

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

**Eastern massasauga (*Sistrurus catenatus catenatus*)**

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.
- All vehicles traveling within and around the project area should operate in accordance with posted speed limits and should avoid snakes in the road.

**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 occupied habitat.

**Species-Specific Minimization Measures**

For projects that encompass occupied habitat or that occur near occupied habitat:

- Minimize disturbance (e.g., mowing, burning, excessive foot traffic) in suitable mesic grassland and prairie habitats, especially during the spring months.
- Maintain ecological connectivity between parcels of suitable habitat within project boundaries.
- Identify and implement strategies to reduce potential for road mortality on access roads (e.g., close roads or limit traffic during migration times, create road diversion structures to detour snakes, or post signs).

**Impact Information**

Project within county with recorded eastern massasauga	<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)	
Species-specific minimization measures employed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Document type: _____			
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":