



Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH & WILDLIFE

July 15, 2013

In reply refer to: KEC-4

To: People Interested in the Clark Fork River Delta Restoration Project

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) will be preparing an environmental assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act to analyze the effects of a project to restore wetland and riparian habitat and to reduce erosion in the Clark Fork River delta located in Bonner County, Idaho. This letter briefly explains what is being proposed, outlines the environmental review process and schedule, and invites you to a public meeting where you can learn more and comment on the proposal.

Proposal - The Clark Fork River Delta Restoration Project would be located at the confluence of the Clark Fork River with Lake Pend Oreille, (please see the enclosed map – project activities will take place in areas 11, 7, 3, 5, and 6). The project would involve using pieces of woody debris (e.g. trees with rootwads) and rock to help stabilize shorelines, plant native vegetation, such as black cottonwood, dogwood and willow, and raise some ground surfaces to create new plant and wildlife habitat. This project is part of restoration efforts in northern Idaho and eastern Washington implemented by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) to help mitigate for impacts of the construction, operation, and inundation of the delta by the Albeni Falls hydroelectric project.

BPA is proposing to provide funding for this project and IDFG is proposing to manage the restoration. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) owns a portion of the project area and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) leases part of the project area to IDFG. The BLM and ACOE would be responsible for issuing permits before restoration actions can occur and are cooperating agencies in the development of the EA.

Public Meetings - We have scheduled a public scoping meeting to answer questions and accept comments about the scope of the EA:

Wednesday July 31, 2013
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Panhandle State Bank Community Room
414 Church Street
Sandpoint, ID 83864

The meeting will be open-house format, with a brief presentation at 5:00 p.m.

How to comment - Please send comments you may have on the proposal and potential impacts by **August 19, 2013** so they may be considered while we draft the EA. When commenting, refer to the Clark Fork River Delta Restoration. Comments will be posted in their entirety on BPA's website at www.bpa.gov/comment.

Choose the way you would like to comment:

Mail: **Bonneville Power Administration**
Public Affairs – DKC-7
P.O. Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

On-line: www.bpa.gov/comment
E-mail: comment@bpa.gov
FAX: 503-230-3285
Toll-free: 800-622-4519

Process and Schedule – Starting this summer, contractors will begin environmental surveys for the project. The proposed schedule for the EA process is as follows:

Preliminary EA available for public comment	Fall 2013
Final EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Spring 2014
If decision to proceed, construction start	Summer 2014

Please indicate on the enclosed postcard whether or how you would like to receive the EA.

For More Information – To find out more about the project, please go to BPA's project site at www.bpa.gov/goto/ClarkForkRiverDelta. If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact Jenna Peterson, Environmental Lead, toll free at 800-282-3713, or directly at 503-230-3018; or by e-mail jepeterson@bpa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in this project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jenna Peterson

Jenna Peterson
Environmental Lead

Enclosures:
Project Map
Comment Form
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