



## Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

October 14, 2021

In reply refer to: EC-4

### **To: People Interested in the Birch Creek Floodplain Restoration Project**

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has finalized the environmental assessment (EA) for the Birch Creek Floodplain Restoration Project. Based on the final EA, BPA is issuing a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) and has made a decision to proceed with the project. This letter describes BPA's decision, the construction schedule, and how to obtain additional information.

**Background:** BPA will provide funding for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to carry out restoration activities along about a one-mile-long section of Birch Creek and associated floodplains. The project will improve fish and wildlife habitat in Birch Creek.

BPA prepared an EA to help the agency determine if the project would cause significant impacts that would warrant preparing an environmental impact statement. BPA released the draft EA for public review and comment in February 2020 and received comments from two individuals. The final EA provides responses to those comments and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis and mitigation measures to help lessen impacts, BPA has found that the project will not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

**Decision:** BPA has decided to provide funding to construct the Birch Creek Floodplain Restoration Project. Project construction is expected to begin in late fall 2021 and continue through summer 2022.

**Copies Available:** The final EA, FONSI, and mitigation action plan are available on BPA's website at [www.bpa.gov/goto/BirchCreek](http://www.bpa.gov/goto/BirchCreek). If you previously requested a copy of the documents, they are enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of these documents, please call our toll-free document request line at 1-800-622-4520; leave a request naming this project and giving your name and complete mailing address.

**For More Information:** If you have questions regarding the environmental process, please contact me at 503-230-3928, or by e-mail at [jjmaslow@bpa.gov](mailto:jjmaslow@bpa.gov). You can also reach us toll free at 1-800-622-4519.

Thank you for your interest in our work.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Jeff Maslow*

Jeff Maslow

Environmental Protection Specialist