Klamath Dam Removal Timeline

1864: Klamath Tribes sign treating that includes salmon fishing rights

1918: Copco 1 becomes operational, salmon runs cut off from the Upper Klamath Basin.

1925: Copco 2 Dam becomes operational.

1958: Big Bend Dam – later known as J.C. Boyle Dam – is completed.

1962: Iron Gate Dam completed

1983: U.S. v. Adair upholds Klamath Tribes’ right to enough in-stream water to support fishing and hunting on former reservation lands, but does not quantify the amount of water.

1985: California State court confirms limited tribal fishing rights for Karuk tribe at Ishi Pishi Falls.

1988: Hoopa-Yurok Settlement Act splits the Hoopa Reservation creating a Yurok Reservation.

1997: Coho salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act.

2000: PacifiCorp begins federal relicensing process for the Klamath Hydroelectric Project Dams.

2002: Federal government reverses its decision to curtail irrigation diversions to protect fisheries allows farmers to divert more water from the Klamath than was recommended by federal scientists. As many as 68,000 salmon die before spawning in the lower Klamath River as a result of low flows.

2004: PacifiCorp files dam license application with FERC and includes no provisions for fish passage around dams or dam removal

2004: Tribes, fishermen, NGOs go to Scotland to demand dam removal from PacifiCorp parent company Scottish Power

2005: Scottish Power sells PacifiCorp to Warren Buffett’s Mid American Energy Holdings Company

2006: Karuk Tribe reports blooms of toxic algae in reservoirs exceed World Health Organization guidelines by nearly 4,000 fold

2007: California Energy Commission concludes that dam removal is even more favorable for PacifiCorp customers than relicensing

Tribes, fishermen, conservationists stage demonstrations at Berkshire Hathaway Shareholders Meeting in Omaha

Final FERC EIS concludes that relicensing dams under prescribed terms and conditions would result in a project that operated at a $20 million annual deficit

2008: Tribes, fishermen, conservationists protest Berkshire Hathaway Shareholder meeting in Omaha, NE.

In response to suit by Klamath Riverkeeper, EPA lists Klamath as “impaired” by toxic algae

2009: Klamath Management Zone closed to commercial salmon harvests – many commercial fishermen go bankrupt amid protests.

Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski signs SB76 into law which allows for $180 million to be collected from ratepayers for purposes of dam removal

2010: Parties sign Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement and Klamath Basin Restoration Agreements
**2011:** California PUC approves collection of $20 million from ratepayers for purposes of dam removal

**2011-15** Congress fails to pass legislation to pass legislation necessary to implement the Klamath Settlement Agreements.

**2016:** Parties sign the Amended KHSA, which outlined a process by which PacifiCorp would transfer the four lower dams to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation (KRRC), which would then seek approval from FERC and proceed to remove the dams.

PacifiCorp and KRRC file License Surrender Application with FERC

**2020:** In response to FERC concerns, Parties amend the KHSA such that Oregon and California become co-licensees

**2022:** FERC issues Final Environmental Impact Statement on Klamath Dam removal

FERC issues Final License Surrender Order

Dam removal process begins