

Programmatic Biological Assessment Project Consistency Evaluation Form*
Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program

(for USFWS Internal Use Only)

TAILS S7 Bundle #: _____

Individual TAILS Log #: _____

Project Proponent

Project Name: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 Developer: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC
State: South Dakota City: Valhalla
County: Campbell State: New York
Township, Range & Sections: 126T-77R-Sections 4, 5, 6, 9, 1-, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, POC: John Oldi / Larry Folks
126T-78R-Sections 1, 13, 127T-77R-Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, Phone: 914-260-4964 / 619-380-1393
127T-78R-Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 36

Federal Agency/Point of Contact

Fish & Wildlife Service Ecological Services Field Office Western Area Power Administration
City: Pierre City: Billings
State: South Dakota State: Montana
POC: Natalie Gates POC: John Russell
Phone: 605-224-8693 ext. 227 Phone: 406-255-2810

For actions involving USFWS Land interests:

USFWS Wetland Management District: Not Applicable

City: _____ State: _____

USFWS Property Interest ☐ Y ☒ N

POC: _____

Phone: _____

Grassland Easement Exchange ☐ ☐**Project Description Overview with Best Estimates**

Construction Initiation Date: Q4 2024 Max. Turbine Ht: 551 ft Project Area Size: ~19,000 acres
Construction Completion Date: Q4 2026 Turbine Pad Size: 2,400 ft² Wind Reserve Area Size: N/A
Number Turbines: 33 Miles (km) of New Road: 10.14 mi (16.32 km) Power Generating Initiation Date: Q4 2026
Turbine Tower Height (ft/m): 322 ft Miles (km) Improved Road: 2.23 miles (3.6 km) Project Termination Date: Q4 2066
Turbine RSA: 165,468 ft² Miles (km) Existing County Rd: 15.96 mi (25.68 km)
Turbine Size (MW), Make & Model: GE 3.4 MW model
Collector Lines from Turbine to Substation: Miles Buried: 24.12 miles Miles Overhead: 577 feet (0.1 miles)
To help demonstrate compliance with the BMPs, Species Specific Avoidance and Minimization Measures, a complete application must include maps of the project area and associated species/habitat/buffer zones. Maps attached Yes ☒ No ☐

Land Cover Types Affected

			Acres					% Total	Description/Comments
	Yes	No	Private	State	Federal	Subtotal			
Native Grass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.6	0	0	1.6	6.2		Bauman, P., B. Carlson, and T. Butler. 2018. Quantifying undisturbed (native) lands in eastern South Dakota 2013. South Dakota State University Extension, Brookings, SD
Tame Grass	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.2	0	0	4.2	16.0		NLCD 2019 Hay/Pasture and Herbaceous land cover types minus Native Grass from above
Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	14.1	0	0	14.1	54.2		NLCD 2019 Data
Wetland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.2	0	0	0.2	0.8		NWI 2023
Riparian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	0	0		NWI 2023 Data; none identified
Trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0	0	0	0	0		NLCD 2019 Data; none identified
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.9	0	0	5.9	22.5		NLCD 2019 data, Developed land cover type(s)
Total			26.0	0	0	26.0	100%		This acreage amount is a conservative estimate and based on maximum build-out. Acreage may change with final layout.

ESA Listed (L), Proposed (P) and Candidate (C) Species Affected (Check Boxes)

Plants	Invertebrates	Fish	Reptiles	Birds	Mammals
<input type="checkbox"/> EP Fringed Orchid (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> American Burying Beetle (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Bull Trout (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Massasauga (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> G. Sage Grouse (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-footed Ferret (L)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mead's Milkweed (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Dakota Skipper (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pallid Sturgeon (L)		<input type="checkbox"/> Int. Least Tern (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Lynx (L)
<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Bush Clover (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Higgins Eye (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Topeka Shiner (L)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Piping Plover (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Wolf (L)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ute Ladies'-Tresses (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Poweshiek Skipperling (L)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rufa Red Knot (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grizzly Bear (L)
<input type="checkbox"/> WP Fringed Orchid (L)	<input type="checkbox"/> Salt Creek Tiger Beetle (L)			<input type="checkbox"/> Sprague's Pipit (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana Bat (L)
<input type="checkbox"/> Whitebark Pine (C)	<input type="checkbox"/> Scaleshell Mussel (L)			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whooping Crane (L)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N. Long-Eared Bat (L)

Programmatic Biological Assessment Project Consistency Evaluation Form*
Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program


☒ Project proponent has reviewed the Programmatic Wind Energy EIS and BA, Appendix B of the BA relating to Species Consistency Evaluation Forms, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines.

Commitment to incorporate applicable BMPs and Species-Specific Avoidance & Minimization Measures into the project plan:		
Larry Folks	 DocuSigned by: Larry Folks 400D1EE08D60472...	3/31/2023
Project Proponent (Point of Contact)	Signature	Date

Agency Verification of Compliance with the Programmatic Wind Energy Biological Assessment:

BRIAN PAULY

Western Area Power Administration (Point of Contact)


Digitally signed by BRIAN PAULY
Date: 2023.03.31 14:15:03 -05'00'

Signature

Date

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Point of Contact)


NATALIE GATES

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (ES Field Office Lead Biologist)

AMITY BASS
Digitally signed by AMITY BASS
Date: 2023.04.04 10:48:28 -05'00'

Signature

Date


Digitally signed by NATALIE GATES
Date: 2023.04.03 19:23:54 -05'00'

Signature

Date

*Version 3: March 2015

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

Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

Project Name: Campbell County Wind Farm 2

Company: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC

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.
- ☒ Meteorological towers shall not be located in sensitive habitats or in areas where resources known to be sensitive to human activities (e.g., wetlands, cultural resources, and listed species) are present. Installation of towers shall be scheduled to avoid disruption of wildlife reproductive activities or other important behaviors, and the disturbed area will be minimized.
- ☒ 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.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within the Missouri (including Niobrara River) and Yellowstone River system floodplains or any closer than 1.5 mi (2.4 km) from known/suitable sandbar habitat and reservoir shorelines with nesting, resting, and foraging areas.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within the Platte River (including Loup and Elkhorn Rivers) system floodplain or any closer than 1.5 mi (2.4 km) from known/suitable riverine habitat.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, access roads, transmission lines, or other project facilities within 1.5 mi (2.4 km) of known sandpit nesting, resting, and foraging areas along the Platte River (including Loup and Elkhorn Rivers) system.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 3.0 mi (4.8 km) of alkali lakes where piping plover nesting has been documented or those designated as critical habitat.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities in between any alkali lakes identified with a 3.0 mi (4.8 km) buffer where the outer limit of the buffer zones are less than 3.0 mi (4.8 km) apart.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 1.5 mi (2.4 km) of riverine designated critical habitat or 3.0 mi (4.8 km) of alkali wetlands designated as critical habitat.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

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

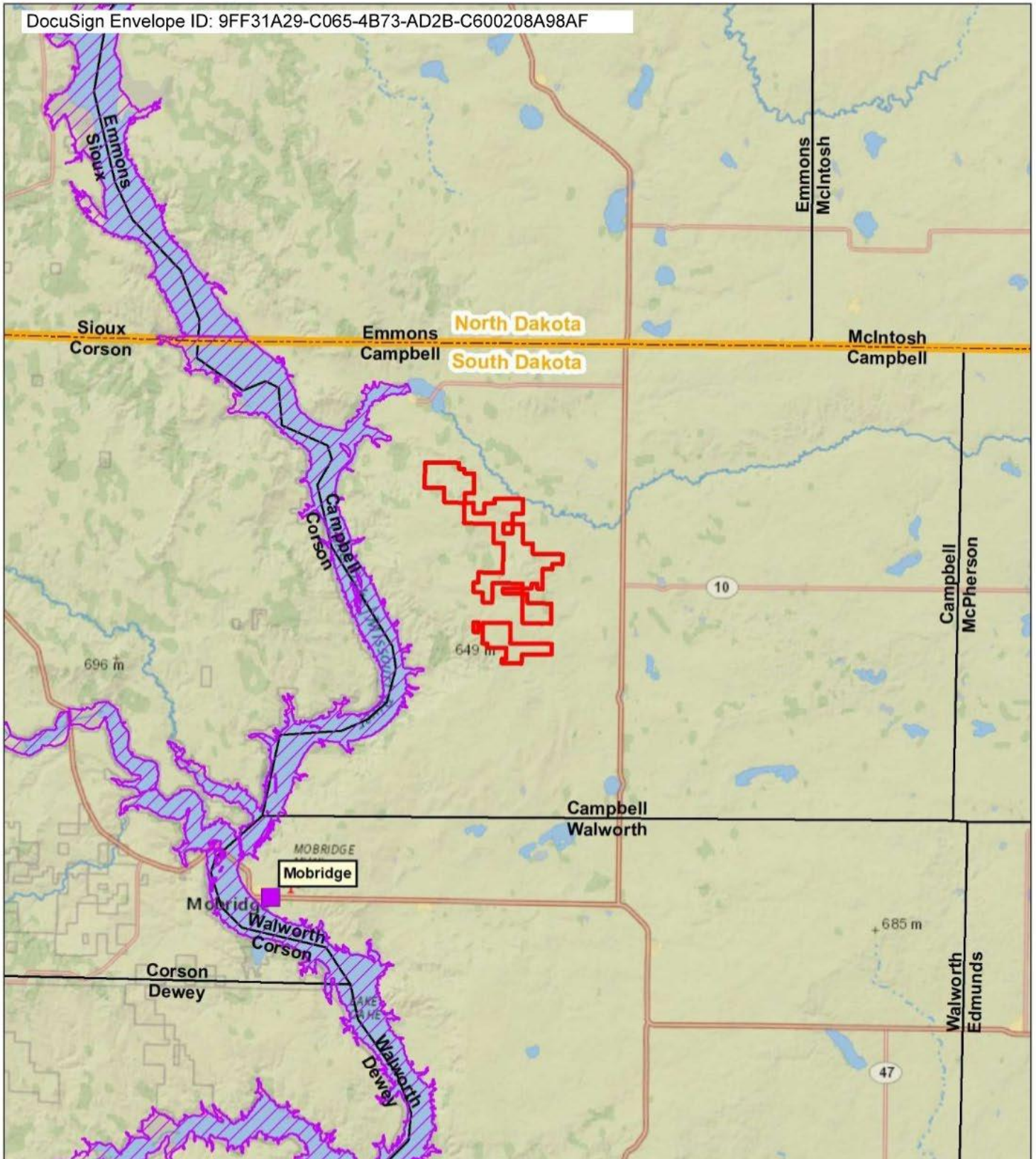
Programmatic Biological Assessment Species Consistency Evaluation Form
Upper Great Plains Region Wind Energy Development Program
Impact Information and Consistency Determination

Piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*)

Impact Information			
Project within county with recorded piping plovers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates: Avian Use Surveys (Jun. 2020 - May 2021 Mar. 2023 - Feb. 2024)
Parties involved: <u>Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC; WEST, Inc.</u>			
Suitable habitat in or near project footprint?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable riverine, reservoir, or alkali lake habitat:	<u>2.1</u>	Miles	
Distance from designated critical habitat:	<u>2.1</u>	Miles	
Has habitat been surveyed to protocol?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Dates of survey: _____
Result of survey:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied (species detected)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not occupied (species not detected)	
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from occupied piping plover habitat:	<u>16.3</u>	Miles	
Marking with bird flight diverters proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input checked="" 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":

No piping plover observations were recorded during pre-construction avian use surveys. The nearest reported piping plover is a 2016 sighting approximately 16.3 miles from the Project (data from eBird, accessed Feb 15 2023). Most nearby reported observations of piping plover occurred near Mobridge, SD, about 16.5 miles west of the Project. The nearest suitable piping plover habitat is the Missouri River (designated critical habitat), approximately 2.1 miles from the Project's boundary. Piping plover may also use alkali lakes but no alkali lakes were observed within 3.0 miles of the Project footprint. However, in dry years, piping plover could occur within dried up wetlands. There is limited (e.g., dried up wetlands periodically) to no suitable habitat within the Project footprint. Bird flight diverters and marking devices specified in the Programmatic Biological Assessment would be installed and maintained on newly constructed overhead lines following industry standards (APLIC 2012) for the life of the Project. In summary, WAPA has considered this information and determined there is a low likelihood of collision risk and determined the Project may affect, not likely to adversely affect.



Campbell County II
Campbell Co, SD



- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Project Area | State Boundary |
| Piping Plover Critical Habitat | County Boundary |
| | City |



Data Source: USFWS Critical Habitat; NatGeo World Map
Coordinate System: UTM, NAD83, zn 14N
Date: 02/14/2023
Created by: A. L. Dahl



**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: Campbell County Wind Farm 2

Company: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC

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

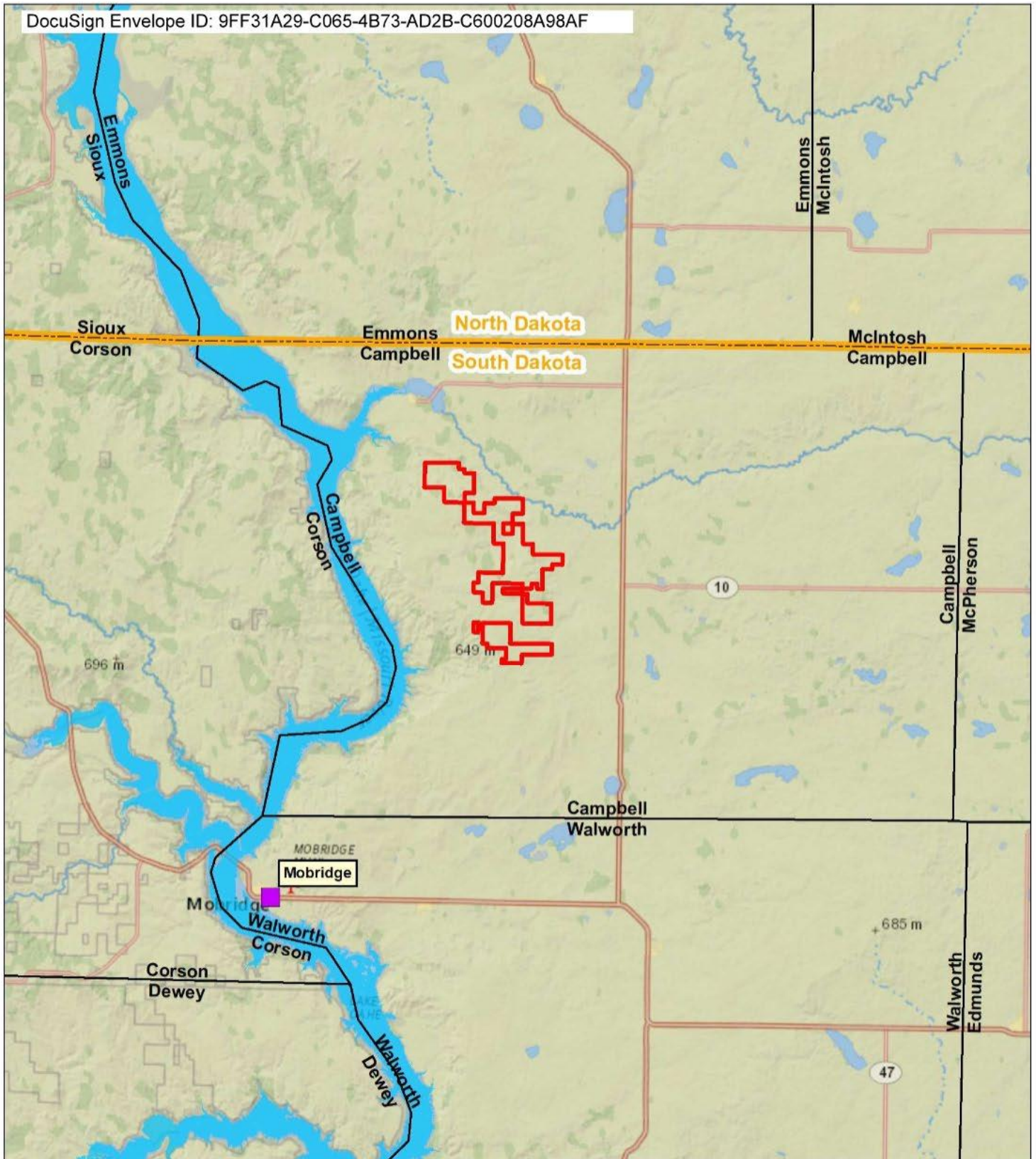
Additional minimization measures specifically intended to reduce the potential for adverse effects on the rufa red knot have not been identified at this time. The identified general BMPs to reduce ecological impacts from wind energy under the proposed program adequately address the conservation measures 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Dates: <u>Avian Use Surveys (Jun. 2020 - May 2021 Mar. 2023 - Feb. 2024)</u>
Parties involved: <u>Campbell Country Wind Farm 2 LLC; WEST, Inc.</u>		
Suitable stopover habitat in or near project footprint?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable habitat:	<u>3.8</u>	Miles
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable stopover habitat?		Miles
Marking with approved bird flight diverters proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input checked="" 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":
Preconstruction evaluations determined the nearest potential rufa red knot habitat is approximately 3.8 miles from the Project's boundary at the Missouri River (see map). Rufa red knot may be found during migration, although avian use surveys have not opportunistically detect them. The nearest reported red knot (presumed to be rufa), was detected in Edmunds County in 2022 and is approximately 28.3 miles from the Project boundary. (Data from eBird, accessed Feb 15, 2023).



Campbell County II
Campbell Co, SD



- Project Area
- State Boundary
- Missouri River Basin
- County Boundary
- City



Data Source: NatGeo World Map; ESRI Base Layers
Coordinate System: UTM, NAD83, zn 14N
Date: 02/14/2023
Created by: A. L. Dahl



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

Whooping crane (*Grus americana*)

Project Name: Campbell County Wind Farm 2

Company: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC

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.

Species-Specific Avoidance Measures

For projects that occur within the portion of the whooping crane migration corridor that encompasses 95 percent of historic sightings:

- ☒ Conduct preconstruction evaluations and/or surveys to identify wetlands that provide potentially suitable stopover habitat and areas of occurrence within project boundaries.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 1 mi (1.6 km) of wetlands that provide suitable stopover habitat or within 5 mi (8 km) of the Platte or Niobrara Rivers in Nebraska.
- ☒ Do not site turbines, transmission lines, access roads, or other project facilities within 5 mi (8 km) of designated critical habitat.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

For projects that occur within the portion of the whooping crane migration corridor that encompasses 95 percent of historic sightings:

- ☒ Place approved bird flight diverters on the top static wire on any new or upgraded overhead collector, distribution, and transmission lines within 1 mi (1.6 km) of suitable stopover habitat.
- ☒ Establish a procedure for preventing whooping crane collisions with turbines during operations by establishing and implementing formal plans for monitoring the project site and surrounding area for whooping cranes during spring and fall migration periods throughout the operational life of the project (or as determined by the local USFWS field office) and shutting down turbines and/or construction activities within 2 mi (3.2 km) of whooping crane sightings. Monitoring can be done by existing onsite personnel trained in whooping crane identification. Specific requirements of the monitoring and shutdown plan will be determined during preconstruction evaluations. Sightings of whooping cranes in the vicinity of projects will be reported to the appropriate USFWS field office immediately.
- ☒ Instruct workers in the identification and reporting of sandhill and whooping cranes and to avoid disturbance of cranes present near project areas.
- ☒ The acreage of wetlands that are potentially suitable migratory stopover habitat located within a 0.5 mi (0.8 km) radius of turbines may be mitigated based upon site-specific evaluations.

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

Whooping crane (*Grus americana*)

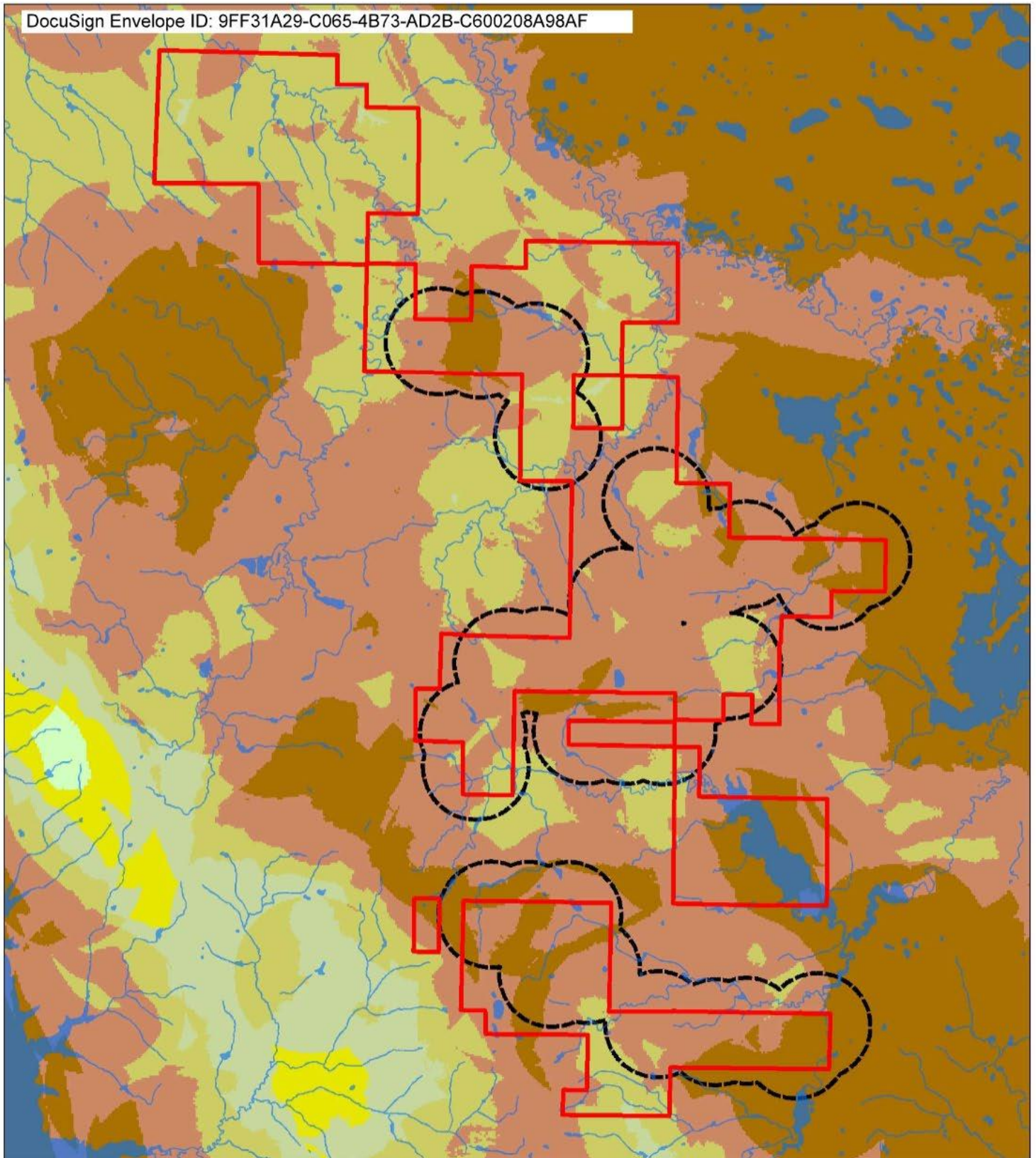
Impact Information		
Project within county with recorded whooping crane?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates: June 2020 - May 2021
Parties involved: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC, WEST, Inc		
Suitable habitat in or near project footprint?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable stopover habitat:	0	Miles
Distance from designated critical habitat?	343.5	Miles
Distance from the Platte or Niobrara River?	193.6	Miles
New overhead distribution/transmission lines proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable stopover habitat?	< 1.0	Miles
Marking with approved bird flight diverters proposed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Monitoring plan for spring/fall migration (copy attached)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Employees trained in identification of whooping cranes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Shut-down protocol for sitings within 2 mi (3.2 km) (attached)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input checked="" 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":

The Campbell County Wind Farm 2 (Project) is tiering from the Upper Great Plains PEIS and Programmatic Biological Assessment (PBA). All conditions prescribed by the Consistency Evaluation Form for whooping crane have been met with the exception of the species-specific avoidance measure stipulating that Project infrastructure not be sited within one mile of wetlands that may provide suitable stopover habitat. We provide a mitigation solution following the species-specific minimization measure in the consistency form that indicates that impacts to potentially suitable migratory stopover habitat located within a 0.5 mile (mi) radius of turbines may be mitigated based on site-specific evaluation.

Niemuth et al. (2018) developed a model that used 13 variables to identify whooping crane relative probability of use across the landscape in North and South Dakota. This probability dataset was then divided into 10 equal-area bins, or deciles, to aid in conservation planning (Niemuth et al. 2018). For this Project, suitable habitat for whooping cranes was defined as wetlands (NWI; USFWS 2021) that intersect the five highest use deciles (Niemuth et al. 2018).

To determine the total acreage of suitable whooping crane stopover habitat for mitigation, the total acres of NWI that overlapped with the five deciles of highest whooping crane use (Niemuth et al. 2018) within 0.5 mi of proposed turbine locations was calculated. This resulted in a total of 133.6 acres of wetlands for mitigation (see map) that the Project commits to fund (including third-party administrative fees) through a third-party mitigation provider within the South Dakota 95% whooping crane corridor and within the top five deciles of the Niemuth et al. (2018) model, or any 133.6 wetland acres within the SD 50% whooping crane corridor. Wetlands shall be protected for perpetuity and may include existing, restored, or created wetlands. These acres will be identified and documentation of receipt will be provided by the Project and third-party prior to project interconnection. Furthermore, bird flight diverters and marking devices specified in the Programmatic Biological Assessment would be installed and maintained on newly constructed overhead lines following industry standards (APLIC 2012) for the life of the Project. In summary, WAPA has considered this information and determined that the Project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the whooping crane.

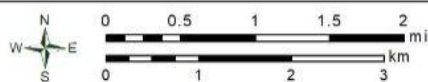


Campbell County Wind Farm 2, Campbell Co, SD

- Project Area
- 0.5-mi Buffer Around Turbines
- NWI Wetland

Likelihood of Whooping Crane Use (Deciles)

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 6 |
|--|---|---|



Data Source: Niemuth et al 2018; USFWS NWI
 Coordinate System: UTM, NAD83, zn 14N
 Date: 03/01/2023
 Created by: A. L. Dahl



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

Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

Project Name: Campbell County Wind Farm 2

Company: Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC

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.
- ☒ Activities with continuous periods (i.e., longer than 24 hours) of noise disturbances greater than 75 db measured on the A scale (e.g., loud machinery) should be avoided within a 1-mi (1.6-km) radius of known or assumed northern long-eared bat hibernacula.
- ☒ Restrict use of herbicides for vegetation management near known or assumed northern long-eared bat hibernacula to those specifically approved for use in karst (e.g., sinkholes) and water (e.g., streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands).
- ☒ Avoid clearing of suitable habitat (spring staging, fall swarming, summer roosting) within a 5-mile (8.0 km) radius of known or assumed northern long-eared bat hibernacula. Retain snags, dead/dying trees, and trees with exfoliating (loose) bark ≥ 3 -in. (7.6-cm) diameter at breast height (dbh) in areas ≤ 1 mi (1.6 km) from water.
- ☒ Develop and implement a Bird and Bat Conservation Strategy (BBCS) as described in the *Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines* that includes survey protocols acceptable to the USFWS in the project area during the spring and fall bird and bat migration seasons. Mortality monitoring will help to identify individual turbines that contribute to avian and bat mortality. This information could be used to provide design layout information for future wind development projects and to reduce the potential for future avian and bat mortality.

Species-Specific Avoidance Measures

- ☒ Throughout the range of the northern long-eared bat within the UGP Region, conduct preconstruction evaluations and/or surveys to identify suitable foraging, roosting, and commuting habitat within project boundaries and to identify the distance from project boundaries to hibernacula known/presumed used by northern long-eared bats. Disturbance of hibernacula is prohibited throughout the year.
- ☒ Avoid all suitable habitat (do not site turbines) in areas within 5 mi (8 km) of hibernacula used by northern long-eared bats or within 0.5 mi (0.8 km) of known or presumed occupied foraging, roosting, and commuting habitat. Habitat evaluations should be coordinated with the local USFWS Ecological Services Office prior to or during turbine site planning.

Species-Specific Minimization Measures

- ☒ A robust survey developed and implemented as part of the BBCS program, consistent with the Wind Energy Guidelines and approved by the USFWS during the preconstruction evaluation and survey stage, will be implemented for a minimum of 1 yr preconstruction.
- ☒ The need for implementation of cut-in speeds higher than manufacturers' recommendations during the fall bat migration period will be based on the following site-specific, project-by-project risk assessments by the State Ecological Services Field Office of the USFWS:
 - During the preconstruction evaluation and survey stage, and based on a collision risk assessment of location of the project, proximity to potential summer habitat, distance to known occurrences, distance to known hibernacula, and suspected migration patterns, the applicant will coordinate with Western, Refuge, and the local Ecological Services Field Offices of the USFWS to determine if the risk of injury or mortality is sufficiently high to warrant higher cut-in speeds.
 - In the event that preconstruction surveys indicate species occurrence or occupancy of habitat adjacent to the project area, higher turbine cut-in speeds will be required to offset the increased risk for injury or mortality. The monitoring must be rigorous enough to meet standards acceptable to the local USFWS State office.
 - When warranted by either of the two aforementioned conditions for specific projects, turbine cut-in speeds will be increased to 16.4 ft/sec (5.0 m/sec) or greater from 0.5 hour before sunset to 0.5 hour after sunrise during the fall migration period (generally August 15–October 15, but consult with the USFWS for the established migration dates in each State) for northern long-eared bats in the western and central areas of the UGP Region. In the eastern fringe of the UGP Region, a minimum cut-in speed of 22.6 ft/sec (6.9 m/sec) from 0.5 hour before sunset to 0.5 hour after sunrise during the fall migration period (generally August 15–October 15, but consult with the USFWS for established migration dates in each State) for northern long-eared bats is required. Areas within the UGP Region that occur east of the western borders of Minnesota and Iowa will be used as the line of demarcation where the minimum cut-in speed of 22.6 ft/sec (6.9 m/sec) will be used. Use of feathering below the respective cut-in speed of 16.4 ft/sec (5.0 m/sec) or 22.6 ft/sec (6.9 m/sec) will also be implemented at night during the fall migration season to eliminate turbine rotation and avoid mortality of migrating northern long-eared bats. Increased cut-in speed and feathering can be suspended from 0.5 hour after sunrise to 0.5 hour before sunset.
- ☒ Immediately report observations of northern long-eared bat mortality to the appropriate USFWS office.

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

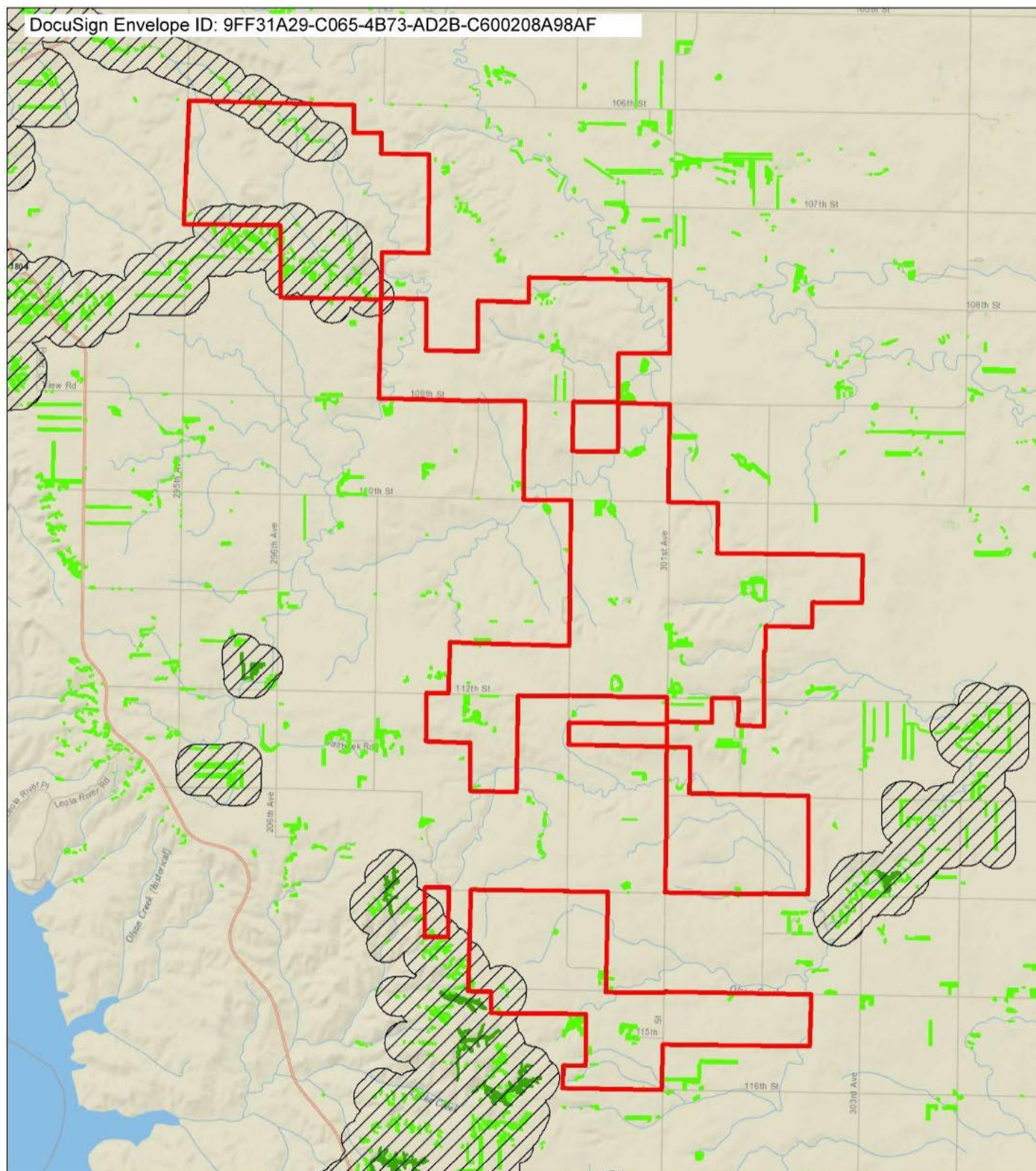
Northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*)

Impact Information			
Project within county with recorded northern long-eared bat?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Preconstruction evaluations conducted with USFWS?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates: Fall 2019 and Spring 2020
Parties involved:	Campbell County Wind Farm 2 LLC; Burns and McDonnell		
Suitable foraging or roosting habitat in or near project footprint?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Distance from suitable habitat:	0	Miles	
Distance from hibernacula:	> 180	Miles	
Has habitat been surveyed to protocol?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Dates of survey:
Result of survey:	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied (species detected)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not occupied (species not detected)
Turbine cut-in speed:	3.0 m/s (4/1 - 8/14) 5.0 m/s (8/15 - 10/15) m/sec		
Map of project footprint and species habitat attached?	<input checked="" 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":

The Campbell County Wind Farm 2 project (Project) is tiering from the Upper Great Plains PEIS and Programmatic Biological Assessment (PBA). Two pre-construction study has been completed to evaluate spatial and temporal patterns of bats at the Project and potential for northern long-eared bat (NLEB) habitat. The acoustic study used two detection stations for 264 detector nights (Burns and McDonnell 2020) between August 5 - October 23, 2019 and April 17 - June 25, 2020. This resulted in 5,322 bat calls. Acoustic analysis separated calls by frequency type (i.e., high and low frequency) so species specific identification was not completed. The second study focused on potentially suitable summer foraging and roosting habitat for NLEB. Suitable summer habitat was defined as patches of trees 10 acres or greater and included a 1,000-foot buffer (hereafter, connected habitat buffer) as recommended by USFWS guidance. There is approximately 27 acres of potentially suitable habitat within the Project area. NLEB migrate from summer habitat to hibernacula in the fall. NLEB have been documented to travel up to 35 miles from summer foraging habitat to hibernacula (USFWS 2022). The Project is greater than 180 miles from the nearest known hibernaculum in Black Hills, South Dakota.

Although it is unlikely that NLEB will migrate through the Project area given the distance to the nearest known hibernaculum, cut-in speeds will be raised from 3.0 m/s to 5.0 m/s during the fall period only (8/15 – 10/15) following the species-specific minimization measures as described above in the consistency form to avoid any potential impact to the species. This would apply to the entire Project. In addition to these avoidance and minimization measures, the Project is committed to one year of post-construction monitoring that achieves a G-value of 0.2 minimum and uses Evidence of Absence to analyze fatality estimates. In summary, WAPA has considered this information and determined the Project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect NLEB.



Campbell County Wind
Farm 2, Campbell Co, SD



Project Area



1,000-foot Connected Habitat Buffer

Forested Areas



Less than 10 Acres



Greater than 10 Acres



Data Source: NatGeo World Map
Coordinate System: UTM, NAD83, zn 14N
Date: 03/05/2023
Created by: A. L. Dahl



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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
Envelope Sent	Hashed/Encrypted	3/31/2023 8:54:37 AM
Certified Delivered	Security Checked	3/31/2023 9:56:00 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	3/31/2023 9:57:05 AM
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Browsers (for SENDERS):	Internet Explorer 6.0? or above
Browsers (for SIGNERS):	Internet Explorer 6.0?, Mozilla FireFox 1.0, NetScape 7.2 (or above)
Email:	Access to a valid email account
Screen Resolution:	800 x 600 minimum
Enabled Security Settings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Allow per session cookies•Users accessing the internet behind a Proxy Server must enable HTTP 1.1 settings via proxy connection

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