



## Department of Energy

Official File

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

April 5, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

Dear Landowner/interested party,

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to fund the purchase of 109 acres of land near the town of Clatskanie in Columbia County, Oregon. When the transaction is complete, Columbia Land Trust would own and manage the land, and BPA would receive a conservation easement to ensure that the habitat values are always protected. BPA is sending this letter to inform nearby residents and other interested parties of this proposed land purchase.

The funding would be provided as part of BPA's ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife species such as coho, Chinook, steelhead, Columbia white-tailed deer, Roosevelt elk, and river otter. The acquisition would serve as partial mitigation for the construction and operation of the dams on the main-stem Columbia and Snake Rivers, referred to as the Federal Columbia River Power System. This land acquisition would satisfy some of BPA's mitigation requirements as identified in the National Marine Fisheries Service 2008 Biological Opinion, which guides the protection of Columbia River salmon and steelhead listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Enclosed you will find a map showing the location of the property. 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. This documentation, known as a categorical exclusion, was approved on March 18, 2013 and is posted on BPA's website at:

[http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental\\_services/categorialexclusions.aspx](http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/categorialexclusions.aspx).

Columbia Land Trust will provide long-term stewardship for the land and will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat on the property. Columbia Land Trust will provide the public an opportunity to review and comment on the plan. BPA will review the plan and must approve it before it is implemented. Purchase of the property will allow future restoration of estuarine wetlands and floodplains to their historical condition. Activities are likely to include: removing ditches and dikes, re-creating historic side channels, installing large wood, controlling invasive weeds, and planting native vegetation. If BPA proposes to fund any of these activities, we will first 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, Jason Karnezis, at 503-230-3098 or [jpkarnezis@bpa.gov](mailto:jpkarnezis@bpa.gov). You can also call toll free 800-622-4519. Please refer to the "Kerry Island Land Acquisition."

Sincerely,

*/s/ Michelle O'Malley, April 5, 2013*  
Michelle O'Malley  
Environmental Protection Specialist

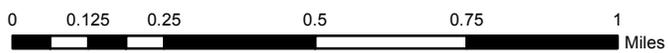
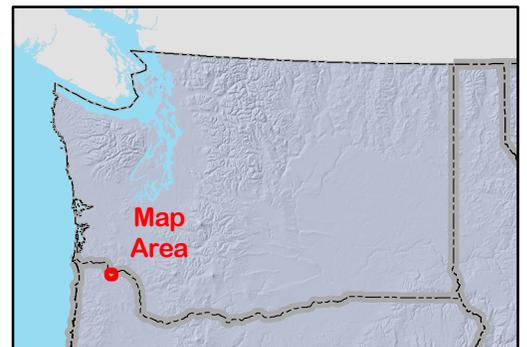
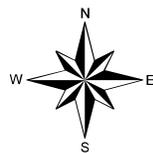
Enclosure:  
Vicinity Map



# KERRY ISLAND LAND ACQUISITION

COLUMBIA, OR  
(109 ACRES)

-  Subject Property
-  Quad Name and Boundary



8/8/2012