



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office  
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St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
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SEP 11 2007

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Rani Franovich, Branch Chief  
Environmental Branch B  
Division of License Renewal  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Franovich:

This correspondence responds to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) letter dated August 22, 2007, regarding the renewal of operating licenses for Vogtle Electric Generating Plant, Units 1 and 2 (VEGP) in Burke County, Georgia.

As requested, enclosed is a list of federally-protected species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service for the state of Georgia.

We look forward to continued cooperation with the NRC in conserving our endangered and threatened resources. If you have any questions regarding the ESA consultation process, please contact Mr. Robert Hoffman, fishery biologist, at (727) 824-5312, or by e-mail at [Robert.Hoffman@noaa.gov](mailto:Robert.Hoffman@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,

David M. Bernhart  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
Protected Resources Division

Enclosure

File: 1514-22.M NRC





Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitats  
under the Jurisdiction of the NOAA Fisheries Service



**Georgia**

Listed Species	Scientific Name	Status	Date Listed
<b>Marine Mammals</b>			
blue whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
finback whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaengliae</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
right whale	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
<b>Turtles</b>			
green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Threatened <sup>1</sup>	07/28/78
hawksbill sea turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Endangered	06/02/70
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	Endangered	12/02/70
leatherback sea turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Endangered	06/02/70
loggerhead sea turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Threatened	07/28/78
<b>Fish</b>			
shortnose sturgeon	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Endangered	03/11/67
smalltooth sawfish	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	Endangered	04/01/03

**Designated Critical Habitat**

Right whale: Between 31°15'N (approximately the mouth of the Altamaha River, Georgia) and 30°15'N (approximately Jacksonville, Florida) from the coast out to 15 nautical miles offshore; the coastal waters between 30°15'N and 28°00'N (approximately Sebastian Inlet, Florida) from the coast out to 5 nautical miles.

**Species Proposed for Listing**  
None

**Proposed Critical Habitat**  
None

<sup>1</sup> Green turtles are listed as threatened, except for breeding populations of green turtles in Florida and on the Pacific Coast of Mexico, which are listed as endangered



## Georgia

Candidate Species <sup>2</sup>	Scientific Name
None	

Species of Concern <sup>3</sup>	Scientific Name
<b>Fish</b>	
Atlantic sturgeon	<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</i>
dusky shark	<i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i>
night shark	<i>Carcharhinus signatus</i>
sand tiger shark	<i>Carcharias taurus</i>
speckled hind	<i>Epinephelus drummondhayi</i>
Warsaw grouper	<i>Epinephelus nigritus</i>
white marlin	<i>Tetrapturus albidus</i>

<sup>2</sup> The Candidate Species List has been renamed the Species of Concern List. The term "candidate species" is limited to species that are the subject of a petition to list and for which NOAA Fisheries Service has determined that listing may be warranted (69 FR 19975).

<sup>3</sup> Species of Concern are not protected under the Endangered Species Act, but concerns about their status indicate that they may warrant listing in the future. Federal agencies and the public are encouraged to consider these species during project planning so that future listings may be avoided.

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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
REGIONAL OFFICE  
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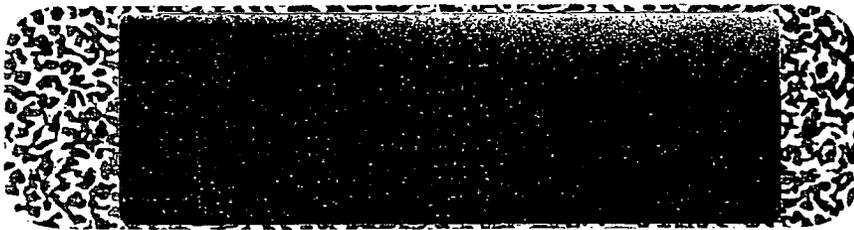
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