

From: Cary, Richard H. <Richard.Cary@pseg.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 9:08 AM
To: incidental.take@noaa.gov; EndangeredSpecies Resource
Cc: Neilan, Brian
Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station Incidental Take Report: Shortnose Sturgeon 12/28/2021
Attachments: Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-28-2021.pdf

Attached are the Incidental Take Report and Data Collection Form for a deceased shortnose sturgeon collected on 12/28/2021 from the Salem Generating Station during routine raking of the cooling water intake trash bars. The specimen was not retained due to the extreme state of decomposition. This incidental take is authorized under Biological Opinion NER-2010-6581.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Richard Cary
Environmental Compliance & Program Manager
PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs
O: 856-339-1487

The information contained in this e-mail, including any attachment(s), is intended solely for use by the named addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient, or a person designated as responsible for delivering such messages to the intended recipient, you are not authorized to disclose, copy, distribute or retain this message, in whole or in part, without written authorization from PSEG. This e-mail may contain proprietary, confidential or privileged information. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately. This notice is included in all e-mail messages leaving PSEG. Thank you for your cooperation.

Hearing Identifier: NRR_DRMA
Email Number: 1478

Mail Envelope Properties (01db0a2fb17844c1a72f456944e76a47)

Subject: [External_Sender] Salem Generating Station Incidental Take Report: Shortnose Sturgeon 12/28/2021
Sent Date: 12/29/2021 9:08:22 AM
Received Date: 12/29/2021 9:08:41 AM
From: Cary, Richard H.

Created By: Richard.Cary@pseg.com

Recipients:

"Neilan, Brian" <Brian.Neilan@dep.nj.gov>
Tracking Status: None
"incidental.take@noaa.gov" <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 | 1231 | 12/29/2021 9:08:41 AM |
| Sturgeon Incidental Take Report for 12-28-2021.pdf | | 418547 |

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: Eric Reid (Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. [ECSI])

Reporter's full name: Eric Reid

Species Identification : Shortnose sturgeon (Acipenser brevirostrum)

Site of Collection: PSEG Salem Generating Station; SGS Unit 1, intake 12A

Date animal observed: 12/28/2021 Time animal observed: 10:00 AM

Date animal collected: 12/28/2021 Time animal collected: 10:15 AM

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

Air temp. – 5.0 °C; Sal. – 11.0 ppt; Wind –SW; sky – overcast; Wave – calm; tide- E2(89.5 ft.)

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

Date and time of last inspection of screen: 12/28/2021; at 10:17 AM

Water temperature (°C) at site and time of observation: 7.0 °C

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

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit at time of observation: Unit 1: 100.2% /Unit 2: 99.5%

Average percent of power generating capacity achieved per unit over the 48 hours previous to observation: Unit 1: 100.3% /Unit 2: 99.5%

STURGEON DATA COLLECTION FORM

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

OBSERVER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: First Eric Last Reid
Agency Affiliation PSEG subcontractor Email Eric.Reid@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 28 Year 2021

DATE EXAMINED:

Month 12 Day 28 Year 2021

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)
trash racks, intake bay 12A 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 UNM
Total length UNM
Length ☐ actual ☐ estimate
Mouth width (inside lips, see reverse side) 5.3 cm
Interorbital width (see reverse side) 6.4 cm
Weight ☒ actual ☐ estimate 1.04 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

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). Due to carcass condition, the
specimen was discarded into the on-site detritus collection
dumpster at the direction of PSEG NEA.

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

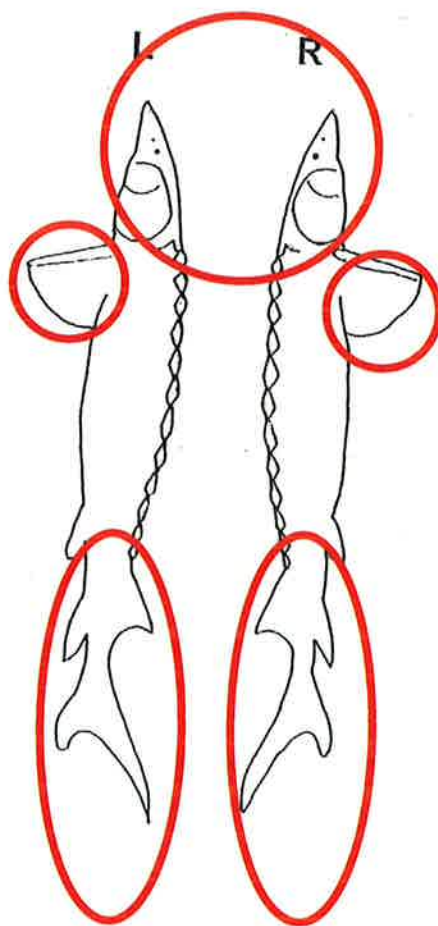
Sample

How preserved

Disposition (person, affiliation, use)

Comments: A deceased, and severely decomposed shortnose sturgeon was collected from the Salem Generating Station Circulating Water Intake Structure during routine trash rack cleaning on 12/28/21, at approximately 10:15AM. After positive identification was made by Environmental Consulting Services personnel, the specimen was photographed and inspected for tags. No evidence of external tags was found, and no existing PIT tag was indicated. Due to the extreme state of decomposition, specimen length measurements could not be taken, and no pelvic fin clip could be collected. Upon completion of processing, the specimen was discarded into the provided on-site detrital waste receptacle, at the direction of PSEG Nuclear Environmental Affairs.

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



Missing eyes and soft tissue of mouth and gills. Skin covering the skull found to be severely degraded.

Due to the state of extreme decomposition, all fins were observed to be missing on the carcass.

Describe any wounds / abnormalities (note tar or oil, gear or debris entanglement, propeller damage, etc.). **Please note if no wounds / abnormalities are found. Specimen was deceased and in an extreme state of decomposition at the time of collection and observation. Due to degradation of all major fins on the carcass, collection of morphological measurements and a pelvic fin clip could not be obtained (refer to illustration). Due to the poor condition, no evidence of the cause of mortality could be identified.**

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 left, dorsolateral view, showing the size and condition of a deceased and severely decomposed shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), retrieved at approximately 10:15AM on 12/28/2021 from the Salem Circulating Water Intake by Salem Yard Crew personnel during routine trash rack cleaning at Salem Nuclear Generating Station (12/28/2021).



A ventral view, showing the extent of decomposition of the specimen carcass. Due to missing the complete caudal fin, length measurements could not be obtained, and lacking all remaining fins, to include the pelvic, pectoral, anal, and dorsal fin, a fin clip could not be obtained (12/28/2021).

Photographs



A dorsal view of the carcass, which shows that in addition to missing fins, the eyes and the skin covering the skull are also missing due to prolonged decomposition. Despite the poor condition, the shortened rostrum and the size and structure of the scutes that remain on the torso are indicative of a shortnose sturgeon (12/28/2021).



A close-up view of the ventral portion of the rostrum, showing the remnant of a large mouth. Decomposition has eroded the soft tissue in this area as well as in the area of the gills (12/28/2021).