

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

Pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*)

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.
 - Dispose of excess excavation materials in approved areas to control erosion and minimize leaching of hazardous materials.
 - No refueling vehicles and equipment within 100 ft (30.5 m) of the ordinary high water mark or wetland boundary.

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 or immediately adjacent to aquatic habitat where pallid sturgeon occurs.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

For projects that encompass areas within drainages occupied by pallid sturgeon:

- Employ BMPs (additional project-specific) during and after construction to control erosion and runoff to aquatic habitats.
- Avoid broadcast applications of pesticides or herbicides that may be harmful to the pallid sturgeon in aquatic habitat. Applications should be made by appropriately licensed applicators where required and applied only in accordance with label and application permit directions and stipulations for terrestrial and aquatic applications. Limit pesticide use to non-persistent immobile pesticides.
- Employ measures to minimize the amount of stream habitat disturbance when transmission lines and access roads must be constructed across streams.
- Ensure that upstream and downstream fish passage is maintained in any areas where stream habitat disturbance occurs.
- Avoid actions that would alter surface water flow in occupied habitat.

Impact Information

Project within county with recorded pallid sturgeon?	<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 aquatic 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)	
Project within drainages of occupied habitat?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Species-specific minimization measures employed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

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