

## **Department of Energy**

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

September 6, 2024

In reply refer to: ECF-4

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

**Proposed Action:** Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge Floodplain Reconnection Project

Environmental Project Manager: Ted Gresh, 503-230-5756, esgresh@bpa.gov

**Location:** Bonners Ferry, Boundary County, Idaho

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

<u>Description of the Proposed Action</u>: BPA proposes to provide funding to the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho (KTOI) to restore floodplain connectivity to the Kootenai River historic floodplain within the Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR) in Boundary County, Idaho near Bonners Ferry, Idaho. The KNWR is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS and the KTOI are the project sponsors.

<u>Class of Action to be Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021)</u>: C8 Protection of cultural resources and fish and wildlife habitat.

We have determined that the proposed action is within the class of actions normally requiring an environmental assessment (EA), but not necessarily requiring an environmental impact statement (EIS) as listed in C8 Subpart D of 10 C.F.R. Part 1021. Therefore, we have determined that an EA will be prepared to assess the impacts of the proposed action. On the basis of the analysis in the EA, BPA will prepare a finding of no significant impact and proceed with the action, or will prepare an EIS if the draft EA reveals the potential for significant environmental impacts.

Katey Grange NEPA Compliance Officer Date