



Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH & WILDLIFE

March 9, 2018

In reply refer to: ECF-4

To: People interested in the Sturgeon Lake Restoration Project

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to fund a fish habitat restoration project on Sauvie Island near Sturgeon Lake in Multnomah County, Oregon. This letter explains the proposal, outlines our environmental review process and schedule, and requests your comments.

Proposal: Under the proposal, BPA would fund Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) to improve the surface-water connection between Sturgeon Lake and the Columbia River within the existing footprint of Dairy Creek. Sturgeon Lake serves as an important rearing and feeding area for juvenile salmonids, but at present, these fish must travel a distance of 10 to 14 miles to access the lake from the Columbia River during most of the year. The alterations in Dairy Creek would reduce the travel distance to less than 1 mile. Additionally, the project would increase the amount of time that the direct connection is open and accessible to fish passage from several times a year to almost daily, allowing fish to access the lake more frequently and benefit from the high-quality habitat there.

Restoration actions would include: deepening Dairy Creek to improve the connection between Sturgeon Lake and the Columbia River, replacing an undersized culvert with a channel-spanning bridge at Reeder Road, controlling invasive plants, and planting native vegetation. The restoration would improve habitat for wildlife and fish, particularly 13 species of salmon and steelhead listed under the Endangered Species Act. Links to a location map and conceptual plan are below.

Environmental Review: BPA is analyzing the potential impacts of the proposal as required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of the NEPA analysis, BPA is requesting public comments to help determine which issues to be addressed. The schedule for the NEPA review is as follows:

Public comment period	March 9 through April 9, 2018
NEPA analysis and documentation	Spring 2018
If decision to build, construction start	July 2018

Please indicate on the enclosed postcard whether/how you would like to receive the Supplement Analysis.

How to Comment: Please send your comments by **April 9, 2018** and reference the *Sturgeon Lake Restoration Project*. All comments will be available on the project website at www.bpa.gov/goto/SturgeonLake. 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
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For More Information: If you have any questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-3796 or cjhamel@bpa.gov. Alternatively, you may contact Michelle Guay, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, Cor-Source Technology Group, at mxguay@bpa.gov or 503-230-3459.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chad J. Hamel

Chad Hamel

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures:

Project Map

Comment Form

Return Envelope