



**SEND VIA EMAIL**

March 15, 2019  
LR-E19-0036

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office  
ATTN: Section 7 Coordinator  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930  
[Incidental.Take@NOAA.gov](mailto:Incidental.Take@NOAA.gov)

**SALEM AND HOPE CREEK GENERATING STATIONS  
BIOLOGICAL OPINION NER-2010-6581  
2018 ANNUAL INCIDENTAL TAKE REPORT-RIVER MONITORING**

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) concluded formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (ESA) on July 17, 2014, with NMFS's issuance of a final biological opinion and incidental take statement (ITS) for Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Units 1 and 2 (Salem), and Hope Creek Generating Station, Unit 1 (Hope Creek). USNRC Amendment Nos. 308 and 290 to Renewed Facility Operating Licenses DPR-70 and DPR-75 for the Salem Nuclear Generating Station, Unit Nos. 1 and 2, and USNRC Amendment No. 198 to Renewed Facility Operating License NPF-57 for the Hope Creek Generating Station incorporating provisions of the incidental take statement became effective at the Salem and Hope Creek Generating Stations (Station) on the date of issuance, June 17, 2015. Pursuant to Terms and Conditions (T&C) No. 34 of the ITS, this report is being provided to detail interactions with Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species that occurred while performing routine bottom trawl and beach seine sampling in the Delaware River during 2018 in accordance with the Salem Generating Station New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Permit.

PSEG's biological monitoring contractor, Environmental Consulting Services, Inc., collected two (2) Atlantic sturgeon, and two (2) Shortnose sturgeon while performing routine bay wide bottom trawl sampling as required by Salem Station's NJPDES Permit (**Table 1**). All collected specimens were alive and quickly released back into the Delaware River. PSEG submitted incident reports and sturgeon data reporting forms for each collection as specified in the ITS. The previously submitted reports contain additional detail and photographs for all collected specimens.

03/15/2019

PSEG requests direction from the NMFS on disposition on the sturgeon fin clips that have been collected pursuant to the ITS T&C #7 and #28. NMFS directed shipment of fin clips to the U.S. Geological Survey Leetown Science Center in May 2018, but PSEG has not received any results from the genetic testing. PSEG can ship the additional 2018 fin clips to the USGS lab if so directed by NMFS. If no laboratory is available, please provide written confirmation regarding disposal of these stored samples.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.V. McFeaters', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Charles V. McFeaters  
Vice President - Salem

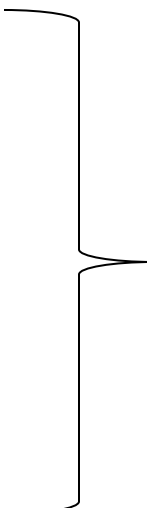
**Table 1 Salem Generating Station  
Summary of Sturgeon & Sea Turtle Collections During 2018  
Bottom Trawl and Beach Seine Monitoring Programs**

Collection Date	Collection Time	Species	Condition	Pit Tag	Disposition	Trawl/Seine
4/21/2018	16:15	Shortnose sturgeon	Alive	#965000000360513	Released	Bottom Trawl
5/8/2018	11:53	Shortnose sturgeon	Alive	#965000000361148	Released	Bottom Trawl
6/12/2018	11:40	Atlantic sturgeon	Alive	#965000000360608	Released	Bottom Trawl
7/13/2018	12:40	Atlantic sturgeon	Alive	#965000000360460	Released	Bottom Trawl

CC Jeanette Bowers  
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