

USGS Wind Energy Impacts Assessment Methodology Development Workshop #1

March 20 - 22, 2012

National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Agenda

Purpose:

Identify factors to consider when developing a national assessment of the impacts to fish and wildlife from wind energy.

- Share USGS assessment methodologies for other resources
- Identify data and research that are available on wind/wildlife interaction
- Identify gaps in data for what would be needed to develop a national assessment

<u>Tuesday, March 20</u>	
9:00-10:00 am	Introductions, Review of Meeting Purpose, and Agenda (<i>A. Arnold, K&W and B. Pierce, USGS</i>) <i>Participants will be asked to introduce themselves, identify their expertise and background in developing national assessments, or their background in wind/wildlife interaction.</i>
10:00-10:15	USGS: What is the USGS New Energy Frontier Wind Initiative and what is our charge? (<i>Brenda Pierce, USGS</i>)
10:15-11:30 (including break)	What are examples of other USGS national assessments and how might these examples be applied to wind power? (<i>USGS Staff</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is a national assessment?• What terms do we use?• What variables are studied or used to develop assessments• Are there lessons learned from USGS assessments we can apply to wind power? <i>Presentation to be followed by questions and discussion.</i>

<p>11:30-12:15 pm</p>	<p><u>Approaches to Assessing Impact of Wind Energy Development on Fish and Wildlife</u> <i>Participants are invited to present their views on how to conduct a national assessment for wind power.</i></p> <p><i>Panelists who will help lead this discussion are:</i></p> <table data-bbox="467 415 1349 709"> <tr> <td><i>Taber Allison, AWWI</i></td> <td><i>Doug Johnson, USGS</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Emily Bjerre, USFWS</i></td> <td><i>Christy Johnson-Hughes, FWS</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Steve Brown, NOAA</i></td> <td><i>Bob LaBelle, BOEM</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>John Curnutt, USFS</i></td> <td><i>Mark Monaco, NOAA</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>James Diffendorfer, USGS</i></td> <td><i>John Moore, BLM</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Amanda Hale, Texas Christian U.</i></td> <td><i>Jason Ransom, NPS</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>David Houseknecht, USGS</i></td> <td><i>Dale Strickland, WEST</i></td> </tr> </table> <ul data-bbox="492 772 1409 1255" style="list-style-type: none"> • What would an assessment of impacts to fish and wildlife from wind energy development address? • What is the scale of your assessment knowing that we are expected to conduct a national assessment? • How would your assessment be integrated: locally, regionally, and nationally? • What species need to be included in a wind energy development impact study? • How are these species impacted and how can that impact be quantified? • Are there other impacts, in addition to species take, that should be included (habitat fragmentation, reproduction disruption, invasive species, etc.) and how can these impacts be quantified? • What other questions do you think we should be asking and how would you respond to those questions? <p><i>Presentations to be followed by questions and discussion.</i></p>	<i>Taber Allison, AWWI</i>	<i>Doug Johnson, USGS</i>	<i>Emily Bjerre, USFWS</i>	<i>Christy Johnson-Hughes, FWS</i>	<i>Steve Brown, NOAA</i>	<i>Bob LaBelle, BOEM</i>	<i>John Curnutt, USFS</i>	<i>Mark Monaco, NOAA</i>	<i>James Diffendorfer, USGS</i>	<i>John Moore, BLM</i>	<i>Amanda Hale, Texas Christian U.</i>	<i>Jason Ransom, NPS</i>	<i>David Houseknecht, USGS</i>	<i>Dale Strickland, WEST</i>
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<p>12:15-1:15</p>	<p><i>Lunch served on site</i></p>														
<p>1:15-3:00</p>	<p><u>Approaches to Assessing Impact of Wind Energy on Fish and Wildlife, (continued)</u> <i>Presentations to be followed by questions and discussion.</i></p>														
<p>3:00-3:20</p>	<p><u>Break</u></p>														
<p>3:00-4:30</p>	<p><u>Assessing the Day’s Discussion and Identification of Factors To Develop an Assessment for Wind Power Impact on Fish and Wildlife</u> <i>Facilitated discussion, summarizing what we heard today in response to the questions listed above.</i></p>														
<p>4:30-5:00</p>	<p><u>Review Day’s Progress and Items to Discuss on Day Two</u></p>														
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<u>Wednesday, March 21</u>	
8:00 – 8:30 am	<u>Convene and review agenda</u>
8:30 – 9:00	<u>What Do We Know Regarding Wind Impacts; What Data Are Available?</u> <i>State of Knowledge - USGS</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data are available? • What is certainty in available data?
9:00 – 9:30	<u>What Do We Know, What Data Are Available?</u> <i>State of Knowledge - USFWS</i>
9:30 – 11:00	<u>What Do We Know Regarding Wind Impacts; What Data Are Available?</u> <i>continued</i> <i>State of Knowledge - Others (NGOs, Academia, Wind Industry, Consultants)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AWWI Research Information System Pilot, Dr. Taber Allison • Other presentations? • What data are available? • What is the level of certainty in available data?
11:00- 12:00 pm	<u>Summary of What We Know, Collectively</u> <i>Facilitated Discussion.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data gaps exist?
12:00-1:00	<i>Lunch served on site</i>
1:00 – 3:00	<u>Based on Our Discussion Thus Far, What Parameters Need to be Evaluated in an Impact Assessment?</u> <i>Facilitated discussion.</i>
3:00-3:20	Break
3:20-4:20	<u>Based on Our Discussion Thus Far, What Parameters Need to be Evaluated in an Impact Assessment?, continued</u> <i>Facilitated discussion.</i>
4:20-5:00	<u>Assess Day’s Work and Outline Agenda for Morning of Day Three</u>
<u>Thursday, March 22, 2012</u>	
8:00am - 12:00pm <i>(including break)</i>	<u>What Are the Key Research, Science, and Monitoring Needs for Better Assessments?</u> <i>Facilitated discussion.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are these data gaps being addressed? • If not, what are next steps to address?
12:00-12:30	<i>Lunch served on site</i>
12:30-1:30	<u>Review Next Steps, Who Will Do What, By When?</u>
1:30	<u>Adjourn</u>