

10/9/05

Concerning the proposed rebuild of the Libby (FEC) to Troy section of BPA's Libby to Bonners Ferry 115-kilovolt Transmission Line, I'd like to tell you. . .

1. Environmental studies:

At the public meeting in Libby on September 12, 2005, the Forest Service spokesperson, Tom Grabinski, mentioned that the Quartz Creek route would pass through the grizzly bear corridor. What impact would this have on the Forest Plan? At the Forest Plan scoping meeting I attended in August 2005, the Fisher revision zone map indicated that Quartz Creek had eligibility for Wild-Scenic Recreational River eligibility. Along with Quartz Creek being protected for the sensitive bull trout species, have the environmental impacts of the high kilovolt line on these two issues been considered.

2. More information:

Concerning the re-route over Quartz Creek, we would like to know if it would be feasible to swing the line more directly to the east, instead of northeast, before crossing Quartz Creek, to the high point of the ridge and span the valley between the Anthony Kimberlin and the Hugo Wilms properties to then join the proposed re-route line on the east side of Quartz Creek. It looks like it would be shorter and have the same approximate span across the valley if acceptable sites can be found. It would then not be crossing private property.