

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

Rufa red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)

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, several of the more important BMPs for the conservation of this species follow.
- The use of guy wires on meteorological towers shall be avoided or minimized. Any needed guy wires shall have guys appropriately marked with approved bird flight diverters.
- Place marking devices on any newly constructed or upgraded transmission lines, where appropriate, within suitable habitats for sensitive bird species.

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.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the rufa red knot have not been identified at this time. The identified general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species. Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the rufa red knot have not been identified at this time. The identified general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures for this species.

Coordinate with the local USFWS field office regarding new species information or conservation measures during planning stages.

Impact Information

Project within county with recorded rufa red knot as a transient?	<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 stopover habitat in or near project footprint?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable habitat:	_____		Miles
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable stopover habitat?	_____		Miles
Marking with approved bird flight diverters proposed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
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":