

**Richard Bulavinetz**

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**From:** Linda\_S\_Smith@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2009 10:01 AM  
**To:** Richard Bulavinetz  
**Cc:** Billy\_Brooks@fws.gov; Janet\_Rider@fws.gov  
**Subject:** RE: Whooping Cranes at Chassahowitzka NWR

Richard,

As you know, the whooping cranes at Chassahowitzka are considered an experimental nonessential population and as such do not require section 7 consultation under the ESA. However, they are protected as a migratory species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Once we have it completed, I can email you a map showing the winter territory for this population and then you can determine if the power lines from Progress Energy Crystal River will be within one mile of that territory. If so, we recommend "fireflies" be mounted on the lines where they may fly over during local movements to alert the cranes and minimize the potential for flying into the lines. However, this would best be addressed outside the section 7 consultation and through an Avian Protection Plan under the MBTA. We recommend you contact Janet Rider of our agency who works with power companies on these plans. She can be reached at [Janet\\_Rider@fws.gov](mailto:Janet_Rider@fws.gov) or by calling 352-241-6415.

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Linda S. Smith  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
600 Fourth Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
(904)868-4044

Richard Bulavinetz <[Richard.Bulavinetz@nrc.gov](mailto:Richard.Bulavinetz@nrc.gov)>

To "[Linda S Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Linda_S_Smith@fws.gov)" <[Linda S Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Linda_S_Smith@fws.gov)>  
cc

02/04/2009 08:46 AM

Subject RE: Whooping Cranes at Chassahowitzka NWR

Linda:

Good morning.  
Thanks for having the Crystal River letter forwarded to me.  
Per your message below, will the map be sent as a hard copy or via e-mail?  
Also, should I still expect to hear from you Billy Brooks re: a comment on whooping cranes and the Crystal River transmission lines?

Rich

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**From:** [Linda S Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Linda_S_Smith@fws.gov) [[mailto:Linda\\_S\\_Smith@fws.gov](mailto:Linda_S_Smith@fws.gov)]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 02, 2009 4:07 PM

**To:** Richard Bulavinetz  
**Subject:** Re: Whooping Cranes at Chassahowitzka NWR

Richard,  
Shortly, you will be getting a copy of our letter from our secretary. I will also send a map showing the crane management area and some additional information.

Linda S. Smith  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
600 Fourth Street South  
St. Petersburg, Fl 33701  
(904)868-4044

Richard Bulavinetz <[Richard.Bulavinetz@nrc.gov](mailto:Richard.Bulavinetz@nrc.gov)>

02/02/2009 02:35 PM

To "[linda\\_s\\_smith@fws.gov](mailto:linda_s_smith@fws.gov)" <[linda\\_s\\_smith@fws.gov](mailto:linda_s_smith@fws.gov)>

cc

Subject Whooping Cranes at Chassahowitzka NWR

Linda:

Per our phone conversation this afternoon, I would like to know if the USFWS has any concerns regarding potential impacts of the relicensing action of the Crystal River Unit 3 nuclear reactor on the endangered whooping crane. An experimental population of whooping cranes flies over the Lake Tarpon and Central Florida transmission line corridors of the Crystal River Energy Complex (CREC) while migrating to and from the Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge (most recently on January 23, 2009), located 10 miles south of the CREC.

No new transmission lines will be constructed for this relicensing action.

Also, please e-mail me a copy of your response to the Progress Energy letter dated September 28, 2008, sent to Jay Herrington, Regulatory Chief, USFWS North Florida Field Office, requesting the USFWS to inform Progress Energy of any concerns the USFWS may have regarding potential impacts to threatened or endangered species or potential impacts to habitat from the relicensing action.

Thank you,

Rich

Richard E. Bulavinetz  
Aquatic Ecologist  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission