



LR-E14-0037

EPP 5.4.2 Appendix B

**MAR 10 2014**

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTN: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
ARTICLE NUMBER: 7011 3500 0000 5084 9872


SUBJECT: **REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF ATLANTIC STURGEON  
SALEM GENERATING STATION  
DOCKET NO. 50-272**

The Nuclear Environmental Event Report, "Report of Impingement of Atlantic Sturgeon" is being submitted pursuant to the requirements of Section 5.4.2 of Appendix B, Environmental Protection Plan, to the Operating License for the Salem Generating Station, PSEG Nuclear LLC (PSEG).

Please find enclosed a letter and (1) attachment with further information regarding this impingement event. This report reflects an Atlantic Sturgeon observed and released alive on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Kenneth Strait, Manager – Biological Programs at (856) 339-3929.

Sincerely,

  
John F. Garecht  
for  
Lawrence M. Wagner  
Plant Manager - Salem  
PSEG Nuclear LLC

Attachments (2)

IE 77  
MRR

## REPORT OF IMPINGEMENT OF ATLANTIC STURGEON

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 an Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) 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.

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Records Management

### ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon)

Observer's full name: Kenneth E. Kiess

Reporter's full name: Kenneth E. Kiess

Species Identification (Key attached): Atlantic Sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus)

Site of Impingement (Unit 1 or 2, CWS or DWS, Bay #, etc.): SGS Unit 2; CWI bay 21A

Date animal observed: 02/12/14

Time animal observed: 08:30

Date animal collected: 02/12/14

Time animal collected: 08:30

Date rehab facility contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Time rehab facility contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Date animal picked up: \_\_\_\_\_

Time animal picked up: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Air Temp. - (-0.8°C); Sal. - 10.0ppt; wind-North; Sky-clear; wave-calm; tide - Flood Slack (93.0ft)

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 02/12/14 at 02:56

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 0.0°C

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

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

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 50

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

Unit 1 100 Unit 2 50

#### Sturgeon Information:

Species Atlantic Sturgeon (Acipenser oxyrinchus)

Fork length (or total length) 605mm(FL)/702mm(TL)

Weight 1.1 kg

#### Condition of specimen/description of animal

Live specimen retrieved by Salem Yard Crew during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem CWIB. Data collection was completed by ECSI fisheries technician, who observed minor surface skin abrasions on both sides of the specimen. No external tags and no PIT tags were indicated. After processing, specimen was released back to the Delaware River via the Detritus Discharge Pipe at 08:50am.

Fish Decomposed: ☒ NO SLIGHTLY MODERATELY SEVERELY

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

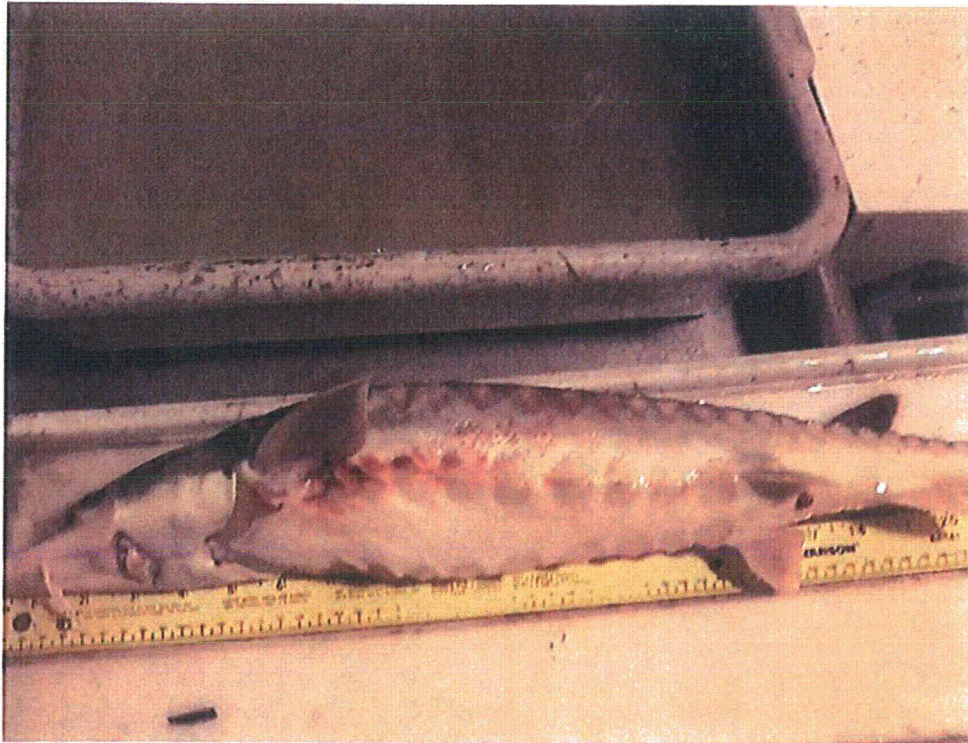
Photograph attached: ☒ YES / NO

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

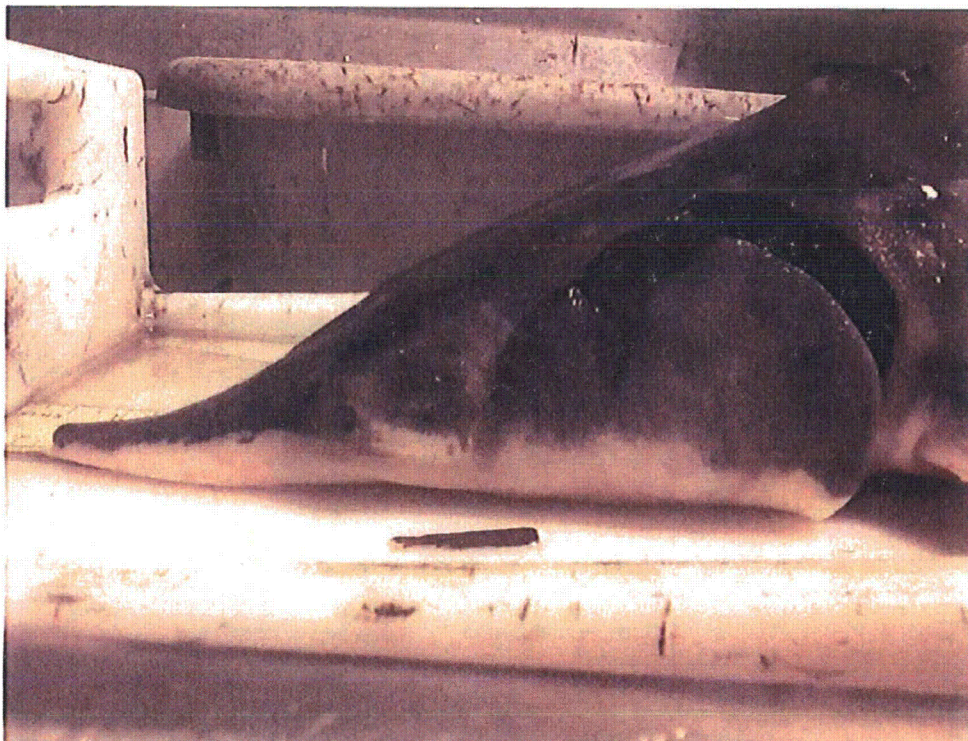


ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

Photographs



View showing size and condition of the live Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*), retrieved on 02/12/14, at 08:30, by Salem Yard Crew personnel during routine trash rack cleaning at the Salem CWIB. Minor damage to the specimen was observed, which included abrasions and bruising to the surface skin and scutes on both the right and left sides, posterior to the pectoral fins (02/12/14).

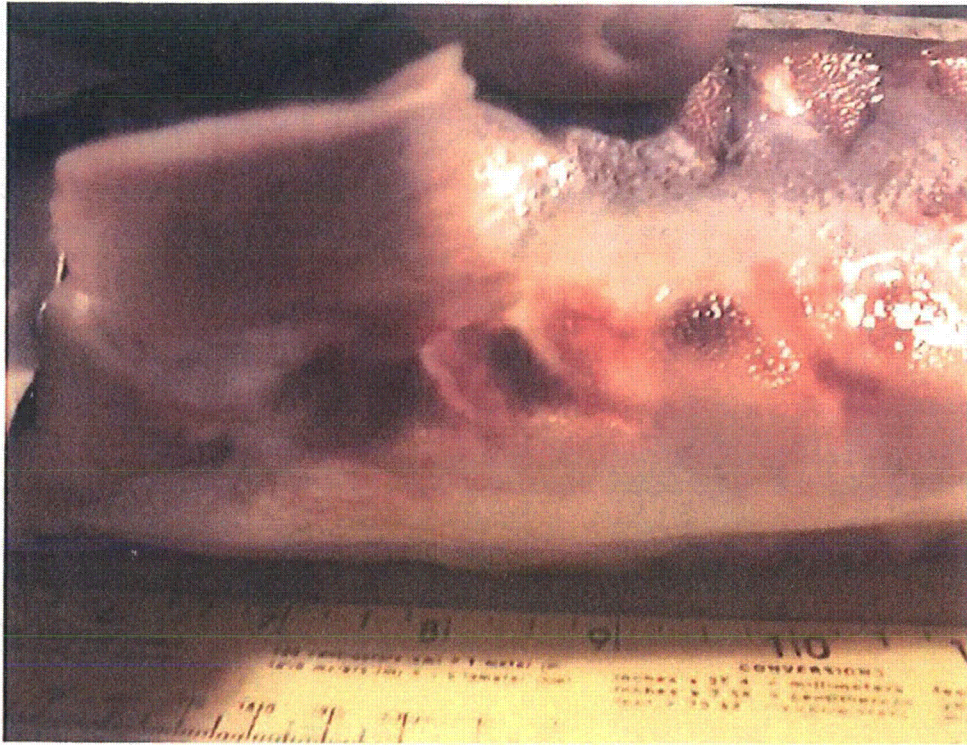


Another view of the specimen, which provides a close-up of the left side of the head and rostrum (02/12/14).



ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

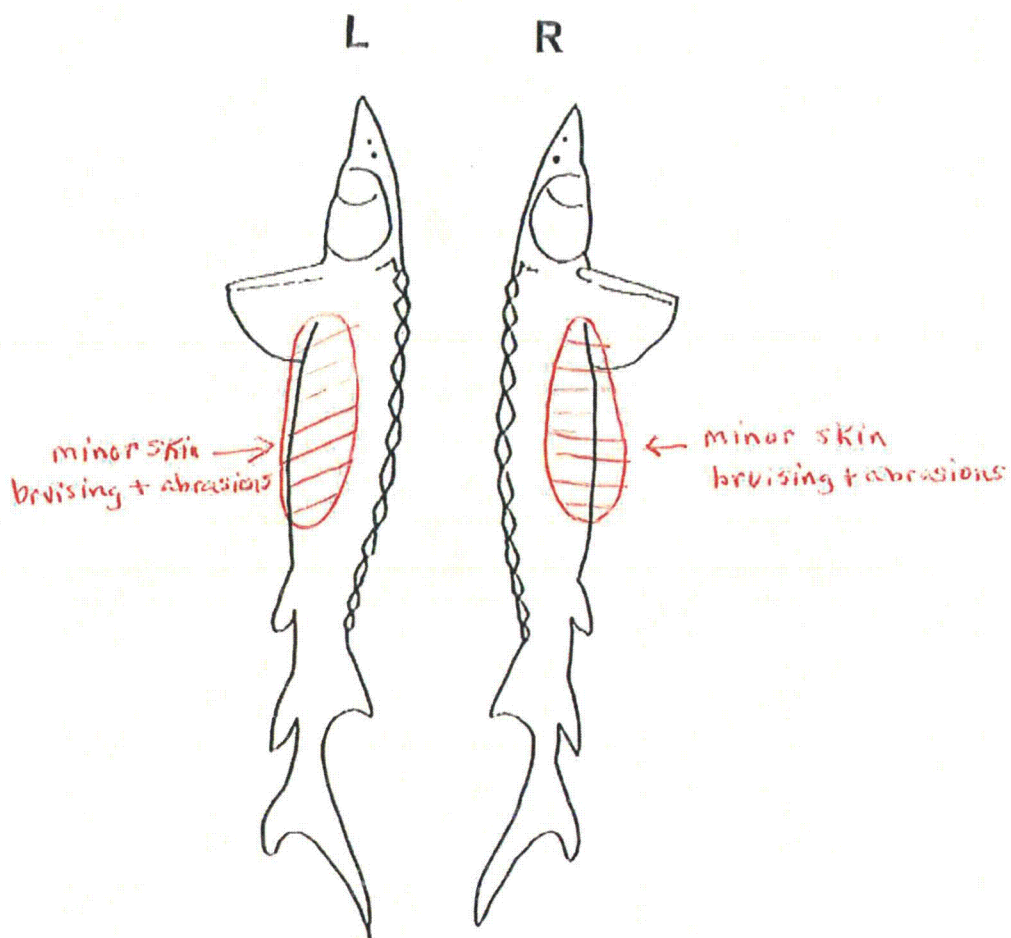
Photographs



A close-up view which shows detail of the minor damage observed on the left side of the specimen. The damage on this side, in the form of minor abrasions and bruising, is most predominate along the ventral row of scutes located immediately posterior to the left pectoral fin. Similar damage was also observed on the right side. After processing, the specimen was released back to the Delaware River at approximately 08:50am, via the Salem Detritus Discharge Pipe (DDP) [02/12/14].

## ATTACHMENT 1 (Sturgeon) continued

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



### Description of fish condition:

Specimen was alive at the time of retrieval by Salem Yard Crew. During processing, specimen was observed to have minor surface skin bruising and abrasions along both sides of it's body, encompassing the lateral row of dermal scutes as well as the ventral row of dermal scutes, immediately behind the pectoral fin (refer to illustration above). The National Marine Fisheries Service was notified of the collection at 09:10am, and the NJDEP was notified at 09:08am.