



# United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
VIRGINIA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE  
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Consultation Tracking Number: 05E2VA00-2013-SLI-0930

February 25, 2013

Project Name: Gamesa Wind Turbine

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project.

## To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, and proposed species, designated critical habitat, and candidate species that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having

similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan ([http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle\\_guidance.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html)). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gamesa Wind Turbine

## Official Species List

**Provided by:**

VIRGINIA ECOLOGICAL SERVICES FIELD OFFICE

6669 SHORT LANE

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(804) 693-6694

<http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/>

**Consultation Tracking Number:** 05E2VA00-2013-SLI-0930

**Project Type:** Fill

**Project Description:** install a 5 megawatt wind turbine and 3.2 miles of submarine cable.



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Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gamesa Wind Turbine

### Project Location Map:



**Project Coordinates:** MULTIPOLYGON (((-76.01700338 37.26372023, -76.01697595 37.26372043, -76.0170017 37.2637175, -76.01700338 37.26372023)), ((-76.01697595 37.26372043, -76.01691678 37.26372715, -76.0169115 37.2637209, -76.01697595 37.26372043)), ((-76.01691678 37.26372715, -76.0172549 37.2641273, -76.01700338 37.26372023, -76.0266962 37.2636491, -76.0354552 37.2592123, -76.0459223 37.2495113, -76.0491023 37.2452069, -76.0541663 37.2516975, -76.0610285 37.2633076, -76.0470424 37.2654286, -76.0357127 37.2659033, -76.0287605 37.265835, -76.023439 37.264947, -76.0201774 37.2647421, -76.0161433 37.2643322, -76.0158 37.2638541, -76.01691678 37.26372715))))

**Project Counties:** Northampton, VA



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## Endangered Species Act Species List

Species lists are not entirely based upon the current range of a species but may also take into consideration actions that affect a species that exists in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

There are no listed species identified for the vicinity of your project.