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May 17, 2007

Peter Paquet
Acting Director
Fish and Wildlife Division
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Ave, Ste 1100
Portland, OR 97204-1348

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Re: Bonneville Power Administration
Innovative Grant Program

Dear Mr. Paquet:

Please accept this letter in support of the Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration Project application sponsored by the South Central Washington Resource Conservation and Development Council. The City of Ellensburg owns the property underlying the footprint of the project, and we look forward to working with the project partners to bring the restoration and habitat enhancement project forward. The City originally purchased the property for the purpose of flood control for our citizens in West Ellensburg, and the project moves us closer to creating additional flood protection with the added benefit of significantly enhanced stream function and habitat restoration.

The City's preliminary flood control engineering work identified a project far beyond our ability to finance. The partnerships proposed in this application and the potential for outside funding provide an opportunity to complete a project that is clearly beyond our capacity to undertake on our own. While our primary interest in the project was initially focused on flood control issues the addition of habitat enhancement, passage improvement, and passive recreational opportunities has enhanced the viability of the project and engaged diverse organizations in a common goal. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this project for funding consideration. If you have questions about the City's role in the project, or require additional information please contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

John Akers
Public Works Director

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