

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: May 24, 2004

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-144)

TO: Mickey Carter  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager - KEWU-4

**Proposed Action:** Salmon River Habitat Enhancement Monitoring and Evaluation, Fencing and Planting

**Project No:** 1994-050-00

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities, 2.6 Native Seed Inventory, 2.7 Avoid Exotic Species, 6.10 Access: Fencing, 6.14 Vegetation Stabilization Critical Area Planting.

**Location:** Custer County, Idaho

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund fencing and planting activities with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to protect and enhance areas affected by livestock on the East Fork Salmon River in Idaho. The project will take place on private land. The existing fence is deteriorating and was located too close to the stream. A total of 3.3 miles of fence will be replaced or constructed at an appropriate distance to the streambank encompassing approximately 2.2 acres of land. Willow cuttings will be planted as needed within newly fenced areas to provide cover for overgrazed areas.

**Analysis:** The NEPA compliance checklist for this project was completed by Heather Ray with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (May 19, 2004) and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species that may occur in the general vicinity of the project area are chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout. It was determined that the proposed fencing and planting activities would have no effect on these listed aquatic species. All activities will take place outside of the wetted stream channel. Little or no ground disturbance will take place as part of this project. The fence will be a Buck and Pole type fence that does not involve digging. Willows will be planted with a non-invasive water stinger that results in minimal disturbance.

The proposed plantings and fence design and installation will result in little or no ground disturbance as described above. It was determined that the project therefore does not have the potential to affect historic and/or cultural resources, and consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and Tribe(s) would not be required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is discovered during project implementation, an archaeologist should be notified immediately and work halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed.

Standard water quality protection procedures and Best Management Practices should be followed during the implementation of this fencing and planting project. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable local, state, and federal permits and approvals.

Public involvement has occurred as part of the Salmon River Fencing and Planting Project. The work will take place on private land in conjunction with a cooperative landowner. Adjacent landowners consist of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Interaction and coordination with BLM is ongoing. This project has been discussed at Upper Salmon Basin Technical Team meetings and with Tribal members at Fort Hall Reservation workshops and off reservation in the filed. In addition, consultation has taken place with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6A.2, 7.6B.3, & 7.8E.1, of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and, 2) that 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/ Shannon C. Stewart  
Shannon C. Stewart  
Environmental Specialist

CONCUR:

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

DATE: May 24, 2004

Attachments:  
NEPA Compliance Checklist

cc: (w/o attachments)  
Ms. Heather Ray – Shoshone-Bannock Tribe