



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

June 19, 2015

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of approximately 542 acres of riparian and upland habitat, located along the main stem of Catherine Creek in Union County, Or. When the transaction is complete, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (Tribe) will own and manage the property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes and BPA will hold a permanent conservation easement over the property. This purchase partially fulfills commitments made between BPA, other federal agencies and the Tribe in the historic 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords. BPA is sending this letter to inform nearby residents and other interested parties of this fee title purchase.

The Accords are agreements that BPA signed with federal agency partners, three states and several tribes in the Columbia Basin in 2008. These agreements established firm 10-year funding commitments to Accord partners for habitat and hatchery actions. Accord projects provide greater clarity about the biological benefits of projects and build on NOAA Fisheries' biological opinions for listed salmon and steelhead and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's fish and wildlife program. The funding will be provided as part of BPA's ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for Snake River spring-summer chinook and steelhead as mitigation for the construction and operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System on the Columbia and Snake Rivers.

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 April 30, 2015, and is posted on BPA's website at: [http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/pdf/Southern\\_Cross\\_Fee\\_Title\\_Funding.pdf](http://efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/pdf/Southern_Cross_Fee_Title_Funding.pdf).

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat on the property. BPA will review the plan for consistency with the mitigation and conservation purposes 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 contact the project manager, Dorie Welch, 503-230-5479, [dwwelch@bpa.gov](mailto:dwwelch@bpa.gov). You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Southern Cross land acquisition.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Donald L. Rose*

Donald L. Rose

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

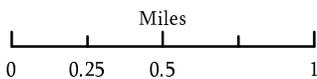
Enclosure: Vicinity Map



# Southern Cross Fee Title Funding Public Notification Map

Union County, OR - Union USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle  
(542 Acres)

Subject Property



May 21, 2015

