memorandum

DATE:  8/12/99
REPLY TO ATTN OF:  KECN-4
SUBJECT:  Supplemental Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-18)

TO:  Thomas C. McKinney – KECN-4
NEPA Compliance Officer

Proposed Action:  Ladd Creek Alternative Watering System (99-062)

Budget No:  F-5388

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, 2.4 Provide filter strips to catch sediment and other pollutants; 5.1 Heavy use area protection, 5.13 Alternative water sources, 6.3 Control grazing intensity, 6.5 water supply: pipeline, 6.7 water supply: trough, and 6.8 water supply: well.

Location:  Ladd Creek Sub-basin, Union County, Oregon

Proposed by:  Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and the Union Soil and Water Conservation District.

Description of the Proposed Action:  Exclude wintering livestock from the Ladd Creek riparian area and provide an alternative water source. A fence will be constructed with a 30-foot set-back on the north side of Ladd Creek. A 120 foot well, including pump, pressure tank, well house, and 3 winter-proof water troughs will be located out of the riparian zone. Nutrient levels at Ladd Creek will be monitored.

Analysis:  The compliance checklist for this project was completed by BPA and meets the standards and guideline for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

Discussions with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists indicate the proposed activities will not affect T&E plant, fish or wildlife species. Potential federally listed species are Snake River spring chinook, summer steelhead, bull trout, peregrine falcon, and bald eagle. An Oregon state listed species is the wolverine.

The Oregon Natural Heritage Program was consulted for potential occurrence of federally listed or proposed plant or invertebrate species within the project area. No documented sites of listed or proposed invertebrate species occur within Union County. It is highly unlikely that any occur on this site. The only plant listed in the Grande Ronde Basin, MacFarlane’s Four-O’clock, Marabilis MacFarlanei, has not been found in Union County. This plant does not occur in the habitat type found in this project area.