

## NRR-PMDAPEm Resource

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**From:** Rick\_Hansen@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, September 10, 2012 4:37 PM  
**To:** Logan, Dennis  
**Cc:** Jane\_Ledwin@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Section 7 listed species, Callaway Nuclear Plant

Dennis:

This is in reference to your letter, dated April 20, 2012, concerning Federally listed species that may occur in or near the Callaway Nuclear Plant located near Fulton, Missouri. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is reviewing an application to renew the operating license for the plant. Two listed species may occur at the project site, the Indiana bat and the pallid sturgeon.

**Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*)** Since first listed as endangered in 1967, Indiana bat populations have declined by nearly 60%. Several factors have contributed to their decline, including the loss and degradation of suitable hibernacula, human disturbance during hibernation, pesticides, and the loss and degradation of forested habitat, particularly stands of large, mature trees. Fragmentation of forest habitat may also contribute to declines. Summer habitat requirements for the species are not well defined but the following are considered important:

- 1) dead or live trees and snags with peeling or exfoliating bark, split tree trunk and/or branches, or cavities, which may be used as maternity roost areas;
- 2) live trees (such as shagbark hickory and oaks) which have exfoliating bark;
- 3) stream corridors, riparian areas, and upland woodlots which provide forage sites.

Should the proposed project area contain trees or associated habitats exhibiting any of the characteristics listed above, we recommend that the habitat and surrounding trees be avoided, wherever possible. If trees larger than 9 inches DBH must be removed, further coordination with this office is requested for the Service to evaluate potential impacts to the Indiana bat.

**Pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*)** The pallid sturgeon's range is primarily the Missouri River and the Mississippi River downstream of its confluence with the Missouri River. Limited data is available concerning preferred habitat in Missouri, but the species has been captured in tributary mouths, over sandbars, along main channel borders, and in deep holes (in winter) in the Missouri River. Small sturgeon have been captured in off-channel backwaters just upstream from the project area.

Project evaluation should consider effects to both the species and their habitats. In addition, bald eagles are becoming increasingly common during both the nesting and wintering seasons, and should also be considered during project evaluation. If the manner of scope of the project changes, or you have questions regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rick L. Hansen  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
101 Park DeVill Drive, Suite A  
Columbia, Missouri 65203  
573-234-2132, ext. 106  
fax 573-234-2181  
[rick\\_hansen@fws.gov](mailto:rick_hansen@fws.gov)

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