Department of Energy

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

Official File

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

August 27, 2015

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of approximately 32 acres located along the Lower Flathead River in Sanders County, Montana. When the purchase is complete, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will own and manage the property for fish and 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 for resident fish, including westslope cutthroat trout, as mitigation for the construction and operation of the Hungry Horse hydroelectric facility on the South Fork of the Flathead 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 August 26, 2015 and is posted on BPA's website at: *http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categoricalexclusions.aspx*.

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes 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 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, Cecilia Brown, 503-230-3462, or ckbrown@bpa.gov. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the Dixon Flathead land acquisition.

Sincerely,

/s/ Donald L. Rose
Donald L. Rose
Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Enclosure: Vicinity Map

Dixon Flathead Land Acquisition Public Notification Map

Sanders County, MT - Dixon 24k USGS Quad

(31.9 Acres)

Subject Property

Miles

0 0.25 0.5 1

N W E S

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

August 19, 2015