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July 29, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members

FROM: Tony Grover, Fish and Wildlife Division Director

SUBJECT: State of Idaho / Bonneville Power Administration proposed Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Settlement

Representatives of Idaho Fish and Game and Bonneville Power Administration will brief the Committee on the recent proposed Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation settlement between BPA and Idaho. Details will be provided at the meeting.

Proposed Southern Idaho Wildlife Settlement between Idaho and Bonneville

Northwest
Power and
Conservation
Council
Fish and Wildlife
Committee

August 5, 2014



Proposed Settlement

- The 10-year wildlife mitigation agreement fully resolves all wildlife mitigation issues associated with the Idaho share of impacts from the FCRPS dams in southern Idaho, which is 50%.
- The other 50% share is addressed by the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation, and is not covered in this agreement.
- The agreement would also provide habitat benefits for southern Idaho fish.
- The approach is similar to the 2010 Willamette Wildlife Agreement, which has been implemented very effectively.

Elements of Council Program Settlement Agreements

1. Measureable Objectives – Acres of habitat types, number of habitat units by species
2. Demonstration of consistency with policies, objectives and strategies of Program
3. Open public process
4. Protection of riparian habitat for both fish and wildlife, and high quality native habitat
5. Annual reports
6. Provision of long-term maintenance
7. Sufficient funding for substantial likelihood of achieving and sustaining objectives



Proposed Settlement

1. Measurable Objectives

- Objectives would be stated in acres.
 - Total acreage for construction and inundation losses is 33,290, of which 16,645 (50%) will be settled with IDFG.
 - IDFG has acquired 8,722 acres to date.
 - An additional 665 acres will be included to address operational losses.
- Under this agreement, Idaho commits to protecting at least 8,588 acres.
- BPA guarantees the total funding of this Settlement.
- IDFG stipulates that this will satisfy BPA's wildlife mitigation obligation.
- Additional acres may be purchased, but costs would not exceed agreed amount.

Proposed Settlement

2. Demonstration of consistency with policies, objectives, and strategies of the Fish and Wildlife Program

- The ecosystem approach used by IDFG would be consistent with F&W program strategies benefiting wildlife and fish.
- Project selection would address wildlife limiting factors identified in subbasin plans.
- The Council recommends resolution of outstanding mitigation through settlement agreements.

Proposed Settlement

3. Open public process

- Planned public comment period on proposed agreement.
- IDFG will seek to leverage funding from other sources.
- IDFG would participate in the categorical or periodic assessments of wildlife habitat projects, including ISRP review.
- IDFG would coordinate its efforts under this agreement with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes.

Proposed Settlement

4. Protection of habitat for both fish and wildlife

- IDFG will use an ecosystem approach to selecting acquisitions.
- In many cases, projects will provide dual benefits for both wildlife and fish.
- Priorities will be consistent with Fish and Game Land Acquisition Policy and informed by species management plans, state wildlife action plans, and subbasin plans.
- Projects may also benefit other species and resources of interest to regional stakeholders.

Proposed Settlement

5. Annual Reports

- Through 2024, IDFG would prepare an annual report for BPA and Council for wildlife mitigation funded under this agreement; IDFG would also use the BPA tracking system, PISCES.
- BPA and IDFG would conduct an annual meeting to assess progress and discuss future project opportunities.
- IDFG would report to the Council as appropriate.

Proposed Settlement

6. Sufficient funding for substantial likelihood of achieving and sustaining objectives, including long term maintenance

- 10-year agreement from FY15 – FY24.
- A total of \$22 million for new acquisitions, (\$5 million per/year for FY15 -17, \$2.5 million per year for FY18 – FY19, and \$2.0 million for FY20). Stewardship costs for the new acquisitions will also be covered by this fund.
- \$12 million provided upfront at the initiation of the agreement for stewardship of past acquisitions.
- \$600,000 per year for 10 years for pre-acquisition costs and administration of IDFG's SIWM program.

Next Steps

- BPA and IDFG will be finalizing the draft settlement agreement.
- BPA and IDFG are initiating external outreach to share the draft agreement with:
 - Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation
 - Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation
 - Northwest Power and Conservation Council
 - BPA Customers
- 30-day public comment period will be provided.



Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation to Date

Dam	Property	Acquisition Sponsor	Acres Protected to Date	BPA Purchase Cost	Cost Per Acre
Anderson Ranch	Smith (Boise River)	IDFG	59	\$359,089	\$6,086
	Centennial Marsh (Rice and Faulkner/Bliss Point)	IDFG			
	Rice Property	IDFG	1,364	\$1,075,228	\$788
	Faulkner/Bliss Point	IDFG	1,802	\$1,922,000	\$1,067
	Sandy Point	IDFG	138	\$460,820	\$3,339
	Hammer Flat	IDFG	705	\$4,237,490	\$6,011
	Pole Creek Ranch	SPT	1,660	\$3,156,008	\$1,901
	Wilson Ranch	SPT	938	\$2,259,936	\$2,409
	Black Canyon	Payette River	IDFG	91	\$360,959
Kruger		IDFG	166	\$332,500	\$2,003
Palisades	Deer Parks (Horkley, Menan, Allen & Boyle Ranch)	IDFG			
	Horkley	IDFG	120	\$336,000	\$2,800
	Menan	IDFG	142	\$220,350	\$1,552
	Boyle Ranch	IDFG	2,591	\$5,200,000	\$2,007
	Allen	IDFG	81	\$283,800	\$3,504
	Beaver (Kingham II)	IDFG	310	\$465,000	\$1,500
	Pine Creek (Kruse)	IDFG	800	\$310,000	\$388
	Winterfeld	IDFG	422	\$225,000	\$533
	Quarter Circle	IDFG	712	\$260,000	\$365
	Lavaside	SBT	575	\$2,000,000	\$3,478
	Legacy Springs	SBT	660	\$3,666,163	\$5,555
	Soda Hills	SBT	2,563	\$1,282,000	\$500
	Minidoka	Rudeen	SBT	2,450	\$1,700,000
Bannock Creek		SBT	147	\$546,610	\$3,718
Totals			18,496	\$30,658,952	\$1,658