



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

November 22, 2019

In reply refer to: EC-4

### **To: People interested in BPA's adoption of the Umatilla Aquatic Restoration EA**

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) to support BPA's future proposed funding of habitat restoration projects on and near Umatilla National Forest. The FONSI is based on the Umatilla National Forest's Aquatic Restoration Environmental Assessment (EA). This letter describes BPA's decision, the adoption of the Umatilla National Forest's EA, and how to obtain additional information.

**Background:** BPA proposes to fund future restoration activities on and near the Umatilla National Forest.

Umatilla National Forest prepared an EA to help the agency determine if proposed restoration activities would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. The final EA provided responses to comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on their EA analysis and mitigation measures to address impacts, BPA has found that funding future activities would not cause significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

BPA adopted the Umatilla National Forest's EA, which describes and analyzes restoration activities and recirculated it in November 2019. As specific funding requests are made to BPA, BPA will use the EA to help evaluate the potential environmental effects for the requested activities. The EA evaluates typical environmental effects and identifies mitigation measures for habitat improvement activities that will continue to be proposed within the Umatilla National Forest and adjacent property. BPA would tier environmental analyses for site-specific projects to the EA.

**Decision:** Based on the EA analysis, BPA has decided to issue a FONSI on the impacts of proposed types of activities in and near the Umatilla National Forest. BPA has found that funding habitat restoration projects as described in the EA would not cause significant impacts.

**Copies Available:** The final EA, FONSI, and other information are available on BPA's website at [www.bpa.gov/goto/umatillaaquatic](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/umatillaaquatic). If you would like to obtain paper copies of these documents, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520; leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address.

**For More Information:** If you have any questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-5564 or email at [cjhamel@bpa.gov](mailto:cjhamel@bpa.gov), or Israel Duran, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, Salient/CRGT, at [induran@bpa.gov](mailto:induran@bpa.gov), or 503-230-3967.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

/s/ Chad J. Hamel

Chad J. Hamel

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist