



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

August 30, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party:

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) intends to reimburse the Willamalane Park and Recreation District for the purchase of about 106 acres of prairie, mixed conifer-oak woodland and forest, and mixed conifer-hardwood forest habitats on property located in Lane County, Oregon. When transaction is complete, the Willamalane Park and Recreation District will own and manage the property for 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 prairie-savanna dependent Willamette Valley species such as the ESA-listed Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus ssp. Kincaidii*), Willamette daisy (*Erigeron decumbens var. decumbens*), and Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*). 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 8/28/13, 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).

The Willamalane Park and Recreation District 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 Willamalane Park and Recreation District 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 include weed control, native plantings and fencing repair. 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 "Thurston Hills Easement".

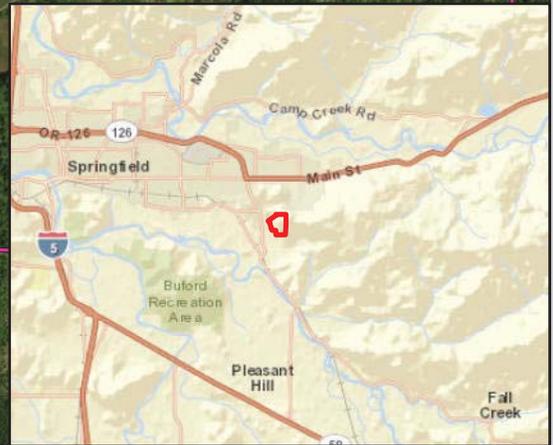
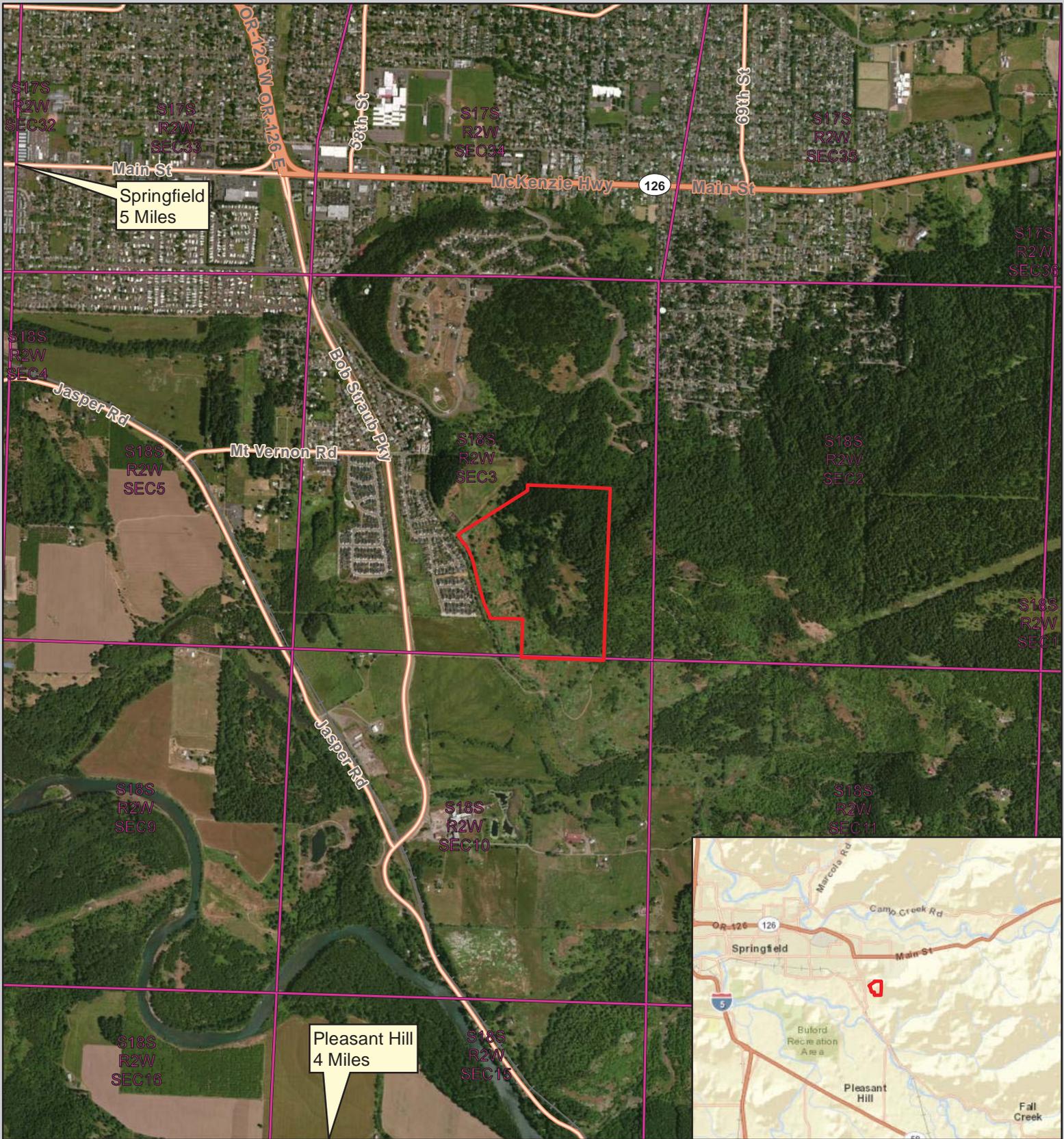
Sincerely,

/s/ Israel Duran

Israel Duran

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

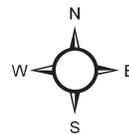
Enclosure: Vicinity Map



# Thurston Hills Property

Lane County, OR  
(106 Acres)

-  Subject Property
-  TRS Boundary



8/27/2013

