



## Department of Energy

Official File

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

May 23, 2016

In reply refer to: EC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of approximately 15 acres of upland and wetland habitat, located in Bonner County, Idaho. When the purchase is complete, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians will own and manage the property for wildlife conservation purposes and 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 land purchase.

The funding will be provided as part of BPA's ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat contributing flows to Goose Creek (where westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout habitat is being restored) and will be important in improving elk and deer migration corridors, cover, and forage. This would serve as partial mitigation of wildlife losses associated with the construction and operation of Albeni Falls Dam and Reservoir, part of the Federal Columbia River Power System. This land purchase would specifically satisfy some of BPA's mitigation commitments made in the Northern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Agreement.

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 April 20, 2016, and is posted on BPA's website at: <https://www.bpa.gov/efw/Analysis/CategoricalExclusions/Pages/default.aspx>.

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat on the property. BPA will review the plan for consistency with the agreement and purpose of the acquisition. If BPA proposes to fund any restoration activities on this property, additional environmental review would be conducted.

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please feel free to contact the project manager, Hannah Dondy-Kaplan, 503-230-4071, and [hadondy-kaplan@bpa.gov](mailto:hadondy-kaplan@bpa.gov). You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Big Meadows III land acquisition.

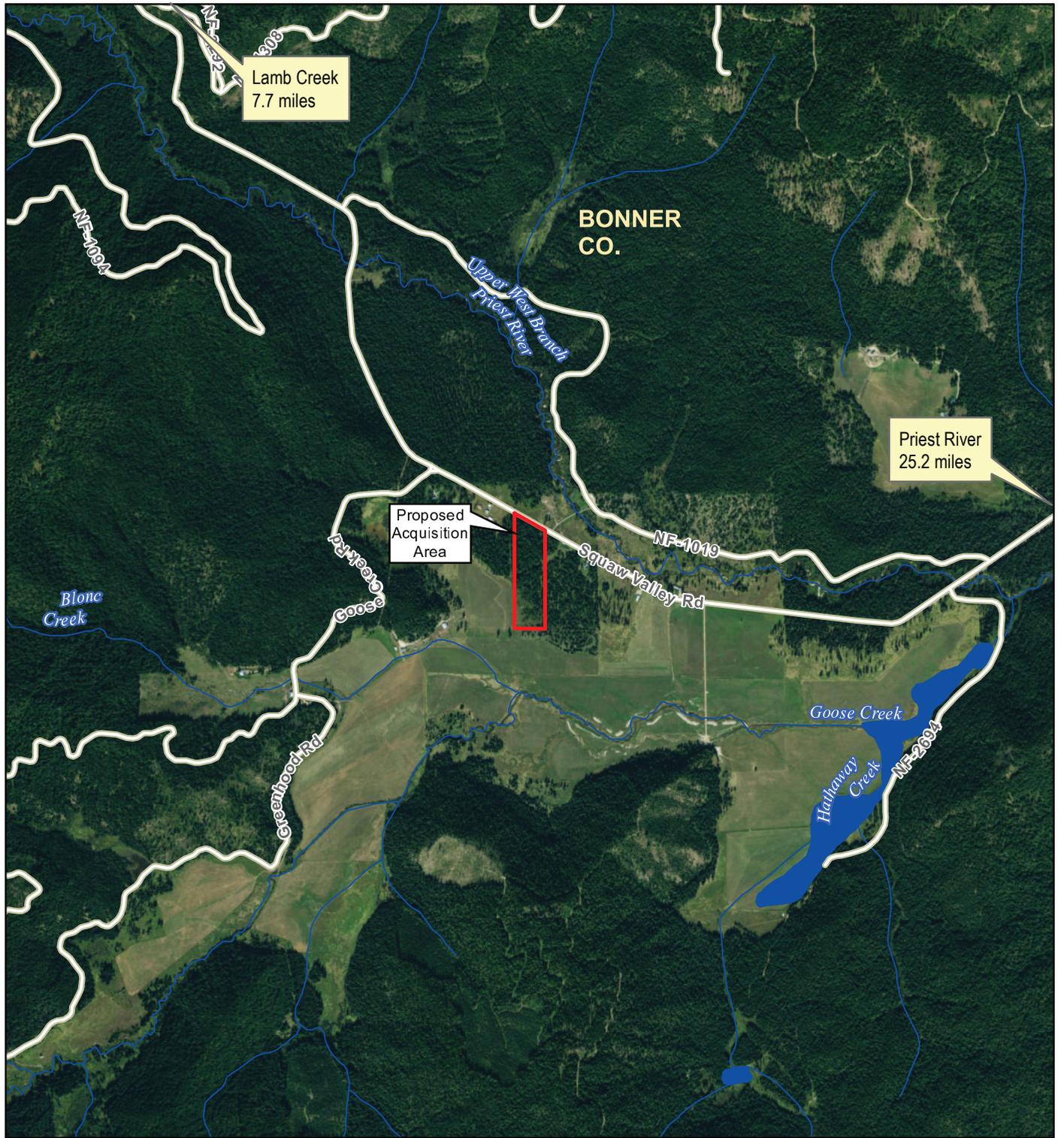
Sincerely,

*/s/ Kevin Cannell*

Kevin Cannell

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – ECC-4

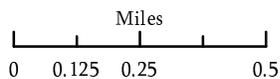
Enclosure: Vicinity Map



# Big Meadows III - Land Acquisition Public Notification Map

Bonner County, ID - Outlet Bay 24k USGS Quadrangle  
(14.7 Acres)

 Proposed Acquisition Area



January 26, 2016

