

memorandum

DATE: January 25, 2005

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Lower Red River Meadow Stream Restoration Project
Environmental Assessment (DOE/EA-1027/SA-01)

TO: S. Keen – KEWU-4
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Proposed Action: Red River Restoration Project O&M

Project No: 199303501

Location: Idaho County, Idaho

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG).

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to fund ongoing maintenance activities for the Red River restoration project at IDFG's Red River Wildlife Management Area. Activities include planting trees and shrubs, using herbicides for noxious weed control and planting preparation, erosion control, sprinkler irrigation, and installing new and maintaining existing fencing.

Analysis: The Red River restoration project, including the ongoing maintenance activities listed above with the exception of herbicide use, was analyzed in the Lower Red River Meadow Stream Restoration Project Environmental Assessment (DOE/EA-1027/SA-01) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), dated June 17, 1996. Subsequent to this EA, BPA also completed the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and Record of Decision (ROD) in 1997, which did analyze the use of herbicides for noxious weed control and planting preparation, as well as the other activities.

BPA also completed Endangered Species Act consultation on all of the activities except herbicide use with NOAA Fisheries and USFWS in 1996, with updates in 1999 and 2000. Herbicide use is covered through BPA's Habitat Improvement Program Biological Opinion of August 2003. Cultural resource compliance, land audits, permitting, and public involvement were all completed as part of the EA process.

Findings: The project is generally consistent with the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, as well as BPA's Lower Red River Meadow Stream Restoration Project Environmental Assessment (DOE/EA-1027/SA-01) and FONSI, and Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD. This Supplement Analysis finds that: 1) implementing the proposed action will not result in any substantial changes to the Red River Project or the Watershed Management Program that are relevant to environmental concerns; and

2) there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Red River Project or Watershed Management Program or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Nancy Weintraub 1-25-05

Nancy H. Weintraub
Environmental Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas McKinney

Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

DATE: 1-25-05

cc:

Mr. Miles Benker, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game, 1540 Warner Ave., Lewiston, ID 83501