

MECHANICS

- **FUEL:** KR3's fuel is water from the NF Kern, aka Upper Kern.
- **ROR:** Edison takes water out of the river at Fairview Dam and sends it through a long pipe in the mountains. That process dewateres 16 miles of river below FVD.
- **FLOOD:** No flood control.
- **TIME:** No time shifting of water for agriculture, or for energy markets.
- **REC:** Provides no recreation – it only takes it away.
- **TODAY:** More than 425 cfs above Fairview Dam, less than 20% below (80).

ENERGY

- **SMALL:** KR3 was built in 1920 and generates about 12MW per hour on average – that was a lot back then but not so much now
- **EXPORT:** Most of that electricity is exported out of the KRV.
- **UNRELIABLE:** Lion's share of KR3 electricity is generated in the spring snowmelt season, when demand is low and there is a glut of solar energy.
- **ABSENT:** KR3 is nowhere to be found during summer when the threat of blackouts is high but the snowmelt is mostly gone (<3MW to a 50GW grid).
- **UNNEEDED:** Offline for 16 consecutive months in 2014, no disruptions.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- **HARMFUL:** Taking too much water out of a river can be deadly to the plants and animals that rely on that water to thrive.
- **RADICAL:** Natural flows here on average go below 100 cfs just 7 days a year. KR3 pushes them below that level about 120 days a year. Natural flows are never below 60 cfs, but KR3 forces them below that level 75 days a year.
- **CDFW:** According to CDFW, the current Fish Flow regime causes "poor" fish habitat half the year and severe degradation the rest.
- **CEFF:** Those judgments are confirmed by modern river science – the California Environmental Flows Framework out of UC Davis.
- **FISH:** SCE's last fish study showed a 50% decline in trout above Fairview Dam from a wet year to a moderate year. Below the dam, where KR3 dewateres the river, the trout decline was a whopping 97% – this project kills fish.
- **PUBLIC:** It also increases concentrations of fecal bacteria, and makes for very poor roadside, trailside, and camping aesthetics.
- **MIF PROPOSAL:** We are developing a minimum instream flow proposal based on contemporary science that demands the first 200 or so cfs to stay in the river for the good of all living things ... including us!

RECREATION

- **LA'S RIVER:** Southern California depends on this river for whitewater recreation; there are no similar rivers within three hours of LA (the closest options take twice as long to get to).
- **OUTSTANDING:** The Upper Kern has been recognized by the whitewater community and the federal government to be remarkably outstanding for its recreational potential as a W&SR. When there's water, it's the most fun, beautiful, safe, & accessible whitewater river in the world.
- **HALF:** KR3 takes away about half the days available for whitewater recreation.
- **600:** The days it does allow have much less water than nature intended – 600 cfs less – that's a lot!
- **REC PROPOSAL:** We are developing a rec proposal to provide near-natural flows during the snowmelt season at times of day when replacement energy would come at low or negative prices – the belly of the so-called “duck curve” – and be provided from renewable generators that would otherwise be sidelined by grid curtailment.

PROCESS

- **EQUAL/BEST:** FERC is supposed to give equal consideration to recreation, the environment, and the need for power in developing this license. It is supposed to be based on contemporary social needs and values and represent the best and highest use of this river – which is an incredible public asset.
- **LAST CHANCE:** If you want to speak out for a healthier river that lives up to its potential – for you, your children, and their children – this is the year to do it. This relicensing will set environmental and recreational flows on the Upper Kern for the next 40 years.
- **ALL SO_CALS:** We need the help of everyone who loves this river – campers, anglers, hikers, boaters, outdoor organizations, business and civic leaders – to speak up to FERC and the Forest Service and tell them how important this river is to the 20 million people who live in Southern California and demand increases in environmental and recreational flows. We have links to do so at kernriverboaters.com or email us directly at kernriverboaters@gmail.com for more information.