

factsheet

July 2008

Acquisition to protect wildlife habitat along Smith Creek

The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund the acquisition of 24 acres of land in northern Idaho along Smith Creek in the Kootenai River floodplain for wildlife habitat mitigation (see map).

Located in Boundary County, the property is partly covered by the alluvial fan formed by Smith Creek which is densely vegetated with conifers. The remainder of the property is a floodplain with a shallow water table and densely vegetated with deciduous trees and shrubs. This land contributes to the long-term plan of managing wetlands in the Kootenai floodplain and restoring Smith Creek to its historic channel.

This parcel is adjacent to a larger property already purchased under the Albeni Falls Wildlife Mitigation Program. Acquiring this 24-acre parcel would provide BPA with credits for partial mitigation of wildlife habitat losses due to construction and operation of the federal Albeni Falls Dam on the Pend Oreille River. To date, BPA has mitigated over 34 percent of the habitat that was lost through combining efforts with partners like the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Kootenai Tribes, Kalispell Tribe and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The property would be owned and managed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. As owner of the property, Idaho Fish and Game would pay a fee in lieu of taxes to Boundary County.

Land to get management plan

If this proposed property is acquired, which is expected in summer 2008, Idaho Fish and Game will incorporate it into the Smith Creek Wildlife Management Area.

The management plan for this area is currently being amended and will guide the protection and enhancement of habitat resources on the property. The public will be given the opportunity to review and provide comments on the management plan.

Pending BPA approval of the management plan, no forest management, grazing or other land management activities would occur on the property except maintenance and protection.

For more information

If you have any questions regarding this proposal or would like additional information, please contact Rachel Rounds with the Bonneville Power Administration at (503) 230-3967 or toll free at (800) 282-3713 or rrounds@bpa.gov.

For information on the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's mitigation acquisition program or wildlife management program, contact Kathy Cousins at (208) 769-1414 or kcousins@idfg.idaho.gov.




Smith Creek Land Aquisition

Boundary County, Idaho



Smith Creek Acquisition Smith Falls Quadrangle (24 Acres)

 Subject Property

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles

