Acquisition of wildlife habitat along Cougar Creek

The Bonneville Power Administration proposes to fund the acquisition of wildlife mitigation lands in the Cougar Creek watershed in Shoshone County, Idaho. BPA funds the Albeni Falls Wildlife Mitigation Program, which is tasked with the acquisition and restoration of key habitats within the larger Pend Oreille Watershed. This is a mitigation program that purchases private land to be owned and managed by program participants for the protection, mitigation and enhancement of wildlife affected by the construction and operation of the federal hydroelectric facilities on the Columbia River.

BPA is currently working with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe to acquire and manage a 163-acre parcel along Cougar Creek and a portion of the North Fork Coeur d’Alene River. The property proposed for acquisition contains riparian, coniferous forest habitat that will provide BPA with credits for partial mitigation of wildlife habitat losses due to the construction of Albeni Falls Dam. The 163-acre parcel will be owned and managed by the Coeur d’Alene Tribe for the purpose of wildlife mitigation.

Land to get management plan

Once these lands have been acquired, the Coeur d’Alene Tribe will develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of resources on the property. The public will be given the opportunity to review and provide comments on the management plan. The Coeur d’Alene Tribe will provide information about opportunities for public involvement in the development of the management plan for this property in the future.

Pending BPA approval of management plans, no forest management, grazing or other land management activities would occur except maintenance and protection, such as weed control or fence maintenance.

For more information

If you have any questions regarding this proposal or would like additional information, please contact Shannon Stewart, BPA, at (503) 230-5928 or scstewart@bpa.gov. You also can contact Anders Mikkelsen with the Coeur d’Alene Tribe at (208) 686-8902 or amikkelsen@cdatribe-nsn.gov.