

Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

July 8, 2014

In reply refer to: KEC-4

To: People interested in the Clark Fork River Delta Restoration

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Clark Fork River Delta Restoration Project. Based on the final EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and has made a decision to provide funding for the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the other agencies involved, and how to obtain additional information.

BPA will provide partial funding to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) to reduce erosion and habitat in the Clark Fork River delta located at the confluence of the Clark Fork River with Lake Pend Oreille in Bonner County, Idaho. The project involves installing shoreline erosion control measures, installing structures to redirect local water flow, raising islands, deepening channels, establishing vegetation, and controlling weeds.

Background: The project is part of restoration efforts in northern Idaho and eastern Washington implemented by IDFG to help mitigate for impacts of the construction, operation and inundation of the delta by the Albeni Falls hydroelectric project.

BPA, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), prepared an environmental assessment (EA) to help determine the potential impacts the project would have on the natural and human environment. BPA, the Corps, and the BLM released the draft EA for public review and comment in January 2014, and received comments from 32 entities. BPA prepared a final EA that provides responses to comments received and includes revision to the analysis based on those comments. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the project will not cause any significant impacts, and has issued a finding of no significant impact.

Project construction is expected to begin August 2014 and continue through April 2015.

For More Information: The final EA and FONSI are enclosed if you previously requested it. If you did not receive a copy of these documents and would like one, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520. Leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address. Documents are also available on the internet at www.bpa.gov/goto/ClarkForkRiverDelta.

If you need more information or have any questions, please call me toll free at 1-800-622-4519, or e-mail me at jepeterson@bpa.gov. Thank you for your interest in our work.

/s/ Jenna E. Peterson

Jenna E. Peterson
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Enclosures (if requested):

Final EA
FONSI Mitigation Action Plan