

factsheet

August 2009

Nevada land acquisition protects fish and wildlife

The Bonneville Power Administration is working with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes to fund the tribe's acquisition of the Wilson/101 Ranch in northeastern Nevada for fish and wildlife habitat mitigation. The ranch totals approximately 938 acres and is located just outside Mountain City in Elko County, Nev.

The Wilson Ranch is composed of six separate parcels which contain important riparian and riverine habitat. Approximately 3.4 miles of the East Fork Owyhee River run through three of the parcels and another 3.25 miles of creeks run through the remaining parcels. Over the years the land has been used as a cattle ranching operation.

The acquisition of this property will benefit fish and wildlife species including mule deer, antelope, riparian-dependent bird and mammal species, and redband trout. Restoration of the riparian corridors, which is one of the most cost-effective means for improving water quality, will benefit instream habitat as well as improve water quality.

The purchase of this property will facilitate fish and wildlife mitigation activities under the Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Program and protect riparian areas along the East Fork Owyhee River and its tributaries. In addition, this land is historically important to the Shoshone-Paiute Indian Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, which is located just northwest of the parcels.

Acquiring these properties would provide BPA with credits for partial mitigation of wildlife habitat losses due to the construction and inundation associated

with the Anderson Ranch Dam in Idaho's Middle Snake Province of the Columbia River Basin.

Management plan to be developed

Once the property has been acquired, which is expected in late summer 2009, the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes will have two years to develop a management plan to provide long-term stewardship for the land through protection and enhancement of habitat resources on the property. The land will be managed for the benefit of fish and wildlife species. Passive restoration techniques, such as developing a riparian reserve or buffer strip, will be used when possible. In addition, a conservation easement will be placed on the property to ensure permanent protection of the resource values on the land.

Pending BPA's approval of the management plan, any activities that could damage the existing habitat values (such as harvesting of wood products, grazing of livestock or construction of buildings) would be prohibited.

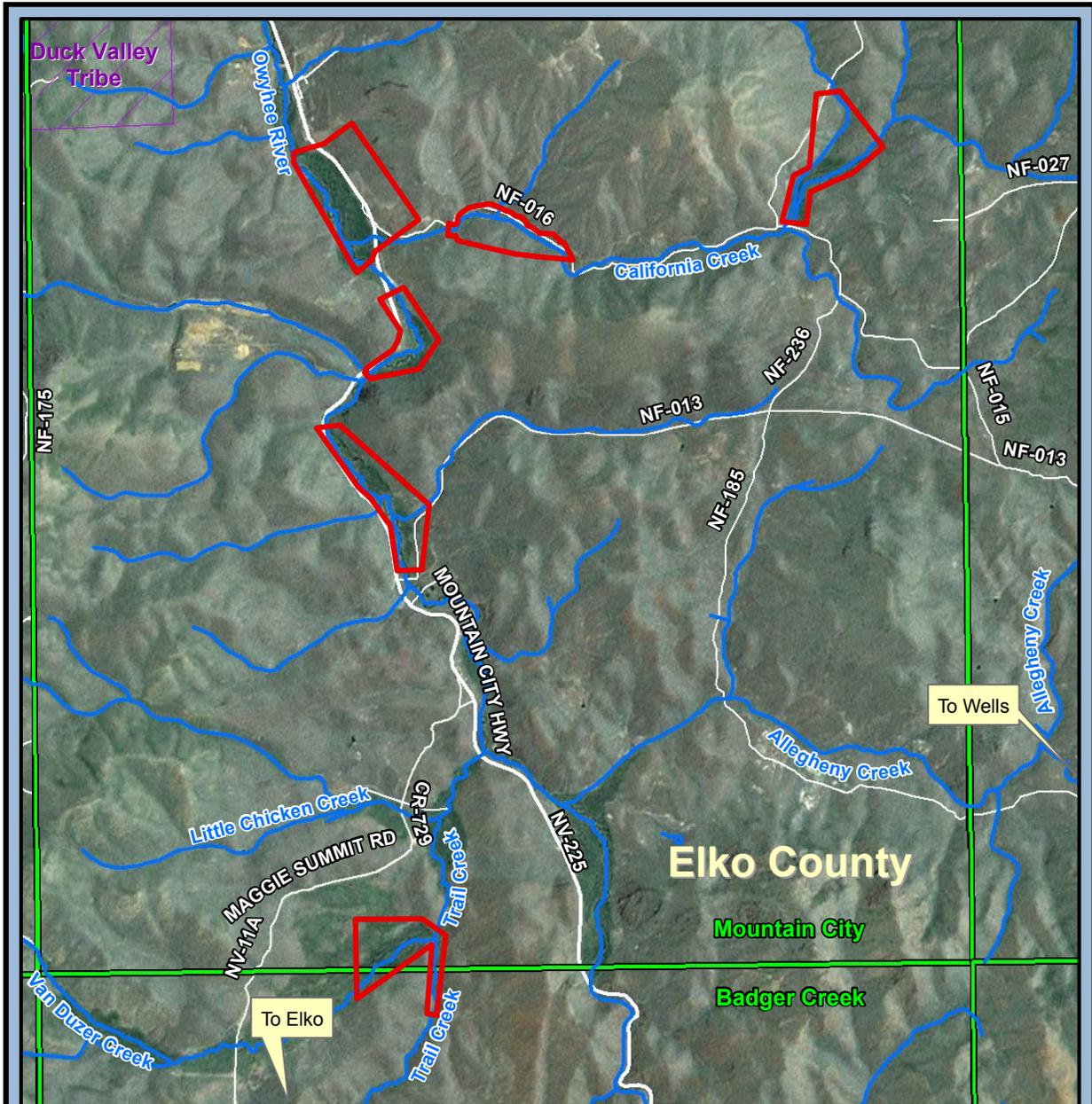
For more information

If you have questions about this proposal or would like additional information, please contact David Byrnes, BPA, at (503) 230-3171, toll-free at (800) 282-3713 or e-mail at dmbyrnes@bpa.gov. You may also contact Herman Atkins of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes at (208) 759-3100 or e-mail at atkins.herman@shopai.org.



Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Land Acquisition

Elko County, Nevada



**Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Land Acquisition 2009
(Wilson Ranch Property)
(938 Acres)**

Mountain City and Badger Creek Quadrangles

-  Subject Property
-  Quad Name and Boundary
-  Tribal Lands

