



Department of Energy

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

May 5, 2008

In reply refer to: A-7

To: Interested Stakeholders

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a Record of Decision (ROD) for the 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords. This ROD is tiered to BPA's Fish and Wildlife Implementation Plan Environmental Impact Statement (FWIP EIS) (DOE/EIS-0312, April 2003) and ROD (October 31, 2003), developed pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act.

Decision: BPA has decided to enter into agreements with four tribes (the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission representing these tribes; the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation), two states (the State of Idaho and the State of Montana), and two Federal agencies (the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation) to provide 10-year mutual commitments for fish restoration, particularly for Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead. BPA believes the agreements will enhance overall fish restoration efforts in the region by providing additional actions, greater clarity regarding biological benefits, and secure funding. The agreements also provide substantial benefits for other anadromous and resident fish within the Columbia River Basin and for wildlife.

The FWIP ROD adopted a policy direction for BPA's fish and wildlife mitigation and recovery efforts. BPA has reviewed the Accords and determined that the decision to enter into the Accords and to fund the associated activities is consistent with that policy and would not result in significantly different environmental effects from those examined in the FWIP EIS. BPA therefore has decided to tier this 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords ROD to the FWIP EIS and ROD. Prior to implementation of any BPA-funded activity, BPA will conduct additional environmental review as appropriate.

Copies: For a copy of this ROD, you may call our toll-free document request line at: 1-800-622-4520. Please leave a message specifying the 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords ROD and giving your name and complete mailing address. The ROD is also available at <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/pubs/rods/>.

For More Information: If you have questions pertaining to the 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords or the agreements, please call Lorri Bodi at 206-220-6768 or toll-free at 1-800-282-3713, or e-mail her flbodi@bpa.gov. If you have questions pertaining to the NEPA assessment in the ROD please contact Sandra Ackley, at 503-230-3824 or toll-free at 1-800-282-3713, or e-mail her at sjackley@bpa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/Stephen J. Wright

Stephen J. Wright
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer