BPA funds habitat acquisition in the Clark Fork River

Location: Clark Fork, Bonner County, Idaho

(see map)

Acres: 132

Partners: The Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Purpose: The Bonneville Power Administration is partnering with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to purchase two properties totaling approximately 132 acres in the Clark Fork River Delta for the protection of wildlife habitat. Purchasing this property will protect habitat for bald eagle, muskrat, Canada goose, mallard duck, redhead duck, white-tailed deer, black-capped chickadee and the yellow warbler. Following acquisition, this property will be added to the land base of the Pend Oreille River Wildlife Management Area. Funding this acquisition will partially mitigate for wildlife habitat losses due to the construction and inundation of Albeni Falls Dam. The land purchase is expected to be finalized in September 2010.

Type of action: The purchase will be funded by BPA, and BPA will acquire a conservation easement on the property, ensuring that this land will be protected in perpetuity as a natural open space. Under the terms of the easement, development restrictions are placed both on the current landowner and on all subsequent landowners. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game will own and manage the land.

Land management: The land will be managed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as part of their Pend Oreille River Wildlife Management Area. When the acquisition is complete, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game will update the existing Pend Oreille

Wildlife Management Area management plan to include the Clark Fork River Delta property. Information about opportunities for public involvement during development of the management plan will be provided by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Pending BPA approval of the management plan, no streamside development, grazing or other land management activities would occur other than maintenance and protection, such as weed control or fence maintenance.

For more information, contact BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION:

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ALBENI FALLS WILDLIFE MITIGATION PROGRAM:

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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.



Clark Fork River

Bonner County, Idaho

