



Department of Energy

Official File

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

September 5, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of the Minto Island property that is approximately 307 acres and is located along the Willamette River in Marion County, Oregon. When the purchase is complete, the City of Salem 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 wildlife, Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). The funding partially fulfills commitments made in the 2010 "Willamette River Basin Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Wildlife Habitat Protection and Enhancement between the State of Oregon and the Bonneville Power Administration", part of ongoing efforts to mitigate for the impacts to fish and wildlife from the construction and operation of federal flood control and hydroelectric facilities in the Willamette River Basin.

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 29, 2013, and is posted on BPA's website at: http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categorialexclusions.aspx.

The City of Salem 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. The City of Salem will provide the opportunity for the public to review and comment on the draft plan. BPA will review the plan and must approve it before it is implemented. Management actions may removal of non-native vegetation and weed control and enhancement of native habitats. If BPA proposes to fund any of these activities, 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, Dorie Welch, with BPA at (503) 230-5479 or dwwelch@bpa.gov. You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the "Minto Island Acquisition".

Sincerely,

/s/ Israel Duran

Israel Duran

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Enclosure:

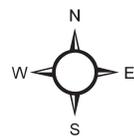
Vicinity Map



Minto Island Acquisition

Marion and Polk Counties, OR
(307 Acres)

-  Subject Property
-  TRS Boundary
-  Counties



9/4/2013

