



Property acquisitions would benefit resident fish and wildlife in Southwest Washington

What’s happening

The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to reimburse the Columbia Land Trust for their purchase of a 24-acre plot of land called “Grays River Confluence - North.” CLT holds fee title, or full ownership, of the property to permanently protect, mitigate and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitat. In exchange for BPA’s reimbursement of the fee title acquisition for this property, CLT would grant BPA a conservation easement to protect the property’s conservation values in perpetuity.

BPA would also provide stewardship funds to CLT toward land management and maintenance of the property.

CLT would develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat and other resources on the property. Restoration activities may include: weed control, native planting, levee removal, tidal channel excavation, other fill removal, and ditch filling — all of which would provide substantially improved habitat for juvenile salmon and other wildlife. BPA would review the management plan for consistency with the conservation easement and the purpose of the acquisition. If BPA proposes to fund any additional activities on the property, further environmental review may be required.

Where is this happening

The “Grays River Confluence - North” property is located in Wahkiakum County, Washington, between the towns of Long Beach and Cathlamet. See the included map for the precise location.

Why is this happening

The goal of this conservation easement is to eventually restore the land to its historically natural state: the tidal wetlands would have previously been used by migrating juvenile salmon and steelhead. However, decades ago,



Once the “Grays River Confluence - North” property is restored to its normal state, it would benefit many threatened and endangered species of salmon.

a dike and tidegate were installed to drain the property for grazing and development within the floodplain. This disconnected the tidal floodplain and wetlands from the estuary and had a significant negative impact on fish use. Restoring the land to its natural state would benefit Environmental Species Act-listed threatened fish including steelhead and chinook, coho, sockeye and chum salmon. Other wildlife that would benefit include waterfowl, beaver, elk and bears.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please contact the project manager, Anne Creason, at 503-230-3859, or amcreason@bpa.gov. You can also call Communications toll-free at 800-622-4519. Please refer to the “Grays River Confluence - North” project.

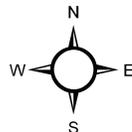




Grays River Confluence North Acquisition and Stewardship Funding Public Notification Map

Wahkiakum County, WA
 Rosburg USGS 24K Quadrangles
 (23 Acres)

 Subject Property  County Boundary



12/15/2020

