

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: March 29, 2002

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEP/Z992

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program FEIS
(DOE/EIS-0285/SA-54)

TO: Jim Jellison – TFO/Olympia

Proposed Action: Vegetation Management along the North Bonneville-Ross Transmission Lines 1 and 2. The lines are 230 kV Single Circuit Transmission Lines having a combined easement width of 300 feet. The proposed work will be accomplished in the indicated sections of the transmission line corridor.

Location: The ROW is located in Clark County, WA, being in the Olympia Region.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to mulch blackberries and scotch broom in these sections of the lines per a request by the City of Vancouver due to security issues created by the use of this section of the ROW by transients.

Analysis: This project meets the standards and guidelines for the Transmission System Vegetation Management Program Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

Planning Steps

1. Identify facility and the vegetation management need.

The work involved will be to mulch the blackberries and scotch broom then apply herbicides in the spring and summer to prevent resprouting. All work will take place in existing rights-of-ways.

2. Identify surrounding land use and landowners/managers.

The subject corridor urban and residential areas.

3. Identify natural resources.

No natural resource, T&E/wildlife issues, visually sensitive areas, cultural resources or other natural resource issues have been identified along the work corridor.

The herbicides used for vegetation management will be consistent with what is specified in the Vegetation Management FEIS.

4. *Determine vegetation control and debris disposal methods.*

Vegetation will be mulched and left on-site.

5. *Determine revegetation methods, if necessary.*

No re-vegetation will be conducted. Mulching the blackberries will allow existing grasses to re-establish.

6. *Determine monitoring needs.*

BPA Natural Resource Specialist and TLM staff will monitor the site annually.

7. *Prepare appropriate environmental documentation.*

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/ Elaine Stratton
Elaine Stratton
Environmental Protection Specialist

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

DATE: 04/10/02

Attachments

Vegetation Management Checklist

1. IDENTIFY FACILITY AND THE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT NEED

1.1 Describe Right-of-way.

Corridor Name	Corridor Length & kV	Easement width	Miles of Treatment
North Bonneville-Ross No.1 & 2	31/4 to 32/1, 32/2 to 32/3 and 33/6 to 34/4	300	4/5 of a mile

See Handbook — [List of Right-of-way Components](#) for checkboxes and the requirements for the components [Rights-of-way](#), [Access Roads](#), [Switch Platforms](#), [Danger Trees](#), and [Microwave Beam paths](#).

Right Of Way:

Right-of-Way – clearing in right-of-way

Transmission Structures – clearing around

1.2 Describe the vegetation needing management.

See handbook — [List of Vegetation Types](#), [Density](#), [Noxious Weeds](#) for checkboxes and requirements.

Vegetation Types:

Alder

Maple

Noxious Weeds - **Scotch broom**

Blackberries

1.3 List measures you will take to help promote low-growing plant communities. If promoting low-growing plants is not appropriate for this project, explain why. See Handbook — for requirements and checkboxes.

Mulch black berries and Scotch broom and 2 separate application of herbicide of the sprouts this spring and summer.

1.4 Describe overall management scheme/schedule.

See Handbook - [Overall Management Scheme/Schedule](#).

Initial entry – **Mulch**

Subsequent entries – **Spring, foliar spray the sprouts.**

Future cycles – **Summer, follow-up foliar treatment of the sprouts.**

2. IDENTIFY SURROUNDING LAND USE AND LANDOWNERS/MANAGERS

2.1 List the types of landowners and land uses along your corridor.

See Handbook — [Landowners/Managers/Uses](#) for requirements, and [List of Landowners/Managers/Uses](#) for a checkbox list.

BPA has fee land ownership of the right-of-way.

2.2 Describe method for notifying right-of-way landowners and requesting information (i.e., doorhanger, letter, phone call, e-mail, and/or meeting). Develop landowner mail list, if appropriate.

See Handbook — [Methods for Notification and Requesting Information](#) for requirements.

N/A

2.3 List the specific land owner/landuse measures — determined from the handbook or through your consultations with the entities — that will be applied.

See handbook — [Requirements and Guidance for Various Landowners/Uses](#) for requirements and guidance, also [Residential/Commercial](#), [Agricultural](#), [Tribal Reservations](#), [FS-managed lands](#), [BLM –managed lands](#), [Other federal lands](#), [State/ Local Lands](#).

Span		Landowner/use	Specific measures to be applied
To	From		
		N/A	

2.4 Review any existing landowner agreements (e.g. tree/brush Permits or Agreements). List in table above any provisions that need to be followed and where they are located.

See handbook — [Landowner Agreements](#) for requirements.

N/A

2.5 List any known casual informal use of the right-of-way by non-owner publics. List any constraints or measure’s to take due to the informal use.

See handbook — [Casual Informal Use of Right-of-way](#) for requirements.

Transient people have been camping on the right-of-way, which has presented a security problem to the residence.

2.6 List other potentially affected people, agencies, or tribes (that are not landowners/managers) that need to be notified or coordinated with. Describe method of notification and coordination.

See handbook — [Other Potentially Affected Publics](#) for requirements and suggestions.

The purpose of mulching the blackberries and Scotch broom is for security reasons. The Vancouver City Police requested BPA mulch these sites to reduce transient people from camping on the right-of-way.

3. IDENTIFY NATURAL RESOURCES

See Handbook — [Natural Resources](#)

3.1 List any water resources (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands) that may be impacted by vegetation control activities. For each water body describe the control methods and requirements or mitigation measures that will be used.

See Handbook — [Water Resources](#) for requirements for working near water resources including buffer zones.

Span		Water body	T&E?	Method	Herbicide	Application Technique	Buffer	Other
To	From							
		N/A						

3.2 If planning to use herbicides, list locations of any known irrigation source, wells, or springs (landowners maybe able to provide this info if requested).

See Handbook — [Herbicide Use Near Irrigation, Wells or Springs](#) for buffers and herbicide restrictions.

Span		Well/irrigation/or spring	Herbicide	Buffer	Other notes/measures
To	From				
		N/A			

The use of herbicide will not be needed when cutting Douglas fir trees.

3.3 List below the areas that have Threatened or Endangered Plant or Animal Species and the name of the species, and any special measures that need to be taken due to their presence. Attach any BAs, T&E maps, or letters from US Fish and Wildlife.

See Handbook — [T&E Plant or Animal Species](#) for requirements and determining presence.

Span		T&E Species	Method/mitigation or avoidance measures
To	From		
		No listed T&E Species on the 2TView	

3.4 List any other measures to be taken for enhancing wildlife habitat or protecting species.

See Handbook — [Protecting Other Species](#) for requirements.

Span		Species	Measures
To	From		
		N/A	

3.5 List any visually sensitive areas and the measures to be taken at these areas.

See Handbook — [Visual Sensitive Areas](#) for requirements.

Span		Describe sensitivity	Method/mitigation measures
To	From		
		N/A	

3.6 List areas with cultural resources and the measures to be taken in those areas.

See Handbook – [Cultural Resources](#) for requirements.

Span		Describe sensitivity	Method/mitigation measures
To	From		
		N/A	

I spoke with Mike Lyall, cultural representative for the Cowlitz Tribe, said that they would like to be contact if evidence of cultural sites are identified. They are not aware of any cultural sites in the proposed cutting areas.

3.7 List areas with steep slopes or potential erosion areas and the measure and methods to be applied in those areas.

See Handbook – [Steep/Unstable Slopes](#) for requirements.

Span		Describe sensitivity	Method/mitigation measures
To	From		
		N/A	

3.8 List areas of spanned canyons and the type of cutting needed.

See Handbook – [Spanned Canyons](#) for requirements.

Span		Methods, cutting
To	From	
		N/A

4. DETERMINE VEGETATION CONTROL METHODS

See Handbook — [Methods](#)

4.1 List Methods that will be used in areas not previously addressed in steps above.

See Handbook — [Manual](#), [Mechanical](#), [Biological](#), [and Herbicides](#) for requirements for each of the methods.

Span		Methods, including herbicide active ingredient, trade name, application technique
To	From	
32/1	31/4+800	Mulch with brush hog machine and foliar spray sprouts with Garlon 4. Application will be tank and hose or broadcast from a spray unit.
32/2+1200	32/2+800	
34/4+200	33/6	

5. DETERMINE DEBRIS DISPOSAL AND REVEGETATION

5.1 Describe the debris disposal methods to be used and any special considerations.

See Handbook — [Debris disposal](#) for a checkbox list and requirements.

Mulch blackberries and Scotch broom.

5.2 List areas of reseeding or replanting (those areas not already described in steps 1, 2, or 3).

See Handbook — [Reseeding/replanting](#) for requirements.

Span		Reason for Reseed/plant	Type of Seed or Plants	Native?
To	From			
		No, mulching brush will release the grass presently on site.		

5.3 If not using native seed/plants, describe why.

N/A

5.4 Describe timing and any follow-up that will need to take place to ensure germination/success of seeding/planting.

N/A

6. DETERMINE MONITORING NEEDS

See handbook — [Monitoring](#) for requirements.

6.1 Describe the follow-up/monitoring cycle that will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the vegetation control methods used.

NRS and lineman will check site annually.

6.2 Describe any follow-up or monitoring needed to determine if mitigation measures were effective.

Recommend foliar application the following year if needed.

7. PREPARE APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

See handbook — [Prepare Appropriate Environmental Documentation](#) for requirements. . Also prepare Supplement Analysis — [Supplement Analysis](#) — for signature.

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”.

N/A

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

No