



### **COPCO LAKE, SISKIYOU COUNTY**

Copco Lake is just one of the beautiful lakeside environments that will forever disappear as a result of removal of the Klamath Hydroelectric facilities. This area was originally part of a very ancient lake system formed behind massive lava dikes which crossed the Klamath River as a result of volcanic activity. The dike that formed Copco Lake was originally 135 feet high. Centuries of erosion left a “v” shaped cut in the lava created by the River. That notch of solid basalt formed the perfect spot to erect the Copco I dam, the first of a series of electrical generating facilities developed by John C. Boyle one of the Nation’s top engineers and founder of Copco Power which is now part of the PacifiCorp power generating facilities. Warren Buffet is the owner of Pacific Power. John Boyle went on to construct three more hydro dams. It is these four dams that for more than two decades have been the goal of numerous environmental groups to destroy.

**Anthony Intiso** a resident of Yreka California and a member of the Siskiyou Water Users Association Board acting as his own attorney has filed a **Taxpayer lawsuit** against the State of California to stop the funding by the State of California using taxpayer dollars originally voted for Improving water quality and water storage (Prop One). These funds had a specific requirement not to be used in projects which had an adverse impact on a Wild and Scenic River such as the Klamath River. The EIR/EIS by the Federal Energy and Regulatory Committee (FERC) states categorically that the removal of the hydro facilities **will have an adverse impact on the River** quality, the fish life, wildlife and birdlife. The removal will flush 20-30 million cubic yards of sediment downstream. Despite this the FERC argues that in the long run it will survive and improve. There are no studies to support this contention.

Citizens in Siskiyou County and the surrounding counties as well as the Southern Oregon Counties fronting on the Klamath including the agricultural communities in the area are opposed to dam removal by 80%. In a General Election 80% of the voters in Siskiyou County voted to retain the dams. Despite this the environmental groups and Governor Newsom have continued spending taxpayer funds and using their political leverage to push removal of these facilities to the detriment of the local communities. The fact is that rural communities are under attack by the leftist governments such as California and Oregon. They are committed to destroying these rural areas.

For more information go to Siskiyou Water’s website [www.siskiyoucountywaterusersassociation.org](http://www.siskiyoucountywaterusersassociation.org)

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