

LR-E13-0008

Dated: **JAN 30 2013**



CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
ARTICLE NUMBER: 7012 1640 0000 4257 4197  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555

**REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF SHORTNOSE STURGEON  
SALEM GENERATING STATION UNIT NO. 1  
DOCKET NO. 50-272**

In accordance with Section 5.4.2 of Appendix B, Environmental Protection Plan, to the Operating License for the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG) hereby transmits notification of a nonroutine event, and documents the occurrence and removal of a shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) from the Salem Generating Station circulating water intake structure trash bars.

Consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) between NRC and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on the effects of the operation of Salem Station on threatened and endangered species has been ongoing since 1979. The most recent revision to the Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement issued in January 1999 exempts the specified annual take of shortnose sturgeon and sea turtles. In advance of relicensing for Salem Station, consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA between NRC and NMFS was reinitiated in 2009. On April 6, 2012, the NMFS listed five Distinct Population Segments of Atlantic sturgeon as threatened or endangered under the ESA. In May 2012, NRC requested consultation on the effects of the continued operation of Salem Station on Atlantic sturgeon. The NMFS issued a draft Biological Opinion and Incidental Take Statement (ITS) in July 2012 that, when finalized, will authorize a specified incidental take of both Atlantic sturgeon and shortnose sturgeon associated with operation of the Salem Station circulating water intake system.

Pursuant to Section 5.4.2 of the Environmental Protection Plan for Salem Station, nonroutine events which require reporting to other federal agencies shall be reported in accordance with the other agencies' reporting requirements. Accordingly, enclosed please find two (2) attachments. Attachment 1 provides the information requested by the NMFS in Appendix II to the current ITS and in Appendix B, Part 2, to the revised draft ITS. Attachment 2 is a copy of a Sturgeon Salvage Form verbally requested by the NMFS.

There are no commitments contained in this letter.

*IE23  
NRR*

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Jeffrey Pantazes, Manager – Nuclear Environmental Affairs at (856) 339-7900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. M. Wagner', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Lawrence M. Wagner  
Plant Manager - Salem  
PSEG Nuclear LLC

Attachments (2)

cc: Mr. William Dean, Administrator - Region I  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Mr. J. Hughey, Licensing Project Manager - Salem  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Mail Stop 0-4D-3  
Rockville, MD 20852

USNRC Senior Resident Inspector - Salem  
Mail Code X24

Mr. P. Mulligan, Manager  
Bureau of Nuclear Engineering  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
PO Box 420  
Mail Code: 33-01  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Ms. Lynn Lankshear  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Protected Resources Division  
55 Great Republic Drive, Suite 04-400  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Mr. Michael Ludwig  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
212 Rogers Avenue  
Milford, CT 06460

Mr. Dave Jenkins  
Endangered and Nongame Species Program  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection  
1 Van Syckels Road  
Clinton, NJ 08809

Salem Commitment Coordinator  
Mail Code X25

bc: Salem Site Vice President  
Salem Plant Manager  
Director – Regulatory Affairs  
Manager – Nuclear Environmental Affairs  
Regulatory Assurance Manager – Salem  
Records Management

# STURGEON SALVAGE FORM

For use in documenting dead sturgeon in the wild under ESA permit no. 1614 (version 07-20-2009)

## INVESTIGATORS'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: First Damian Last Lokuta  
Agency Affiliation Circ Water Operator Email Damian.Lokuta@pseg.com  
Address P.O. Box 236 M/C H18 Hancocks Bridge NJ, 08038  
Area code/Phone number 856-339-1987

UNIQUE IDENTIFIER (Assigned by NMFS)  
Abr090012011NJ

### DATE REPORTED:

Month: 01 Day: 12 Year: 2013

### DATE EXAMINED:

Month: 01 Day: 12 Year: 2013

### 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 New Jersey

Descriptive location (be specific) Removed from Circulating Water Intake Structure (CWIS) Intake trash racks during routine rack cleaning at the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC.

Latitude 39°27'38.17 N (Dec. Degrees) Longitude 75° 32'10.08 W (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 27 cm / in  
Total length 31 cm / in  
Length ☒ actual ☐ estimate  
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
Interorbital width (see reverse side) \_\_\_\_\_ cm / in  
Weight ☐ actual ☐ estimate not weighed kg / lb

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

### 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) Live sturgeon was released shortly after capture into the Delaware River at a suitable distance from the CWS

### Carcass Necropsied?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Date Necropsied: \_\_\_\_\_

Necropsy Lead: \_\_\_\_\_

### PHOTODOCUMENTATION:

Photos/video taken? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Disposition of Photos/Video: Attached

### SAMPLES COLLECTED? ☐ Yes ☒ No

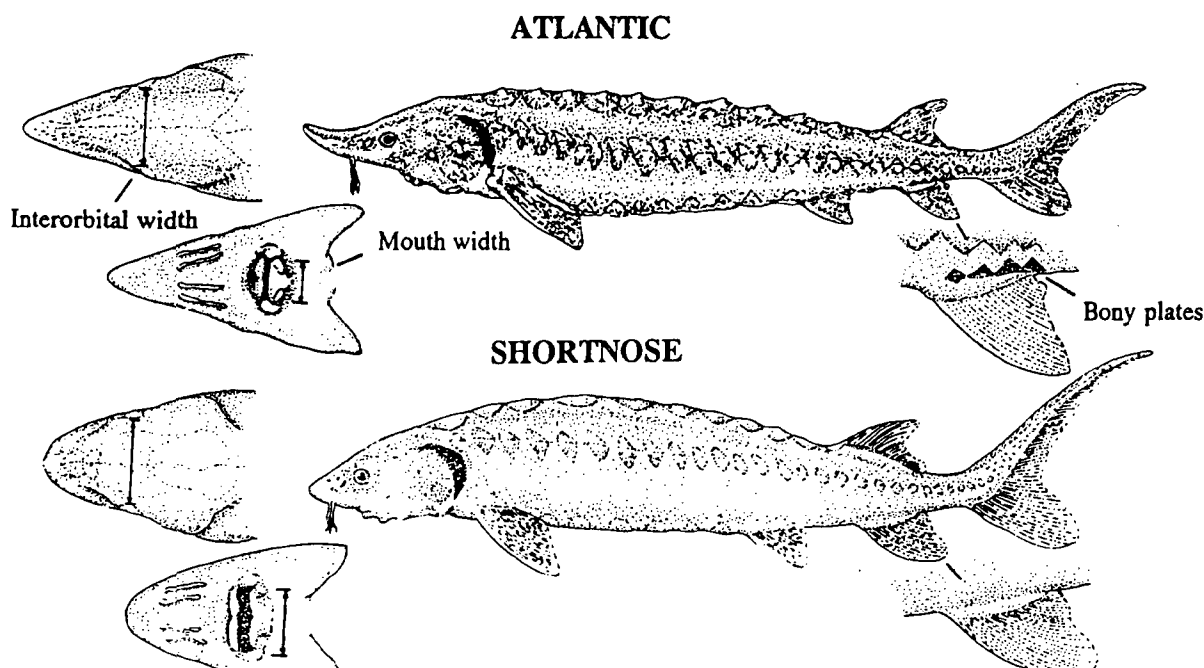
Sample How preserved Disposition (person, affiliation, use)

Comments: Specimen found alive. Specimen identity was confirmed initially and verified through photos. The sturgeon had a wound behind its left, front fin which appeared old. The live sturgeon was measured and then released approximately eight minutes after its capture.

# Distinguishing Characteristics of Atlantic and Shortnose Sturgeon (version 07-20-2009)

Characteristic	Atlantic Sturgeon, <i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>	Shortnose Sturgeon, <i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>
Maximum length	> 9 feet/ 274 cm	4 feet/ 122 cm
Mouth	Football shaped and small. Width inside lips < 55% of bony interorbital width	Wide and oval in shape. Width inside lips > 62% of bony interorbital width
*Pre-anal plates	Paired plates posterior to the rectum & anterior to the anal fin.	1-3 pre-anal plates almost always occurring as median structures (occurring singly)
Plates along the anal fin	Rhombic, bony plates found along the lateral base of the anal fin (see diagram below)	No plates along the base of anal fin
Habitat/Range	Anadromous; spawn in freshwater but primarily lead a marine existence	Freshwater amphidromous; found primarily in fresh water but does make some coastal migrations

\* From Vecsei and Peterson, 2004



Describe any wounds / abnormalities (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, etc.). **Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found. Specimen found alive, identity was confirmed initially and verified through photos. The sturgeon had a wound behind its left, front fin which appeared old. The live sturgeon was measured and then released approximately eight minutes after its capture.**

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.

Submit completed forms (within 30 days of date of investigation) to: Jessica Pruden, Shortnose Sturgeon Recovery Coordinator, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Region, 55 Great Republic Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930  
Phone: 978-282-8482; Fax: 978-281-9394; E-Mail [Jessica.Pruden@noaa.gov](mailto:Jessica.Pruden@noaa.gov)

## ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon)

Observer's full name: Damian Lokuta

Reporter's full name: Damian Lokuta

Species Identification (Key attached): Shortnose Sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum)

Site of Impingement (Unit 1 or 2, CWS or DWS, Bay #, etc.): CWIS Bay 12A

Date animal observed: 1/12/13

Time animal observed: 0941

Date animal collected: 1/12/13

Time animal collected: 0941

Date rehab facility contacted: N/A

Time rehab facility contacted: N/A

Date animal picked up: N/A

Time animal picked up: N/A

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

River conditions were mild, little wind and almost no waves

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 1/12/13 @0408

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 4

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

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation:

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 100

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation:

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 100

### Sturgeon Information:

Species Shornose Sturgeon

Fork length (or total length) 27 in (fork length)

Weight not weighed

### Condition of specimen/description of animal

The specimen was found alive and had a wound behind its left front fin, which appeared to be old, and as a result, was judged not to be a result of an interaction with the station. The fish was released approximately 8 minutes after its capture.

Fish Decomposed: NO SLIGHTLY MODERATELY SEVERELY

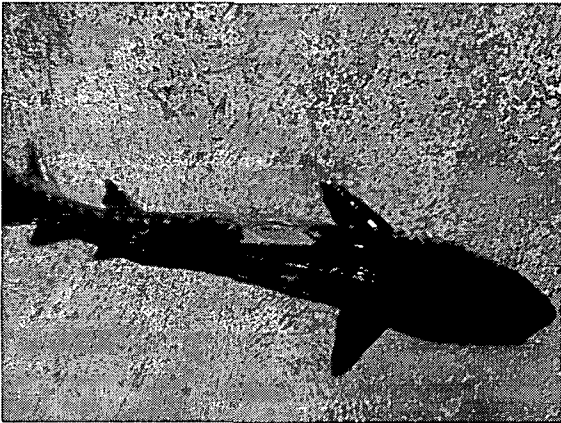
Fish tagged: YES / NO Please record all tag numbers. Tag # \_\_\_\_\_

Photograph attached: YES / NO

(please label species, date, geographic site and vessel name on back of photograph)

## ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

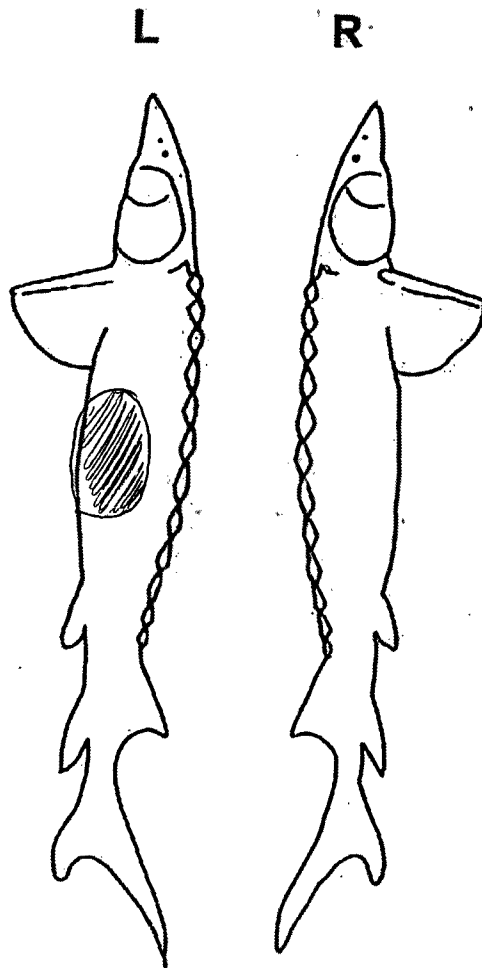
Photographs (if available)





### ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

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



Description of fish condition:

The sturgeon had a wound behind its left front fin, which appeared old.