



MEETING Crocker Wind Farm - Update
DATE/TIME November 9, 2016, 10 AM CST
LOCATION Conference Call
PARTICIPANTS Melissa Schmit, Patrick Smith (Geronimo Energy, LLC)
Joyce Pickle (WEST)
Silka Kempema (SDGFP)
Natalie Gates, Connie Mueller (US FWS)

- Final survey reports, results to date on ongoing avian surveys, a field map of the current layout shared with group prior to meeting. Follow up meeting will be scheduled for early December to discuss survey results in more detail.
 - Tier 3 Survey Updates
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 - Eagles:
 - Closest eagle nest is located five miles from the Project. No nest monitoring required.
 - No eagle use recorded in the Project.
 - Avian Use:
 - Species list and mapped flight paths provided. Project boundary was expanded to the county line resulting in 4 additional point count locations. Monitoring of additional locations started in September.
 - Bats:
 - NLEB presence/absence study determined no NLEB present in the Project. Further discussion on need for survey in the northern expansion will occur at December meeting.
 - Acoustic monitoring equipment for entire Project has been removed. Results/report expected in December.
 - Dakota skipper:
 - Assessment identified multiple areas of potential habitat.
 - Lek surveys:
 - Spring 2016 survey results previously shared did not record any leks within the Project. Further discussion on need for survey in the northern expansion will occur at December meeting.





- Additional Survey Efforts
 - Wetland delineations recently completed and cultural resources survey currently underway. Will provide results at December meeting.
- USFWS Grassland Easement Review/NEPA
 - The group reviewed a preliminary timeline for NEPA review and discussed steps. USFWS staff raised concerns that data may be insufficient for the EA and BA. Geronimo requested the USFWS identify data that might require surveys beyond those scoped and to identify outstanding survey questions that would yield scientific data other than those already provided. USFWS noted that interannual variability may result in different species being observed. Geronimo does not see two years of data as providing further statistical value and requested that the USFWS proceed with one year data set.
 - USFWS to provide preliminary feedback on layout by the end of November.