



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

August 22, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to fund the purchase of a conservation easement on approximately 91 acres of floodplain habitat, including; seasonal emergent wetlands, off-channel aquatic habitat, and hardwood floodplain forest in Yamhill County, Oregon. When the purchase is complete, Ducks Unlimited (DU) will manage the easement for wildlife conservation purposes and BPA will receive third party rights of enforcement 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 efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for the endangered Nelson's checkermallow (*Sidalcea nelsoniana*). 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 July 2, 2013, and is posted on BPA's website at: [http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/categorical\\_exclusions.aspx](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categorical_exclusions.aspx).

DU 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. DU will provide the opportunity for the public to review and comment on a draft of the management plan. BPA will review the plan and must approve it before it is implemented. 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](mailto:dwwelch@bpa.gov). You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the "South Yamhill Floodplains Easement".

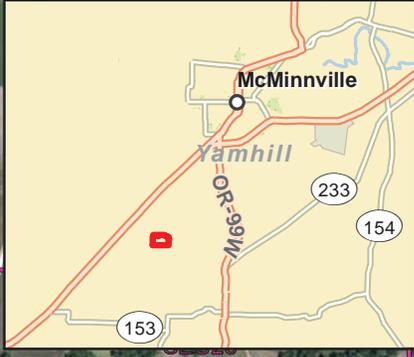
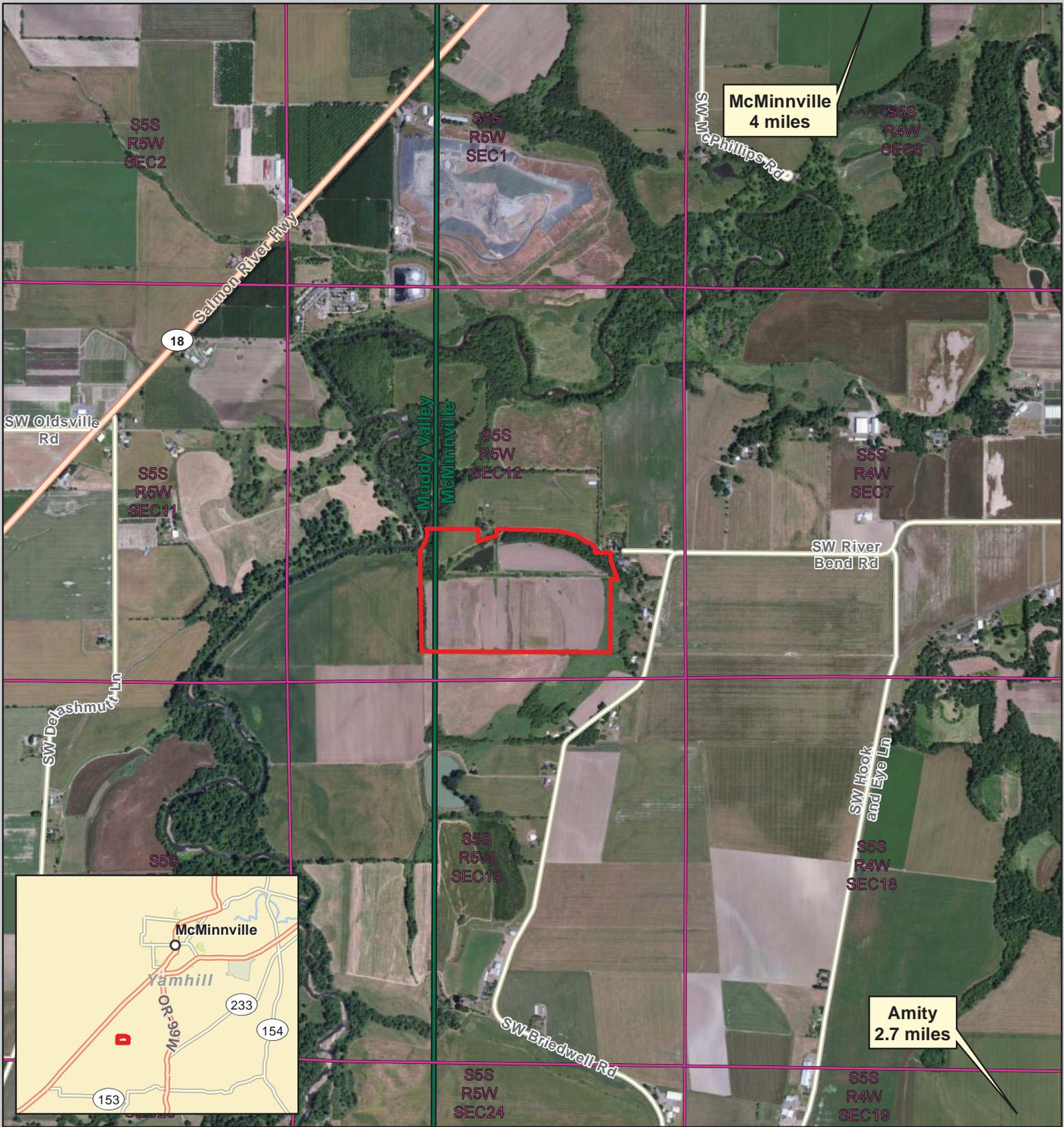
Sincerely,

/s/ Israel Duran

Israel Duran

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

Enclosure: Vicinity Map



## South Yamhill Floodplains Property

Yamhill County, OR

(91.23 Acres)

6/25/2013

-  Subject Property
-  Counties
-  TRS Boundary
-  Quad Name and Boundary

