

In Relation to Water

Indigenous Leadership in Restoring and Re- envisioning Watershed Stewardship

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We should take a moment to acknowledge the land on which we are gathered. For thousands of years, this land has been the home of Patwin people. Today, there are three federally recognized Patwin tribes: Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community, Kletsel Dehe Wintun Nation, and Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. The Patwin people have remained committed to the stewardship of this land over many centuries. It has been cherished and protected, as elders have instructed the young through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands.

- Importance of land acknowledgement
- Land acknowledgement as a first step



In Relation...

- ▶ Indigenous perspectives on relation and responsibility– local/ regional cultural practitioners including Diana Almendariz and Ron Goode, and authors including Melanie Yazzie & Cutcha Risling Baldy, Zoe Todd, Dan Wildcat, and many others
- ▶ My discussion of relation references those perspectives (including epistemologies of kinship and reciprocity, frameworks of sovereignty) and takes a political ecological (politics, economy, ecology) approach-- considering how infrastructure (dams) and policy (water, fire) reveal a relation to water
- ▶ How might we better understand this relation, and its impact on environmental injustices, and shift into a more respectful relation?



A moment of reckoning

- ▶ Truth and Reconciliation– Truth and Healing Council, Reparations Commission, Statue toppling, emphasis on police accountability, Boarding School recognition, 1619 Project...and more
- ▶ Adding to that conversation--- the history of hydroelectric infrastructure imposed with no Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, and its ongoing impacts, exacerbated by climatic change and water quality concerns
- ▶ Project goals:
 - ▶ Place each River/ project in deep historical context, documenting the ways in which the water and the human community were manipulated to benefit a generally narrow “public” that did not include Indigenous peoples or people of color.
 - ▶ Identify the institutions, processes, relationships, funding, that are supporting multi-year dam removal and river restoration efforts.
 - ▶ Inform inclusive, historically-responsive policy development that recognizes Indigenous leadership of large-scale dam removal and river restoration projects.
 - ▶ Develop tools to support collaborative dam removal with and by tribal partners.
 - ▶ Advocate for additional funding and policy support for tribally-led dam removal and restoration.

From dams as a tool of removal, to dam removal as a way to sustain people and communities.



The stakes are high...

- ▶ Climate is changing– increasing temperature, increasing aridity, increasing variability/ unpredictability
- ▶ Subsistence and cultural uses of water are increasingly threatened by water quality and quantity
- ▶ Ecosystem resilience requires addressing the impacts of aging hydroelectric and water diversion and storage infrastructure, **in a way that does not reproduce embedded discrimination, exclusion, and inequalities.**
- ▶ Environmental restoration can only be discussed alongside attention to the *violence of infrastructure projects that benefited a narrow segment of the population, with lasting impacts.*
- ▶ Healing from dam removal and restoration is multifaceted, with intertwined ecological, economic, social, and cultural aspects.

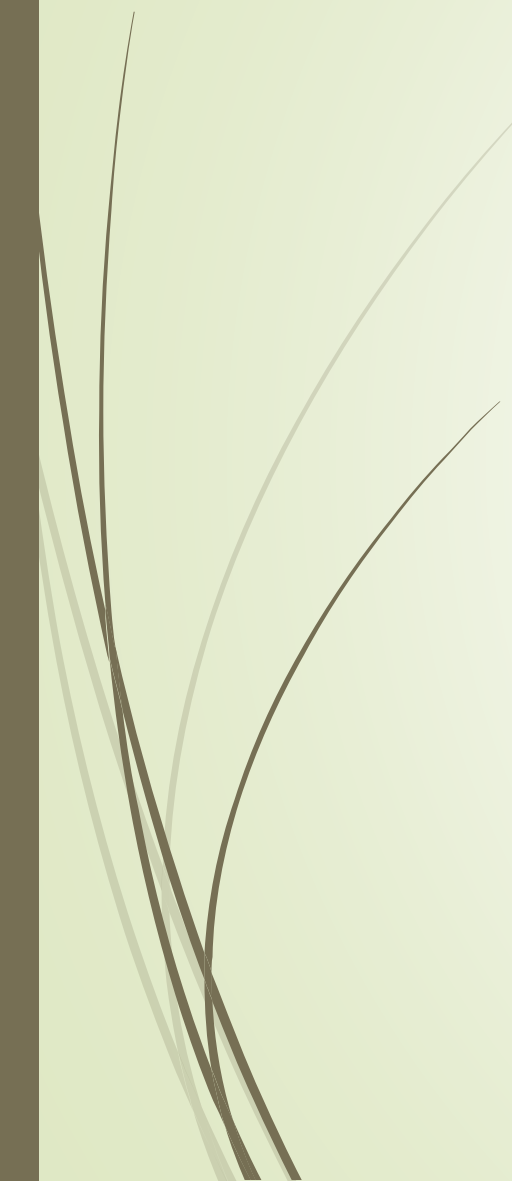
Context: Western Water Development

- ▶ 1888 Congressional appropriation to the DOI to study the irrigation potential of Western lands. The appropriation asserted that all lands deemed potential sites for water projects, and potentially irrigable, be reserved from settlement.
- ▶ Bureau of Reclamation's first Director, Francis Newlands, worked with Frederick Newell, US Geological Survey, in 1900 to develop a "national irrigation bill that could be funded from the sale of public lands" (Rowley, William D., 1996, *Reclaiming the Arid West*).
- ▶ 1901 hearings on the proposed Reclamation Act (passed 1902) contemplate "receipts from the sales of public lands in the arid and semiarid regions of the US" will be put "to the exclusive purposes of irrigation."
- ▶ This was formalized into a specific fund in the Treasury, the "arid land reclamation fund," for the development of reservoirs and "other hydraulic works" for irrigation and "reclamation of arid lands."
- ▶ Native American homelands were thus claimed as "public" land and sold to provide revenue to fund large water projects that would in turn support the settlement and development of the West by "a most desirable class of people"





Tribal lands

- ▶ All homelands, political jurisdiction aside
 - ▶ Lands under tribal jurisdiction
 - ▶ Lands cared for by tribal stewardship, but out of tribal jurisdiction
 - ▶ Lands under tribal cultural or political jurisdiction, impacted by old projects
- 

The legacy of dams



- ▶ Everywhere there is a dam, there is an inundation, a removal of people and ecologies, a legacy of resistance, and a potential to restore
- ▶ Why dams? Flood control, water storage, hydroelectricity, recreation. How might we address and provide for each of these needs?



Confronting colonial legacies


- ▶ Seizure of Native lands for hydroelectric and water storage policies
 - ▶ *Along with their gathering sites, the Maidu lost salmon and snapping turtles, ceremonies, language, and song—‘everything that goes with the land... We have always been looking for compensation for what we lost. Always.* - Lorena Gorbet, Maidu Summit, 2014
- ▶ Continued denial (by public agencies, conservation entities, private companies, private landowners, institutions, law and policy) of Indigenous rights and *responsibilities* to tend homelands
- ▶ Naturalization of settler histories as “always here”
- ▶ Choice to **PERPETUATE** or to **DISRUPT** the exclusion of Indigenous peoples from foundational moments in determining land/water jurisdiction

Envisioning new approaches

- ▶ Consider key moments in project development: licensing, funding, voting, planning, compensation, construction...
 - ▶ What might have been different in those moments to foreground Indigenous objectives, needs, epistemologies?
 - ▶ Will re-examining the past help build alternative futures?
- ▶ What mechanisms, institutions, and partnerships enable tribally-led dam removals and river restoration?

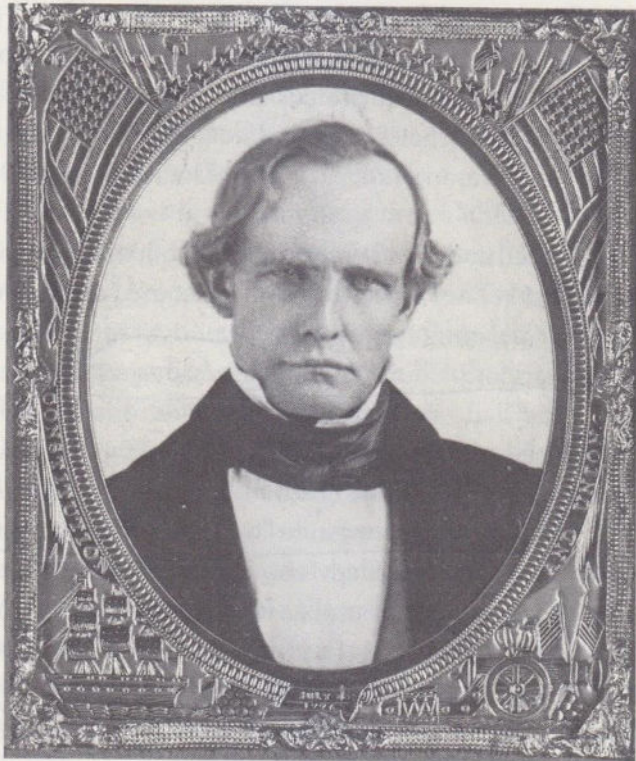


Eklutna River Coalition partners organized a bucket brigade, with strong public participation, symbolically transferring water to the river from above to below the lake dam.

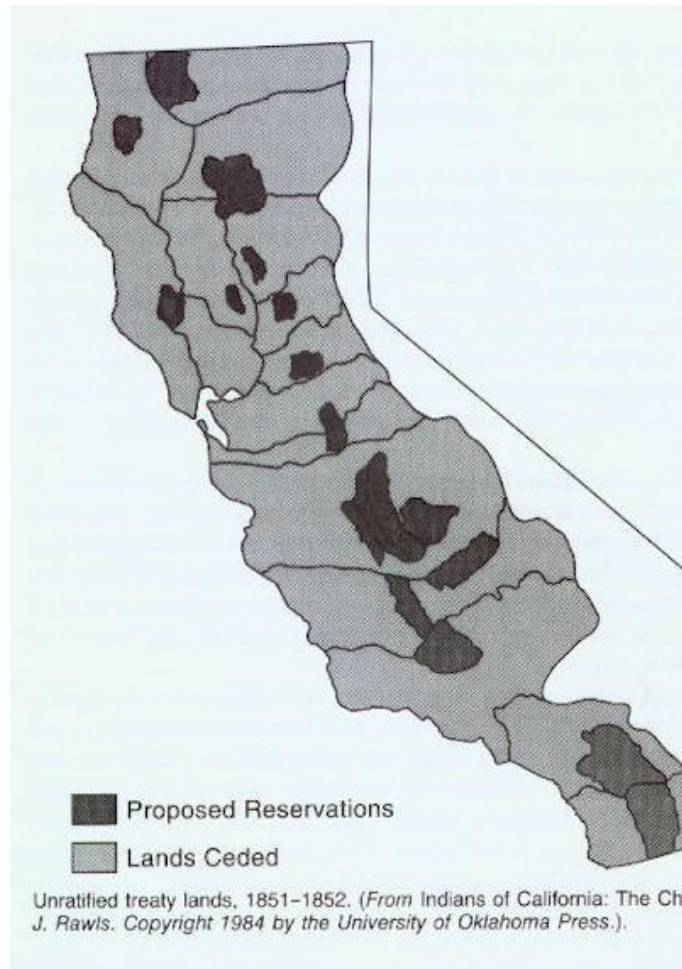


North Fork Feather River: Stairway of Power and CA State Water Project

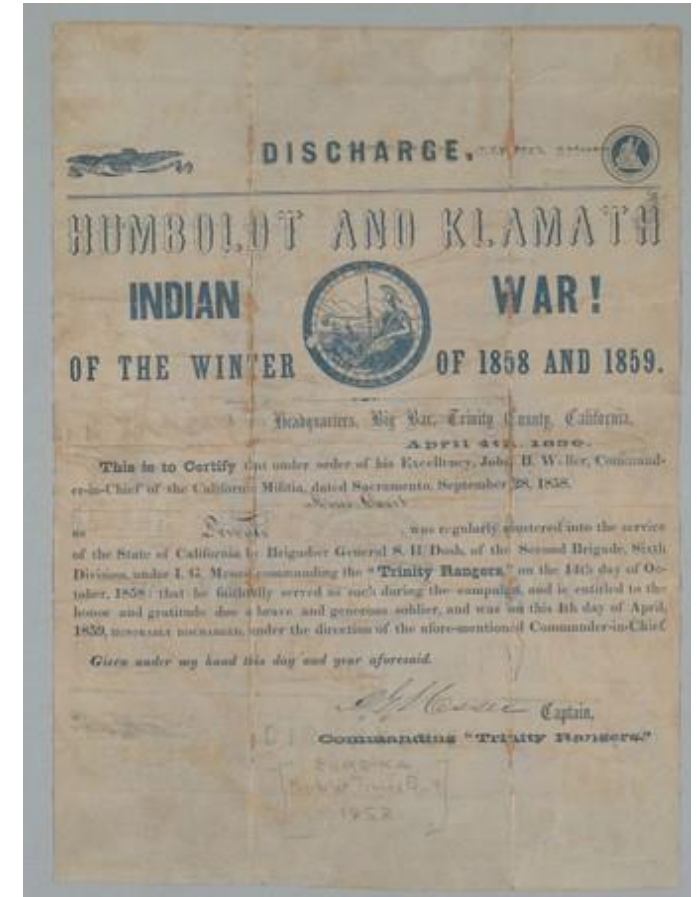
- ~1850-1900: Seizure of tribal lands via nullified treaty-making process, direct violence sanctioned by the state
- Tribes excluded from making land claims or gaining associated water rights
- Federal reservations of land for possible water projects (1888), condemnation of lands (1901) or withdrawal of lands from settlement if they had hydropower potential (1910)
- Private projects built with public reservations of tribal land
- State politicians begin advocating for a State water conveyance project (1930s) that would move water from the wet and less populated north to the dry and more populated south



In 1851, Governor Peter Burnett prophesied "That a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the races, until the Indian race becomes extinct" (Peter H. Burnett, "Governor's Message," in California,



Unratified treaty lands, 1851-1852. (From *Indians of California: The Ch...* J. Rawls. Copyright 1984 by the University of Oklahoma Press.).





Flooding tribal lands in NE California

- ▶ PL 109 (1908), “An Act To relinquish, release, and confirm the title of certain lands in California to the Western Power Company” canceled 890 acres of state and federal land and transferred it to the power company.
- ▶ June 25, 1910 (36 Stat., 847), (power site reserves Nos. 234 and 245): These power-site withdrawals contained about 2,250 acres of lands covered by Indian allotments.



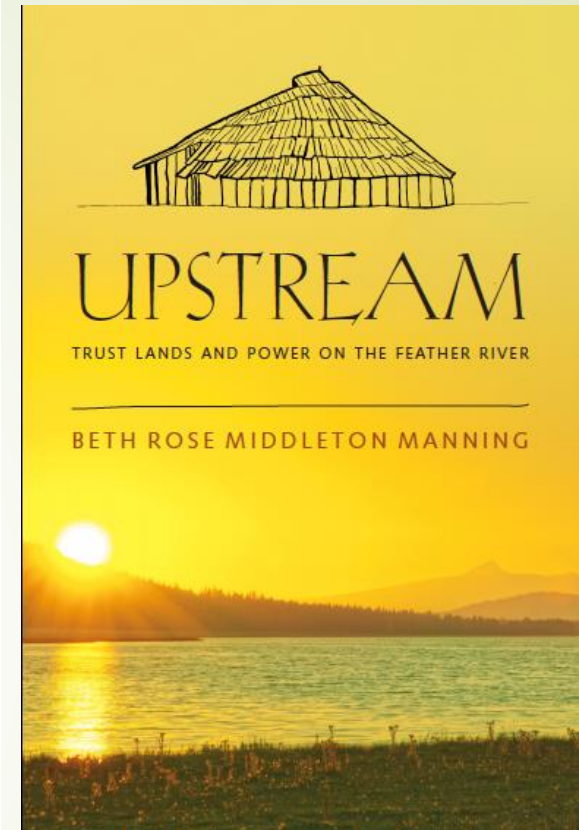
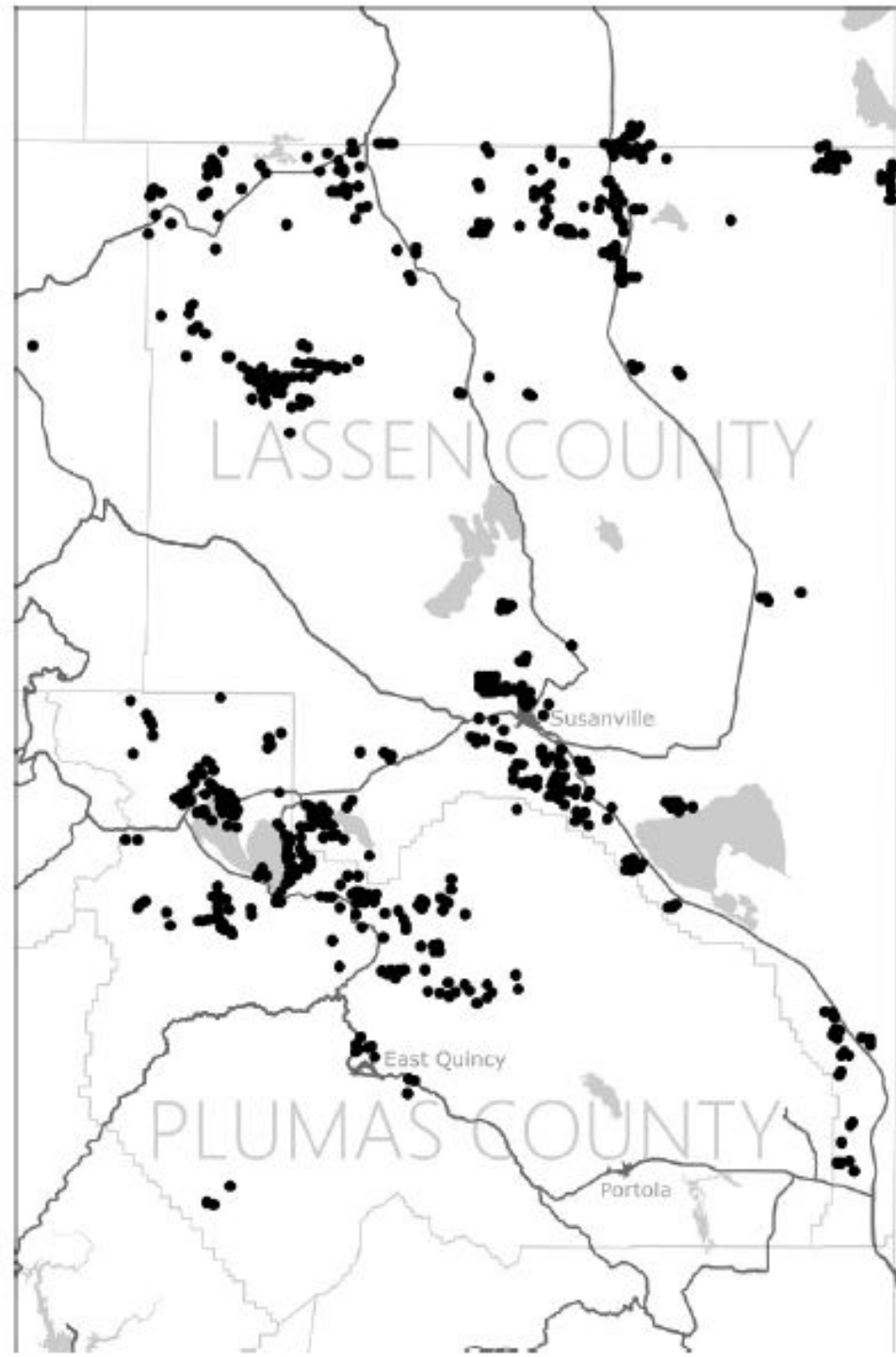
The Western Power Company, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, finding itself in need of certain lands in connection with the development of its activities, including the area above described in application No. 179, instituted condemnation proceedings pursuant to a provision found in the act of March 3, 1901 (31 Stat., 1058-1064), which reads:

"Lands allotted in severalty to Indians may be condemned for any public purpose under the laws of the State or Territory where located in the same manner as land owned in fee may be condemned, and the money awarded as indemnity shall be paid to the allottee."

The title so acquired was confirmed in the power company by the act of May 5, 1908 (35 Stat., 100), which provides in part:

"That all the interest of the United States in and to the land in the Susanville land district in the State of California known and described as * * *, aggregating in all 890 acres is hereby relinquished, released, and confirmed to the Western Power Company."

- F. M. Goodwin, Asst. Secy., DOI, to the Commissioner of the GLO, January 20, 1922



L: Individual Indian Allotments in Plumas and Lassen counties, California
Cartography by Michelle Tobias



Big Meadows
dam construction
1925 (Huber,
WRCA)



Great Western's

potential power development is 292,000 H. P., the largest single hydro-electric project in California. It is probably exceeded only by Niagara as a power project.

The Great Western plant generates 50,000 H. P. and the new Crocker plant 65,000 H. P. — two of the largest power plants in the West.

Great Western is equipped among the finest in high voltage transmission.

The entire hydro-electric generating system is regulated by Lake Alameda, the largest artificial power reservoir in the world.

World's Largest System

The Feather River Project is the first unit of the long-range California Water Plan. The FRP alone will be the world's largest water conservation and distribution system.

FRP estimated total cost, including items not in actual construction costs: \$4,100,000,000.

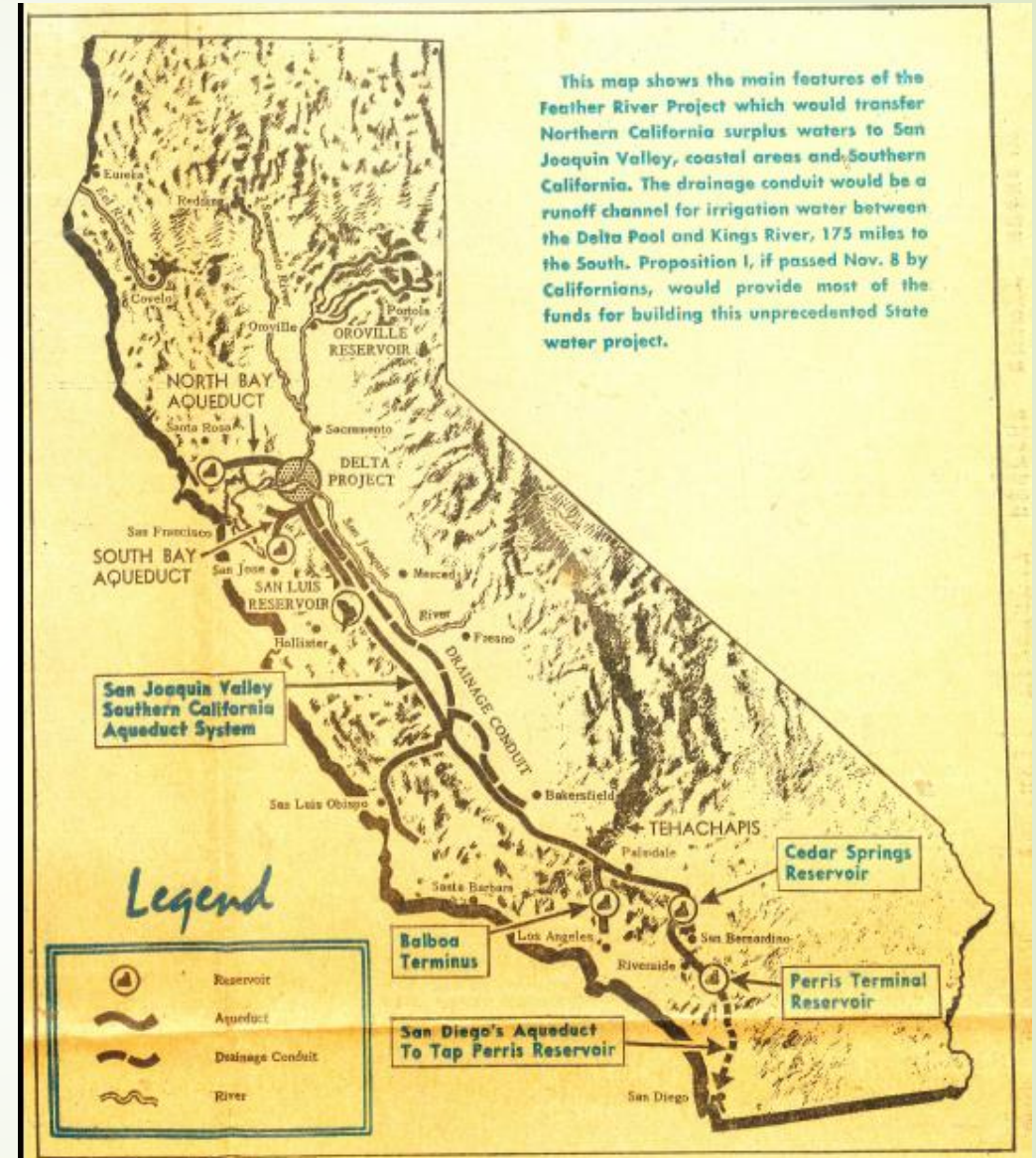
Distance of water transfer: 740 miles from Oroville Dam on the upper Feather River to an aqueduct terminal reservoir at Perris which will service an area down to San Diego County.

Other key units: The great aque-

duct system, with branches at north and south ends of San Francisco Bay; the Delta Pool (convergence point of northern rivers) San Joaquin Valley-Southern California Aqueduct, with East and West Branches serving Southern California.

Also San Luis Reservoir, a state-Federal unit to impound water in San Joaquin Valley for storage and flow regulation; master levees, drainage and hydroelectric facilities and pumping plants.

BRODY: No. Revenues cern in the North where Q.—Now, any final
 the State gets from wa- they want the dam to word, Governor?



YOU AND THE STATEWIDE WATER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM



YOUR FAMILY

... must have an adequate supply of pure, wholesome water for its health and welfare ... will benefit further when recreational facilities—boating, fishing areas—are expanded by the program.



YOUR FOOD AND CLOTHING

... are dependent on an adequate water supply. To provide these necessities, one-half of project water will be used for agricultural purposes.



YOUR FUTURE

... and that of the entire state are dependent upon adequate water supplies to meet the booming growth in population—expected to double to 28,000,000 by 1980! More water means higher property values, security for your business or your job.

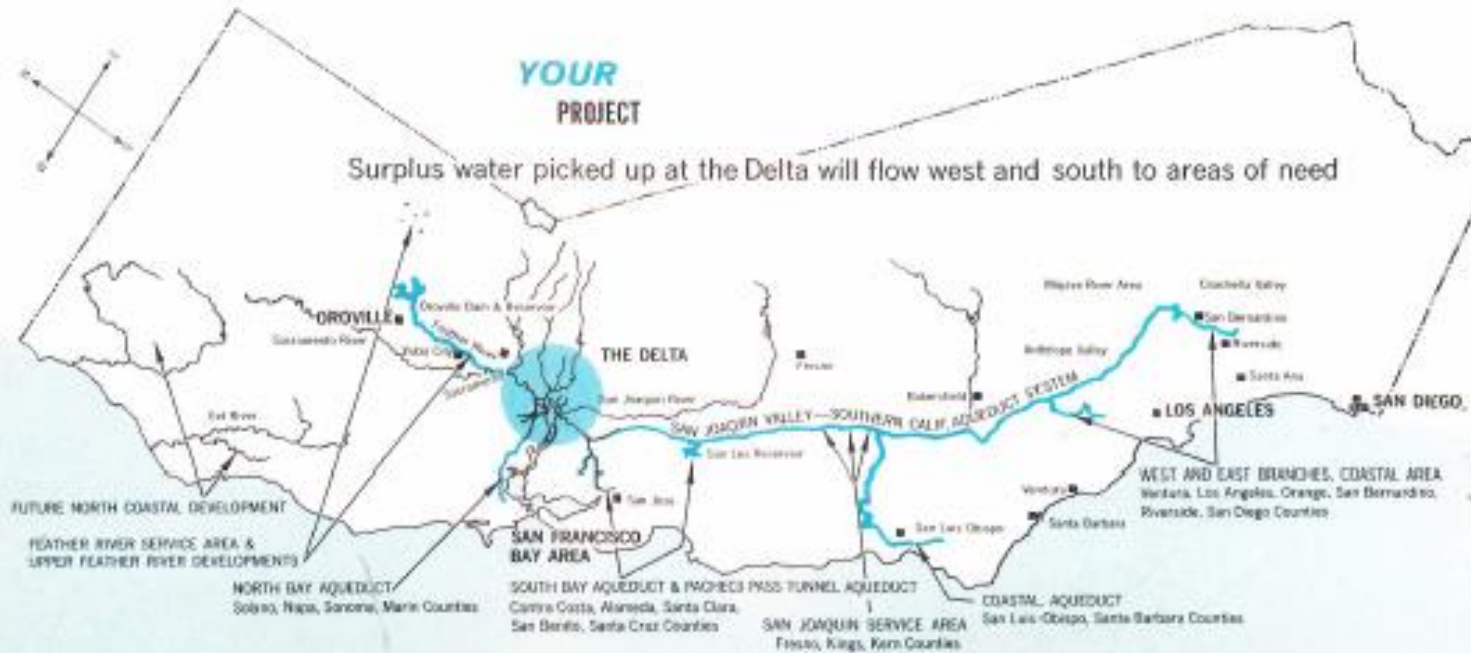


YOUR SAFETY

... depends on flood control to prevent loss of life and property. Flood control from Oroville Dam alone is valued at \$70,000,000! And, more water for cities means better protection against fires.

Who is “your”?
Who is the “public” that will benefit from this project?


...not Native people at the headwaters whose homelands the projects will be built within.





How could the SWP have looked different?

- **Recognition** of: NFFR as Native (Maidu) homelands; impact of successive policy waves resulting in no collective land base; culture-ecology relationship disrupted
- **Centering** Indigenous needs, priorities, epistemologies in planning project: species migration, secure homeland and water rights
- **Restitution** for impacts, both past and negotiated
- **Mitigation** planning so that the least harm is done to cultural places and ecosystems (i.e., AB 32, NHPA)
- A different project, maybe not a project, an *elsewhere* (*Decolonization is not an 'and.'* It is an *elsewhere*- Tuck & Yang 2012: 36)



We are witnessing a profound and ponderous shift in environmental policy, from viewing rivers as expendable to viewing rivers as living entities that are responsible for diverse human and non-human ecologies.

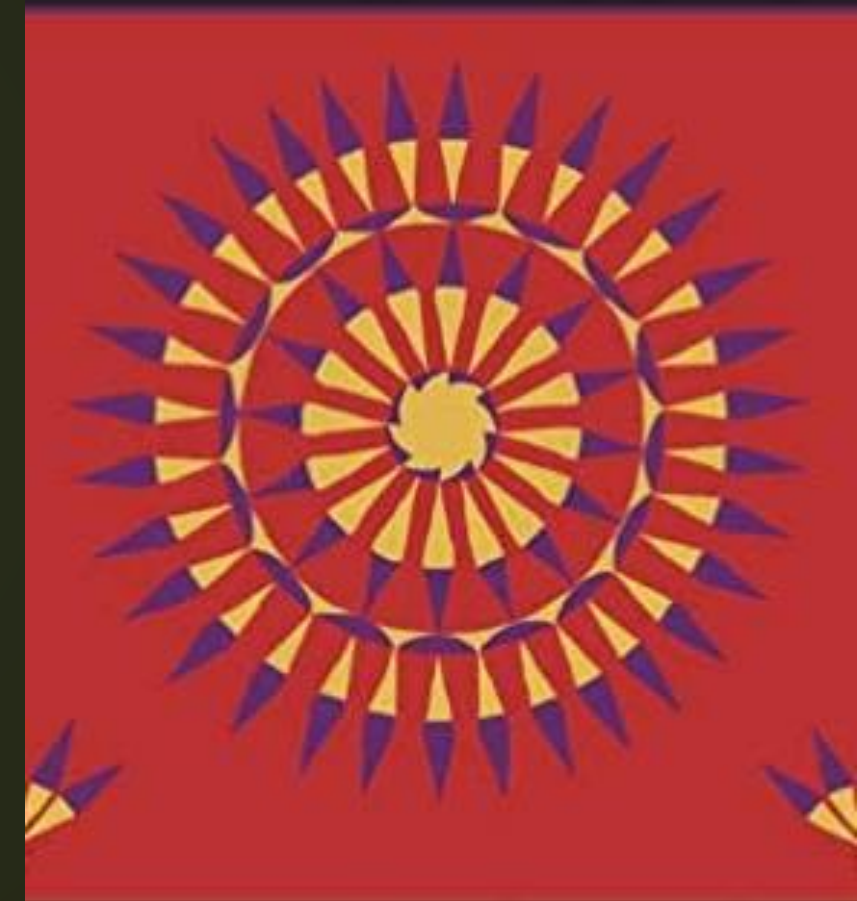
- Elements guiding this shift include:
 - Ecology, including Traditional Ecology
 - Native law: personhood of rivers, UNDRIP and FPIC
 - Economics: diversified sources of energy, regional and global economic dynamics, increasing water use efficiency, expanding technology

Free, Prior, and Informed Consent in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- ▶ Article 10: "No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples...."
- ▶ Article 11: "States shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples, with respect to their cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free, prior and informed consent..."
- ▶ Article 28: "Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent."

IN THE LIGHT OF
JUSTICE

Rise of Human Rights in Native America
the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples




Walter R. Echo-Hawk
Foreword by S. James Anaya

Free: consent given voluntarily and without coercion, intimidation or manipulation. A process that is self-directed by the community from whom consent is being sought, unencumbered by coercion, expectations or timelines that are externally imposed.

Informed: nature of the engagement and type of information that should be provided prior to seeking consent and also as part of the ongoing consent process.

Prior: consent is sought sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities.

Consent: collective decision made by the right holders and reached through a customary decision-making processes of the communities.



Decolonizing Water? Infrastructure and Policy

- FPIC in water infrastructure: not part of the early conversation; now there are opportunities to engage in contemporary policymaking, planning
- Opportunities for Collaborative Research: Large water projects (SWP, CVP, etc.): Identify opportunities for land restitution and/or Indigenous-led restoration (i.e., relicensing, conservation mandates, etc.): what are the barriers to achieve land transfer or land restoration? How can barriers be overcome?
- Action & Education
 - Share and publicize histories of disenfranchisement as they map on to current configurations of ownership/ leadership; leverage this information to avoid replicating past injustices

De-colonial re-education on water

- ▶ Three modules:
 - ▶ The State of California Salmon;
 - ▶ Culture, Advocacy, Environmental Justice for Tribal Communities;
 - ▶ Advocacy and Allyship with Indigenous Movements

▶ <https://www.californiasalmon.org/curriculum-advocacy-water-protectio>

**Advocacy and Water Protection
in Native California Curriculum
Educator's Training**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021
3:30PM - 5:30PM**
Webinar 1: Intro to the Advocacy and Water Protection in Native California Curriculum, Traditional Knowledge, and its Context (2 hours)

**FRIDAY APRIL 2, 2021
3:30PM - 5:30PM**
Webinar 2: Delivering the Curriculum (2 hours)

This curriculum features both online and in-person learning and was developed by Native cultural leaders, water protectors, educators, lawyers, health experts, scientists and leaders in their fields. It was created to meet California state standards in social studies, science, history, art, english, cultural studies, political science.

All educators welcome to attend. Limited amount of stipends available for educators in Klamath, Trinity, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties.

Register at my.hcoe.net

Please email my.hcoe.net@humboldtstate.edu or info@californiasalmon.org for more information.



ADVOCACY & WATER PROTECTION IN NATIVE CALIFORNIA CURRICULUM

ALIGNED TO CALIFORNIA STATE EDUCATION STANDARDS 9TH TO 12TH GRADES



Artist: *Mahlia Florendo*

Developed from the 2020 Summer Speaker Series & Certification Program in collaboration with Save California Salmon, Humboldt State University Department of Native American Studies, Klamath/Trinity Unified School District Indian Education Program, Pathmakers Program at Humboldt County Office of Education/Blue Lake Rancheria, Yurok Tribe's Visitor Center

www.californiasalmon.org

Personhood and Relation

- In 2019, Yurok Tribe recognized the Personhood of the Klamath River:
 - ***“What it means is it gives the right to the river to exist, to flourish and to naturally evolve and a right to a stable climate free from human caused climate change impacts. What that means is that anytime the river is hurt, for example, there's a toxic pollutant that is, gets into the water of the river, we could then bring a cause of action against that polluter to protect the river.”*** (Cordalis on NPR 9/29/2019)
 - Impacting environmental policy from Indigenous law and international law



Dam removals: struggles and progress

- ▶ Open Rivers Fund of Resources Legacy Fund has contributed to 48 dam removals, opening 360 miles of stream, in 54 watersheds throughout the West, provided support for multiple Native nations
- ▶ Eklutna River dams, Dena'ina (Alaska)
- ▶ Kwoneesum Dam, Cowlitz, Wildboy Creek, Washington
- ▶ Matilija Dam, Chumash (California)
- ▶ Pending permissions, goal to also include:
 - ▶ Rogue River dams, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua, Oregon
 - ▶ Snake River dams, Nez Perce, Idaho
 - ▶ Klamath dams, Yurok and Karuk, California



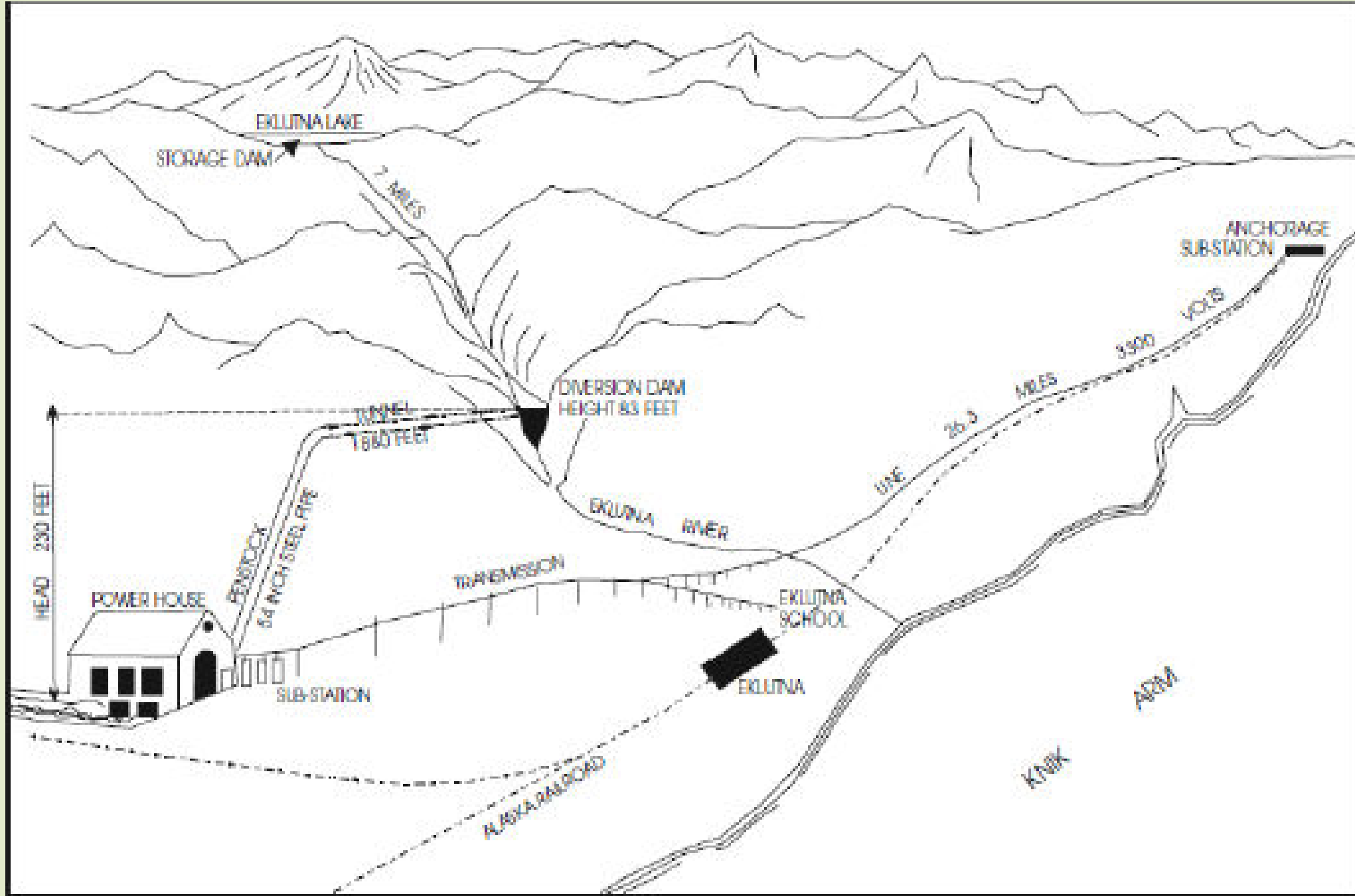


Figure 3-7. Original hydropower development on the Eklutna River (CEMML, 2002)

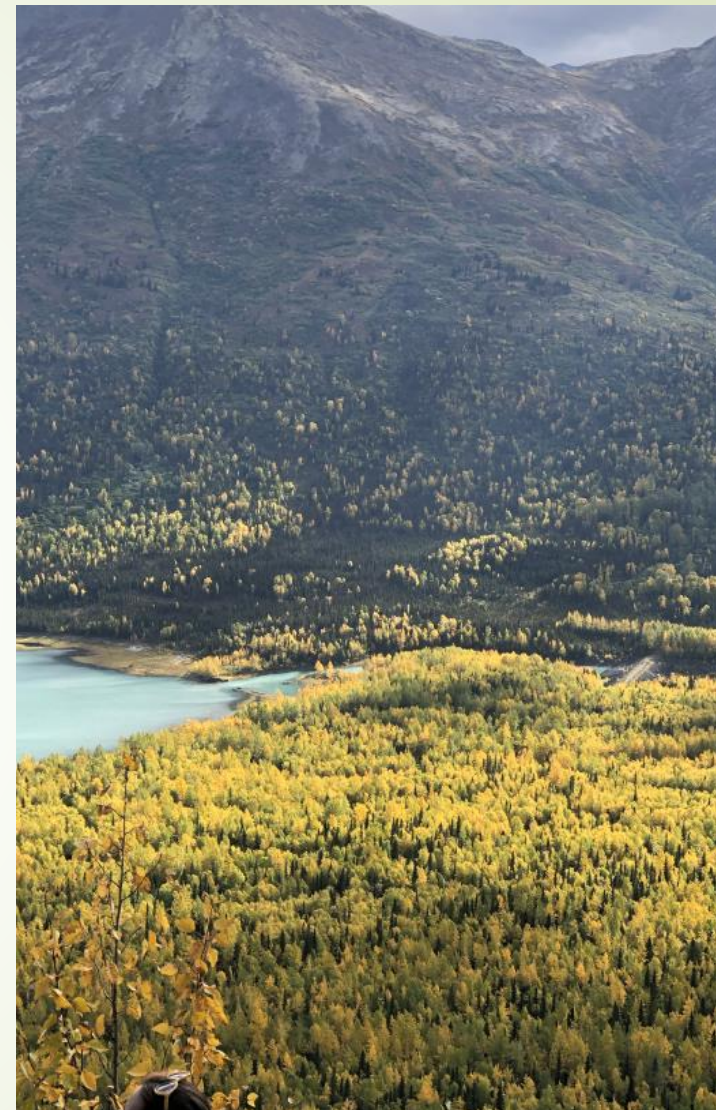
- Eklutna River salmon have been a central to Dena'ina lifeways since time immemorial.
- NVE formed and coordinate Eklutna River Watershed Council and Eklutna River Committee (partners include Conservation Fund, Trout Unlimited, and Alaska Center)
- NVE has been advocating with utility companies, with support from Eklutna Inc. and Conservation Fund.
- NVE President Aaron Leggett: We want to bring back salmon populations for Dena'ina and Alaskans. The Tribe is very pleased that progress is being made toward restoring the Eklutna River, and are hopeful that the salmon will return to us. (2021 NVE)
- 2021 Alaska Federation of Natives endorsed restoration of Eklutna River



A sign welcoming guests to Eklutna's historical park (CIRI).

Eklutna Project: Context

- ▶ June 10, 1920: 41 Stat. 1063, Federal Water Power Act, empowered the Federal Power Commission to license the construction of dams, reservoirs, powerhouses, and other hydropower infrastructure on navigable waters and within public lands and Indian reservations.



- 1923: Businessman Frank Reed received a preliminary permit to construct and operate a power project on the Eklutna River. In 1928, the Commission found that the project was well-suited for “water-power development and other beneficial uses,” would not “interfere or be inconsistent with the purpose” of any other affected purpose or reservation, granted a 50-year license.
- Dam constructed 1929, in the first year the Company sold over \$66,000 worth of energy, to the City of Anchorage, the Alaska Railroad, and the Eklutna School
- Storage dam released water from the Lake; diversion dam downstream routed it through the mountain to a power plant



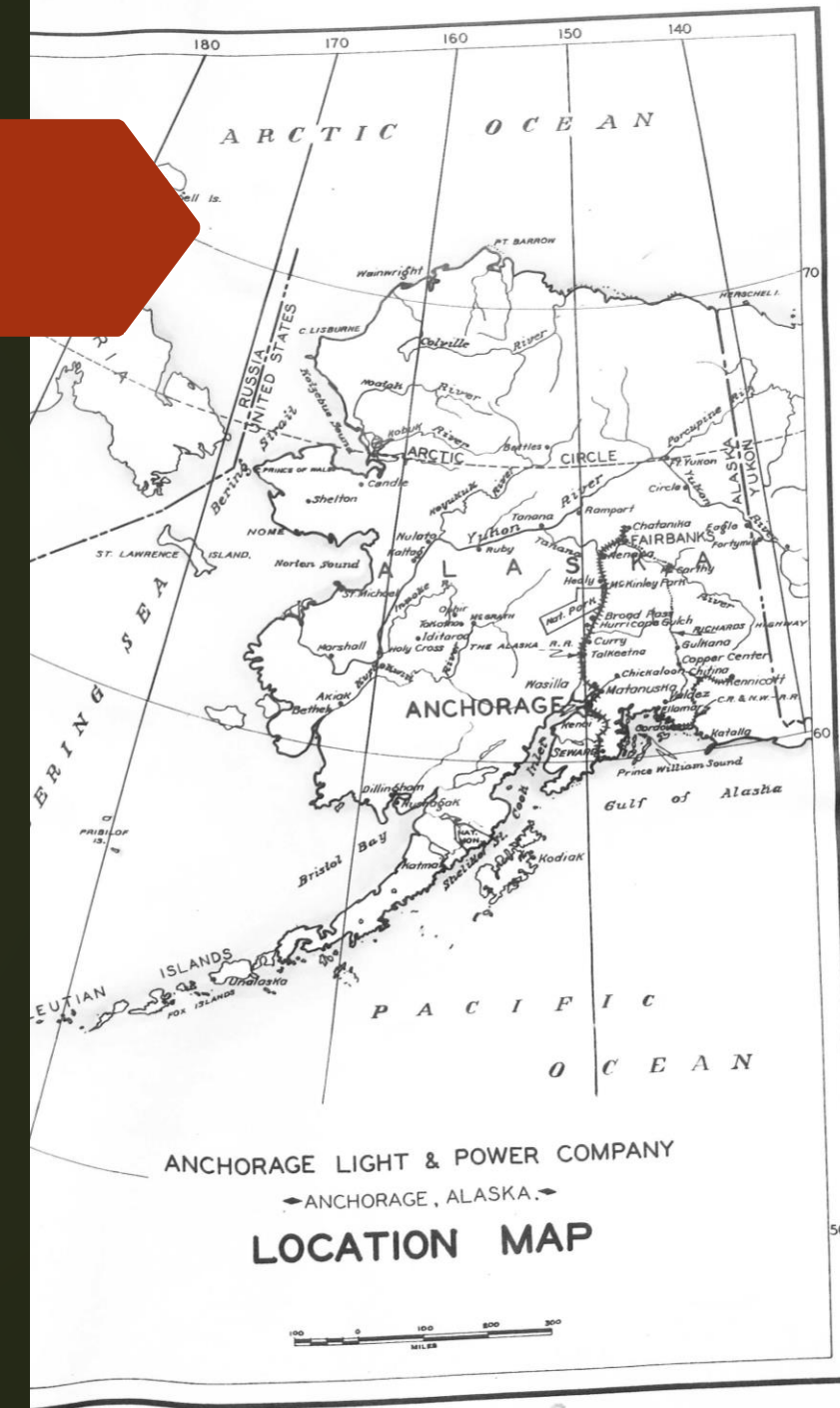
Figure 3-8. Upstream face of diversion dam under construction (CEMML, 2002)



Figure 3-9. Eklutna Lake spillway discharging 1,500 cfs, July 7, 1929 (CEMML, 2002)

Ekluntna

- ▶ City of Anchorage purchased the system for from Reed in 1943, FPC license transferred
- ▶ The Bureau of Reclamation aspect of the Eklutna Project was authorized by PL 628 on 7/31/1950 (64 Stat 32) to increase power generation. The resulting concrete dam raised the level of the Lake, moved the diversion outtake to the Lake, and was **not designed to release water into the River**. The project reserved water rights from the Lake and the River.
- ▶ BoR consulted with many agencies, including Office of Indian Affairs, which noted that the project would “not conflict with the present Eklutna Indian Reserve,” **although the Village is located at the mouth of the River**
- ▶ Federal Eklutna project was first major BoR project outside of the lower 48, did not require an FPC license





View of the dry
Eklutna river below
the Eklutna Lake
dam.

Taking ALL the water out of a salmon river is not acceptable practice



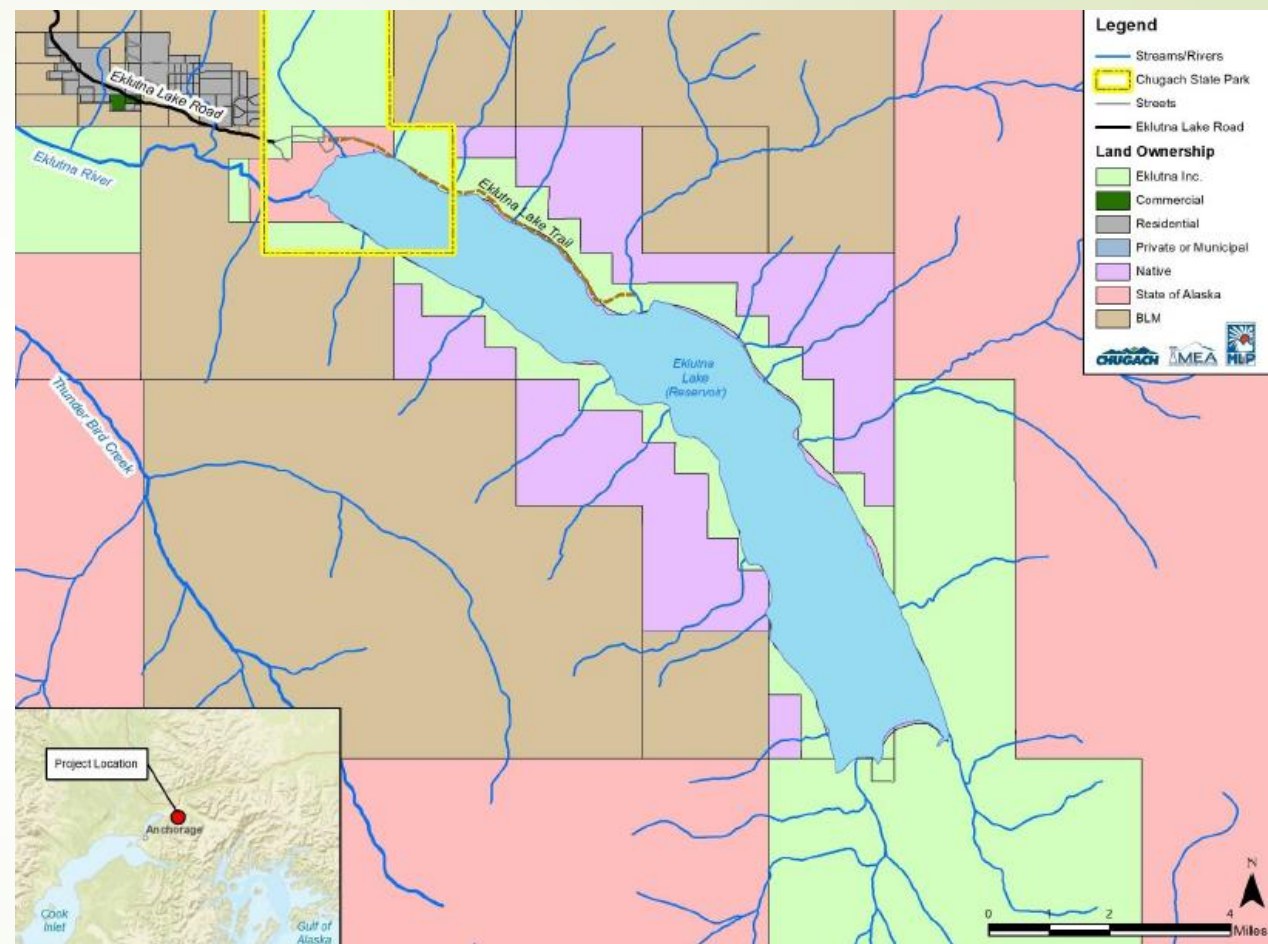
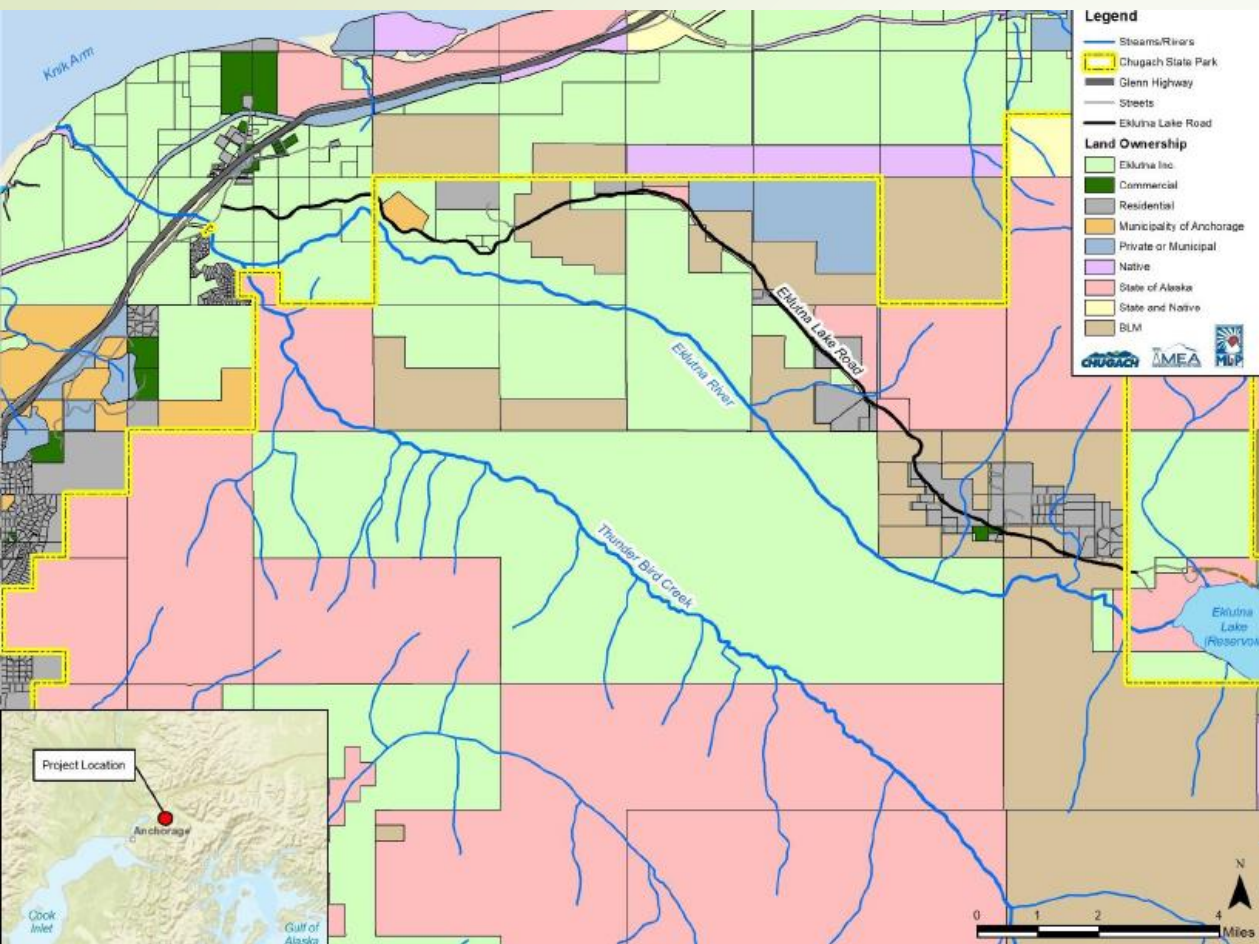
Native Village of Eklutna
Tribal Government

- 1929 dam: limited salmon to below the lower dam site. Elders remember salmon of all species in the lower Eklutna into the 1950s
- 1955 diversion: loss of winter rearing habitat, siltation, lack of gravel, low water quantity and quality
- Elders including Lee Stephan and Maria Coleman remember salmon in the River into the 1970s

Eklutna

- 1961 tribal government organized as Native Village of Eklutna
- Federal power projects transferred to State administration in 1967. Federal water right traveled with the project.
- 1971 ANCSA created Eklutna Inc, a Native village corporation. **The corporation owns the land around the River and the Lake,** State has management authority for 27,000 acres (NALA)
- In process of sale to state entities (1987), fish and wildlife agencies were consulted; NMFS identified loss of sockeye run in the Eklutna system, caused by 1929 project, never mitigated.
- **1991 Fish & Wildlife Agreement required 3 new owners plan to mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife in 25 years (2022), begin implementation in 30 years (2027), and complete implementation in 35 years (2032)**
- In 2003, NVE applied for water rights to create instream flow reservations for salmonids, not yet adjudicated





Land ownership maps from the "Eklutna Hydroelectric Project: 1991 Fish & Wildlife Agreement Implementation," September 2020, pgs. 129-130

Removing the lower dam

- ▶ Eklutna, Inc. and Conservation Fund raised \$7.5 million to remove the lower dam in 2018, which had been blocking fish passage since 1929



Figure 3-27. View of the construction site (The Conservation Fund, 2017)



Hydro companies released water in Sept 2021, as part of the studies required by the 1991 agreement.

This was the first time water was flowing in the full stretch of the Eklutna since 1929!

No release was approved in 2022.

Studies of the impact of the 2021 release are ongoing.

L: water flowing in the Eklutna River, 9/2021



Eklutna -- considerations

- Approved project (prior to statehood) stopped the flow of the River (with the exception of water contributed by tributaries), and stopped the migration of 5 species of salmon
- Eklutna Inc owns the land, but not necessarily management authority
- Project impacts conservation values (bordered by a State Park managed area), and municipal needs
 - 1988, Eklutna Water Project completed, diverting water from the Lake to serve City of Anchorage and private water bottling company
 - 10% of water diverted provides 90% of Anchorage water supply; 90% of water diverted is used for power generation
- New goals encompass fisheries, hydro, water supply, subsistence
- Navigating conflict between hydro generation and outflow
- Proposals include standardizing flow release to maintain salmon populations, and providing fish passage around the upper dam



**CAMP
KWONEESUM**

Kwoneesum: Context

- ▶ Wildboy Creek, tributary to the Washougal River, southwest Washington State
- ▶ Dam constructed 1964 by Campfire Girls Summer Camp to create 9-acre recreational lake
- ▶ Dam blocks coho salmon, winter and summer steelhead spawning and rearing habitat, increases water temperature, and there are safety concerns for downstream residents
- ▶ 2018 WDFW report ranked it priority 55 out of 6,181 fish passage enhancement sites
- ▶ Campfire Girls sold the property in the 1980s, ultimately purchased by Weyerhaeuser, which sold it to the Columbia Land Trust in 2020
- ▶ Dam removal would improve water quality, restore salmon habitat. Cowlitz Indian Tribe has created a dam removal design proposal. Working on permitting, with a goal of immediate dam removal

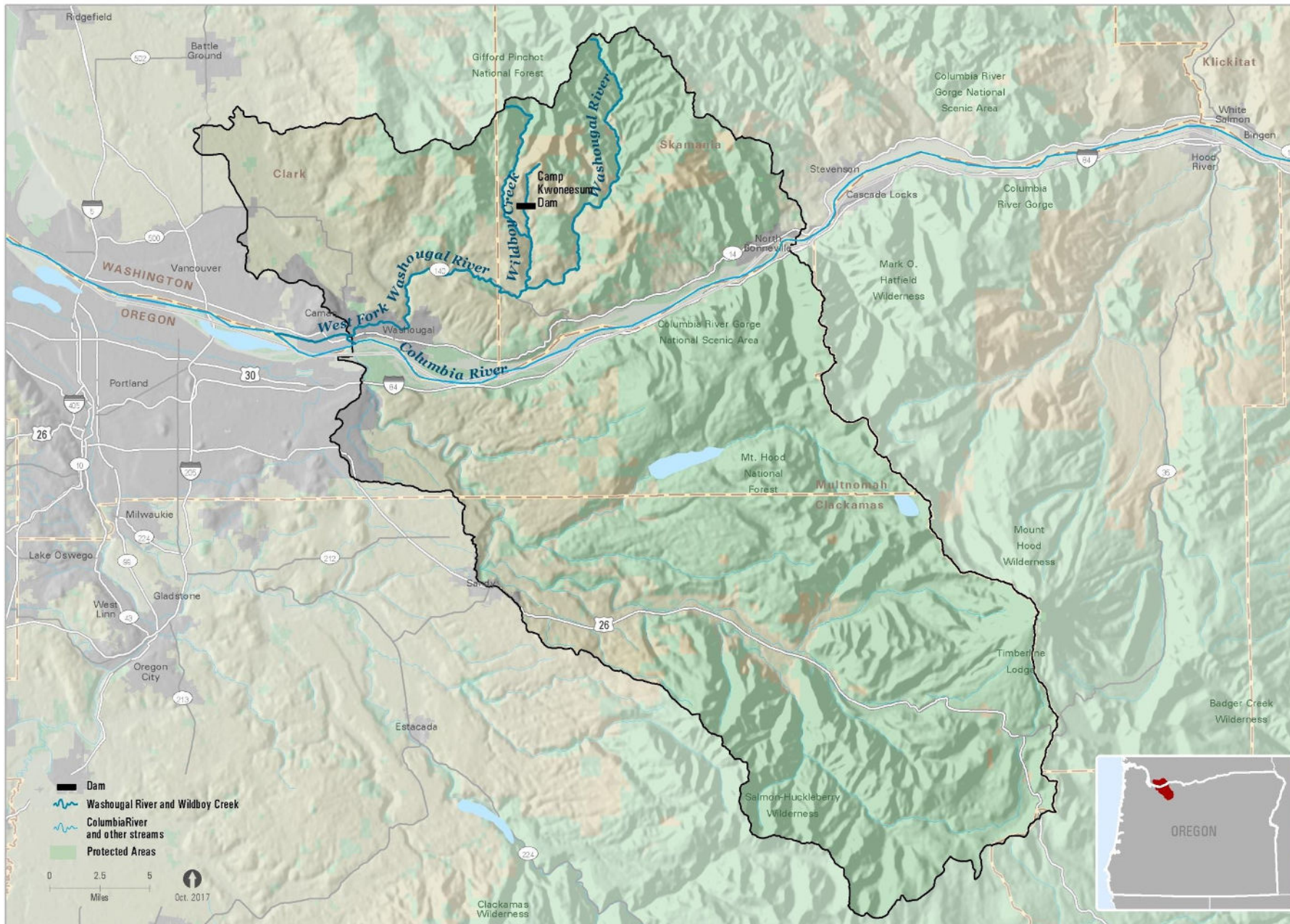


Construction of the Kwoneesum
Dam Reservoir (1964)

**1800 ACRES of
WONDERLAND**



All photo credit to: Camp Fire Columbia, courtesy of Nancy King



OPEN RIVERS FUND
Lower Columbia River - Camp Kwoneesum Dam







Beaver slide---
some animals are
still getting over the
dam!

Challenges/ questions in creating alternate futures for dams and river restoration...

- ▶ Building enduring partnerships
 - ▶ Building trust and agreement between conservation entities and Tribes, and between numerous varied partners who must be involved in dam removals
- ▶ Replacing dam functions
 - ▶ Water storage, electric provision, recreation/ tourism, flood control--- buffering changes and satisfying customers
- ▶ Contamination
 - ▶ What is behind the dams? Research, monitoring, risk management and mitigation
- ▶ Engaging with diverse forms of Tribal governance
 - ▶ Federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes, Alaska Native corporations and Alaska Native villages
 - ▶ Role of federal recognition and/or corporate status in developing partnerships, fundraising, alternatives to dam functions, de-commissioning
- ▶ Land Back
 - ▶ Dams are intertwined with displacement. What are the points of interface between dam removals and the Land Back movement?





Steps forward/ Steps Back

- Cases illustrate wins:
 - Collaborative land purchases (Kwoneesum)
 - Achieving vast multijurisdictional agreement (Klamath, Eklutna)
 - Getting water back in the River (temporarily), and removing a defunct dam (Eklutna)
- Cases illustrate challenges:
 - Jurisdictional constraints, political/economic relationships, and addressing/ offsetting impact on existing uses (Eklutna)
 - Dueling science or delayed science, as embroiled in politics and economy (Eklutna, Klamath)
 - Finalizing agreements to get to actual dam removal (Kwoneesum)
 - Multi-jurisdictional coordination (Klamath: including 2 states, multiple tribes, multiple agencies, and a history of entrenched opposition)



Conclusions/ next steps

- Lasting Western hydro projects were planned during a period of intense colonialism (late 1800s/ early 1900s).
- There are many dam removal and river restoration initiatives with substantial tribal participation nationally and internationally (see Fox et al. 2022). This project builds on that work and *Upstream's* infrastructure/justice focus to advocate for consistent centering of Indigenous homeland histories and goals
- This project is guided by NAIS methodologies and responsibilities, and aims to contribute to a shift in natural resources policy towards justice and accountability
 - ...away from the shortsighted, exclusionary environmental decision-making of the past, to more inclusive, creative, multi-party processes that recognize the potential for building trust across cultures and worldviews to create more just and livable environmental futures.
- This project aims to have a very practical element, including key considerations and recommendations for building a comprehensive dam removal and river restoration strategy, while recognizing the unique conditions of each River and homeland.
- This project considers dam removals and river restoration in the context of other movements such as #LandBack; Native conservation initiatives such as Native land trusts and Native applications of conservation easements; and the application of UNDRIP and FPIC



Thank you!

This is an ongoing effort, and I am grateful for the support of Open Rivers Fund and the Carnegie Foundation, the work of GSRs Katt Lundy and Carlie Domingues, the support of my family, and the guidance of community members.