



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH & WILDLIFE

February 1, 2016

In reply refer to: ECF-4

### **To: People interested in the Middle Entiat River Restoration Project**

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), will be preparing an environmental assessment (EA) to analyze the effects of the proposed Middle Entiat River Restoration Project in Chelan County, Wash. This letter briefly explains what is being proposed, outlines our environmental review process and schedule, and requests your comments.

**Proposal:** BPA and Reclamation are proposing to fund multiple entities to restore habitat along a four-mile section of the Entiat River. The project would help re-establish natural riverine processes and improve the floodplain function to provide spawning, rearing, and off-channel refuge habitat for native fish—salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and other resident fish—and wildlife in the Entiat River basin.

Habitat improvements would include reconnecting historic side channels and strategic placement of varying sized log jams to help direct river flows into side channels and alcoves and onto the floodplain. Placement of logs would also increase the amount of wood in the river system, increasing habitat complexity.

**Environmental Review:** As the lead agency, BPA will prepare an EA following the procedures of the National Environmental Policy Act and Reclamation will serve as a cooperating agency. The EA will describe anticipated impacts to natural and human resources and include mitigation measures that would help avoid or minimize impacts. During this process, the agencies will work with landowners, federal, state and local agencies, interest groups, and Tribes.

The proposed schedule for the EA process is as follows:

Comment scoping period	February 1, 2016 to March 2, 2016
Draft EA available for public comment	Summer 2016
Final EA	Fall 2016
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Fall 2016
If decision to build, construction start	Summer 2017

**How to Comment:** Please send your comments by **March 2, 2016** and reference the *Middle Entiat River Restoration Project*. All comments will be posted on the project website at [www.bpa.gov/goto/MiddleEntiatRiverHabitat](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/MiddleEntiatRiverHabitat). There are several ways to comment:

**Mail:** Bonneville Power Administration  
Public Affairs – DKE-7  
P.O. Box 14428  
Portland, OR 97291-4428

**Toll-free:** 800-622-4519  
**FAX:** 503-230-4019  
**Online:** [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment)

**For More Information:** If you have any questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-3796 or email at [dlrose@bpa.gov](mailto:dlrose@bpa.gov), or Ted Gresh, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, CRGT, Inc., at [esgresh@bpa.gov](mailto:esgresh@bpa.gov), or 503-230-5756.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Donald L. Rose*

Donald L. Rose  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures:  
Project Map  
Comment Form  
Return Envelope  
Reply Card

becc: (w/o enclosures)  
Communications – DKE-7  
H. Harwood – DIR-7  
D. Marker – DIR-7  
J. Warner – DIR-7  
T. Gresh – ECF-4  
D. Rose – ECF-4  
S. Mason – ECP-4  
J. Leary – LN-7  
R. Beaty – EWU-4  
J. Connor – EWU-4

Official File – ECF (EQ-13)

T.Gresh:esg:5756:15January2016  
W:\KEC\EAs - EQ-13\Middle Entiat\NEPA DOCUMENT  
PROCESSING\Middle\_Entiat\_2B\_SCOPING\_PUBLIC\_LTR.docx