

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: 10/18/99

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS, (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-24)

TO: Mark Shaw - KEWN-4  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** Tucannon River Watershed Fish Habitat Enhancement

**Budget No:** f5374

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 1.6 Large Woddy Debris Structures, 1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management, 1.9 Structural Bank Protection Using Bioengineering Methods, 1.16 Spawning Habitat Enhancements, 1.17 Rearing Habitat Enhancements, 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities, 2.2 Plan/Protect Conifers in Riparian Area for Thermal Cover, 2.6 Native Seed Inventories, 3.1 Plant/Protect Vegetative/Conservation Cover, 3.2 Conservation Cropping Sequence, 3.3 Conservation Tillage, 3.4 Contour Farming, 3.6 Cover and Green Manure Crop, 3.7 Critical Area Planting, 3.8 Delayed Seed Bed Preparation, 3.9 Grasses and Legumes in Rotation, 3.10 Contour Stripcropping, 3.11 Field Stripcropping, 3.12 Terracing, 3.13 Diversion Ditch, 3.14 Field Border, 3.15 Filter Strip, 3.16 Grassed Waterway, 3.17 Sediment Basins, 3.18 Sediment and Water Control Basins, 3.20 Plant Windbreaks.

**Location:** Various locations in the Tucannon River Watershed, WA.

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and the Columbia Conservation District (CCD).

**Description of the Proposed Action:** 1999 Fish Habitat Restoration Projects include five individual instream projects, five upland direct seeding projects, other upland water and sediment control Best Management Practices, and extensive riparian re-vegetation. Intensive monitoring and evaluation of previously constructed and proposed project sites for biological, structural, and water quality attributes will validate restoration efforts for continued restoration and adaptive management efforts.

Project objectives include increased salmonid habitat complexity, stream bank and geomorphic stability, while reducing stream temperature and sedimentation in spawning gravels.

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

The only known threatened or endangered species present in the project area are peregrine falcon, bald eagle, bull trout, ute ladies tresses, Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon and Snake River steelhead. Biological assessments were submitted to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). A determination of no effect was made for the peregrine falcon, bald eagle and Ute ladies' -tresses; a determination of may affect, not likely to adversely affect was made for Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon, Snake River steelhead, and bull trout. The NMFS concurred with BPA's finding on Snake River spring/summer and fall chinook salmon and Snake River steelhead; and USFWS concurred with BPA's finding on bull trout. This concludes BPA's requirement for informal consultation on threatened and endangered species.

No known cultural resources are listed on State Historical Preservation Officer's database or through the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Natural Resource Conservation Service Cultural Resource Database. The Nez Perce and Umatilla Tribes were also notified. If, during site investigation or practice installation cultural resources are found the proper authorities would be contacted immediately.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6, 7.6A-D, 7.7, 7.7A, and 7.98B.1 of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. The attached 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/ Eric N. Powers  
Eric N. Powers  
Environmental Project Lead - KECN

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

DATE: 10/15/99

**Attachments:**  
NEPA Compliance Checklist  
USFWS Concurrence Letter  
NMFS Concurrence Letter

cc: (w/attachments)

H. Nigam – DOE/EH-42  
L. Croff - KECP-4  
B. Beraud - KECN-4  
N. Weintraub - KECN-4  
M. Shaw - KEWN-4  
P. Key - LC-7  
Official File - KECN (EQ-14)

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