

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
PROVIDING ADEQUATE FLOW RELEASES AT IRON GATE DAM  
TO ENSURE PROTECTION OF KLAMATH RIVER ANADROMOUS FISHERIES**

Whereas, Klamath River anadromous fisheries support significant tribal, commercial and sport fisheries vital to Pacific Northwest culture and economy; and

Whereas, Klamath River salmon and steelhead populations are at some of the lowest levels in history; and

Whereas poor land use practices in watershed critical to the survival of anadromous fish, excessive water diversions and other factors have all contributed to this severe decline; and

Whereas, a number of resource agencies, commercial and recreational fishery interest groups, and tribes all support the maintenance of sufficient flows below Iron Gate Dam to restore salmon and steelhead populations; and

Whereas, only through responsible management of water resources can Klamath River Basin fisheries be restored to optimum levels as called for in the Klamath River Basin Restoration Act of 1986; and

Whereas, prudent water use in the Klamath basin must include measures to maintain lake levels to protect endangered Klamath Lake suckers; and

Whereas on a yearly basis, a measure of predictability needs to be inserted into Klamath Project water management addressing fishery needs and agricultural interests; and

Whereas, until such time as flow studies confirm flows necessary for the protection and restoration of Klamath River Basin fishery stocks, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) required minimum flow releases should be maintained at Iron Gate Dam on the Klamath River;

Now, therefore, the Pacific Fishery Management Council requests that the Bureau of Reclamation ensure that FERC-required minimum flow releases be maintained below Iron Gate Dam on the Klamath River as a measure of protection for already depleted fishery stocks.

The Council further urges that flow studies be initiated as soon as possible to determine the amount of water needed to restore the Klamath River basin fishery stocks.

PFMC  
10/25/94