



Department of Energy

Official File

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

July 11, 2018

In reply refer to: EC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of a conservation easement on approximately 181.28 acres of late-successional mixed conifer forest, riparian and hardwood floodplain forest, and Oregon white oak woodlands, located along the confluence of Milk and Nate creeks in Clackamas County, Oregon. When the purchase is complete, the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District will manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes and BPA will receive third party rights of enforcement and entry and inspection of this conservation easement to ensure that the habitat values on the property are always protected. BPA is sending this letter to inform nearby residents and other interested parties of this conservation easement.

Funding for this conservation easement partially fulfills commitments made by BPA in the 2010 "Willamette River Basin Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Wildlife Habitat Protection and Enhancement between the State of Oregon and the Bonneville Power Administration." This is part of ongoing efforts to mitigate for the impacts to fish and wildlife from the construction and operation of federal flood control and hydroelectric facilities in the Willamette River Basin. When the transaction is complete, this property will become one of a growing network of conservation lands in the Willamette Valley providing important and long lasting fish and wildlife habitat benefits. Conserving habitat on the property also partially fulfills BPA's habitat restoration and protection responsibilities under the Willamette Project Biological Opinions (NMFS 2008, USFWS 2008).]

Enclosed you will find a map detailing this land transaction. BPA has prepared a categorical exclusion and environmental checklist documenting that no further environmental review of this funding action is required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This documentation, known as a categorical exclusion, was approved on July 9, 2018, and is posted on BPA's website at:

http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categorialexclusions.aspx.

Upon completion of the conservation easement BPA and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife intend to establish secure, permanent funding for stewardship of the properties. BPA will make a one-time lump sum payment to fund a stewardship account from which the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District will draw monies as needed to provide permanent stewardship on the property. Stewardship management actions may include, but are not limited to public outreach, site monitoring, habitat mapping, encroachment monitoring,

invasive species monitoring and control, and annual maintenance of boundary fence, signage, or gates.

Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat on the property. BPA and ODFW will review the plan for consistency with the purposes of the conservation easement. If BPA proposes to fund any additional activities on the property we will conduct additional environmental review under NEPA and other statutes as appropriate.

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please feel free to contact the project manager, Ellen Wilt at (503) 230-5732 or ewwilt@bpa.gov. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Camp Adams Conservation Easement.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chad J. Hamel

Chad J. Hamel

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosure: Vicinity Map

