

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: February 28, 2005

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-205)

TO: Sabrina Keen  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager - KEW-4

**Proposed Action:** Restore McComas Meadows/ Meadows Creek Watershed

**Project No:** 1996-077-05

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 1.13 Culvert Removal/Replacement to Improve Fish Passage, 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities, 7.7 Reduce Risk of Road Related Surface Erosion, 7.10 Erosion Control and Revegetation at Project Completion.

**Location:** Idaho County, Idaho

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Nez Perce Tribe

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund watershed improvement actions in the Meadows Creek Watershed in Idaho County, Idaho with the Nez Perce Tribe. Activities will include ditch recontouring, road obliteration, revegetation of disturbed areas, culvert replacements, and vegetation planting along riparian zones. All activities will take place on Nez Perce National Forest lands in partnership with the USDA Forest Service.

**Analysis:** The NEPA compliance checklist for this project was completed by Heidi McRoberts with the Nez Perce Tribe Department of Fisheries Resource Management (February 24, 2005) and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). In addition, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (February 2002) and Record of Decision (February 11, 2003) for the Meadow Face Stewardship Pilot Project was completed by the USDA Forest Service that covers the proposed Meadow Creek Watershed actions.

Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species located in the vicinity of the proposed Meadow Creek Watershed actions include steelhead, fall chinook, spring chinook, coho salmon, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, gray wolf, and bald eagle. ESA Section 7 consultation on these species was taken care of as part of the USDA Forest Service's Meadow Face Stewardship Pilot Project FEIS and ROD.

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, surveys were conducted for Native American religious or cultural sites, archaeological sites, and historic properties in areas that may be affected by the proposed Meadow Creek Watershed actions. The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office and Nez Perce Tribe were consulted with. No effect to cultural and/or historic resources is expected to occur from the proposed activities. 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 the Meadows Creek Watershed activities. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable local, state, and federal permits and approvals.

Public involvement for the Meadows Creek Watershed project took place as part of the Meadow Face Stewardship Pilot Project FEIS and ROD through the USDA Forest Service.

**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 2-28-05

Shannon C. Stewart  
Environmental Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas McKinney

Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Date: 2-28-05

Attachments:

NEPA Compliance Checklist, February 24, 2005

cc: (w/ attachments)

Ms. Heidi McRoberts – Nez Perce Tribe