

**ESA Finding of NO EFFECT**  
KN16835 Baldock Rest Area Solar Panels  
Fed Aid No **DE-EE0000308**  
December 18, 2009

USFWS Species     USFWS CH     NMFS Species     NMFS CH     EFH

---

**Project Type:** *Installation of Solar Panels*

**Location:** *I-5 Baldock Rest Area*

**Township/Range/Section(s):** *Township 3S, Range 1W, Section 35*

**Lat/Long:**

**City:** *N/A*

**County:** *Clackamas*

**HUC6:**

**Project Topography:** *flat*

**Surrounding Environment:** *farmland*

Attached: **Area of Project Impact (API) map** with survey/clearance area(s) and location(s) of closest aquatic resources.

---

**Data Sources and Survey Method(s) Utilized:** (Check all that apply.)

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NMFS Staff Contacted [Include name(s)]       | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USFWS Staff Contacted [Include name(s)]      | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Species List – NMFS Website                  | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Species List – USFWS Website                 | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Register                             | Date(s):                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORNHIC Database                   | Date(s): November 12, 2009 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> StreamNet                                    | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ODOT TransGIS Environmental                  | Date(s):                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field Survey – Complete Assessment           | Date(s):                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Field Survey – Appropriate Sample | Date(s): October 9 2009    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other [Provide references if appropriate]    | Date(s):                   |

**Field Survey Technique(s):** *General Survey for plants, i.e. noxious weeds.*

---

**Listed Species likely to be within the API:**

**Designated Critical Habitat within the API:**

**Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) within the API:**

A BA has been/will be developed for listed species and habitats that the project may affect.

---

**Brief Project Description:** The Oregon Solar Highway's objective is to reduce ODOT's energy use and to provide the energy ODOT needs by renewable sources. The proposed project at Baldock Rest Area would be the largest solar highway project in the world. ODOT proposes to install 16 rows of solar panels and upgrade existing utilities to meet the increased demand an existing solar panel installation at the I-5/I-205 interchange, about 7.2 miles (11.5 kilometers) north of the project area.

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) is approximately 8.9 acres, with a maximum length of about 1,000 feet (30.8 meters) and a maximum width of 500 feet (152.4 meters). Depth of disturbance has not been determined; however, it is likely that solar panels would be supported by subsurface footings. Activities would be limited to ODOT right-of-way, with the exception of one utility installation. The utility would be directionally bored from the southeast end of the project area, under an existing cornfield, to existing aerial utility lines along OR51.

**Finding of Effect.** *This No Effect determination is based on the project as defined in the Design Acceptance Package (DAP). Changes in project scope or scale following DAP may invalidate this No Effect determination.*

ODOT, acting as an agent of FHWA or other federal agency because of a federal nexus, determines that the project will have: (Check all that apply.)

**No Effect on Listed Species...**

- Because there is no reason to believe that listed species are present in the Area of Project Impact (API). [*Absence Determination*]
- Because **avoidance measures** will be implemented to prevent effects on the listed species identified below that occur or are likely to occur within the API. (Complete **Section A** below.)

**No Effect on Designated Critical Habitat...**

- Because designated critical habitat does not occur in the API. [*Absence Determination*]
- Because **avoidance measures** will be implemented to prevent effects on the designated critical habitat identified below that occurs within the API. (Complete **Section B** below.)

**No Effect on Essential Fish Habitat...**

- Because EFH does not occur in the API. [*Absence Determination*]
- Because **avoidance measures** will be implemented to prevent effects on EFH identified below that occurs within the API. (Complete **Section C** below.)

- A separate Biological Assessment (BA) addresses potential project effects on additional listed species, designated critical habitat, or EFH not covered under this No Effect determination.

---

**Required Avoidance Measures.**

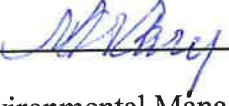
---

**Additional Supportive Information:** (Optional)

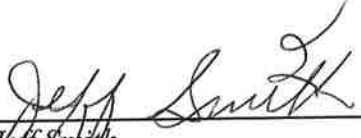
---

**Required Signatures.**

**Individuals Responsible for the No Effect Determination:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Molly Cary*  
Region # 2 Environmental Manager, ODOT

12/18/2009  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Jeff Smith*  
Biologist or Other Qualified Environmental Staff

12/18/2009  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date