



Department of Energy

Official File

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

June 1, 2015

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of approximately 54 acres of aquatic, riparian, floodplain, and terrestrial habitat, located along the north side of Ahtanum Creek in Yakima County, Washington state. When the purchase is complete, the Yakama Nation will own and manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes and BPA will receive a conservation easement to ensure that the fish and wildlife habitat values on the property are always protected. This purchase partially fulfills commitments made between BPA, other federal agencies and the Yakama Nation in the historic 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords. 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 for chinook, coho, and steelhead as mitigation for the construction and operation of the federal hydroelectric facilities on the Columbia River.

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 May 4, 2015, and is posted on BPA's website at: http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/pdf/Ahtanum_Creek_Cx_2015_05_04.pdf.

The Yakama Nation will provide long-term stewardship for the land and will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat on the property. BPA and the Yakama Nation will review the plan for consistency with the agreement and purpose of the acquisition. If BPA proposes to fund any activities on the property, additional environmental review would be conducted.

If you have any questions regarding this land purchase, please feel free to contact the project manager, Sandra Fife at 503-230-3678 or safife@bpa.gov. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Ahtanum Creek land acquisition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Donald L. Rose

Donald L. Rose

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

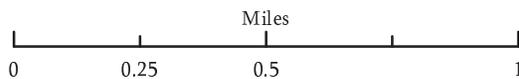
Enclosure: Vicinity Map



Ahtanum Creek Public Notification Map

Yakima County, WA - Yakima West 24k USGS Quad
(54 Acres)

 Subject Property



May 05, 2015

