



# Fact Sheet

HABITAT CONSERVATION – PUBLIC NOTICE

August 2010

## BPA funds habitat acquisition in Willamette Valley

**Location:** McMinnville, Yamhill County, Oregon  
(see map)

**Acres:** 313

**Partners:** The Nature Conservancy.

**Purpose:** BPA is funding the acquisition of a conservation easement in the Yamhill Oaks Conservation Area in the lower foothills of the Oregon coast range within the Willamette Valley subbasin. This acquisition will provide long-lasting wildlife benefits as part of a growing network of conservation lands in the northern Willamette Valley by providing wildlife continued access to native upland prairie, oak woodland and Douglas-fir habitats. Numerous wildlife species use this type of habitat, including two listed under the Endangered Species Act – Fender's blue butterfly and Kincaid's lupine. Other species likely to use this property include: sharptail snake, southern alligator lizard, acorn woodpecker, American kestrel, chipping sparrow, common yellowthroat, horned lark, northern red-legged frog, olive-sided flycatcher, pileated woodpecker, purple martin, Vaux's swift, vesper sparrow, western wood-pewee, western meadowlark, white-breasted nuthatch, wood duck, yellow warbler, red tree vole, Townsend's big-eared bat and Western gray squirrel.

Funding this acquisition provides partial mitigation for wildlife habitat losses due to the construction and operation of the federal hydroelectric facilities in the Willamette Valley. The purchase is expected to be finalized in September 2010.

**Type of action:** BPA will fund the purchase of the property, and in exchange it will receive a conservation easement that will prevent habitat conversion and

secure rights to restore and maintain wildlife habitat. The Nature Conservancy will own and manage the land.

**Land management:** The Nature Conservancy will provide long-term stewardship for this land as defined in a management plan that will guide the protection and enhancement of the habitat resources on the property. The public will have an opportunity to review the management plan, and BPA will approve it before it is implemented. This parcel will become part of a larger Yamhill Oaks Preserve that The Nature Conservancy is already managing for many of the same wildlife benefits that this property provides.

### For more information, contact

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION:**

Dorothy Welch, Fish & Wildlife Administrator  
800-622-4519 or 503-230 5479, [dwwelch@bpa.gov](mailto:dwwelch@bpa.gov)

**THE NATURE CONSERVANCY:**

Stephen Anderson, Director of Communications  
503-802-8100, [standerson@tnc.org](mailto:standerson@tnc.org)

### BPA Fish and Wildlife Program:

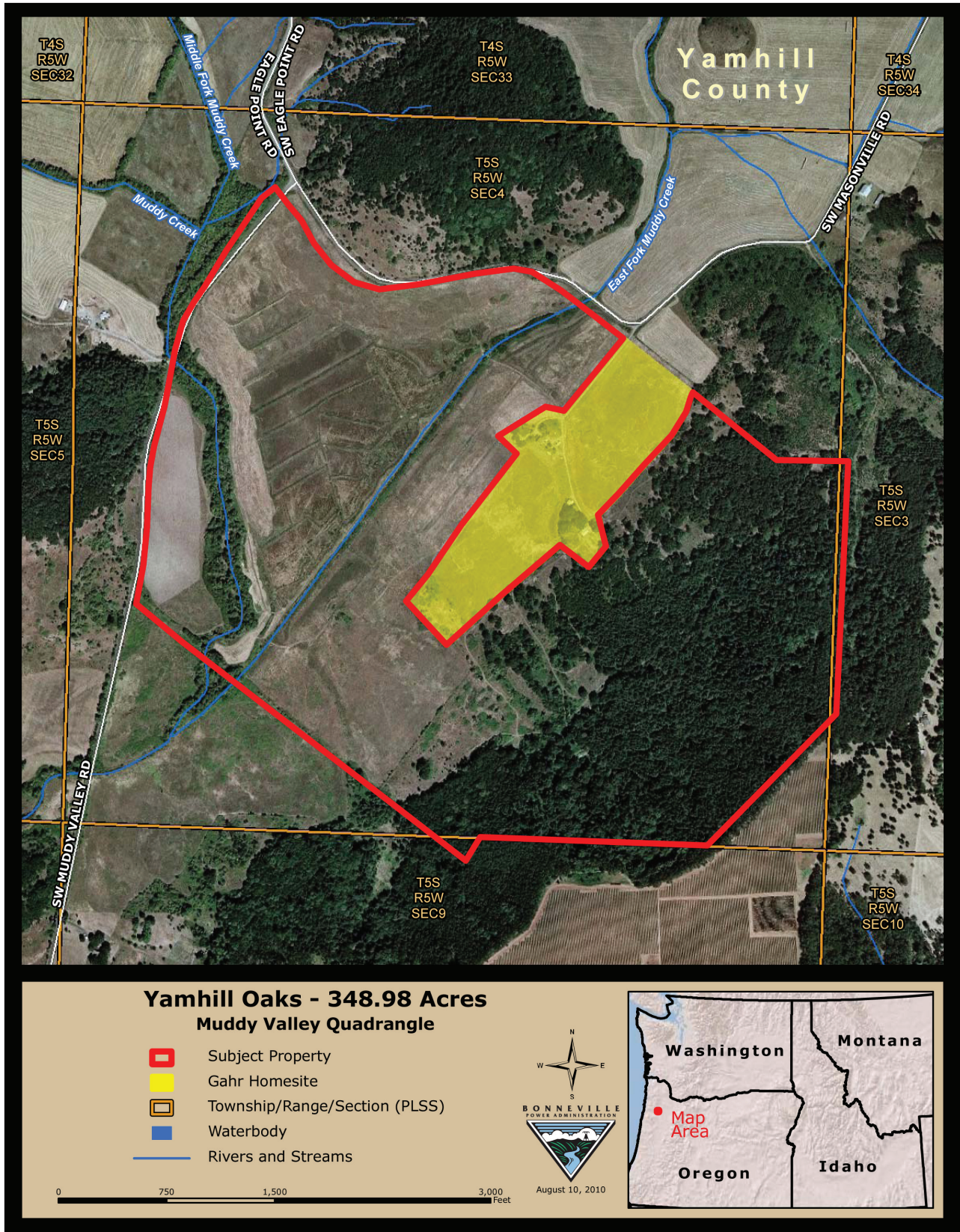
BPA's fish and wildlife program protects and preserves valuable fish and wildlife habitat throughout the Northwest. Since its inception in 1980, the program has set aside more than 300,000 acres of land benefiting hundreds of species. The program protects habitat from development either through outright 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.





# Yamhill Oaks

Yamhill County, Oregon



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