



Amazon Basin Willow Creek Wildlife Mitigation Project

BPA is working with The Nature Conservancy to fund the acquisition of conservation easements in the Amazon Basin/Willow Creek area near Eugene in Lane County, Oregon. Approximately 76 acres of land would be purchased and managed, primarily as wetlands habitat for the protection, mitigation and enhancement of wildlife affected by the construction and operation of the Federal hydroelectric facilities in the Columbia River Basin.

The acquired lands will become part of the Willow Creek Wildlife Mitigation Area and are contiguous to the existing 330 acres of protected lands and an additional 99 acres that BPA proposed to acquire in 2001. A Supplemental Analysis was performed and can be found on the following web site: http://www.efw.bpa.gov/environmental_services/Document_Library/Wildlife_Mitigation/SA_43AmazonBasinCuddeback.pdf.

The Willow Creek site is one of the most significant remaining areas of typical native Willamette Valley habitats, with a variety of wetlands, grasslands and woodlands. A diverse array of native flora and fauna, with significant wildlife habitats, is present on the site. Wildlife diversity is high and includes species of mammals, songbirds, raptors, reptiles, amphibians and one rare invertebrate. Over 200 species of native plants have been identified,

including populations of six rare, threatened, or endangered species, along with significant remnants of native plant communities.

There is no Memorandum of Agreement between The Nature Conservancy and BPA regarding this acquisition. Rather, the terms of the Conservation Easement to be granted by The Nature Conservancy to BPA contain the necessary terms regarding permanent protection of the property, crediting and development of a subsequent management plan.

Protected ESA Species

The following threatened (T) or endangered (E) species will be protected as a result of this project: Northern bald eagle(T), Oregon chub (E), Upper Willamette spring chinook (T), Upper Willamette steelhead (T), Fender's blue butterfly (E), Golden Indian paintbrush (T), Willamette daisy (E), Howellia (T), Bradshaw's lomatium (E), and Kincaid's lupine (T).

Costs and Credits

The costs associated with this acquisition are \$1,840,000, not including other administrative costs such as closing costs. Currently, the estimated wildlife credits to be received are 90.93; however, when final assessment of crediting is complete, the credits will be significantly increased.

