

From: Heun Jr, Ronald B. <Ronald.HeunJr@pseg.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 1:48 PM
To: nmfs.gar.incidental-take@noaa.gov
Cc: EndangeredSpecies Resource; Dyson, Danielle [DEP]; Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov; Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov
Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station - Incidental Take Report Atlantic Sturgeon 1/29/2025
Attachments: Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 01-29-2025.pdf

Attached is the Incidental Take Report and Data Collection Form for a deceased Atlantic sturgeon collected on 1/29/2025 from the Salem Generating Station during routine raking of the circulating water intake trash bars. The deceased specimen is being held 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.

Ron

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From: Heun Jr, Ronald B.

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Recipients:

"EndangeredSpecies Resource" <EndangeredSpecies.Resource@nrc.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Dyson, Danielle [DEP]" <Danielle.Dyson@dep.nj.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov" <Heather.Corbett@dep.nj.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov" <Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov>
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MESSAGE	1324	1/29/2025 1:48:10 PM
Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 01-29-2025.pdf		428713

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,

Reporter's full name: Matthew McQueston

Species Identification : Atlantic Sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus)

Site of Collection: PSEG Salem Generating Station, SGS Unit 1; CWI 11A

Date animal observed: 1/29/2025 Time animal observed: 09:50 AM

Date animal collected: 1/29/2025 Time animal collected: 09:55 AM

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

Air temp. - 9.5 °C; sal. - 14.0 ppt; wind -SW; sky - clear; wave - slight; tide - Flood slack (93.0ft)

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

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 1/28/2025 21:57

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 1.5 °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- 99.7%/Unit 2 - 100.0%

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: Unit 1 - 99.6%/Unit 2 - 99.8%

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

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

DATE REPORTED:

Month 01 Day 29 Year 2025

DATE EXAMINED:

Month 01 Day 29 Year 2025

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 Hancocks Bridge State NJ
Descriptive location (be specific) Removed from Circulating Water Intake Structure (CWIS) intake trash racks, intake bay 11A, 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>68.4 cm</u>
Total length	<u>75.7 cm</u>
Length <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side)	<u>7.2 cm</u>
Interorbital width (see reverse side)	<u>8.4 cm</u>
Weight <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> actual <input type="checkbox"/> estimate	<u>2.06 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

None 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)

Carcass Necropsied?

Yes No

Date Necropsied: _____

Necropsy Lead: _____

PHOTODOCUMENTATION:

Photos/video taken? Yes No

Disposition of Photos/Video PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs personnel.

SAMPLES COLLECTED? Yes No

Sample

How preserved

Disposition (person, affiliation, use)

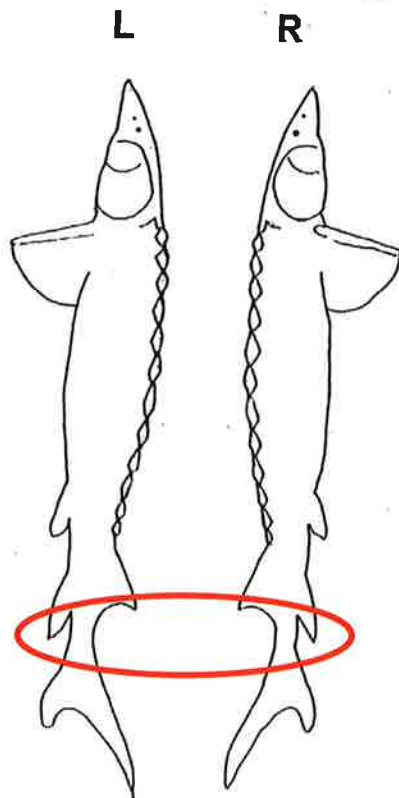
Pelvic fin clip

stored in non-denatured ethanol and then refrigerated.

Held at the Office of ECSI; waiting for further instruction on disposition.

Comments: A deceased Atlantic sturgeon was collected from outside the Salem Circulating Water Intake Structure during routine trash rack cleaning on 01/29/25, at approximately 09:55 AM. 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 tag was indicated. A pelvic fin clip was collected for future DNA analysis. Upon completion of processing, the specimen was placed on ice and transported off-site to the ECSI main office, where it will be stored under refrigeration, awaiting direction on further disposition. The fin clip sample has been placed in cold storage and will be held for aggregated shipment to a designated laboratory.

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



Severe laceration to the caudal peduncle.

Describe any wounds / abnormalities (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, etc.). **Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found.** At the time of processing, the specimen was recently deceased, and exhibited damage in the form of a severe laceration to the caudal peduncle (refer to illustration and specimen photographs), as well as some minor bruising to the pectoral fins and surrounding area. No other injuries indicating a cause of death were observed.

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 dorsal view, showing the size and condition of a deceased Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) retrieved at approximately 09:55 AM on 01/29/2025 from the Salem Circulating Water Intake by Salem Yard Crew personnel, during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem Nuclear Generating Station (01/29/2025).



A ventral view of the specimen, showing the overall condition. A severe laceration was observed to the caudal peduncle, as well as some minor bruising of the pectoral fins and scutes along the torso, immediately posterior to the pectoral fins (01/29/2025).

Photographs



A close-up view of the laceration observed to the caudal peduncle (01/29/2025).



A left, dorsolateral view of the head showing the characteristic elongated rostrum (01/29/2025).

Photographs



A ventral view of the head, showing the characteristic elongated rostrum and small mouth (01/29/2025).