



# Fact Sheet

HABITAT CONSERVATION – PUBLIC NOTICE

August 2010

## BPA funds habitat acquisition in Lower Jocko River watershed

**Location:** Flathead Reservation, Sanders County, Mont. (see map)

**Acres:** 35

**Partner:** Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

**Purpose:** BPA will fund the acquisition of a 35-acre tract in the Lower Jocko River watershed to protect and restore fish habitat. This property was selected because the Jocko River watershed is designated as critical habitat for bull trout, a species that is listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Jocko River watershed is a core recovery area for these fish and also supports populations of resident and migratory westslope cutthroat trout, a subspecies that is considered at risk of extinction by local tribes and the state of Montana. This is significant to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes because evidence of traditional use goes back hundreds of years.

This acquisition will provide BPA with credits for partial mitigation of resident fish habitat losses due to the construction and inundation of Hungry Horse Dam, located on the South Fork of the Flathead River. The purchase is expected to be finalized in September 2010.

**Type of action:** BPA will fund the purchase of the property from a private landowner. When the transaction is complete, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will own and manage the land, and BPA will receive a conservation easement which is intended to maintain the land as fish habitat in perpetuity.

**Land management:** The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will provide long-term stewardship of the land as defined in a management plan that must be reviewed and approved by BPA. The Tribes will provide information about opportunities for public involvement during development of the management plan that will be designed to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat resources on the property.

### For more information, contact:

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION:**

Cecilia Brown, fish biologist 800-622-4519 or 503-230-3462, [ckbrown@bpa.gov](mailto:ckbrown@bpa.gov)

**CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES:**

Lynn DuCharme, watershed coordinator 406-883-2888, [lynnd@cskt.org](mailto:lynnd@cskt.org)

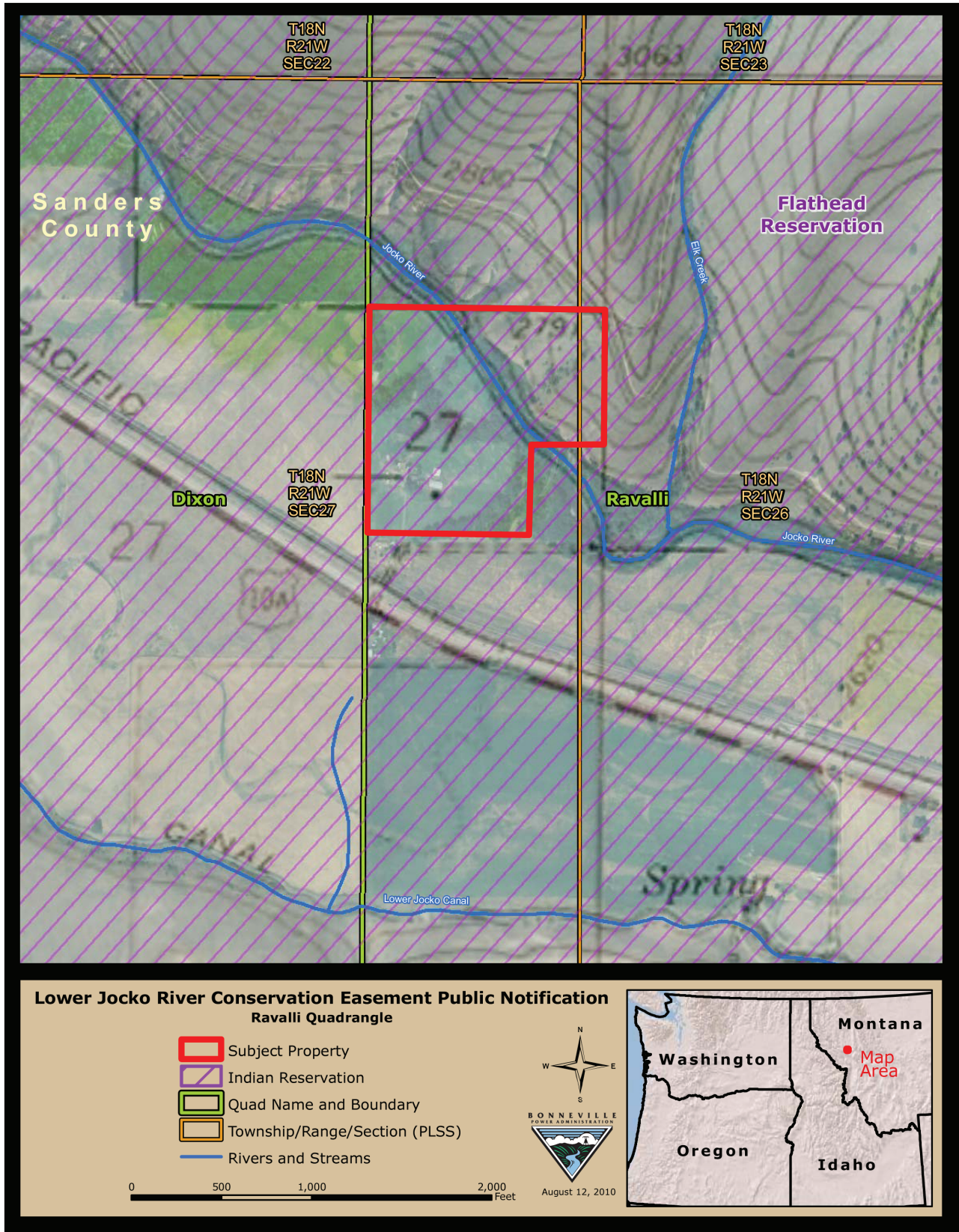
### BPA Fish and Wildlife Program:

BPA's fish and wildlife program protects and preserves valuable fish and wildlife habitat throughout the Northwest. Since its inception in 1980, the program has set aside more than 300,000 acres of land benefiting hundreds of species. The program protects habitat from development either through outright purchase of land or by purchasing conservation easements on privately owned property. BPA works in partnership with conservation groups, local tribes and state fish and wildlife management agencies.



# Lower Jocko River

## Sanders County, Montana



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