

Yakima County land acquisition would protect steelhead and chinook

The Bonneville Power Administration is working with the Yakama Nation to acquire a 1.1 acre parcel of land outside Yakima, Wash., to protect as fish and wildlife habitat.

The property is adjacent to the Naches River and contains important stream bank habitat in addition to floodplain, wetland and upland habitats. The acquisition and subsequent restoration of this property would benefit endangered summer steelhead, summer chinook, coho and sockeye salmon, resident bull trout and many terrestrial species.

BPA proposes to acquire the property as partial mitigation for habitat losses due to the construction and operation of the federal Columbia River hydroelectric system.

Land to get management plan

The property is expected to be acquired in winter 2009. If acquired, the Yakama Nation would place a conservation easement on the property to protect the habitat resources in perpetuity. The Yakama Nation would develop a management plan to provide longterm stewardship of the property. The public would have a chance to comment on the management plan. This property would be included in the suite of land management plans that BPA has under development with the Yakama Nation.

Pending approval of the management plan, any activities that could damage the existing habitat values (such as harvesting of wood products, grazing of livestock or construction of buildings) would be prohibited.

For more information

If you have any questions about this proposal or would like additional information, please contact Sandra Fife of BPA at 503-230-7349, 800-282-3713 or *safife@bpa. gov.* You may also contact Scott Nicolai of the Yakama Nation at 509-962-6142 or *ykfphabitat@fairpoint.net.*



Floyd Property Land Acquisition

Yakima County, Wash.



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2