



## Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH & WILDLIFE

January 21, 2020

In reply refer to: EC-4

### **To: People Interested in the Lemhi Valley River and Floodplain Restoration Projects**

The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is proposing to fund multiple river and stream restoration projects in the Lemhi River Valley. This letter explains what is being proposed, outlines our environmental review process and schedule, and requests your comments.

**Proposal:** The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) proposes to provide funding for river and floodplain habitat restoration actions in the mainstem and tributaries of the Lemhi River in eastern Idaho designed to benefit fish species such as Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout. These actions include six mainstem and tributary river/stream restoration actions; four irrigation diversion modifications; one bridge construction; and planting, riparian-protection fencing, invasive weed treatments, and hydroseeding (a planting process using a slurry of seed and mulch) at various locations within the Lemhi River Valley.

**Environmental Review:** To understand the potential environmental impacts of this proposal, BPA will prepare an environmental assessment (EA). The EA will describe anticipated impacts to natural and human resources and include mitigation measures that would help avoid or minimize impacts. We are asking for your comments to help determine the issues that should be addressed in the EA. During this process, BPA will work with Federal, state, and local agencies, Tribes, potentially affected landowners, and other interest groups. The proposed schedule for the EA process is as follows:

Scoping comment period	January 21 thru February 21, 2020
Draft EA available for public comment	March 23, 2020
Final EA	Spring 2020
Finding of No Significant Impact (if warranted)	Spring 2020
If decision to build, construction start	Summer 2020

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

**How to Comment:** Please send your comments by **February 21, 2020**, and reference the *Lemhi Valley River and Floodplain Restoration Projects*. All comments will be available on the project website at [www.bpa.gov/goto/LemhiRestoration](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/LemhiRestoration). There are several ways to comment:

**Mail:** Bonneville Power Administration  
Public Affairs – DKE-7  
P.O. Box 14428  
Portland, OR 97291-4428

**Toll-free:** 800-622-4519  
**FAX:** 503-230-4019  
**Online:** [www.bpa.gov/comment](http://www.bpa.gov/comment)

**For More Information:** If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-5564, or by e-mail at [cjhamel@bpa.gov](mailto:cjhamel@bpa.gov), or Rob Shull, Contract Environmental Protection Specialist, CorSource Technology Group, at 503-230-3962, or by e-mail at [rwshull@bpa.gov](mailto:rwshull@bpa.gov).

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Chad J. Hamel*

Chad J. Hamel

Supervisory Environmental Protection Specialist

Enclosures:

Project Map

Comment Form

Return Envelope

Reply Card

Official File – KEC (EQ-13)

Rob Shull:RWS:3962:January 6, 2020