

From: Heun Jr, Ronald B. <Ronald.HeunJr@pseg.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 21, 2023 2:18 PM
To: nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov; EndangeredSpecies Resource
Cc: Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov; Shana.Fehring@dep.nj.gov;
Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov
Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Shortnose
Sturgeon 12/21/23
Attachments: Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-21-2023.pdf

Attached is the Incidental Take Report for one live shortnose sturgeon collected on 12/21/2023 from the Salem Generating Station. The shortnose sturgeon was retrieved from the south screen wash discharge sluice. Once it was retrieved and processed it was released. 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.

Thank you,
Ron

Ron Heun | Environmental Compliance and Program Manager
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Hearing Identifier: NRR_DRMA
Email Number: 2357

Mail Envelope Properties (0c91803f5db0490ba4d2d8b83b13de6f)

Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Shortnose Sturgeon 122123
Sent Date: 12/21/2023 2:17:43 PM
Received Date: 12/21/2023 2:18:00 PM
From: Heun Jr, Ronald B.

Created By: Ronald.HeunJr@pseg.com

Recipients:

"Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov" <Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov>

Tracking Status: None

"Shana.Fehring@dep.nj.gov" <Shana.Fehring@dep.nj.gov>

Tracking Status: None

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

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	1285	12/21/2023 2:18:00 PM
Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-21-2023.pdf	439578	

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: Matthew McQueston (Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. [ECSI])

Reporter's full name: Matthew McQueston

Species Identification : Shortnose sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum)

Site of Collection: PSEG Salem Generating Station; Circulating Water Structure -South discharge sluice

Date animal observed: 12/21/2023 Time animal observed: 06:55 AM

Date animal collected: 12/21/2023 Time animal collected: 07:00 AM

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

Air temp. - 2.0 °C; Sal. - 1.0 ppt; Wind - NW; sky - clear; Wave - calm; tide- FLS(94.0ft)

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

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 12/20/2023; at 22:02

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 1.0 °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: 99.6% /Unit 2: 99.8%

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: Unit 1: 99.6% /Unit 2: 99.6%

STURGEON DATA COLLECTION FORM

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

OBSERVER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: First Matthew Last McQueston
Agency Affiliation PSEG subcontractor Email Matthew.McQueston@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 21 Year 2023
DATE EXAMINED:
Month 12 Day 21 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) South screen wash discharge sluice 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 91.4 cm
Total length 96.5 cm
Length actual estimate
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side) 5.0 cm
Interorbital width (see reverse side) 6.4 cm
Weight actual estimate 4.8 kg

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
No tag found		

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. Specimen had minor damage and initially appeared deceased, but was revived. It was released back to the DE River after processing & a brief period of holding to reduce stress.

Carcass Necropsied?

Yes No
Date Necropsied: _____
Necropsy Lead: _____

PHOTODOCUMENTATION:

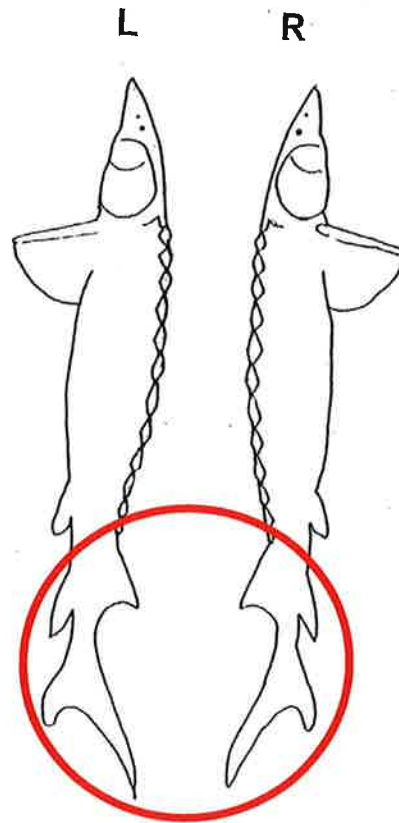
Photos/video taken? Yes No
Disposition of Photos/Video PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs

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: On 12/21/23, at 07:00AM, a damaged, but live shortnose sturgeon was retrieved from the Salem Circulating Water South screenwash discharge sluice after being observed being pinned against existing security bars near the mouth of the discharge pipe. After positive identification was made by Environmental Consulting Services personnel, the specimen was measured, photographed, and inspected for tags. No evidence of external tags was found, and no existing PIT tags were indicated. Therefore, PIT tagging procedures for placement of a tag were implemented. Specimen has been identified with tag #933000320501368. A pelvic fin clip was also collected for future DNA analysis. Upon completion of processing, the specimen was released back to the Delaware River at 09:30AM. 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



PIT tag implanted at the base of the dorsal fin on the left side.

Location of minor bruising encompassing the caudal, anal, and dorsal fins

Describe any wounds / abnormalities (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, etc.). Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found. **Specimen appeared deceased at the time of collection, but resumed breathing after being placed in tub of water for several minutes. Extensive bruising was observed at the posterior portion of the body, to include the caudal, anal, and dorsal fins (refer to diagram above). No PIT was indicated during processing, so tagging procedures were implemented. Specimen received a PIT, located below the dorsal fin on the left side.**

Submit completed forms (within 24 hours of observation of fish): by e-mail to 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 full dorsal view showing the size and condition of a damaged, but live shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), retrieved at approximately 07:00AM on 12/21/2023 from the Salem Circulating Water South screen wash discharge sluice at Salem Nuclear Generating Station (12/21/2023).



Ventral view of the specimen, showing the significant surface bruising observed covering the posterior part of the body (12/21/2023).

Photographs



A close-up view of the surface bruising observed to the posterior portion of the specimen, that includes the dorsal, anal, and caudal fins (12/21/2023).



A dorsolateral view of the head, showing the characteristic shortened rostrum (12/21/2023).

Photographs



A ventral view of the head, showing the characteristic large mouth (12/21/2023).