

Department of Energy

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

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

April 8, 2022

In reply refer to: EC-4

To: People interested in the Hood River Spring Chinook Salmon Program and Umatilla River Summer Steelhead Program

Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is issuing a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for its decision to fund the Hood River Spring Chinook Salmon Program and Umatilla River Summer Steelhead Program. This letter describes BPA's decision and how to obtain additional information.

Background: BPA would fund the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation (CTWSR), Confederated Tribe of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to implement a the Hood River Spring Chinook Salmon Program (CTWSR) and Umatilla River Summer Steelhead Program (CTUIR). Total Hood River Spring Chinook Salmon Program Chinook production would be up to 250,000 juveniles. Umatilla River Summer Steelhead Program production would be up to about 150,000 juveniles. The Hood River Winter Steelhead portion of the Hood River Production Program is currently suspended.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), with BPA as a cooperating agency, prepared an EA to help determine the potential impacts the project would have on the human environment. The draft EA was released for public review and comment in September 2020. One comment was received that pertained to BPA's proposed funding. The final EA provides responses to the comment and minor revisions to the EA. Based on the EA analysis, BPA has found that the project would not cause any significant impacts and, therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

Decision: BPA has decided to continue funding the Hood River Spring Chinook Salmon Program and Umatilla River Summer Steelhead Program.

Copies Available: The final EA and FONSI are available on BPA's website at <u>https://www.bpa.gov</u>/<u>environmental-initiatives/efw/project-reviews/hood-river-and-umatilla-hatcheries</u>. If you previously requested a copy of the documents, they are enclosed. If you would like to obtain paper copies of any 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 503-230-5756, or by e-mail at *esgresh@bpa.gov*. You can also reach us toll free at 1-800-622-4519.

Sincerely,

<u>/s/ Ted Gresh</u> Ted Gresh Environmental Protection Specialist