

Questions about the restoration program?

For more information, to get involved, or to send your ideas, contact KRRC at info@klamathrenewal.org or contact RES, the restoration contractor, at klamathinfo@res.us.

Local restoration jobs

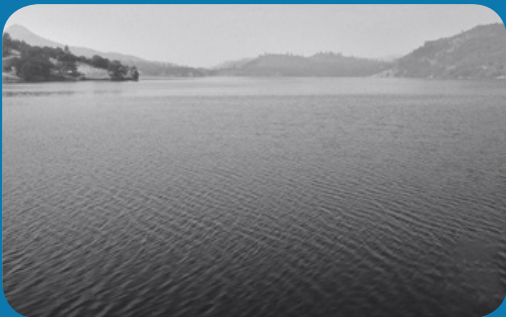
KRRC's direct activities in the Klamath Basin, including dam deconstruction and restoration work, will create a few hundred jobs in the Klamath Basin. Restoration work includes seed collection, plant propagation, and non-native plant control in the near term, as well as plant maintenance, propagation, and replacement after dam removal.

Public recreation along restored reservoirs

PacifiCorp currently owns the land underneath the reservoirs. Under the terms of the KHSA, KRRC will transfer the lands to California and Oregon or other entities. KRRC expects renewed public interest in boating, fishing, and recreation on the free-flowing river. Numerous studies indicate dam removal and habitat restoration will improve water quality and increase the abundance of several fish species.



Copco Reservoir area pre-dam, 1910.
(Photo: George Crowe Photos)



Copco Reservoir 2017 (Photo: River Design Group)



Dam removal will create opportunities for new recreational activities on the Klamath River, including steelhead fishing.
(Photo: Momentum River Expeditions)

We want to hear from you!

Do you have a question about KRRC's activities or how dam decommissioning and river restoration will impact your community? Would you like to share information with us? Please email info@klamathrenewal.org. Sign up for our e-newsletter at www.klamathrenewal.org/contact/

Contact Information

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Klamath River Renewal Project

Restoring Habitat on the Klamath River



Klamath River prior to Iron Gate Dam construction, 1960. (Photo: Morrison Knudsen)

KRRC's River Restoration Work

KRRC's reservoir area restoration efforts focus on restoring native vegetation and natural river function. These efforts will restore wildlife and fish habitats, so that the river and floodplain perform similarly to how they did before the dams were installed.



Restoration revegetation on a newly constructed river floodplain in the arid Snake River basin, approximately 9 months after construction. Restoration activities in the Klamath reservoirs will be similar. (Photo: River Design Group)

Comprehensive

KRRC will restore formerly inundated lands beneath the reservoirs and other lands in the project area. The goal is to promote natural, sustainable river and floodplain ecosystems.

Research-Based

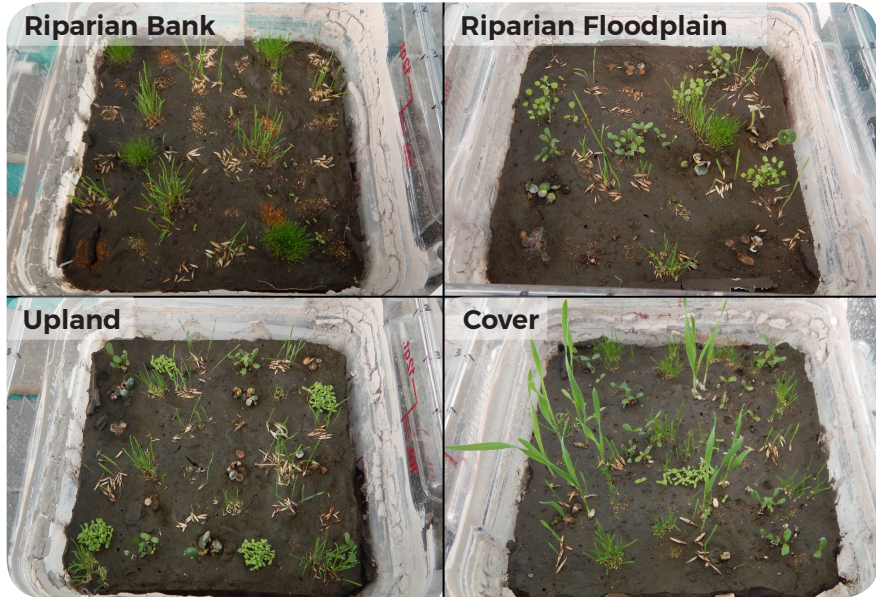
KRRC is combining site-based analysis with research and lessons learned from restoration to create a thorough plan. For example, KRRC has performed grow tests using actual reservoir sediment and likely seed mixes. These tests will identify the most suitable vegetation for successful restoration work.

Adaptive

KRRC will monitor restoration plantings to ensure proper irrigation, assess health of new plantings, and remove invasive vegetation. Habitat improvement efforts will focus on “process-based” activities to restart natural river function. Initial strategies will be modified as necessary to ensure successful, natural restoration.

Long-term

KRRC anticipates performing long-term monitoring and adaptive management to support restoration. Similar dam removal and restoration projects have required continued monitoring and adaptive management for 5 to 10 years.



Grow tests for Copco reservoir sediment using potential restoration seeds. (Photos: approximately 3 weeks after seed planting)



Helicopter seeding former reservoir area on the Rogue River. (Photo: River Design Group)

Restoration is a three-step process

Post-reservoir drawdown

Step 1: Initial Seeding of Newly Exposed Land

- Stabilize remaining sediment by helicopter or ground-based broadcast seeding while sediments are too soft to access with larger planting equipment
- Use invasive weed management to limit the spread of invasive exotic vegetation in restoration areas



Post-removal Restoration

Step 2: Habitat Restoration and Revegetation

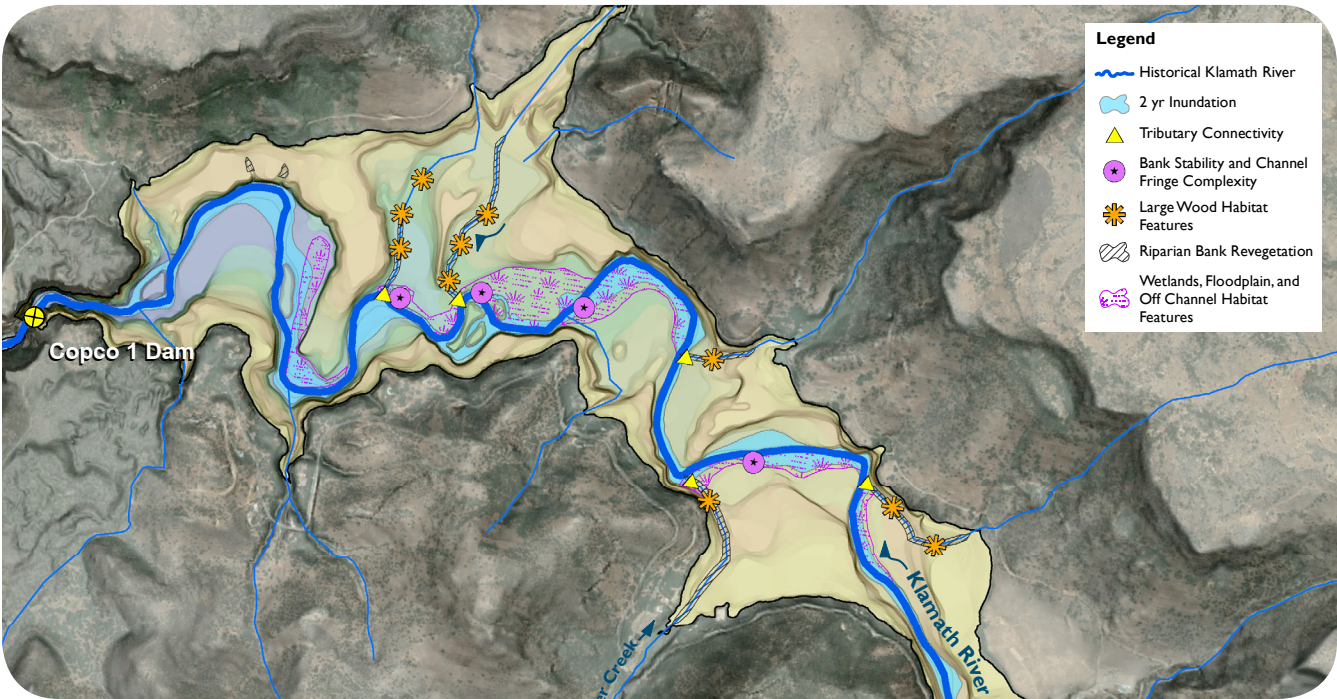
- Create habitat along river edges by planting riparian and upland plants throughout reservoir areas
- Ensure fish habitat along priority tributaries to the Klamath River with targeted grading and habitat restoration



Longer-term Adaptive Management

Step 3: Monitoring and Adaptive Management

- Monitor the revegetation and invasive weed management to ensure success and support wildlife. Adapt as needed.
- Monitor fish passage and aquatic habitat to ensure success and support fish. Adapt as needed.



Comprehensive restoration actions for Copco No. 1 reservoir area. Yellow area is the existing reservoir footprint.