

**From:** Cary, Richard H. <Richard.Cary@pseg.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 28, 2023 2:50 PM  
**To:** nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov; EndangeredSpecies Resource  
**Cc:** Corbett, Heather [DEP]; Fehring, Shana [DEP]; Neilan, Brian [DEP]  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Report - Sturgeon 12/28/2023  
**Attachments:** Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-28-2023.pdf

Attached are the Incidental Take Report and Data Collection Form for a deceased Atlantic sturgeon collected on 12/28/2023 from the Salem Generating Station during routine raking of the circulating 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 GAR-2020-02842.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Richard Cary  
Manager – Biological Programs  
PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs  
856-339-1487

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**Hearing Identifier:** NRR\_DRMA  
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**Mail Envelope Properties** (44282b7515354f9fa59fd005ff12449f)

**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Report - Sturgeon  
12282023  
**Sent Date:** 12/28/2023 2:50:23 PM  
**Received Date:** 12/28/2023 2:50:46 PM  
**From:** Cary, Richard H.

**Created By:** Richard.Cary@pseg.com

**Recipients:**

"Corbett, Heather [DEP]" <Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Fehring, Shana [DEP]" <Shana.Fehring@dep.nj.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"Neilan, Brian [DEP]" <Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov" <nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov>  
Tracking Status: None  
"EndangeredSpecies Resource" <EndangeredSpecies.Resource@nrc.gov>  
Tracking Status: None

**Post Office:** pseg.com

<b>Files</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>
MESSAGE	1226	12/28/2023 2:50:46 PM
Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-28-2023.pdf		572102

**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: Hannah Sarmir (Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. [ECSI])

Reporter's full name: Hannah Sarmir

Species Identification : Atlantic sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus)

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

Date animal observed: 12/28/2023 Time animal observed: 10:20 AM

Date animal collected: 12/28/2023 Time animal collected: 10:25 AM

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

Air temp. – 11.0°C; Sal. – 5.0 ppt; Wind –N; sky – overcast; Wave – slight; tide- Flood 2 (95.0 ft.)

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

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 12/28/2023 at 10:27 AM

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 8.5 °C

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

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation: Unit 1: 99.9 / Unit 2: 100.0

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: Unit 1: 99.7 / 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 Hannah Last Sarmir  
Agency Affiliation PSEG subcontractor Email Hannah.Sarmir@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 12 Day 28 Year 2023  
DATE EXAMINED:  
Month 12 Day 28 Year 2023

## 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>63.5 cm</u>
Total length	<u>71.1 cm</u>
Length <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side)	<u>3.8 cm</u>
Interorbital width (see reverse side)	<u>3.8 cm</u>
Weight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	<u>1.1 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:

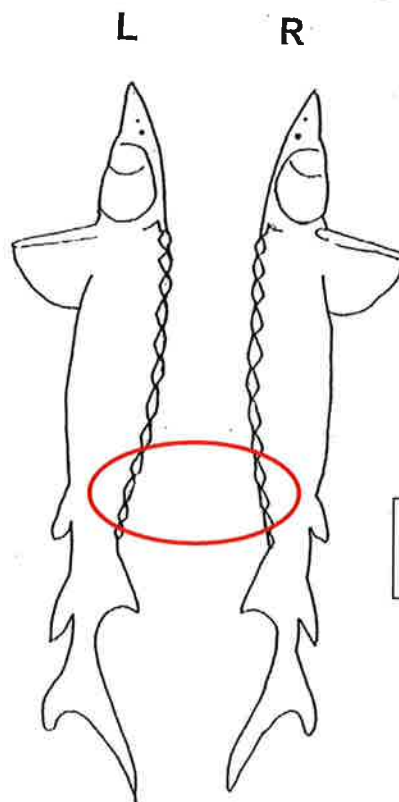
Photos/video taken?  Yes  No  
Disposition of Photos/Video PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs

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, Atlantic sturgeon was collected from the Salem Circulating Water Intake Structure during routine trash rack cleaning on 12/28/2023, at approximately 10:25AM. 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



Open laceration in location of missing dorsal scute.

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 at the time of collection and revealed some minor bruising on both the right and left sides of the torso, as well as an open laceration in the location of a missing dorsal scute, just anterior to the dorsal fin (refer to illustration above). No tags or evidence of prior fin clips were indicated during processing.**

**Submit completed forms (within 24 hours of observation of fish): by e-mail to [IncidentalTake@noaa.gov](mailto:IncidentalTake@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 Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*), retrieved at approximately 10:25AM on 12/28/2023 from the Salem Circulating Water Intake by Salem Yard Crew personnel during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem Nuclear Generating Station (12/28/2023).



A view of the left side of the specimen, showing minor surface bruising along the posterior portion of the torso (12/28/2023).

## Photographs



A view of the right side of the specimen, showing similar surface bruising along the posterior portion of the torso (12/28/2023).



View showing a laceration in the location of a missing dorsal scute, situated anterior to the dorsal fin (12/28/2023).

## Photographs



A right dorsolateral view of the head, showing the characteristic elongated rostrum (12/28/2023).



A left dorsolateral view of the head (12/28/2023).



## Photographs



A ventral view of the head, showing the characteristic elongated rostrum and small mouth (12/28/2023).