

From: Strait, Kenneth A. <Kenneth.Strait@pseg.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 12:40 PM
To: incidental.take@noaa.gov; EndangeredSpecies Resource
Cc: Neilan, Brian
Subject: [External_Sender] SALEM GENERATING STATION-INCIDENTAL TAKE OF ATLANTIC STURGEON
Attachments: Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 03-22-2022.pdf

Attached is the Incidental Take Report for a deceased Atlantic sturgeon collected on 03/22/2022 at Salem Generating Station during routine raking of the cooling water intake trash bars. The deceased specimen is being held for study pending direction from NOAA/NMFS. This incidental take is authorized under Biological Opinion NER-2010-6581.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. Thanks.

Ken

[Kenneth A. Strait](#)

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Hearing Identifier: NRR_DRMA
Email Number: 1585

Mail Envelope Properties (6213a8ee4681448fab3769f4f06f615c)

Subject: [External_Sender] SALEM GENERATING STATION-INCIDENTAL TAKE OF ATLANTIC STURGEON
Sent Date: 3/23/2022 12:39:43 PM
Received Date: 3/23/2022 12:40:07 PM
From: Strait, Kenneth A.

Created By: Kenneth.Strait@pseg.com

Recipients:

"Neilan, Brian" <Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"incidental.take@noaa.gov" <incidental.take@noaa.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"EndangeredSpecies Resource" <EndangeredSpecies.Resource@nrc.gov>

Tracking Status: None

Post Office: pseg.com

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	1544	3/23/2022 12:40:07 PM
Surgeon Incidental Take Report for 03-22-2022.pdf		538421

Options

Priority: Normal

Return Notification: No

Reply Requested: No

Sensitivity: Normal

Expiration Date:

Appendix C, Part 2A (Sturgeon)

Photographs should be taken and the following information should be collected from all sturgeon (alive and dead). Please submit all necropsy results (including sex and stomach contents) to NMFS upon receipt. You must also complete and submit the "Sturgeon Data Collection Form"

Observer's full name: Beth Graham (Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. [ECSI])

Reporter's full name: Beth Graham

Species Identification : Atlantic sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus)

Site of Collection: PSEG Salem Generating Station; SGS Unit 2, intake 22A

Date animal observed: 03/22/2022 Time animal observed: 17:25

Date animal collected: 03/22/2022 Time animal collected: 13:57

Environmental conditions at time of observation (i.e., tidal stage, weather):

Air temp. – 14.5 °C; Sal. – 7.0 ppt; Wind –N; sky – clear; Wave – slight; tide- F2(93.0 ft.)

If removed from intakes (trash racks or traveling screens):

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 03/22/2022; at 13:13

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 11.5 °C

Number of pumps operating at time of observation: Unit 1: 6 circulators / Unit 2: 5 circulators

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation: Unit 1: 100.1% /Unit 2: 100.0%

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: Unit 1: 100.1% /Unit 2: 99.9%

STURGEON DATA COLLECTION FORM

For use in documenting sturgeon injury or mortality incidental to a federal action

OBSERVER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: First Beth Last Graham
Agency Affiliation PSEG subcontractor Email Beth.Graham@pseg.com
Address 100 South Cass Street, Middletown, DE 19709
Area code/Phone number (302) 378-9881 (Environmental Consulting Services, Inc.)

SEC 7 UNIQUE IDENTIFIER (PCTS No. Assigned by NMFS)

DATE REPORTED:
Month 03 Day 22 Year 2022

DATE EXAMINED:
Month 03 Day 22 Year 2022

SPECIES: (check one)

- shortnose sturgeon
 Atlantic sturgeon
 Unidentified *Acipenser* species
Check "Unidentified" if uncertain. See reverse side of this form for aid in identification.

LOCATION FOUND: Offshore (Atlantic or Gulf beach) Inshore (bay, river, sound, inlet, etc)

River/Body of Water Delaware River City Lower Alloways Creek State NJ
Descriptive location (be specific) Removed from Circulating Water Intake Structure (CWIS) trash racks, intake bay 22A, during routine trash rack cleaning at the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC.

Latitude 39.460603° (Dec. Degrees) Longitude -75.536133° (Dec. Degrees)

CARCASS CONDITION at time examined: (check one)

- 1 = Fresh dead
 2 = Moderately decomposed
 3 = Severely decomposed
 4 = Dried carcass
 5 = Skeletal, scutes & cartilage

SEX:

- Undetermined
 Female Male
How was sex determined?
 Necropsy
 Eggs/milt present when pressed
 Borescope

MEASUREMENTS:

	Circle unit
Fork length	<u>71.0 cm</u>
Total length	<u>77.0 cm</u>
Length <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side)	<u>3.3 cm</u>
Interorbital width (see reverse side)	<u>6.4 cm</u>
Weight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	<u>1.8 kg</u>

TAGS PRESENT? Examined for external tags including fin clips? Yes No Scanned for PIT tags? Yes No

Tag #	Tag Type	Location of tag on carcass
<u>None Found</u>		

CARCASS DISPOSITION: (check one or more)

- 1 = Left where found
 2 = Buried
 3 = Collected for necropsy/salvage
 4 = Frozen for later examination
 5 = Other (describe).

Carcass Necropsied?

Yes No

Date Necropsied: _____

Necropsy Lead: _____

PHOTODOCUMENTATION:

Photos/video taken? Yes No
Disposition of Photos/Video PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs

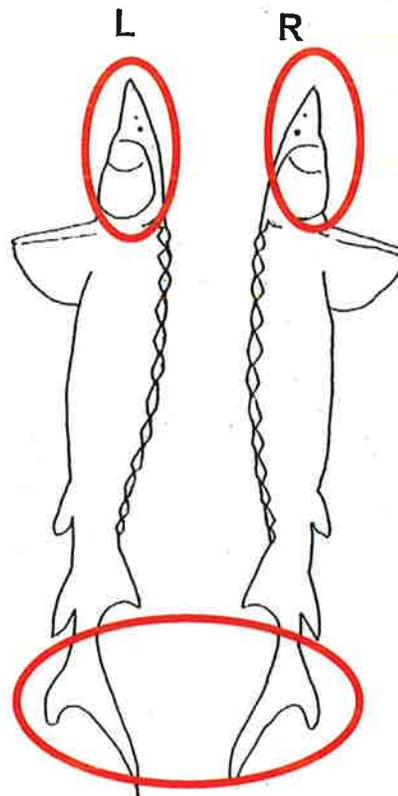
SAMPLES COLLECTED? Yes No

Sample	How preserved	Disposition (person, affiliation, use)
<u>Pelvic fin clip</u>	<u>stored in non-denatured ethanol and refrigerated.</u>	<u>Held at the office of ECSI for aggregated shipment to designated laboratory</u>

Comments: A deceased and moderately decomposed Atlantic sturgeon was collected from the Salem Circulating Water Intake Structure during routine trash rack cleaning on 03/22/2022, at approximately 13:57. After positive identification was made by Environmental Consulting Services personnel, the specimen was photographed and inspected for tags. No evidence of external tags was found, and no existing PIT tag was indicated. A pelvic fin clip was also collected for future DNA analysis. Upon completion of processing, the specimen was placed on ice and prepared for transport back to the ECSI main office, where it will be stored under refrigeration, awaiting direction on further disposition. The fin clip sample has been stored in refrigeration and will be held for aggregated shipment to a designated laboratory.

Draw wounds, abnormalities, tag locations on diagram and briefly describe below

Bones and surface
scutes above the
operculum missing



Bones at the top of the
skull showing severe
fractures. The eye on the
right side of the head
missing.

A laceration observed on
the ventral portion of the
caudal peduncle and
evidence of decomposition
along the edge of caudal
fin.

Describe any wounds / abnormalities (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, etc.). **Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found. Specimen was deceased and in a moderate state of decomposition at the time of collection and observation. The head shows evidence of severe skull fractures, with missing bone and scutes above the left operculum, and a missing eye on the right side. Additional damage includes a laceration to the ventral portion of the caudal peduncle, in the area of the anal fin. Decomposition observed along the edges of the caudal fin (refer to illustration).**

Submit completed forms (within 24 hours of observation of fish): by e-mail to Incidental Take@noaa.gov or by fax (978-281-9394). Questions can be directed to NMFS Protected Resources Division at 978-281-9328.

Data Access Policy: Upon written request, information submitted to National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) on this form will be released to the requestor provided that the requestor credit the collector of the information and NOAA Fisheries. NOAA Fisheries will notify the collector that these data have been requested and the intent of their use.

Photographs



A dorsal view, showing the size and condition of a deceased and moderately decomposed Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*), retrieved at approximately 13:57 on 03/22/2022 from the Salem Circulating Water Intake trash collection basket by Salem Yard Crew personnel during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem Nuclear Generating Station (03/22/2022).



A dorsal view, showing severe fractures of the bones at the top of the skull. Damage to the head also included missing bone and scutes in the vicinity of the operculum on the left side, and a missing eye on the right side of the head (03/22/2022).

Photographs



A right dorsolateral view, showing a missing eye and evidence of bone fractures of the skull (03/22/2022).



A left dorsolateral view, showing some evidence of bone fractures at the top of the skull and missing bone above the operculum (03/22/2022).

Photographs



A ventral view of the specimen, showing the characteristic long rostrum and small mouth (03/22/2022).



A left, dorsolateral view of the tail, showing a laceration to the ventral portion of the caudal peduncle, in the vicinity of the anal fin, and evidence of decomposition of the tissue on the outer edges of the caudal fin (03/22/2022).