

**Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form
Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program
Impact Information and Consistency Determination**

Higgins eye (*Lampsilis higginsii*)

Project Name: _____

Company: _____

Best Management Practices

- All general BMPs, as stated in the final *Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program* and table 4.5-1 of the final *Programmatic Biological Assessment for the Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Program*, will be implemented where appropriate, during each phase of the project (i.e., site characterization, construction, operations, and decommissioning). Although not all-inclusive, one of the more important BMPs for the conservation of this species follows.
- Initiate habitat restoration of disturbed soils and vegetation as soon as possible after construction activities are completed to minimize the possibility of erosion and runoff into Higgins eye occupied habitat.

Species-Specific Avoidance Measures

- Conduct preconstruction evaluations and/or surveys in areas of potential occurrence to identify suitable habitat and areas of occurrence within project boundaries.
- Do not site turbines, access roads, transmission line towers, or other project facilities in aquatic habitat where Higgins eye mussels may be present.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

The identified avoidance measures together with general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species.

Impact Information

Project within county with recorded Higgins eye?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates: _____
Parties involved: _____			
Suitable habitat in or near project footprint?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable habitat:	_____ Miles		
Has habitat been surveyed to protocol?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates of survey: _____
Result of survey:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied (species detected)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not occupied (species not detected)	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

Effects—Explanation of consistency determination with programmatic effects determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" or "no effect":