



Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

August 31, 2015

In reply refer to: KEC-4

To: Parties Interested in the Proposed Andrew Reasoner Wildlife Preserve Acquisition under the 2010 Willamette Wildlife Habitat Agreement

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of a conservation easement on approximately 293 acres of riparian, wetlands, and off-channel habitat located three miles southwest of the city of Eugene in Lane County, Oregon. When the purchase is complete, Mckenzie River Trust will work with the landowner to manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes. BPA will receive a third party right of enforcement 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 the purchase of this conservation easement.

Funding this land transaction 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 memo 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 August 24, 2015, and is posted on BPA's website at: http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categorialexclusions.aspx.

Mckenzie River Trust will work with the landowner to 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 conservation purposes of the land acquisition. 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, Dorie Welch at (503) 230-5479 or dwwelch@bpa.gov. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Andrew Reasoner Wildlife Preserve.

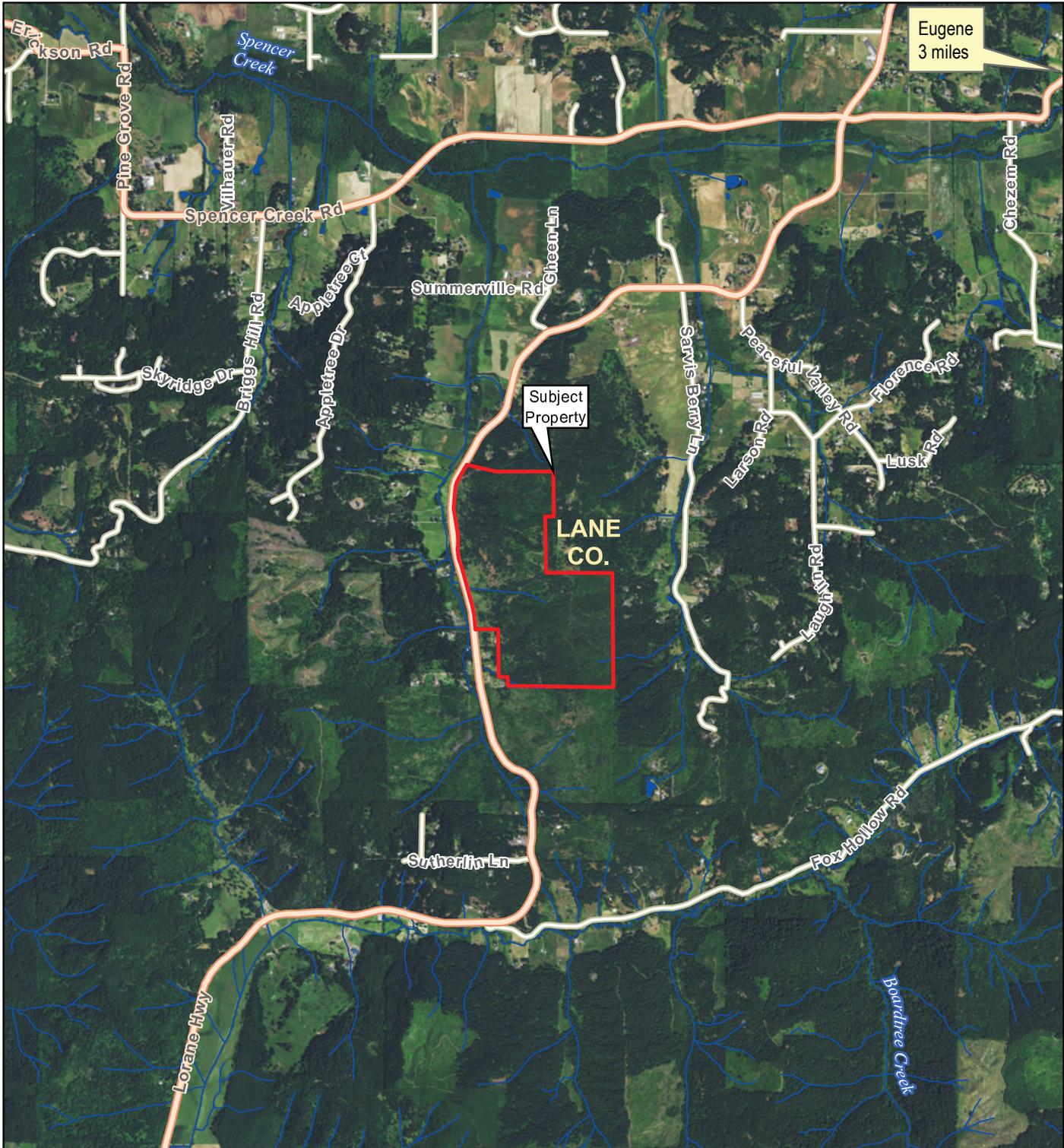
Sincerely,

/s/ Donald L. Rose

Donald L. Rose

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

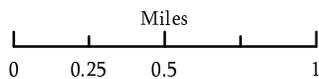
Enclosure: Vicinity Map



Andrew Reasoner Wildlife Preserve Public Notification Map

Lane County, OR - Fox Hollow 24k USGS Quad
(293 Acres)

 Subject Property



August 19, 2015

