

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: July 15, 2004

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-159)

TO: Jamie Swan
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager - KEWU-4

Proposed Action: Pine Hollow Watershed Enhancement – Jackknife Watershed Projects

Project No: 1999-010-00

Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS): 3.13 Diversion Ditch, 3.18 Sediment and Water Control Basins, 6.5 Water Supply: Pipeline, 6.7 Water Supply: Trough, 6.8 Water Supply: Well, 6.9 Water Supply: Spring Development

Location: Sherman County, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District

Description of the Proposed Action: The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund watershed enhancement activities in the Pine Hollow and Jackknife Canyon Watersheds in conjunction with the Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District. Activities will include installation of offstream watering facilities and structural improvements for reducing sediment delivery to streams. Nine Water and Sediment Control Basins and 2,000 feet of diversion ditches will be utilized to reduce the erosive forces of water during storm events, effectively allowing sediment to settle out of suspension in the water column. Two wells, two spring developments, and two watering systems will be employed to provide better watering options to rangeland managers, reducing the need for cattle to utilize streams for water.

Analysis: The NEPA compliance checklist for this project was completed by Jason Faucera with the Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District (May 18, 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 Mid-Columbia River steelhead. It was determined that the proposed project would have no effect on steelhead. Most of the proposed activities will take place in an upland location a considerable distance from listed steelhead streams. Also work will occur in the summer when there will be little to no above surface flows. Documentation supporting these determinations was provided by Jason Faucera with the Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District (May 7, 2004).

Requirements associated with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will be handled by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (including consultation with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office). Project descriptions and site information will be reviewed by a qualified archaeologist to determine if an on-site survey is required. On-site surveys will be completed by qualified staff from the Natural Resource Conservation Service as necessary. Findings and

recommendations will be provided to BPA prior to the implementation of any ground disturbing activities. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is discovered as part of project activities, 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 will be followed during the implementation of all Pine Hollow-Jackknife Watershed activities. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable local, state, and federal permits and approvals including water rights.

Public involvement has occurred as part of the Pine Hollow-Jackknife Watershed Project. Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District maintains a website for local conservation efforts including pages for each watershed council. Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District, in combination with the local watershed councils, also publishes a quarterly newsletter to herald local conservation efforts. Tribes are invited to participate in watershed council activities and other local conservation efforts. Partnerships have also been formed with Natural Resource Conservation Service, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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 Stewart 7-15-04

Shannon C. Stewart
Environmental Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas McKinney

Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

DATE: 7-15-04

Attachments:

NEPA Compliance Checklist
NRCS Cultural Resource Review 055-03-1 and 055-03-10
No Effect Determination for ESA

cc: (w/o attachments)

Mr. Jason Faucera – Sherman County Soil and Water Conservation District