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**From:** "Abney, Michael A." <MAABNEY@southernco.com>  
**To:** "Brett Albanese" <Brett\_Albanese@dnr.state.ga.us>  
**Cc:** "Mary Freeman" <mary\_freeman@usgs.gov>; "Moorer, Tom C." <TCMOORER@southernco.com>; "Joyner, Jessica A." <JJOYNER@southernco.com>; "Montz, Matthew Thomas" <MTMONTZ@SOUTHERNCO.COM>; "Nichols, Michael C. (Env. Lab GPC)" <MCNICHOL@southernco.com>; "Candler, W. Jim" <WJCANDLE@southernco.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2007 7:27 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Ellassoma okatie on Savannah Floodplain

Brett,

On April 9, 2007, ichthyofauna samples were collected from above, below and within Mallard Pond near Plant Vogtle. Multiple samples were taken in shallow areas with a kicknet over about 100 meters at each location. The slow, meandering cypress stream is a tributary of the Savannah River just upstream of Plant Vogtle's intake. The only species collected was the common mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*) below Mallard Pond. No bluebarred pygmy sunfish (*Elassoma okatie*) were present nor were conditions conducive to the fish which prefers "roadside ditches and backwaters of creeks or rivers with brown-stained water and abundant vegetation" (Marcey et al. 2005). Although some of the areas constitute "backwaters" the water was clear and little vegetation was present.

Thanks for your assistance,

Michael

>Michael A. Abney, FP-C  
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 >

-----Original Message-----

From: Brett Albanese [mailto:[Brett\\_Albanese@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:Brett_Albanese@dnr.state.ga.us)]  
 Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2007 1:37 PM  
 To: Abney, Michael A.  
 Cc: Mary Freeman  
 Subject: Ellassoma okatie on Savannah Floodplain

Mike,

Per communication with Mary Freeman, the record of *E. okatie* reported from the Savannah River floodplain could not be confirmed. The only material saved from that collection turned out to be *E. zonatum*. Despite this, I would have recommended that you do the survey anyways, since you are definitely within the potential range of this species. Thanks for doing the survey. Please send me your survey data when you get a chance.

Thanks,

Brett

Brett Albanese, Ph.D.  
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GIS shapefiles and a list of Georgia's High Priority Waters are now posted at [www.georgiawildlife.com](http://www.georgiawildlife.com)  
Follow links to "Nongame Animals & Plants", "Georgia Rare Species and Natural Community Information", and "High Priority Waters"

Check out rare species information by watershed at [www.georgiawildlife.com](http://www.georgiawildlife.com)  
Follow links to "Nongame Animals & Plants", "Georgia Rare Species and Natural Community Information", and "HUC8 Watershed Rare Element"

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**From:** "Abney, Michael A." <MAABNEY@southernco.com>  
**To:** "Nichols, Michael C. (Env. Lab GPC)" <MCNICHOL@southernco.com>; "Candler, W. Jim" <WJCANDLE@southernco.com>; "Montz, Matthew Thomas" <MTMONTZ@SOUTHERNCO.COM>  
**Cc:** "Moorer, Tom C." <TCMOORER@southernco.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2007 1:31 PM  
**Subject:** BBPS

A note from Brett Albanese. He is GA-DNR's nongame fish guy. I plan on looking around Vogtle Monday, April 9th.

From Brett:

I was glad I went to Fort Gordon. I got some *Elassoma okatie* and some really nice *Etheostoma fricksium* and *Etheostoma serriferfor picutres*. Based on what I saw at in Boggy Gut Creek, I think you are really unlikely to get *E. okatie* unless you have some slackwater habitat with abundant aquatic plants. A consultant called me to ask about *E. okatie* habitat. I returned her call, but she has not gotten back to me yet.

Best,

Brett

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>>> "Abney, Michael A." <MAABNEY@southernco.com> 03/28/07 5:13 PM >>>  
Overheard Jim Peterson and Mary Freeman and some others (don't know their names) discussing how well you did in your interview process up here and that the previous person (female) had not done well. Rock on!

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