



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

April 18, 2023

In reply refer to: ECF-4

### **To: People interested in the Uma-Birch Floodplain Reconnection Project**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has prepared a draft environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Uma-Birch Floodplain Reconnection Project. The EA describes the project and why it is needed, discusses the potential environmental impacts the project would create, and lists the proposed mitigation measures that would lessen potential impacts. This letter requests your comments on the EA, announces a public meeting, and outlines the next steps for the project.

**How to Comment:** The EA can be viewed at the project website at [www.bpa.gov/nepa/Uma-Birch](http://www.bpa.gov/nepa/Uma-Birch). If you requested a hard copy, it is enclosed. If you would like to request a hard copy (about 75 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 **May 18, 2023** and reference the Uma-Birch Project. 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:

<b>Mail:</b>	Bonneville Power Administration Public Affairs – DKE-7 P.O. Box 14428 Portland, OR 97291-4428	<b>Toll-free:</b>	800-622-4519
		<b>FAX:</b>	503-230-4019
		<b>Online:</b>	<a href="http://www.bpa.gov/comment">www.bpa.gov/comment</a>

**Public Meeting:** We have scheduled an informal, open-house style meeting to answer questions and accept comments on the EA. We do not plan to give a presentation, so you may come any time during the meeting.

**Tuesday, May, 2, 2023**  
**5:00PM to 7:00PM**  
**Vert Community Building**  
**480 SW Dorion Ave**  
**Pendleton, OR, 97206**

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

Draft EA available for public comment	April 18, 2023 – May 18, 2023
Public meeting	May 2, 2023 in Pendleton, Oregon
Final EA	Summer 2023 (expected)
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Summer 2023 (expected)
If decision to build, construction start	Fall 2023 (expected)

**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](mailto:jjmaslow@bpa.gov). You can also reach us toll free at 1-800-622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeff Maslow

Jeff Maslow

Senior Environmental Protection Specialist

**Enclosures:**

Draft EA (if requested)

Comment Form

Return Envelope