

United States Government

Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration

# memorandum

DATE: December 12, 2001

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0246/SA-19)

TO: David Sill, KEWU-4  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** Bader Property Acquisition

**Project No:** 1992-061-06

**Wildlife Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS):** 1.1 Fee-Title Acquisition.

**Location:** St. Joe Watershed on the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation, Idaho

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to purchase approximately 650 acres of private property that border the St. Joe River near Goose Heaven Lake on the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation as partial mitigation for fish and wildlife impacts caused by the construction and operation of Albeni Falls hydroelectric project. Title to the land will be transferred to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for wildlife habitat protection and enhancement. The goal of this project is to protect and restore riparian, wetland, floodplain and river corridor systems to help enhance water quality and in-stream habitat in the St. Joe Watershed.

**Analysis:** The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Robert Matt with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and meets the standards and guidelines for the Wildlife Mitigation Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD). A comprehensive management plan will be prepared for the property after it is purchased and will follow the guidelines and mitigation measures detailed in the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS and ROD.

No plant or animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) will be affected by the fee-title purchase of the subject property. ESA listed species that may be present in the project vicinity include gray wolf, bald eagle, Canada lynx, bull trout, water howellia and Ute ladies' tresses. Section 7 consultation will be conducted by BPA and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, as necessary, prior to the implementation of any restoration or enhancement activities on the site.

A cultural resource survey of the Bader Property was completed by Cort Sims, an archaeologist working for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. The survey identified five historic properties including two homestead complexes, a rubble rock feature complex, and a scatter of chalcedony shatter. A spring associated with the St. Joseph Indian Mission was also identified in close proximity to the Bader Property. The cultural resource report prepared for this project suggests that all of these properties may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and should be managed accordingly. It was concluded that the fee-title acquisition of the Bader Property

would have no effect on cultural properties. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe Historic Preservation Office (THPO) concurred with these findings on October 30, 2001. The Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was also informed of this determination and given 30 days to comment but did not provide a response. Prior to any future construction, development, or ground disturbing activities on the Bader Property, further archaeological studies will be required to evaluate the eligibility of the existing historic resources. In addition, the management plan for this property should include a cultural resource protection and anti-vandalism plan developed in conjunction with the Idaho SHPO and the Coeur d'Alene THPO.

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment was conducted on August 23, 2001 by Fred Walasavage an Environmental Protection Specialist with BPA. The site assessment identified structures and solid waste that were recommended for removal from the site. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has included these removal actions as conditions to the purchase agreement for the property.

Public involvement associated with this project has included input from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Natural Resource Committee and the Albeni Falls Work Group, which is comprised of the Kalispel Tribe, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho. This project was discussed in two tribally sponsored Community Advisory Group Meetings and in one-on-one conversations with the adjacent landowner. A newspaper article describing the Bader Property acquisition project was also printed in the local newspaper. Additional public involvement will take place during the development of a comprehensive management plan for the Bader Property.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, as well as BPA's Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0246) and ROD. This Supplement Analysis finds that: 1) implementing the proposed action will not result in any substantial changes to the Wildlife Mitigation Program that are relevant to environmental concerns; and 2) there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Wildlife Mitigation Program or its impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Shannon C. Stewart  
Shannon C. Stewart  
Environmental Specialist

CONCUR:

DATE: 12-12-2001

/s/ Thomas C. McKinney  
Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachments:  
NEPA Compliance Checklist  
Coeur d'Alene THPO Concurrence Letter, October 30, 2001

cc: (w/o attachments) Robert Matt - Coeur d'Alene Tribe Wildlife Program

bcc: (w/o attachments)

L. Croff - KEC-4

N. Weintraub - KEC-4

P. Key - LC-7

bcc: (w/ attachments)

Official File - KEC (EQ-14)

SCStewart:scs:5928:12/12/01

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