DATE:  August 25, 2014

REPLY TO:  KEC-4

ATTN OF:  KEC-4

SUBJECT:  Environmental Clearance Memorandum

TO:  Cecilia Brown
      Project Manager – KEWM-4

**Proposed Action:** Woodward Meadows Property Acquisition Funding

**Fish and Wildlife Project No.:** 2002-003-00, BPA-007585

**Categorical Exclusion Applied (from Subpart D, 10 C.F.R. Part 1021):** B1.25 Real property transfers for cultural resources protection, habitat preservation, and wildlife management

**Location:**  Lake County, MT

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

**Description of the Proposed Action:** BPA proposes to fund the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes for the purchase of property referred to as Woodward Meadows – T23N/R18W/Sec 13 – 79.74 acres of riparian habitat along Woodward Creek, Lake County, MT.

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes would own and manage the Woodward Meadows property for fish and wildlife conservation purposes and BPA would receive a conservation easement to ensure that the habitat values on the property are always protected. This land purchase would serve as partial mitigation for the construction and operation of the Hungry Horse hydroelectric facility on the South Fork of the Flathead River. Woodward Meadows property provides habitat as part of BPA’s ongoing efforts to protect, restore and enhance habitat for bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout.

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes would provide long-term stewardship for the land and would develop a management plan to guide the protection and enhancement of habitat and other resources on the property. Prior to any funding of management activities, BPA would conduct further environmental review.

**Findings:** BPA has determined that the proposed action complies with Section 1021.410 and Appendix B of Subpart D of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Regulations (57 FR 15144, Apr. 24, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 36221-36243, July 9, 1996; 61 FR 64608, Dec. 6, 1996, 76 FR 63764, Nov. 14, 2011). The proposed action does not present any extraordinary circumstances that may affect the significance of the environmental effects of the proposal. The proposal is not connected [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(1)] to other actions with potentially significant impacts, has not been segmented to meet the
definition of a categorical exclusion, is not related to other proposed actions with cumulatively
significant impacts [40 C.F.R. 1508.25(a)(2)], and is not precluded by 40 C.F.R. 1506.1 or
10 C.F.R. 1021.211. Moreover, the proposed action would not (i) threaten a violation of
applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements for environment, safety, and health,
(ii) require siting and construction or major expansion of waste storage, disposal, recovery, or
treatment facilities, (iii) disturb hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or
Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act-excluded petroleum
and natural gas products that pre-exist in the environment such that there would be uncontrolled
or unpermitted releases, (iv) have the potential to cause significant impacts on environmentally
sensitive resources, or (v) involve genetically engineered organisms, synthetic biology,
governmentally designated noxious weeds, or invasive species, unless the proposed activity
would be contained or confined in a manner designed and operated to prevent unauthorized
release into the environment and conducted in accordance with applicable requirements.

/s/ Dawn Boorse
Dawn Boorse
Environmental Project Manager

Concur:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce          Date: August 25, 2014
Katherine S. Pierce
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachments:
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions
Map
Environmental Checklist for Categorical Exclusions

Name of Proposed Project: Woodward Meadows Property Acquisition Funding

Work Order #: Project 2003-003-00, Contract # BPA-007585

This project does not have the potential to cause significant impacts on the following environmentally sensitive resources. See 10 CFR 1021, Subpart D, Appendix B for complete descriptions of the resources. This checklist is to be used as a summary – further discussion may be included in the Categorical Exclusion Memorandum.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Resources</th>
<th>No Potential for Significance</th>
<th>No Potential, with Conditions (describe)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Historic Properties and Cultural Resources</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. T &amp; E Species, or their habitat(s)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Floodplains or wetlands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Areas of special designation</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Health &amp; safety</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<td>6. Prime or unique farmlands</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Special sources of water</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Other (describe)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting documentation in official project file:
Effects Determination for Historic Properties and Cultural Resources
