

Stenehjem, Carlene R - DKP

From: john and margaret smith [mjsmith@gorge.net]
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2005 1:27 PM
To: BPA Public Involvement
Cc: jim@jimelliott.org; jeff.garrad@mail.house.gov
Subject: BPA's Proposed Rebuild of the Libby (FEC) to Troy...

Dear Sir,

Because of importance to forthcoming important Power Line "Enhancement" route decisions, I am submitting the following item posted on the Information Venture, Inc. EMF-Link for your EIS:

Wildlife Thrives under Power Lines

Posting date
September 19, 1996

Quotes include the following:

"While some researchers warn of the possible dangers of living near high-voltage power lines, some non-human inhabitants aren't listening. Wildlife is flourishing in the cleared and human-free areas under power lines. All manner of flora and fauna are making good use of these spaces in New England, according to a 4 August 1996 report in the Boston Globe.

Power companies must continuously fight the growth of trees beneath power lines. This leads to the creation of an 'edge habitat,' where open land meets climax forest. Shrubs, bushes, grasses and other low-lying plants predominate. Small animals live in these edge habitats and larger mammals come there to graze on berries and grasses. The conditions are particularly favorable to birds, butterflies and moths. These areas also serve as hunting grounds for predators, such as hawks and coyotes.

Power companies are developing herbicides that will rid the areas of trees while preserving and protecting smaller plants, such as berry bushes and grasses. This will cut down on the power companies' costs for maintaining their lines, but it will also preserve the edge habitats as valuable environmental niches in a rapidly developing area."

This information is relevant to the available bypass option in the forest North of dense property along Kootenai River road.

We are continuing to collect information for the EIS and issues related to "Enhancement" impact. We, however, have not received acknowledgment, nor have others in the neighborhood, that our comments and questions have been received and previous requests to regain time lost by failure to be notified about the "Enhancement" have gone unanswered.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our comments to the NEPA process.

John and Margaret Smith
7031 Kootenai River rd.
Parcel # 3
mjsmith@gorge.net

LTC-060

11/21/2005