

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: July 10, 2000

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS, (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-33)

TO: Allyn Meuleman - KEWN  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** Lolo Creek Watershed Project (Jim Brown Creek)

**Project No:** 1996-077-02

**Budget No:** F5030

**Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):** 1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management, 1.9 Structural Bank Protection using Bioengineering Methods

**Location:** Jim Brown subwatershed of Lolo Creek, Clearwater County, Idaho.

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

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The goal of this project is to restore this reach of Jim Brown Creek to dynamic equilibrium by repairing a bank that is washing out and preventing further erosion and sedimentation. The banks would be layed back at the meander that is washing out, and rootwads and boulders placed for reinforcement. The stream flow would be redirected away from the bank with a J-hook barb. The soil would be replaced, and native clumps of willows and hawthornes would be planted to hold the soil.

**Analysis:** The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Heidi McRoberts of the Nez Perce Tribe 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 general vicinity of the area are gray wolf, Ute ladies' tresses, Water howellia, bull trout, Canada lynx, Snake River fall chinook salmon and Snake River steelhead. The Fisher and Wolverine are proposed for listing. A Biological assessment was submitted by BPA to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on April 27, 2000. For USFWS listed species, a determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" was made for the gray wolf, Canada lynx, Water howellia, Ute ladies' tresses and bull trout. The USFWS concurred on May 22, 2000, with BPA's determination. For NMFS listed species, a determination of "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" was made for the Snake River chinook salmon and Snake River steelhead, or their designated critical habitat. NMFS concurred with BPA's determination

on June 29, 2000. This concludes the requirement for informal consultation on threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act.

From the Idaho State Historical Preservation Office database (contacted on 2/16/00), no known historical or archeological sites are located within the areas of project installation. The Nez Perce Tribal archaeologist was also contacted to determine potential occurrences of cultural resources. The Tribe conducted an intensive field survey of the site on May 30, 2000. No known cultural resources are located at the site, and no new cultural resources were identified during the field survey.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6D 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/ Nancy H. Weintraub  
Nancy H. Weintraub  
Environmental Project Lead - KECN

CONCUR: /s/ Robert W. Beraud for  
Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 7/10/00

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