

Teleconference with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regarding Endangered Species Act
Section 7 Consultation for Turkey Point Nuclear Generating, Units 3 and 4,
Subsequent License Renewal

Consultation Code 04EF2000-2019-SLI-0631

May 14, 2019

TELECONFERENCE DATE

April 4, 2019

PARTICIPANTS

Briana Grange, Conservation Biologist, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Lindsay Nester, Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

TELECONFERENCE NOTES

- Briana has assumed responsibility as NRC lead/point-of-contact for the Turkey Point consultation as of April 2019.
- Lindsay is working to finalize the biological opinion (BiOp). Once completed, she will send it to her management for review. Several items related to the BiOp remain outstanding, as noted below.
- FPL notified the FWS that it has some comments on and corrections to the NRC's December 2018 [biological assessment](#). Lindsay and Kristin Eaton (FPL) discussed this roughly two weeks ago, at which time Kristin indicated that FPL is working to submit its comments to FWS as soon as possible.
- Regarding the snail kite (*Rostrhamus sociabilis*), Lindsay has discussed with FWS colleagues whether she can include this species in the BiOp based on her office's new "reasonably certain to occur" policy. The current answer is no. For the snail kite to be included, Lindsay would need information on observed or confirmed nesting in the region. FWS has no such information. FWS will include this species (as well as other "no effect" species) in the consultation history of the BiOp but will not address these species in the opinion itself.
- During the recent 2019 annual meeting between FWS and FPL related to American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*) monitoring, FPL requested that the FWS consider characterizing crocodile incidental take in the BiOp in broader terms than vehicle collision. Lindsay is considering this request but will likely need more information to support the BiOp's discussion of non-collision-related causal take that could occur as a result of facility operations.

Lindsay asked Briana about crocodile incidental takes at the Turkey Point intakes attributable to plant operations. Briana could not recall the details of such takes offhand but stated that she will look at NRC's database of incidental takes reported by FPL and then follow up with Lindsay.

- Briana requested that NRC and FPL have the opportunity to review a draft of the BiOp once FWS has completed its internal review process. Lindsay will check with her management on whether FWS can release the draft document (either in part or in full).
- Lindsay needs more information to determine the number of eastern indigo snakes (*Drymarchon couperi*) that could occur within the action area. She asked if NRC has information on the total acreage of the action area and/or breakdown of the action area by habitat type. Briana will look into getting this information to Lindsay.
- FPL has requested a meeting with FWS, NRC, the State, and the relevant crocodile biologists to discuss the FWS's proposed conservation measures to be included in the BiOp's characterization of the proposed action. Lindsay will be coordinate with FPL to see if this meeting could take place the week of April 30. Briana will already be traveling to Florida for an NRC public meeting related to Turkey Point and would be able to attend in person.

ACTION ITEMS

NRC

1. Briana will collect detailed information on all crocodile takes reported to the NRC by FPL to support FWS's characterization of take in the BiOp.

Action item completed. Briana transmitted the requested data to Lindsay by email dated May 14, 2019.

2. Briana will provide FWS with the acreage of the action area and habitat/land cover information.

Action item completed. The ESA action area is 37.52 square miles. Through the FWS's Information for Planning and Conservation (IPaC) system, a U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Land Cover layer can be overlaid onto the action area and a shape file of both can be downloaded. Briana transmitted the shape files to Lindsay by email dated April 4, 2019.

FWS

1. Lindsay will speak with her management regarding releasing the draft BiOp for NRC and FPL review.

Action item completed. Lindsay stated that her supervisor has given her permission to share the draft BiOp with NRC and FPL for review and comment.

2. Lindsay will coordinate with Kristin to schedule the meeting on conservation measures described above.

Action item completed. The conservation measures meeting occurred on April 19, 2019.

The FWS reviewed this teleconference summary and affirmed the accuracy of the information therein by email dated April 5, 2019.