

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: April 16, 2004

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEP-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS (DOE/EIS-0285/SA-206-Microwave sites) **Project Nos.: V-E-04/29, V-E-04/30, and V-E-04/31**

TO: Benjamin Tilley  
Natural Resource Specialist – TFE/ALVEY

**Proposed Action:** Vegetation Management for Blue Ridge, Leneve and Kenyon Mt microwave sites.

**Location:** The project areas fall in Coos and Lane Counties, OR and is in the BPA Eugene Region.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration.

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to clear unwanted vegetation from the microwave sites and microwave beam paths for BPA's Blue Ridge, Leneve, and Kenyon Mt. microwave sites.

**Analysis:** Checklists (see attached) were completed for this project in accordance with the requirements identified in the Bonneville Power Administrations Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS (DOE/EIS-0285). The checklist evaluated the following areas:

- *Description of facility and vegetation management needed*
- *Vegetation to be controlled*
- *Surrounding land use and landowner*
- *Natural Resource*
- *Vegetation control methods*
- *Debris disposal.*
- *Monitoring*
- *Appropriate environmental documentation*

In preparation of this Supplement Analysis, the checklists were reviewed. Specific information regarding the areas as identified above is described in the attached checklists.

**Finding:** This Supplement Analysis finds that: (1) the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS (DOE/EIS-0285) and ROD; and (2) there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Shawn L. Barndt  
Shawn L. Barndt  
Environmental Scientist

CONCUR: /s/ Thomas C. McKinney  
Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 4/21/2001

Attachment

cc:

L. Croff – KEC-4  
T. McKinney – KEC-4  
J. Meyer – KEP-4  
B. Sherer – KEP-4  
J. Sharpe – KEPR-4  
S. Barndt – KEPR-4  
P. Key – LC-7  
J. Hilliard Creecy – T-DITT2  
K. Rodd – TF/DOB-1  
A. Sundberg – TFE/Alvey  
K. Barber – TFEK/Chemawa  
Environmental File – KEC-4  
Official File – KEP (EQ-14)

**ELECTRIC YARD AND NON-ELECTRIC FACILITY CHECKLIST**

**Project No.: V-E-04/29**

# 1. IDENTIFY FACILITY AND THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT NEED

## 1.1 Describe facility: (More than one facility may be listed and analyzed.)

Substation/Facility Name	Size of Area to be Treated (Acres or Square Feet)	Nearest 1/4 Section Township/Range or GPS Coordinates	County	State
Leneve Radio Station	~ 6,400 sq. ft.	27S 14W 24	Coos	OR

## 1.2 Describe vegetation needing management:

- Non-Electrical Facility (Describe all landscaping vegetation management.)
  - Bareground management within fenced area and roadways
  - Area not maintained, other than mechanical control of unwanted/danger trees, grasses, and shrubs.

# 2. IDENTIFY SURROUNDING LAND USE AND LANDOWNERS/MANAGERS

## 2.1 List the types of landowners and land uses around your facility.

Coos County Board of Commissioners – clear cut forest

## 2.2 Determine if there is a need to notify surrounding landowners of vegetation management activities. If so, why and how?

Each Landowner is sent a letter notifying them of the scope and timetable for each of the projects. Letters will be sent out 2 weeks prior to start date.

## 2.3 List any specific measures to be taken based on surrounding landowners/use.

None

# 3. IDENTIFY NATURAL RESOURCES

## 3.1 Water Resources

List or describe any water resources (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, undeveloped springs, etc.) near the facility.

Unnamed stream located over 1300 feet to the east.

**Does the substation/facility drainage have a direct pathway to the water body?**

None

**What measures will you take to limit potential impacts to water resources? As appropriate, list any buffers that will be applied.**

Vegetation management activities will not take place within 400 feet of any water resources

## 3.2 Herbicide Use Near Irrigation Sources and Domestic and Public Drinking Water Supplies

List or describe any irrigation or domestic/public water source.

N/A

**Does the substation/facility drainage have a pathway to the water supply?**

N/A

**What measures will you take to limit potential impacts to irrigation and drinking water supplies? As appropriate, list any buffers that will be applied.**

N/A

### **3.3 Threatened and Endangered Plant or Animal Species**

**Are there any T&E species in the area that could be affected? List if necessary.**

According to the species list provided by the Fish and Wildlife Service the following listed species may be in the project area.

Marbled murrelet

Bald eagle

Northern spotted owl

Coho Salmon

**What measures will you take to limit potential impacts to each T&E species? As appropriate, list any buffers that will be applied.**

**Marbled murrelet** – According to the more detailed Nature Conservancy database, the project area is not located within Marbled murrelet habitat, nor have they been sighted within .25 miles.

**Bald eagle** – The Nature Conservancy database does not show any sightings of Bald eagles near the project area.

**Northern spotted owl** – According to the more detailed Nature Conservancy database, the project area is not located within N. Spotted Owl habitat, nor have they been sighted within .25 miles.

**Coho Salmon** – The Nature Conservancy database does not show any streams containing Coho salmon near the project area. The project area is not within 400 feet of a stream.

### **3.4 Steep Slopes/ Unstable Slopes (Soils)**

**Will herbicide treatment be occurring on any steep slopes?**

None

**As appropriate, list any buffers, reseeding and/or ground disturbing restrictions that will be applied.**

### **3.5 Attach drawing showing location of all required buffers.**

## **4. DETERMINE VEGETATION CONTROL METHODS**

### **4.1 Describe overall vegetation management scheme and schedule:**

Bareground managed areas will primarily use herbicides with supplemental usage of mechanical methods. Other areas will be managed as described in Section 1.2. Only herbicides from BPA's approved herbicide list will be used. All areas will be managed consistently with the Vegetation EIS.

***Inside fence and 2-4 feet around perimeter:*** Mechanical treatment (weed eater, mower) of target species followed by rotations of: diruon, bromacil (or combination of the two) and formulations similar to Round-up Pro (2,4-D). Application may be pelletized low-volume foliar (LVF).

**Field Grass/Low Growing areas and access roads:** Mechanical mowing to reduce fire hazard, infrequent limbing of trees adjacent to road. Spot application (spot stump and LVF) of Garlon 4 (Triclopyr EEA) (up to 1% in water), Crossbow (up to 1% in water), and/or Round-Up Pro formulations (pre-mixed or 1 oz/gal) to control noxious weed and broadleaf species.

**Initial:**

BPA has a routine program for managing bareground areas. Areas are sprayed annually by a licensed contractor. BPA's contract contains specific language to ensure herbicides applications are applied consistent with the VEG EIS. Other areas are maintained by mechanical mowing, chopping, spot spraying, burning, roller choppers, blading, or felleruncher machines.

**Subsequent:**

Herbicides will be applied on an annual or on an as needed basis. Active ingredients shall be rotated to ensure plants do not build a tolerance. Mechanical methods shall be performed on an as needed basis.

**Future:**

Future control will be consistent with the methods described.

**5. DETERMINE DEBRIS DISPOSAL AND REVEGETATION**

**5.1 Describe debris disposal and revegetation , if any.**

Debris will be recycled (scattered) on-site to the extent practical

**6. DETERMINE MONITORING NEEDS**

**6.1 Describe evaluation of BPA/contractor treatment practices to ensure vegetation management measures are working.**

Site visits from BPA personnel will provide feedback to BPA's Eugene Region facility manager about the vegetation control at the facility.

**6.2 Is there a need to monitor adjacent areas for potential herbicide movement/contamination? If so, describe monitoring plan. (Unless monitoring for other reasons, this section should be consistent with BPA-systemwide herbicide monitoring plan not yet finalized.)**

**7. PREPARE APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

**7.1 Describe any potential project impacts or project work that are different than those disclosed in the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program EIS. Describe how those differences impact natural resources and if the differences are "substantial".**

**7.2 Is there a need for additional NEPA documentation (i.e. Forest Service requirement, Record of Decision, supplemental EIS)? If so, attach.**