

# Categorical Exclusion Determination

Bonneville Power Administration  
Department of Energy



**Proposed Action:** Transfer of Adult Collection and Juvenile Acclimation Hatchery Facilities

**Project No.:** 1998-007-03, 1998-007-02, 1983-435-00

**Project Manager:** Eric McOmie, EWU-4

**Location:** Umatilla and Union Counties, Oregon

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.24 Property Transfers

**Description of the Proposed Action:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to transfer ownership of several hatchery facilities to the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). BPA provides funding for the Umatilla Basin Artificial Propagation Program, co-managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the CTUIR, as partial fulfillment of BPAs fish and wildlife mitigation responsibilities. BPA initially funded construction of the facilities with the intent to ultimately transfer ownership to CTUIR.

The following facilities would be transferred to CTUIR ownership:

- Catherine Creek Juvenile Acclimation Facility,
- Catherine Creek Adult Holding Facility,
- Three Mile Dam Fish Facility,
- Upper Grande Ronde Juvenile Acclimation Facility.

This proposal does not include transfer of the underlying property ownership. No ground disturbing activities are proposed as part of this undertaking.

**Findings:** In accordance with Section 1021.410(b) of the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, Jul. 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011), BPA has determined that the proposed action:

- (1) fits within a class of actions listed in Appendix B of 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D (see attached Environmental Checklist);
- (2) does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal; and
- (3) has not been segmented to meet the definition of a categorical exclusion.

Based on these determinations, BPA finds that the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review.

/s/ Claire McClory

Claire McClory

Environmental Protection Specialist

Concur:

/s/ Katey C. Grange

Katey C. Grange

NEPA Compliance Officer

Date: January 21, 2020

Attachment(s): Environmental Checklist

# Categorical Exclusion Environmental Checklist

This checklist documents environmental considerations for the proposed project and explains why the project would not have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally sensitive resources and would meet other integral elements of the applied categorical exclusion.

**Proposed Action:** Transfer of Adult Collection and Juvenile Acclimation Hatchery Facilities

## Project Site Description

All facilities are associated with existing hatchery acclimation or adult trapping facilities are located within fenced, graveled hatchery facilities in Umatilla and Union Counties, Oregon. None of the facilities proposed for transfer were constructed prior to the 1980s.

## Evaluation of Potential Impacts to Environmental Resources

Environmental Resource Impacts	No Potential for Significance	No Potential for Significance, with Conditions
1. <b>Historic and Cultural Resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> BPA made a determination of No Historic Properties Affected on July 9, 2018 and sent consultation letters to SHPO, CTUIR, and Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho. SHPO concurred with this determination on August 8, 2019. No other consulting parties responded within 30 days.		
2. <b>Geology and Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
3. <b>Plants</b> (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
4. <b>Wildlife</b> (including Federal/state special-status species and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
5. <b>Water Bodies, Floodplains, and Fish</b> (including Federal/state special-status species, ESUs, and habitats)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
6. <b>Wetlands</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
7. <b>Groundwater and Aquifers</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No ground disturbance proposed.		
8. <b>Land Use and Specially-Designated Areas</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>Explanation:</u> No change to property ownership, land use would remain the same.		

9. **Visual Quality**

Explanation: No change to visual quality.

10. **Air Quality**

Explanation: No ground disturbance proposed.

11. **Noise**

Explanation: No change to operational noise levels.

12. **Human Health and Safety**

Explanation: No change to human health and safety.

### **Evaluation of Other Integral Elements**

The proposed project would also meet conditions that are integral elements of the categorical exclusion. The project would not:

- Threaten a violation of applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health, or similar requirements of DOE or Executive Orders.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or treatment facilities (including incinerators) that are not otherwise categorically excluded.

Explanation, if necessary:

- Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or CERCLA excluded petroleum and natural gas products that preexist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled or unpermitted releases.

Explanation, if necessary: Phase I site assessments are not required for facilities transfers. In addition, the nature of operations at each facility is unlikely to release reportable hazardous substances.

- Involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology, governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements, such as those of the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the National Institutes of Health.

Explanation, if necessary:

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### **Landowner Notification, Involvement, or Coordination**

Description: BPA has notified underlying land owners of the pending facilities transfers. CTUIR will be responsible for obtaining any new Special Use Permits, if required by Federal landowners.

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Based on the foregoing, this proposed project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts to any environmentally sensitive resource.

Signed: /s/ Claire McClory  
Claire McClory, ECF-4  
Environmental Protection Specialist

Date: January 21, 2020