,900 square miles of the northern portion of the upper Klamath basin. This report summarizes information products prepared by the USGS for the OPWP that consist of digital maps to help evaluate the relative benefits of reducing water use in various areas. The maps, which cover evapotranspiration, subirrigation indicators, water rights, subbasin streamflow statistics, and irrigation return flow indicators, are not intended to drive the decision making process, but to inform it. The publication will be released as a USGS Scientific Investigations Report.

Impact of Dissemination: This product is considered by the USGS to be Influential Scientific Information.

Timing of Review (Including Deferrals): January – February 2012. Deferrals are not anticipated.

Manner of Review, Selection of Reviewers, and Nomination Process: Review will be by individual letters. USGS will select the peer reviewers pursuant to requirements in Survey Manual chapter 502.3—Fundamental Science Practices: Peer Review (<http://www.usgs.gov/usgs-manual/500/502-3.html>).

Expected Number of Reviewers: Anticipate two peer reviewers.

Requisite Expertise: Surface-water hydrology, groundwater hydrology, evapotranspiration losses, water-rights, familiarity with the hydrology of the upper Klamath basin, Oregon.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No opportunity for public comment is formally incorporated for this product.

Agency Contact: peer_review_agenda@usgs.gov.