



State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: PO Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 · 360 902-2200 · TDD 360 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street, Olympia, WA

December 5, 2025

Maria Belkina  
Site Specialist, Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
PO Box 43172  
Olympia, WA 98503-3172

**Subject:** Application Review, Cascade Renewable Transmission Line, Clark, Skamania, and Klickitat Counties

Dear Maria,

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has been engaged with the above-referenced project for some time. We have responded to several emails from the consultants and provided information about aquatic resources.

We accessed the website (<https://efsec.wa.gov/facilities/cascade-renewable-transmission>), identified in the October 30<sup>th</sup> email sent out by Ami Hafkemeyer and are in the process of reviewing the DRAFT Habitat, Fish, and Wildlife Report (DRAFT Report) that was submitted as part of the Application Review. However, the DRAFT Report is only for Skamania County. Are there similar reports for Clark and Klickitat Counties? If so, could you please send those to me.

The DRAFT Report states that field investigations focused on forested habitat from the Hamilton Island Recreation Area downstream of Bonneville Lock and Dam and ended in the City of Stevenson. The DRAFT Report also identifies that sagebrush sparrow (*Artemisiospiza nevadensis*) have been documented to occur in and near the study area. We are unaware of any sage sparrow documentation in these areas and wonder if this reference is for the entire project area that also includes Klickitat County, where sage sparrows are more likely to occur in shrubsteppe habitat.

Given the upcoming Holidays and staff schedules and the fact that Environmental Review is the next step in the EFSEC process, WDFW will continue to review the DRAFT Report and will likely provide comments to you in late January 2026.

I hope that this time frame is acceptable, and we look forward to working with you on this project

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Ritter".

Michael Ritter  
Lead Planner, Solar and Wind Energy Development



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