



## Department of Energy

Official File

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

December 30, 2015

Reply to: EC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of approximately 655 acres of forested upland and riparian habitat, located adjacent to Blackfoot Reservoir in Caribou County, Idaho. When the purchase is complete, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe will own and manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes. BPA will receive a 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 proposed land purchase.

The funding will be provided as part of BPA's ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for wildlife species, including mule deer and bald eagle. The acquisition would serve as partial mitigation for the construction and operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System, which includes dams on the main stem Columbia and Snake rivers.

Enclosed you will find a map detailing this anticipated land transaction. BPA has prepared an 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 Nov. 23, 2015, and is posted on BPA's website at: [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/pdf/ShoBanWLMit\\_20151116\\_CinderConeCX.pdf](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/pdf/ShoBanWLMit_20151116_CinderConeCX.pdf).

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribe will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat on the property. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribe will provide the opportunity for the public to review the draft plan. BPA will review the plan for consistency with the purpose of the acquisition and the terms and conditions of the conservation easement prior to its implementation. If BPA proposes to fund any restoration activities, we will conduct additional environmental review under NEPA and other statutes as appropriate.

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please contact the project manager, Joe DeHerrera, at (503) 230-3442, or [jldeherrera@bpa.gov](mailto:jldeherrera@bpa.gov). You can also call toll-free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Cinder Cones land acquisition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Donald L. Rose  
Donald L. Rose  
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – ECF-4

Enclosure: Vicinity Map



# Cinder Cones Land Acquisition Public Notification Map

Caribou County, ID - China Hat 24k USGS Quad  
(655 Acres)

 Proposed Acquisition Area

October 29, 2015

