

Request for Amendment 5 for the Biglow Canyon Wind Farm

Exhibit E. Protected Areas

**Submitted to
Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council**

Prepared for



Portland General Electric Company

Prepared by



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
AC	alternating current
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
BCWF or Facility	Biglow Canyon Wind Farm
BESS	battery energy storage system
BIGL 2 or Project Developer	BIGL 2, LLC
Certificate Holder	Portland General Electric Company
Council or EFSC	Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council
dBa	A-weighted decibels
gen-tie	generation tie
I-84	Interstate 84
kV	kilovolt
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt-hour
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	operations and maintenance
OAR	Oregon Administrative Rules
ODOE	Oregon Department of Energy
OR-206	Oregon Route 206
PV	photovoltaic
RFA	Request for Amendment
Site Certificate	Site Certificate on Amendment 4
Solar Facility	solar energy generation and battery storage components
US-97	U.S. Highway 97
ZVI	zone of visual influence

1.0 Introduction

The Portland General Electric Company (PGE or Certificate Holder) submits this Request for Amendment (RFA) 5 to the Site Certificate on Amendment 4, issued March 27, 2026 (Site Certificate) for the Biglow Canyon Wind Farm (BCWF or Facility) to add a second phase of solar photovoltaic (PV) energy generation and battery storage capacity to the BCWF following the solar power generation and battery storage capacity approved under RFA 4.

BCWF, owned and operated by PGE, is located within an approved site boundary comprising approximately 25,000 acres, approximately 2.5 miles northeast of the town of Wasco in Sherman County, Oregon (Background Exhibit Figure 1). The BCWF operates under the Site Certificate from the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council (Council or EFSC) as administered by the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE). BCWF currently consists of 217 operating wind turbines, with a maximum blade tip height of 445 feet, and a peak generating capacity of 450 megawatts (MW). RFA 4, approved March 27, 2026, added 125 MW alternating current (AC) generating capacity from PV solar arrays and 500 megawatt-hours (MWh) in battery storage capacity. The solar energy generation and battery storage components (Solar Facility) described in RFA 4 are currently under construction.

In RFA 5, PGE proposes to add up to 200 MW AC generating capacity from PV solar arrays and 1,000 MWh in battery storage capacity (RFA 5 Solar Facility) by expanding the overall BCWF site boundary by approximately 839 acres. The RFA 5 Solar Facility is located across approximately 622 acres of the existing BCWF site boundary and 839 acres of expanded site boundary, for a total of approximately 1,461 acres (together, RFA 5 Site Boundary; see Background Exhibit Figure 4).

The RFA 5 Site Boundary provides a conservative estimate of the maximum area needed for development and micro-siting through final design and construction for the RFA 5 Solar Facility, rather than the anticipated disturbance footprint. Primary infrastructure includes solar arrays, inverters, battery energy storage system (BESS) facilities and their subcomponents (i.e., inverters), one collector substation, and medium-voltage collector lines (herein collectively referred to as “Solar Components”). Additionally, the Solar Components include operations and maintenance (O&M) structures, site access roads, internal roads, perimeter fencing, facility entry gates, and temporary laydown areas. The maximum generating capacity from the Solar Components will be 200 MW AC. Power generated from the Solar Components will be transferred to the grid via a 230-kilovolt (kV) generation tie (gen-tie) transmission line, approximately 2.7 miles long. The RFA 5 Solar Facility includes the Solar Components and the gen-tie transmission line.

PGE will own and operate the RFA 5 Solar Facility as a part of the BCWF, which, to date, has been developed by BIGL 2, LLC (BIGL, or Project Developer). BIGL 2, in its capacity as the Project Developer, supports PGE in this RFA 5 and may construct and temporarily operate the RFA 5 Solar Facility on behalf of PGE under a Build-Transfer Agreement.

The information contained herein supports demonstration of compliance with the Protected Areas approval standard for Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 345-022-0040.

2.0 Analysis Area

Consistent with OAR 345-027-0360(3), ODOE concurred with the Certificate Holder's use of a defined portion of the approved BCWF site boundary and the proposed expanded site boundary (i.e., RFA 5 Site Boundary) to establish study area boundaries for RFA 5 under OAR 345-001-0010(35). The RFA 5 Site Boundary reflects the Solar Siting Area and Transmission Corridor, and all study areas within the meaning of Oregon Revised Statutes 345-001-0010(35) are measured from the RFA 5 Site Boundary. In accordance with OAR 345-001-0010(35)(e), the analysis area for protected areas is the area within and extending 20 miles from the RFA 5 Site Boundary¹ (Figure E-1).

3.0 Protected Areas Inventory – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(a)(b)

(5) To assist the Council in determining whether the standard outlined in (1) through (4) has been met, the Applicant must submit information about the potential impacts of the proposed facility on protected areas in the analysis area, providing evidence to support a finding by the Council as required by this rule, including:

(a) A list of all protected areas within the analysis area identifying:

(A) The distance and direction of the protected area from the proposed facility

(B) The basis for protection by reference to a specific subsection of OAR 345-001-0010(26); and

(C) The name, mailing address, phone number, and email address of the land management agency or organization with jurisdiction over the protected area.

(b) A map showing the location of the proposed facility in relation to the protected areas;

Based on the proposed amendments (including enlargement of the approved BCWF site boundary) to the BCWF in RFA 5, there are no new protected areas located within the analysis area since the Final Order on RFA 4 was issued (see Attachment E-1)² nor any protected areas located within or cross the RFA 5 Site Boundary. Attachment E-1 provides an inventory of the 12 protected areas within the analysis area and indicates the proximity and direction of each protected area relative to the RFA 5 Site Boundary, the basis for protection by reference to applicable subsections of OAR 345-001-0010(26), and the contact information for the land management agency and organization with jurisdiction over each protected area. RFA 5 proposes expanding the site boundary, with much

¹ ODOE concurred with excluding the remaining BCWF site boundary that does not overlap with the RFA 5 Site Boundary from analysis in RFA 5 because no changes are proposed to any BCWF components in the remaining BCWF site boundary as part of RFA 5.

² Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 151-152 (March 2026).

of the RFA 5 Site Boundary being contained within the approved BCWF site boundary; thus, the solar array and related infrastructure are located at similar distances from most of the protected areas previously identified in RFA 4. Therefore, the impacts are anticipated to be similar to or less than (due to the low profile of solar versus wind infrastructure) what was previously described in RFA 4 and approved in the Final Order on Amendment 4 (see Attachment E-1).

The inventory of protected areas was based on review of best available geographic information system data, maps, and the most current information for the categories of protected areas listed in OAR 345-001-0010(26)).³ These protected areas are identified by name on Figure E-1.

4.0 Potential Impacts – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(c)

(c) A description of significant potential impacts of the proposed facility, if any, on the protected areas including, but not limited to, potential impacts such as:

The potential effects to protected areas in the analysis area were studied to determine whether the design, construction, and operation of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, when taking into account mitigation, would be likely to result in any significant adverse impacts. The following sections summarize the types of potential adverse impacts evaluated and provide summaries of the analysis.

4.1 Noise Impacts – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(c)(A)

(A) Noise resulting from facility construction or operation;

Attachment E-1 provides a summary of cumulative operational noise levels from the Facility and RFA 5 Solar Facility at protected areas within the analysis area. The RFA 5 Solar Facility proposes no significant additional noise impacts to protected areas from the Facility. Exhibit O-3 provides an assessment of the existing acoustical environment and anticipated cumulative sound levels from the Facility and RFA 5 Solar Facility; the methodology for noise modeling is detailed in that exhibit. Activities associated with construction of the proposed solar areas and related or supporting facilities would be limited to the temporary duration of construction and similar to the construction noise already reviewed by Council for the Facility.

Exhibit O-3 describes sound level thresholds derived from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality noise regulations (OAR 340-035-0035), which are used to assess the significance of impacts to noise sensitive properties. As defined in OAR 340-035-0035, “noise sensitive properties” are “real property normally used for sleeping, or normally used as schools, churches, hospitals or public libraries. Property used in industrial or agricultural activities is not Noise Sensitive Property unless it meets the above criteria in more than an incidental manner.”

³ Sources: BLM 2026a, 2026b, 2026c, 2026d, 2026e; Google Earth 2026; NOAA 2026; NPS 2026a, 2026b, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System 2026; ODFW 2026a, 2026b; OPRD 2020, 2026a, 2026b, 2026c, 2026d; OSU 2026a, 2026b; USFS 2026a, 2026b, 2026c; USFWS 2026a, 2026b; USGS 2024; Wilderness Connect 2026

None of the protected areas within the analysis area are considered to be a noise sensitive property aside from camping areas along the John Day River and Lower Deschutes River.

Based on the results of operations noise modeling, described in detail in Exhibit O-3, operation of the Wind Facility plus the RFA 5 Solar Facility would not create new noise impacts to protected areas beyond those that were previously identified for the Facility. As detailed in Exhibit O-3, the solar modules would create no significant operational noise, and operational noise from primarily cooling equipment associated with the BESS and electrical equipment would be similar to operational noise already reviewed by the Council for the Facility. The cumulative operational noise from the Wind Facility and RFA 5 Solar Facility would attenuate with distance. Modeled cumulative noise levels decrease to below 26 A-weighted decibels (dBA) ⁴, which is below typical nighttime background ambient noise levels, at approximately 2.4 miles from the RFA 5 Site Boundary. All protected areas are located more than 2.4 miles from the RFA 5 Site Boundary, so would not be affected by cumulative operational noise from the Wind Facility and RFA 5 Solar Facility. The identified protected areas in the analysis area would be unaffected by operational noise from the RFA 5 Solar Facility, due to their location over 5.1 miles from the RFA 5 Site Boundary and the solar areas.

Noise from construction would similarly be less than 26 dBA within 36.6 miles from the RFA 5 Site Boundary (daytime ambient sound level) and potentially audible at all protected areas. Pursuant to OAR 340-035-0035(5), noise from construction activities is exempt from the state noise standards. Construction activities associated with the RFA 5 Solar Facility have the potential for localized noise on a temporary basis as construction activities progress through certain locations within the RFA 5 Site Boundary. Noise-generating activities during construction could result from the use of heavy machinery, such as heavy trucks, bulldozers, graders, and cranes. Based on the estimated noise levels of construction equipment provided in Exhibit O-3, construction noise levels at the two closest protected areas—the John Day Wild and Scenic River and John Day River State Scenic Waterway—would peak at approximately 43 dBA; this noise level is comparable to a quiet rural residential area (43-46 dBA), and the remaining, more distant, protected areas are anticipated to experience diminished noise levels. These elevated noise levels would occur sporadically while proposed RFA 5 component infrastructure such as the solar areas closest to the John Day Wild and Scenic River and John Day River State Scenic Waterway is built. As construction progresses elsewhere in the RFA 5 Site Boundary, noise levels would drop to background levels. Continued implementation of Site Certificate Condition CON-NC-01 would help reduce construction noise impacts through the requirement of exhaust mufflers on combustion engine-powered equipment, confining the noisiest operation of heavy construction equipment to daylight hours, and establishment of a noise complaint response system. At this time, pending geotechnical investigation of the final layout, blasting is not anticipated to be required for proposed RFA 5 component construction.

⁴ Note that the 26 dBA value was selected as representative because OAR 340-035-0035(1)(b)(B)(iii)(I) allows for an assumed ambient sound level of 26 dBA for wind energy facilities. Site-specific ambient sound data was not collected for the amended BCWF, but 26 dBA is assumed to be a conservative estimate.

The Council previously found that the Facility noise would not result in a significant adverse impact to protected areas⁵ and the amendments in RFA 5 do not alter that conclusion.

4.2 Traffic Impacts – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(c)(B)

(B) Increased traffic resulting from facility construction or operation;

Traffic impacts in general are addressed in greater detail in Exhibit L, including information on anticipated traffic levels and typical travel routes for the RFA 5 Solar Facility.

Based on the analysis provided in Exhibit L, the primary transportation route used for construction of the RFA 5 Solar Facility would be the same as what was already evaluated for the Facility. The primary route for construction-related traffic would be Interstate 84 (I-84) to south on U.S. Highway 97 (US-97) to Wasco, southeast on Oregon Route 206 (OR-206), east on either Klondike Road or the Old Wasco Heppner Highway, and then onto various County roads. The secondary route for strictly construction-related commuter traffic would be I-84 to south on Scott Canyon Road to either Herin Lane or Medler Lane; this route is not suitable for oversize/overweight traffic. Protected areas west of US-97 (i.e., the five Deschutes River-related protected areas) and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area are not accessed by proposed RFA 5 component transportation routes other than I-84.⁶ The remaining six protected areas can be accessed by roads anticipated to carry proposed RFA 5 component-related truck traffic: the John Day Wild and Scenic River, Lower John Day Wilderness Study Area, Ferry Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), Cottonwood Canyon State Park, John Day River State Scenic Waterway, and the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center. Construction worker traffic may occur on roads providing access to these resources; however, construction worker traffic would be dispersed on multiple roads throughout the area, and the nominal level of worker traffic anticipated on roads other than I-84, US-97, and OR-206 would not adversely affect level of service on those roads (see Exhibit L).

Timing patterns for construction-related traffic and recreational traffic to protected areas would likely differ substantially. Construction traffic would primarily be dispersed throughout the business work week and principally during commuter hours, whereas peak recreational traffic would be greatest during the weekend. Additionally, no roads providing access to protected areas within the analysis area are expected to be closed during construction or operation of the RFA 5 Solar Facility.

The six aforementioned protected areas can be accessed from US-97 to OR-206; the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center can be accessed solely from US-97. The temporary construction-related traffic created on US-97 and OR-206 is anticipated to be inconsequential for they were constructed to design, safety, and load-bearing standards (see Exhibit L).

⁵ Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 154 (March 2026).

⁶ Due to the average daily traffic volumes on this applicable segment of I-84 within the analysis area (i.e., west of OR-19 to east of US-197), proposed RFA 5 component construction-related traffic (i.e., trucks, commuter vehicles) is not anticipated to affect the Level of Service on this portion of the interstate (see Exhibit L for further detail).

Temporary, short-term delays are most likely to occur only during deliveries of oversized loads, which would occur sporadically and would be accompanied by traffic control teams. Construction of the RFA 5 Solar Facility in general would be short in duration (lasting up to 18 months) and thus any construction traffic impacts would be temporary.

Although there would be no significant traffic impacts to protected areas, the Certificate Holder would continue to implement Site Certificate PRE-PS-02, which requires adhering to various traffic control measures through implementation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan or Road Use Agreement. The Certificate Holder would submit a Traffic Management Plan to ODOE for approval in consultation with Sherman County Public Works Department. Site Certificate PRE-PS-02 also requires execution of a Road Use Agreement such that any damage or wear to county roads from proposed RFA 5 component construction would be repaired and restored. Therefore, no significant adverse traffic impacts to protected areas are anticipated from construction of the RFA 5 Solar Facility.

During operations, traffic would be minimal, as the RFA 5 Solar Facility would permanently employ up to four personnel. Solar and BESS-related equipment would require periodic maintenance, but traffic associated with repair or maintenance visits would be low and daily traffic generated by operation of the RFA 5 Solar Facility is not expected to affect operations of any of the state or local county roads used to access the protected areas within the analysis area.

The Council previously found that the construction and operational traffic would not be likely to result in significant adverse impacts to protected areas within the analysis area,⁷ and the amendments in RFA 5 do not alter that conclusion.

4.3 Water Use and Wastewater Impacts – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(c)(C)(D)

(C) Water use during facility construction or operation;

(D) Wastewater disposal resulting from facility construction or operation;

No significant water or wastewater impacts to protected areas are anticipated from the RFA 5 Solar Facility. Sources of water during construction and operations are provided in Exhibit O-2, and relevant Site Certificate Conditions would continue to be implemented as applicable (e.g., Site Certificate Conditions CON-PS-01, CON-WR-01, OPR-PS-01 and OPR-WR-01). No construction or operational water would be extracted from a protected area or be delivered in a fashion that generates significant impacts to a protected area. Water used during the construction and operation of RFA 5 Solar Facility would not impact water availability or use at protected areas.

Sources of wastewater during construction and operations are provided in Exhibit N. The nature of the RFA 5 Solar Facility is such that they would not produce industrial wastewater. Except for sanitary wastewater generated in portable toilets and sanitary facilities during construction, all other wastewater would remain within the RFA 5 Site Boundary and none would be disposed of in protected areas within the analysis area. Sanitary wastewater generated in portable toilets during

⁷ Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 154 (March 2026).

the temporary construction phase would be disposed of in accordance with local jurisdictional regulations and cleaned regularly by a licensed contractor (Site Certificate Condition CON-WM-02). The O&M building will include toilets for use by maintenance staff during operations, handled by an on-site septic system. The sanitary sewage would continue to be collected and treated by sanitary septic sewage systems in compliance with county permit requirements (Site Certificate Condition OPR-WM-01).

It is expected that any excess water used during construction and for solar panel washing during operations would be lost within the RFA 5 Site Boundary through evaporation and infiltration (i.e., in compliance with Site Certificate Conditions OPR-SP-01 and OPR-WR-01).

During construction, stormwater runoff would continue to be managed onsite according to the best management practices as described in the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 1200-C Permit and draft Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (see Exhibit C, Attachment C-1; per Site Certificate Condition PRE-SP-01). Stormwater discharges would be managed in accordance with the NPDES 1200-C permit, and appropriate control measures would be installed to ensure compliance with the discharge and water quality requirements of the permit. During operations, the RFA 5 Solar Facility may result in some changes to the stormwater drainage as a result of new impervious surfaces (e.g., gravel roads, concrete foundations, etc.). However, impervious surfaces would be a low percentage of the total area within the RFA 5 Site Boundary.

Exhibit O-2 provides additional information on water use, and Exhibit N provides information on wastewater. The Council previously found that water use and wastewater discharge from the Facility would have no impact to protected areas⁸ and the modifications proposed in RFA 5 do not alter that conclusion.

4.4 Visual Impacts – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(c)(E)(F)

(E) Visual impacts of facility structures or plumes, including, but not limited to, changes in landscape character or quality; and

(F) Visual impacts from air emissions resulting from facility construction or operation, including, but not limited to, impacts on Class 1 Areas as described in OAR 340-204-0050.

The inclusion of the additional solar modules and associated infrastructure at the RFA 5 Solar Facility would result in a change to the existing viewshed, but this change would not result in a significant visual impact on any of the surrounding protected areas due to overall height of infrastructure, distance to the RFA 5 Solar Facility, topographical screening, low impact to users, no specified management of scenic or visual qualities beyond the boundaries of each protected area, and presence of similar structures within the existing viewshed (e.g., existing wind and utility infrastructure). To reduce visual impacts to protected areas, Site Certificate Conditions GEN-WF-03 and GEN-LU-12 would continue to be implemented, which requires the usage of low-reflective, neutral finishes on the O&M building, BESS and substation and enforces signage restrictions. The BESS and substation would be designed and constructed to be consistent with the character of

⁸ Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 154 (March 2026).

buildings in the surrounding area and painted in a neutral color, per Site Certificate Conditions GEN-WF-04 and GEN-LU-12. Exterior nighttime lighting would be restricted to security lighting at the O&M building and substation, and as necessary for repairs, emergencies, according to Site Certificate Conditions GEN-WF-05 and GEN-LU-12. Additionally, all lighting shall be limited in intensity, shielded, and directed downward to prevent the lighting from projecting onto adjacent properties and roadways (Site Certificate Conditions GEN-WF-05 and GEN-LU-12).

The RFA 5 Solar Facility would not generate any emissions plumes, so would not cause any visual impacts from air emissions. Potential visual impacts due to dust created during construction of the RFA 5 Solar Facility would be largely prevented by following best management practices for dust control as detailed in Exhibits C and O-2.

Class I areas consist of the 12 federally designated Wilderness Areas in Oregon defined in OAR 340-204-0050, none of which are located within the Analysis Area.

4.4.1 Visual Impact Assessment Methodology

The potential for visual impacts from the RFA 5 Solar Facility is primarily related to the components that would be the most prominent in terms of size and scale. The two most prominent components in terms of height off the ground and overall surface area include the solar areas and the 230-kV gen-tie line. Thus, these two components were the main focus of the visual impact assessment.

A zone of visual influence (ZVI) analysis, also known as a viewshed analysis, was performed using Esri geographic information system software and a bare-earth 10-meter digital elevation model to identify those areas from which the solar areas and the gen-tie line might be visible (Figures E-2 and E-3). The ZVI analysis assumed a maximum height of 15 feet for the solar modules and maximum height of 140 feet for the gen-tie line. All other components proposed with RFA 5 were deemed less visually impactful (due to height, being dispersed throughout the RFA 5 Site Boundary, or adjacent to taller infrastructure, etc.) and addressed by the assessment of the solar areas and gen-tie line. A typical viewing height of 1.8 meters (6 feet) was assumed.

Visibility of the two components was defined by visible or not visible, indicated by color coding (see Figures E-2 and E-3), and by proximity, i.e., foreground (less than 0.5 mile), middleground (0.5 to 5 miles), or background distances (more than 5 miles). The concept of distance zones can be used as a frame of reference to describe the characteristics of the visible landscape and the effects on scenery from human development and activities. Viewer distance and visual acuity are key factors in studying and determining visual effects, with perceived contrast and visual effects generally diminishing as distance between the viewer and the affected area increases. Distance zones (foreground, middleground, and background) provide a frame of reference for classifying the degree to which details of the viewed RFA 5 Solar Facility would affect visual resources. The zones are defined by their distance from the RFA 5 Site Boundary. These zones establish a reference for evaluating how project details influence visual resources. They are defined by their distance from the RFA 5 Solar Facility as follows (BLM 1986):

- **Foreground/Middleground.** This distance zone (between 0 and 5 miles) is considered to be the range from which RFA 5 component details would be visually clear (foreground) and where viewers still have the potential to distinguish individual forms, and texture and color are still identifiable, but become muted and less detailed (middleground).
- **Background.** Within this distance zone (between 5 miles and 15 miles), texture has disappeared, and color has flattened, making objects appear “washed out;” however, landform ridgelines are still distinguishable.
- **Seldom Seen.** This distance zone (beyond 15 miles) includes lands visible beyond the background distance or lands hidden from view from key locations.

Viewers are likely to perceive landscape features with greater clarity in foreground views, with clarity gradually diminishing toward the distant middleground. Within the background distance zone, forms, lines, and textures begin to blend into the surrounding landscape and colors generally appear more muted. Features located within the seldom-seen distance zone would be barely detectable.

It should be noted that this bare-earth modeling approach (based only on the effects of terrain on visibility) results in a highly conservative assessment of potential visibility for several reasons. First, a bare-earth analysis does not take into account the effects of vegetation or buildings, which would in practice block or screen views in some places. Finally, the model does not account for distance, lighting, weather, and atmospheric attenuation factors that diminish visibility under actual field conditions. The solar modules would be the most visible components within the solar areas (see RFA 5 Background Information Exhibit for full description). The visibility of the solar modules within the solar areas would depend primarily on topographic or other view obstructions and the distance from the viewer to the solar areas. With a maximum height of 15 feet to the top edge of the solar module when fully tilted, the modules would not be visible from sites lower in elevation than the area on which the solar modules are constructed. From sites that are similar in elevation to the solar modules, viewers would see only a line on the horizon and not individual solar panels, unless within the foreground distance zone. Depending on the viewing distance, viewers at sites higher in elevation may have views of the modules, especially if the view direction is toward the angle at which the module is tilted toward the sun. To the extent practicable, reflectivity of solar modules would be minimized. Antireflective coating would be used to reduce glare, and the surface of the modules would have high transmittance to increase the amount of light reaching the photovoltaic cells. With these methods, the modules would be less reflective than a natural water body or a coated glass surface that is not antireflective.

Where visible, the gen-tie line would be subordinate to the visual character of the existing views, generally appearing as being absorbed into the broader landscape.

A glare analysis was also performed, using the Sandia Laboratories’ Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool. The glare analysis results have been summarized in regard to specific protected areas below; see Exhibit I for the full methodology.

4.4.2 Visual Impact Assessment Results

Based on the results of the ZVI analysis, there is the potential for visibility of some portions of the RFA 5 Solar Facility from 9 of the 12 protected areas in the analysis area (see Figures E-2 and E-3, and Attachment E-1). The visibility of the solar areas and gen-tie line is characterized as visible or not visible. The discussion below provides additional detail on the updated visual impact analysis that was conducted for RFA 5.

Potential visibility is one of several factors that comprise an assessment of visual impact to a protected area. Other factors to consider include the existing visual context, particularly other sources of visual contrast present within the view; the likely number and nature of visitors to a protected area; and whether there is any management direction related to preservation of scenic quality (see Exhibit I), either within the protected area or outside of it.

Attachment E-1 provides a summary of the visual impact assessment for each of the protected areas in the analysis area. Again, the proposed solar areas and/or gen-tie line would potentially be visible from nine protected areas. However, the visual impact is considered to be negligible for all protected areas, primarily due to their distance from the proposed infrastructure for the RFA 5 Solar Facility, ranging from 5.1 to 16.8 miles. Views of the solar areas and gen-tie line from most protected areas would therefore be at a background viewing distance where viewers would be highly unlikely to detect or identify the low-profile solar modules, and both the solar modules and gen-tie line would occupy a limited portion of the total viewshed; no protected areas would have middleground or foreground views of the Facility. Moreover, the nine protected areas with potential views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility currently have views of other wind farms, transmission lines, industrial development, and agricultural irrigation equipment (not including/considering the components of the Facility), so the RFA 5 Solar Facility would not introduce a new or unusual feature to the view. In addition, potential views from some of the protected areas would be partially to fully screened by terrain, and human-made structures.

4.4.2.1 Visual Impact Summary

Based on this analysis, the Certificate Holder concludes that there would be no significant visual impacts to protected areas within the analysis area, and any associated visual impacts would be similar to the previously Facility.⁹ While 9 of the 12 protected areas would potentially have some level of visibility, for all protected areas the RFA 5 Solar Facility would be in the background distance zone, and the solar modules and gen-tie line would not represent new or unusual features in the landscape because there are already wind turbines, transmission lines, and other utility infrastructure visible, as well as topographical screening. No protected areas would have middleground or foreground views of the Facility. Only a few of the protected areas have any management direction related to scenic quality, and that direction does not apply to siting of the RFA 5 Solar Facility *outside* of the protected areas themselves. Additionally, views from most of the protected areas already include wind turbines, transmission lines, and other industrial or

⁹ Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 155-157 (March 2026).

agricultural infrastructure, indicating that viewers cannot reasonably expect pristine views free of developed infrastructure. No significant amounts of glare are predicted for any protected area (see Exhibit I for further discussion). Therefore, as modified by RFA 5, the solar areas, gen-tie line, and other related or supporting facilities would not result in a significant adverse visual impact to protected areas.

The Council previously found that the Facility and other related or supporting facilities would not cause significant visual impacts to protected areas¹⁰ and the changes proposed in RFA 5 do not alter the basis for that conclusion.

5.0 Materials Analysis – OAR 345-022-0040(5)(d)

(d) A materials analysis, including:

(A) An inventory of substantial quantities of industrial materials flowing into and out of the proposed facility during construction and operation;

(B) The applicant's plans to manage hazardous substances during construction and operation, including measures to prevent and contain spills; and

(C) The applicant's plans to manage non-hazardous waste materials during construction and operation.

The materials analysis for the Facility can be found in Section 7.0 of Exhibit N.

6.0 Conclusions

The analysis area contains all or part of 12 protected areas. The Certificate Holder analyzed potential impacts to these areas and concluded as follows:

- **Noise.** Based on the results of the noise modeling presented in Exhibit O-3, operational noise was determined to likely be less than 26 dBA at all protected areas, which is consistent with a rural nighttime background ambient according to OAR 340-035-0035. Construction noise may be audible at all protected areas; however, construction noise would be short-term and intermittent, and would not be considered a significant impact to any protected area. Therefore, the RFA 5 Solar Facility would result in no significant difference in operational or construction noise at the 12 protected areas within the analysis area relative to the Facility.
- **Traffic.** Construction and operations traffic for the RFA 5 Solar Facility would not be located to significantly impact any protected areas. Some short-term, intermittent, and temporary delays could be possible during construction by visitors, specifically at the six protected areas accessed by US-97 and OR-206; however, these would be temporary and traffic

¹⁰ Final Order on Request for Amendment 4, p. 155-157 (March 2026).

conditions would return to typical low levels following construction. Therefore, consistent with previous conclusions for the Facility, there would be no significant impact to protected areas resulting from the construction or operations traffic of the RFA 5 Solar Facility.

- **Water.** The RFA 5 Solar Facility would not use water in sufficient quantities or from sources that would significantly impact any protected areas. Therefore, consistent with previous conclusions for the Facility, there would be no significant impacts to protected areas by water use for the RFA 5 Solar Facility.
- **Wastewater.** The RFA 5 Solar Facility would manage its wastewater almost exclusively within the RFA 5 Site Boundary and would thus not significantly impact any protected areas. Therefore, consistent with previous conclusions for the Facility, there would be no significant impacts to protected areas due to wastewater generated by the RFA 5 Solar Facility.
- **Visual.** No Class I areas are present within the analysis area. The RFA 5 Solar Facility would potentially be visible from 9 of the 12 protected areas in the analysis area, with no protected areas having middleground or foreground views of the Facility. However, due to the overall heights and distances from RFA 5 Solar Facility, topographic obstructions, other existing features within view (i.e. wind turbines and other utility infrastructure), low impact to users, an overall lack of management direction applicable to scenic quality beyond the boundaries of each protected area, and no significant amounts of glare, the RFA 5 Solar Facility would not alter the Council's previous finding that the Facility would not have a significant visual impact on any protected area.

7.0 References

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8.0 Approval Standards and Submittal Requirements

Table E-1. Approval Standards and Submittal Requirements Matrix

Requirements	Location
OAR 345-022-0040 Protected Areas	
Approval Standards	
(1) To issue a site certificate, the Council must find:	–
(a) The proposed facility would not be located within the boundaries of a protected area designated on or before the date the application for site certificate or request for amendment was determined to be complete under OAR 345-015-0190 or 345-027-0363;	N/A
(b) The design, construction and operation of the facility, taking into account mitigation, are not likely to result in significant adverse impact to a protected area designated on or before the date the application for site certificate or request for amendment was determined to be complete under OAR 345-015-0190 or 345-027-0363.	Sections 3.0 through 6.0
(2) Notwithstanding section (1)(a), the Council may issue a site certificate for:	–
(a) A facility that includes a transmission line, natural gas pipeline, or water pipeline located in a protected area, if the Council determines that other reasonable alternative routes or sites have been studied and that the proposed route or site is likely to result in fewer adverse impacts to resources or interests protected by Council standards; or	N/A

Requirements	Location
(b) Surface facilities related to an underground gas storage reservoir that have pipelines and injection, withdrawal or monitoring wells and individual wellhead equipment and pumps located in a protected area, if the Council determines that other alternative routes or sites have been studied and are unsuitable.	N/A
(3) The provisions of section (1) do not apply to:	-
(a) A transmission line routed within 500 feet of an existing utility right-of-way containing at least one transmission line with a voltage rating of 115 kilovolts or higher; or	N/A
(b) A natural gas pipeline routed within 500 feet of an existing utility right of way containing at least one natural gas pipeline of 8 inches or greater diameter that is operated at a pressure of 125 psig.	N/A
(4) The Council shall apply the version of this rule adopted under Administrative Order EFSC 1-2007, filed and effective May 15, 2007, to the review of any Application for Site Certificate or Request for Amendment that was determined to be complete under OAR 345-015-0190 or 345-027-0363 before the effective date of this rule. Nothing in this section waives the obligations of the certificate holder and Council to abide by local ordinances, state law, and other rules of the Council for the construction and operation of energy facilities in effect on the date the site certificate or amended site certificate is executed.	N/A
Submittal Requirements	
(5) To assist the Council in determining whether the standard outlined in (1) through (4) has been met, the Applicant must submit information about the potential impacts of the proposed facility on protected areas in the analysis area, providing evidence to support a finding by the Council as required by this rule, including:	-
(a) A list of all protected areas within the analysis area identifying:	Section 3.0, Attachment E-1
(A) The distance and direction of the protected area from the proposed facility	Attachment E-1
(B) The basis for protection by reference to a specific subsection of OAR 345-001-0010(26); and	Attachment E-1
(C) The name, mailing address, phone number, and email address of the land management agency or organization with jurisdiction over the protected area.	Attachment E-1
(b) A map showing the location of the proposed facility in relation to the protected areas;	Figure E-1
(c) A description of significant potential impacts of the proposed facility, if any, on the protected areas including, but not limited to, potential impacts such as:	Attachment E-1, Section 4.0
(A) Noise resulting from facility construction or operation;	Attachment E-1, Section 4.1
(B) Increased traffic resulting from facility construction or operation;	Section 4.2
(C) Water use during facility construction or operation;	Section 4.3
(D) Wastewater disposal resulting from facility construction or operation;	Section 4.3
(E) Visual impacts of facility structures or plumes, including, but not limited to, changes in landscape character or quality; and	Attachment E-1, Figures E-2 and E-3, Section 4.4
(F) Visual impacts from air emissions resulting from facility construction or operation, including, but not limited to, impacts on Class 1 Areas as described in OAR 340-204-0050.	Section 4.4

Requirements	Location
(d) A materials analysis, including:	Section 7.0 of Exhibit N
(A) An inventory of substantial quantities of industrial materials flowing into and out of the proposed facility during construction and operation;	Section 7.1 of Exhibit N
(B) The applicant's plans to manage hazardous substances during construction and operation, including measures to prevent and contain spills; and	Section 7.2 of Exhibit N
(C) The applicant's plans to manage non-hazardous waste materials during construction and operation.	Section 7.3 of Exhibit N

Figures

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm Request for Amendment #5

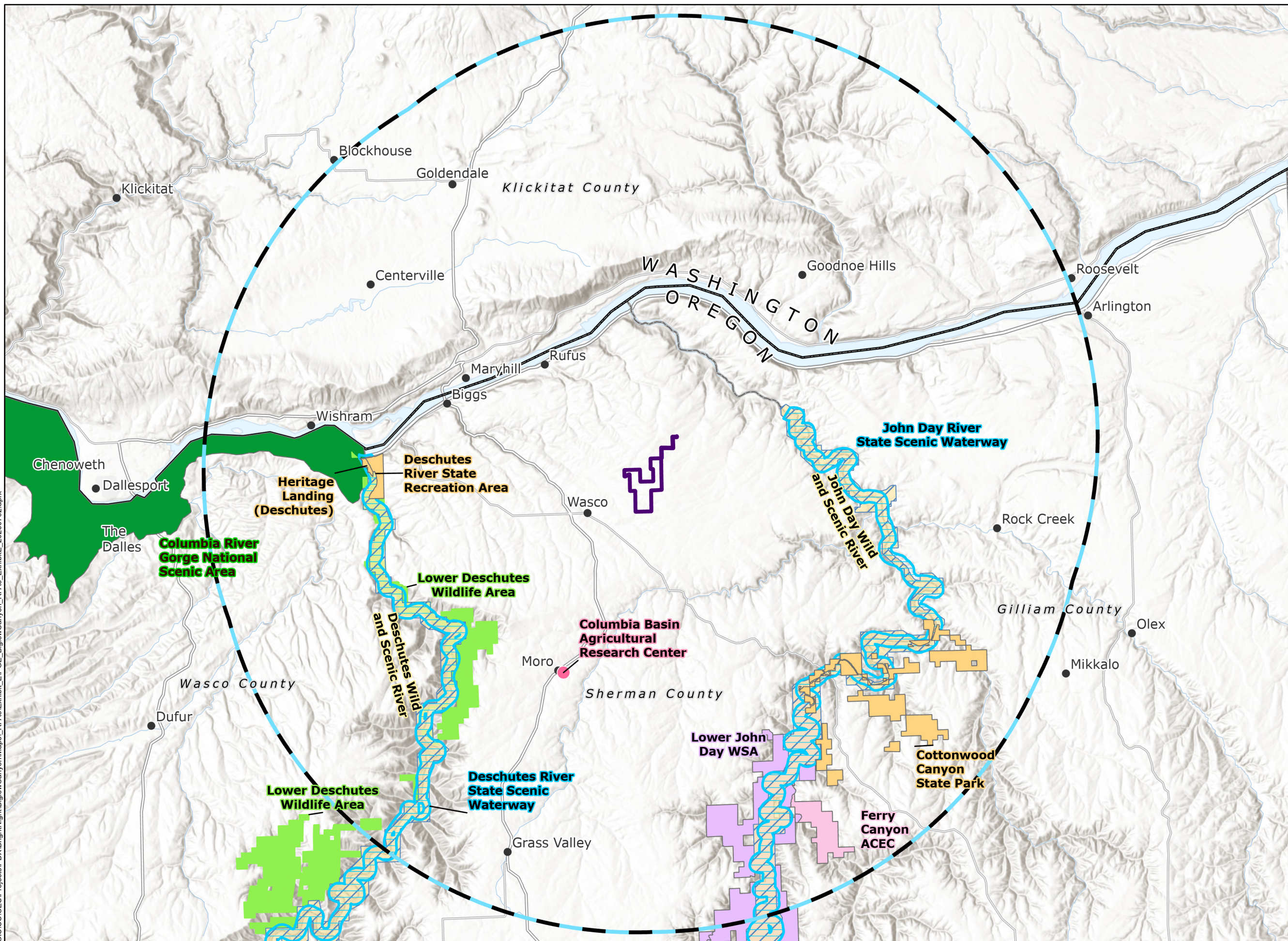
Figure E-1
Protected Areas within the Analysis Area

SHERMAN COUNTY, OR

- RFA5 Site Boundary
- Protected Areas Analysis Area (20-mile buffer)
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- City/Town
- Protected Areas
 - BLM ACEC
 - USFS National Scenic Area
 - OPRD State Park
 - OPRD State Scenic Waterway
 - ODFW Wildlife Area
 - BLM National Wild and Scenic River
 - BLM Wilderness Study Area
 - OSU Research Center



Reference Map



1:280,000

WGS 1984 UTM Zone 10N

0 2.5 5 10 15 20 Miles

NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Biglow Canyon Wind Farm Request for Amendment #5

Figure E-2
Zone of Visual Influence Map,
Solar Array

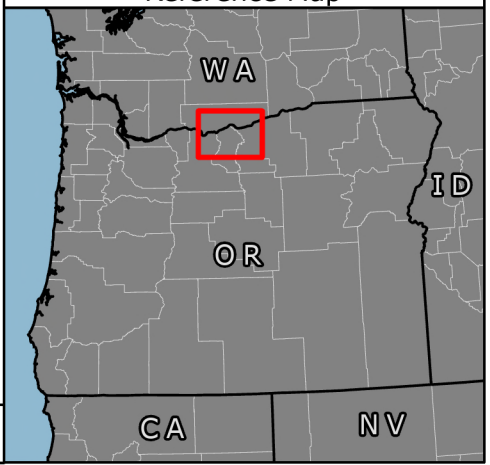
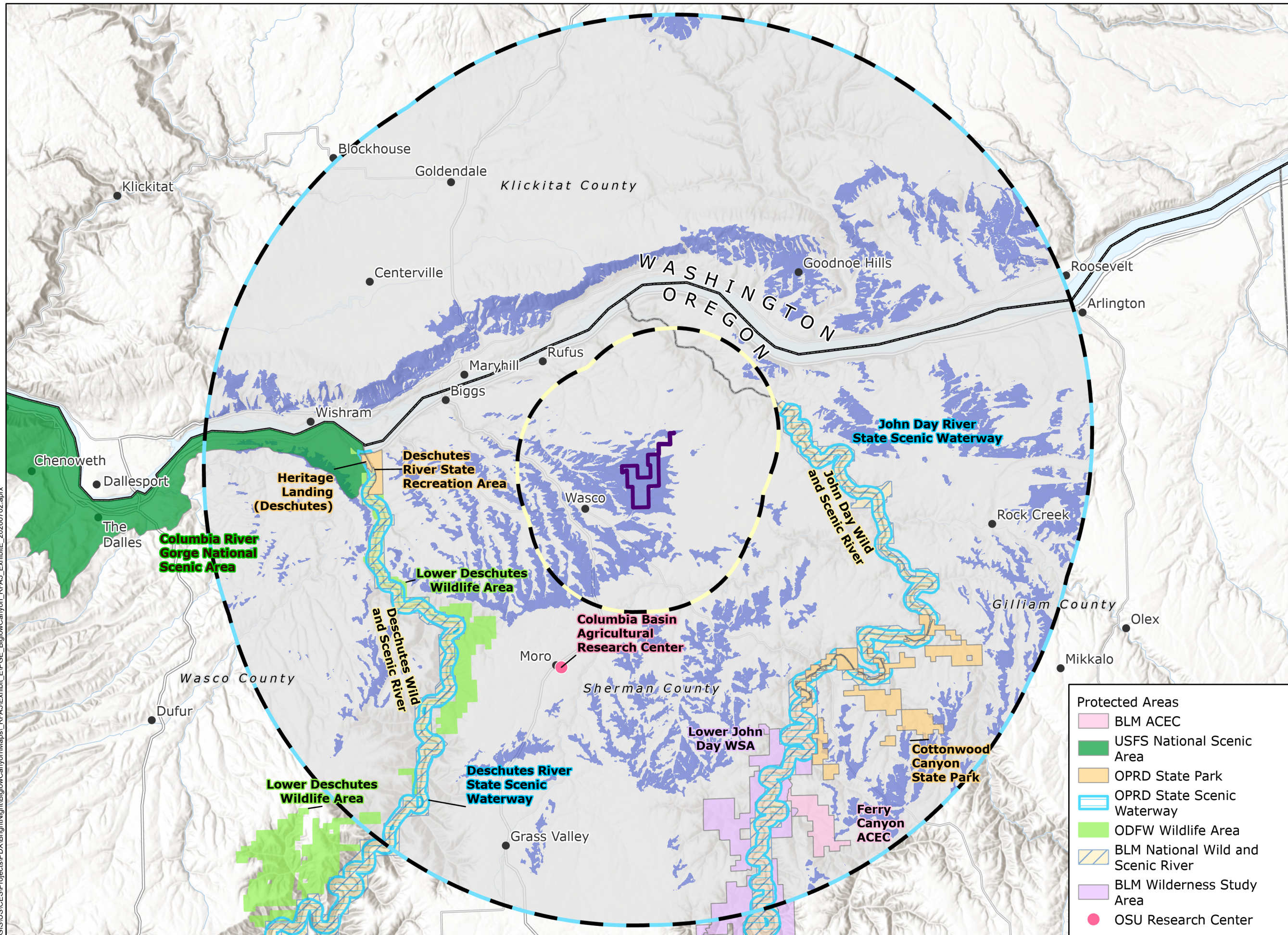
SHERMAN COUNTY, OR

- RFA5 Site Boundary
- Protected Areas Analysis Area (20-mile buffer)
- 5-mile Buffer
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- City/Town
- Solar Array Visibility*
 - Solar Array Not Visible
 - Solar Array Potentially Visible

*Potential solar array visibility calculated using a 10 meter bare-earth digital elevation model with panel heights of 15 feet (4.572 meters) and a viewing height of 6 feet (1.8 meters).



Reference Map



- Protected Areas
- BLM ACEC
 - USFS National Scenic Area
 - OPRD State Park
 - OPRD State Scenic Waterway
 - ODFW Wildlife Area
 - BLM National Wild and Scenic River
 - BLM Wilderness Study Area
 - OSU Research Center

**Biglow Canyon
Wind Farm Request
for Amendment #5**

**Figure E-3
Zone of Visual
Influence Map,
Gen-tie Line**

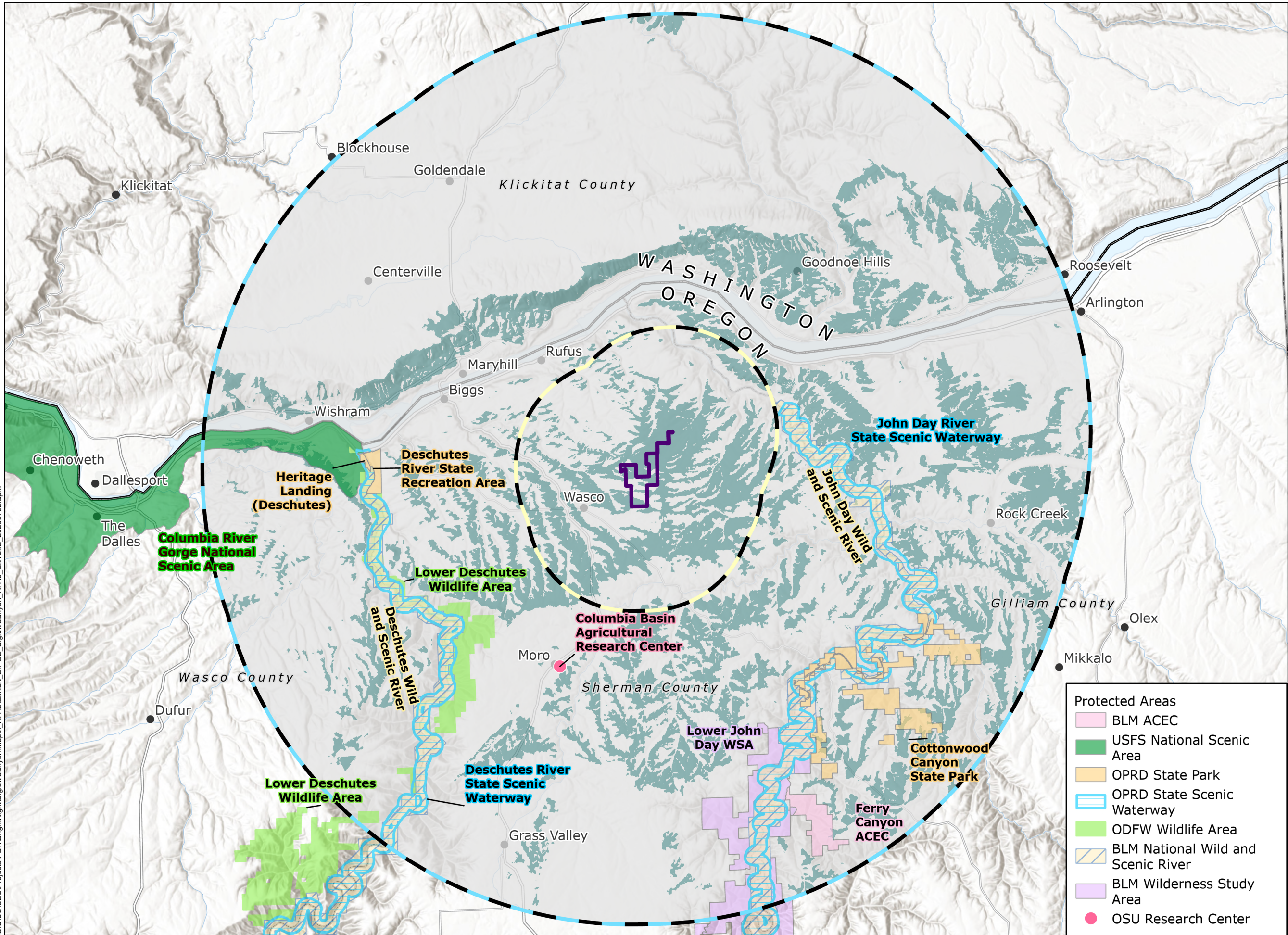
SHERMAN COUNTY, OR

- RFA5 Site Boundary
- Protected Areas Analysis Area (20-mile buffer)
- 5-mile Buffer
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- City/Town
- Gen-tie Visibility*
- Gen-tie Line Not Visible
- Gen-tie Line Potentially Visible

*Potential transmission line visibility calculated using a 10 meter bare-earth digital elevation model with gen-tie structure heights of 140 feet (42.672 meters) and a viewing height of 6 feet (1.8 meters).



Reference Map



- Protected Areas**
- BLM ACEC
 - USFS National Scenic Area
 - OPRD State Park
 - OPRD State Scenic Waterway
 - ODFW Wildlife Area
 - BLM National Wild and Scenic River
 - BLM Wilderness Study Area
 - OSU Research Center

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Attachment E-1. Protected Areas Inventory, Visual and Noise Assessment Results

Attachment E-1. Protected Areas Inventory, Visual and Noise Assessment Results

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
National Parks OAR 345-001-0010(26)(a)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
National Monuments OAR 345-001-0010(26)(b)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wilderness Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(c)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
National Wild, Scenic, or Recreational Rivers OAR 345-001-0010(26)(d)	Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville District 3050 NE 3rd Street Prineville, OR 97754 (541) 416-6700 BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov	Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River	9.6	9.7	11.6	W	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Lower Deschutes Wild and Scenic River. At a background viewing distance of 9.7 miles or greater, the solar modules will not create a prominent feature in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 11.6 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. Potential views of the Facility will be limited to Lower Deschutes River Canyon rims and walls which are inaccessible to the public. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the River. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the River.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
		John Day Wild and Scenic River	5.1	6.2	5.1	E	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the John Day Wild and Scenic River. At a background viewing distance of 6.2 miles or greater, the solar modules will not create a prominent feature in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the background viewing distance of over 5.1 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. Potential views of the Facility will be limited to John Day River Canyon rims and walls which are inaccessible to the public. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the River. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the River.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
National Wildlife Refuges OAR 345-001-0010(26)(e)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
National Fish Hatcheries OAR 345-001-0010(26)(f)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
National Recreation Areas, Scenic Areas, or Special Resources Management Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(g)	Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Supervisor's Office 902 Wasco Street Suite 200 Hood River, OR 97031 (541) 308-1700 No email listed	Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area	10.6	10.8	11.9	W	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. At a far background viewing distance of 10.8 miles or greater, the solar modules will be barely perceptible in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 11.9 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Scenic Area. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the Scenic Area.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
Wilderness Study Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(h)	BLM, Prineville District 3050 NE 3rd Street Prineville, OR 97754 (541) 416-6700 BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov	Lower John Day Wilderness Study Area (WSA)	10.7	10.7	12.2	SE	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Lower John Day WSA. At a far background viewing distance of 10.7 miles or greater, the solar modules will be barely perceptible in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 12.2 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the WSA. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the WSA.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
Federally Land Management Plan Designated Lands OAR 345-001-0010(26)(i)	BLM, Prineville District 3050 NE 3rd Street Prineville, OR 97754 (541) 416-6700 BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov	Ferry Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	15.0	15.1	16.8	SE	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Ferry Canyon ACEC. At a far background viewing distance of 15.1 miles or greater (i.e., the seldom seen distance zone), the solar modules will be barely perceptible in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 16.8 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the ACEC. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the ACEC.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
State Parks, Waysides, Corridors, Monuments, Historic, or Recreation Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(j)	Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) 725 Summer Street NE, Suite C Salem, OR 97301 (541) 739-2322 park.info@oregon.gov	Deschutes River State Recreation Area	11.5	11.7	12.9	W	No	No	No impact. Viewshed analysis indicates no visibility of the solar areas or gen-tie lines at the Deschutes River State Recreation Area. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Recreation Area. The RFA 5 Solar Facility will not compromise the purpose of the Recreation Area.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
		Heritage Landing (Deschutes)	12.0	12.2	13.4	W	No	No	No impact. Viewshed analysis indicates no visibility of the solar areas or gen-tie lines at the Heritage Landing (Deschutes). There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Landing. The RFA 5 Solar Facility will not compromise the purpose of the Landing.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
	OPRD 725 Summer Street NE, Suite C Salem, OR 97301 (541) 394-0002 park.info@oregon.gov	Cottonwood Canyon State Park	10.8	10.8	12.1	SE	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Cottonwood Canyon State Park. At a far background viewing distance of 10.8 miles or greater, the solar modules will be barely perceptible in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 12.1 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Park. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the Park.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
Willamette River Greenway OAR 345-001-0010(26)(k)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon Register of Natural Areas Designated Natural Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(l)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve OAR 345-001-0010(26)(m)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
State Scenic Waterways OAR 345-001-0010(26)(n)	OPRD 725 Summer Street NE, Suite C Salem, OR 97301 (503) 986-0707 park.info@oregon.gov	Lower Deschutes State Scenic Waterway	9.7	9.8	11.8	W	No	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from a small portion of the Lower Deschutes State Scenic Waterway. At a far background viewing distance of 11.8 miles or greater, the gen-tie line will be barely perceptible in the viewshed. The solar areas are not visible from the Waterway and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If the gen-tie line was visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. Potential views of the Facility will be limited to Lower Deschutes River Canyon rims and walls which are inaccessible to the public. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Waterway. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the Waterway.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
		John Day State Scenic Waterway	5.1	6.3	5.2	E	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the John Day State Scenic Waterway. At a background viewing distance of 6.3 miles or greater, the solar modules will not create a prominent feature in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the background viewing distance of over 5.2 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. Potential views of the Facility will be limited to John Day River Canyon rims and walls which are inaccessible to the public. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Waterway. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the Waterway.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)

Protected Areas within 20 Miles of the RFA 5 Site Boundary			Distance to RFA 5 Site Boundary (miles)			Cardinal Direction from RFA 5 Site Boundary	Amended BCWF Potentially Visible? (Yes/No)		Visual Analysis Results	Operational Noise Analysis Results
Type	Contact Information	Area Name	RFA 5 Site Boundary	Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		Solar Areas	Gen-tie Line		
State Wildlife Areas and Management Areas OAR 345-001-0010(26)(o)	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area 78430 Dodson Road Tygh Valley, OR 97063 (541) 296-4628 odfw.info@odfw.oregon.gov	Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area	8.4	8.4	10.5	W	Yes	Yes	Negligible impact. Viewshed analysis indicates limited potential visibility from small portions of the Lower Deschutes Wildlife Area. At a background viewing distance of 8.4 miles or greater, the solar modules will not create a prominent feature in the viewshed. The gen-tie line is highly unlikely to be visible or otherwise discernible at the far background viewing distance of over 10.5 miles, and therefore will not contribute to visual contrast from this location. If any solar facilities or the gen-tie line were visible, the additional visual contrast within an existing modified landscape that includes wind turbines, aboveground transmission lines, industrial structures, and agricultural irrigation equipment will be weak. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Wildlife Area. The addition of the solar areas and associated infrastructure will not change the previous conclusion that views of the RFA 5 Solar Facility, if any, will not compromise the purpose of the Wildlife Area.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
State Fish Hatcheries OAR 345-001-0010(26)(p)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oregon State University (OSU) Designated Agricultural Experiment Stations, Experimental Areas, or Research Centers OAR 345-001-0010(26)(q)	Oregon State University (OSU), Sherman Station 66365 Lone Rock Road Moro, OR 97039 (541) 565-3522 No email listed	Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center (Moro Unit)	8.4	8.4	10.7	SW	No	No	No impact. Viewshed analysis indicates no visibility of the solar areas or gen-tie lines at the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center. There is no management directive applicable to preservation of scenic qualities outside of the Center. The RFA 5 Solar Facility will not compromise the purpose of the Center.	No audible noise (no increase from approved facility)
OSU Designated Research Forests OAR 345-001-0010(26)(r)	N/A	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A