

## **Department of Energy**

Bonneville Power Administration P.O. Box 3621 Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

February 13, 2024

In reply refer to: ECF-4

## To: People interested in BPA's Continued Funding for Umatilla Hatchery Programs (Umatilla River Spring Chinook, Fall Chinook, and Coho)

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for BPA's proposal to continue funding for Umatilla Hatchery Programs (Umatilla River spring Chinook, fall Chinook, and coho). The EA describes BPA's proposed program funding and why it is needed, discusses the environmental impacts that would result, and lists the mitigation measures that would lessen those impacts. This letter requests your comments on the EA and outlines the next steps for the project.

**How to Comment:** The EA can be viewed at the project website at <a href="https://www.bpa.gov/nepa/umatilla-hatchery">www.bpa.gov/nepa/umatilla-hatchery</a>. If you requested a hard copy, it is enclosed. If you would like to request a hard copy (about 70 pages), please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520. Please leave a message with the project name, your name, and complete mailing address.

Please send your comments on the EA by **March 14** and reference the Umatilla Hatchery Programs EA. We will consider all comments submitted during the comment period and provide responses to substantive comments in the final EA. In addition, comments will be available on the project website. There are several ways to comment:

Mail: Bonneville Power Administration Toll-free: 800-622-4519

Public Affairs – DKE-7 **FAX:** 503-230-4019

P.O. Box 14428 Online: www.bpa.gov/comment

Portland, OR 97291-4428

**Schedule:** The schedule for the EA process is as follows:

Comment scoping period October 2 through Nov. 1, 2023

Draft EA available for public comment February 13, 2024 Final EA Spring 2024 Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted) Spring 2024

If decision to build, construction start

Summer 2024

**For More Information:** If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-3928, or by e-mail at *jjmaslow@bpa.gov*. You can also reach us toll free at 1-800-622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

Jeff Maslow

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

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**Enclosures**:

Draft EA (if requested) Comment Form Return Envelope