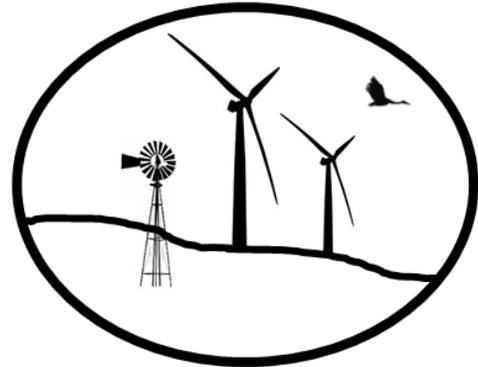


# Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife News

December 11, 2014



## Around Nebraska...



### JOIN US MARCH 4<sup>th</sup> DURING SPRING MIGRATION

Experience why wind energy is not a great fit everywhere in Nebraska. The Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project is coordinating an event complete with observing thousands of waterfowl and cranes in the rivers, wetlands, and fields of Central Nebraska, lectures from area biologists, and time to learn more about how and why guidance materials are developed and projects are reviewed in Nebraska. Send

comments/suggestions to [windwildlife@unl.edu](mailto:windwildlife@unl.edu).

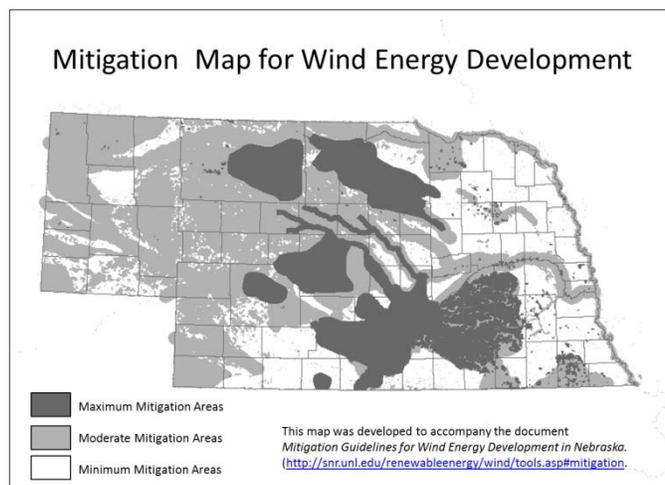


Details regarding the event will be sent out soon!

## COMMENTS REQUESTED: [MITIGATION GUIDELINES FOR WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN NEBRASKA](#)

The [Mitigation Guidelines for Wind Energy Development in Nebraska](#) were developed to standardize the mitigation process.

Wind energy developers will be provided a better idea of what mitigation, if any, will likely be recommended for wind energy facilities developed in different parts of the state. The Guidelines were developed by representatives from a variety of stakeholder groups and now, we want your input.



The document is currently in working draft format. All comments submitted to [windwildlife@unl.edu](mailto:windwildlife@unl.edu) in the next six months will be compiled. Updates will be made in April 2015.

Questions? Contact Caroline Jezierski @ 402-472-8188 or [windwildlife@unl.edu](mailto:windwildlife@unl.edu).

<http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/tools.asp#mitigation>

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**[Crane migration promoted as ecotourism marvel.](#)** The Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska is launching a project to help draw attention to Nebraska's ecological marvels, which include the Central Platte River stop by 500,000 migrating sandhill cranes each spring and some of the darkest skies in the country for star gazing. ([http://www. Kearneyhub.com/news/local/crane-migration-promoted-as-ecotourism-marvel/article\\_be5f3ade-5b82-11e4-a715-130cffbbcae1.html](http://www. Kearneyhub.com/news/local/crane-migration-promoted-as-ecotourism-marvel/article_be5f3ade-5b82-11e4-a715-130cffbbcae1.html)).

**[Approved electricity line proposal to bring wind energy from Iowa to Illinois.](#)** The Illinois Commerce Commission has approved plans to build an electricity line designed to bring wind energy from Iowa to the state. The panel unanimously OK'd the Rock Island Clean Line proposal Tuesday, ending a two-year review of the project, The (Moline) Dispatch and Sauk Valley media reported. ([http://www.omaha.com/news/iowa/approved-electricity-line-proposal-to-bring-wind-energy-from-iowa/article\\_96a5c2f8-75bb-11e4-856f-1734319ee7b6.html](http://www.omaha.com/news/iowa/approved-electricity-line-proposal-to-bring-wind-energy-from-iowa/article_96a5c2f8-75bb-11e4-856f-1734319ee7b6.html)).

## **Around the Nation & World...**

### ***Wind and Wildlife***

**[It's Time for Independent Monitoring of Wildlife Kills at Renewable Energy Sites.](#)** We need to take responsibility for monitoring wildlife impacts of renewable energy facilities entirely out of the hands of the people making the money on those facilities. (<http://www.kcet.org/news/define/rewire/commentary/its-time-for-independent-monitoring-of-wildlife-kills-at-renewable-energy-sites.html>).

**[Cumulative adverse effects of offshore wind energy development on wildlife.](#)** M. Wing Goodale & Anita Milman, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, November 2014. Offshore wind energy development (OWED) is being pursued as a critical component in achieving a low-carbon energy economy. While the potential generating capacity is high, the cumulative effects of expansion of OWED on wildlife remain unclear. Since environmental regulations in many countries require analysis of the cumulative adverse effects (CAE) during permitting processes, this paper reviews the state of knowledge on CAE of OWED on wildlife. We synthesize ecological research on the effects of OWED on wildlife; delineate a framework for determining the scope of CAE assessments; describe approaches to avoiding, minimizing and compensating for CAE; and discuss critical uncertainties. (<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09640568.2014.973483#.Vln7djGoq-0>).

**[Wind turbine warning for wildlife.](#)** Careful planning measures must be put into place to ensure small wind turbine developments do not cause bat and bird population decline, according to new University of Stirling research. (<http://phys.org/news/2014-12-turbine-wildlife.html>).

**[Estimates and correlates of bird and bat mortality at small wind turbine sites.](#)** Jeroen Minderman et al., Biodiversity and Conservation, November 2014. Siting decisions for SWTs are currently made with considerable uncertainty of their impact on wildlife. We combined field data and questionnaire surveys of SWT owners to assess the range and correlates of bird and bat mortality at SWT sites. Based on the questionnaire returns and using a model that accounts for detectability of casualties we estimated that between 0.079 and 0.278 birds, and between 0.008 and 0.169 bats may be killed turbine<sup>-1</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>, equating to 1,567–5,510 birds and 161–3,363 bats year<sup>-1</sup> in the UK based on recent estimates of numbers of units installed. (<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10531-014-0826-z>).

**[Turtles tackle green energy](http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/12/05/turtles_tackle_green_energy.html)**. Turtles and wind turbines head for what's likely to be a final legal showdown Monday in Ontario's highest court. At stake: The fate of a proposed wind farm on Ostrander's Point at the southeasterly tip of Prince Edward County. Balanced against it — the well-being of Blanding's turtle, a rare reptile that prowls the point's marshes and meadows. ([http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/12/05/turtles\\_tackle\\_green\\_energy.html](http://www.thestar.com/business/2014/12/05/turtles_tackle_green_energy.html)).

**[Feds find struggling Western bird needs 3-mile buffer from drilling, impacting energy industry](http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/greenpage/feds-find-struggling-western-bird-needs-3-mile-buffer-from-drilling-affecting-energy-industry-283485891.html)**. A government report with significant implications for the U.S. energy industry says a struggling bird species needs a 3-mile buffer between its breeding grounds and oil and gas drilling, wind farms and solar projects. (<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/greenpage/feds-find-struggling-western-bird-needs-3-mile-buffer-from-drilling-affecting-energy-industry-283485891.html>).

**[Grouse by night: Research precedes huge wind farm](http://trib.com/business/energy/grouse-by-night-research-precedes-huge-wind-farm/article_20501e4d-c8dd-55d8-951d-a66dedc64c8e.html)**. Next year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service must decide whether to protect the greater sage grouse as a threatened or endangered species. A federal listing could impede energy development on this energy hub state's vast sagebrush expanses. One major energy project is tackling the quandary head-on. ([http://trib.com/business/energy/grouse-by-night-research-precedes-huge-wind-farm/article\\_20501e4d-c8dd-55d8-951d-a66dedc64c8e.html](http://trib.com/business/energy/grouse-by-night-research-precedes-huge-wind-farm/article_20501e4d-c8dd-55d8-951d-a66dedc64c8e.html)).

**[Major Bird Conservation Groups Oppose Merricourt Wind Energy Project in North Dakota](http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/141121.html)**. Two leading bird conservation groups, American Bird Conservancy and the International Crane Foundation, have sent a [joint letter](#) to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) voicing strong concerns about renewed consideration of the Merricourt wind energy project in North Dakota. (<http://www.abcbirds.org/newsandreports/releases/141121.html>).

**[Can Birds and Wind Energy Co-exist?](http://blogs.edf.org/energyexchange/2014/12/05/can-birds-and-wind-energy-co-exist/)** Climate change will have major impacts on birds and their habitats, according to a [recent report](#) from the National Audubon Society. One solution is to adopt more clean, renewable energy. (<http://blogs.edf.org/energyexchange/2014/12/05/can-birds-and-wind-energy-co-exist/>).

**[Answers for saving wildlife blowing in wind](http://www.desertsun.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/12/06/answers-saving-wildlife-blowing-wind/20034233/)**. For a long time, non-government organizations, businesses and agencies have worked hard to address climate change independently, each advocating for different solutions, and sometimes finding themselves at odds with one another despite sharing a common goal. (<http://www.desertsun.com/story/opinion/contributors/2014/12/06/answers-saving-wildlife-blowing-wind/20034233/>).

**[BLM rejects application for Silurian Valley energy project](http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-1121-silurian-rejection-20141121-story.html)**. Jim Kenna, the BLM's California director, made the decision, finding that Iberdrola Renewables' proposal would have industrialized 24 square miles of "a largely undisturbed valley that supports wildlife, an important piece of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail, and recreational and scenic values." (<http://www.latimes.com/local/california/la-me-1121-silurian-rejection-20141121-story.html>).

**[Wind energy industry protests bird-kill fine: Ohio House passes legislation](http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2014/11/22/Wind-energy-industry-protests-bird-kill-fine.html)**. Ohio's fledgling wind energy industry is balking at a largely ignored provision of a massive environmental bill overwhelmingly approved in the House this week, arguing it is designed to throw one more wrench into its turbines. (<http://www.toledoblade.com/local/2014/11/22/Wind-energy-industry-protests-bird-kill-fine.html>).

## **Wildlife**

**[New Prediction Tool for Birds' Future Habitat Ranges](http://wildlife.org/new-prediction-tool-for-birds-future-habitat-ranges/)**. A newly developed tool from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) shows how the habitat ranges for select species of North American birds might look in 2075 and could eventually help wildlife biologists make their own local predictions. (<http://wildlife.org/new-prediction-tool-for-birds-future-habitat-ranges/>).

**[Migrating Wildlife Depends on More Than Wilderness, Report Finds](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/science/migrating-wildlife-depends-on-more-than-wilderness-report-finds.html?_r=1)**. New details of seasonal migrations in Wyoming show that deer, elk and other animals depend not only on wilderness areas but on private and multiuse government lands. ([http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/science/migrating-wildlife-depends-on-more-than-wilderness-report-finds.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/11/19/science/migrating-wildlife-depends-on-more-than-wilderness-report-finds.html?_r=1)).

**[Wyoming Migration Initiative](http://migrationinitiative.org/)**. Advancing the understanding, appreciation, and conservation of Wyoming's migratory ungulates by conducting innovative research and sharing scientific information through public outreach. Includes a Migration Viewer. (<http://migrationinitiative.org/>).

**[Study of deadly bat disease finds surprising seasonal pattern of infections](http://phys.org/news/2014-12-deadly-disease-seasonal-pattern-infections.html)**. The deadly fungal disease known as white-nose syndrome has spread to bat colonies throughout eastern North America over the past seven years, causing bat populations to crash, with several species now at risk of extinction. The devastating impact of this disease is due in part to the seasonal dynamics of infection and transmission, according to a new study led by scientists at the University of California, Santa Cruz. (<http://phys.org/news/2014-12-deadly-disease-seasonal-pattern-infections.html>).

**[Host and pathogen ecology drive the seasonal dynamics of a fungal disease, white-nose syndrome](http://rsob.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/282/1799/20142335)**. Kate E. Langwig et al., The Royal Society, December 2014. Our study is the first, to the best of our knowledge, to describe the seasonality of transmission in this emerging wildlife disease. The timing of infection and fungal growth resulted in maximal population impacts, but only moderate rates of spatial spread. (<http://rsob.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/282/1799/20142335>).

## Wind

**[De-icing system targets wind farm efficiency in cold climates](http://www.gizmag.com/windheat-wind-turbine-deicing/35059/)**. Given that the stereotypical image of the world's northern regions involves howling winds, why don't we see more wind turbines in such places? Well, it's largely because those turbines' blades would ice up a lot. The European Union Windheat Project is aiming to change that, with a carbon nanotube-based de-icing system. (<http://www.gizmag.com/windheat-wind-turbine-deicing/35059/>).

**[Green-e Launches New Green-e Direct Renewable Energy Certification Option](http://3blmedia.com/News/Green-e-Launches-New-Green-e-Direct-Renewable-Energy-Certification-Option)**. Center for Resource Solutions today announced the launch of a new Green-e® certification option designed for organizations that build generation themselves or contract for renewable energy directly from clean generation facilities. Apple Inc. is the first company to participate in Green-e Direct. Green-e is certifying the energy that Apple generates and purchases directly from solar, wind, and geothermal sources. Apple does this to meet its renewable energy goals—which include 100% renewable energy for all US Apple-owned and -operated facilities, including corporate facilities, retail stores, and data centers. (<http://3blmedia.com/News/Green-e-Launches-New-Green-e-Direct-Renewable-Energy-Certification-Option>).

**[Siemens' Wind Farm Life Cycle Assessments](http://www.energymatters.com.au/renewable-news/siemens-wind-lca-em4573/)**. German wind energy company Siemens has published detailed performance data covering CO2 savings and payback times for both geared and direct drive wind turbines in offshore and onshore projects. (<http://www.energymatters.com.au/renewable-news/siemens-wind-lca-em4573/>)

## Other

**[Secretary Jewell Announces New Tools to Help Communities Build Resilience to Climate Change](http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-new-tools-to-help-communities-build-resilience-to-climate-change.cfm)**. As Part of Climate Action Plan, Secretary Highlights New Dataset Hubs, Other Ecosystem Tools and Global Map at International ACES Conference. (<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-new-tools-to-help-communities-build-resilience-to-climate-change.cfm>).

**[Unleashing Climate Data and Innovation for more Resilient Ecosystems](http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/12/09/unleashing-climate-data-and-innovation-more-resilient-ecosystems)**. Today, in an important milestone to help achieve this goal, the Department of Interior and other Executive Branch agencies and offices are releasing, on [climate.data.gov](http://climate.data.gov), new troves of government data on water and ecosystems, as well as new geospatial tools, as part of the President's Climate Data Initiative. (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/12/09/unleashing-climate-data-and-innovation-more-resilient-ecosystems>).

**[Infographic: Global Impacts with Irreversible Changes](http://breakingenergy.com/2014/12/04/infographic-global-impacts-with-irreversible-changes/)**. The [World Bank infographic](http://breakingenergy.com/2014/12/04/infographic-global-impacts-with-irreversible-changes/) provides a great overview of the main talking points along with recommendations of how to avoid "many of the worst projected climate impacts." (<http://breakingenergy.com/2014/12/04/infographic-global-impacts-with-irreversible-changes/>).

**[Save Two Birds with One Film](http://www.windowfilmmag.com/2014/09/save-two-birds-with-one-film/)**. Bird collisions with windows is often noted as a source of bird mortality during wind energy conversations. A growing number of consumers are purchasing specialty window film not only for its energy-saving qualities, but also its bird-saving capacity. (<http://www.windowfilmmag.com/2014/09/save-two-birds-with-one-film/>).

### **Webinars**

**[Tools For Sharing Information and Mapping Biodiversity](https://nationalwind.org/research/webinars/#sthash.VZD7CYid.dpuf)**. NWCC/AWWI hosts quarterly webinars on the latest research and tools related to the interactions of wind energy, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. Previous webinars are available online. (<https://nationalwind.org/research/webinars/#sthash.VZD7CYid.dpuf>).

**[MOWII Webinar: Case Studies of Wind related to Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle](http://www.mainewindindustry.com/Webinars)**. Brooke Barnes from Stantec Consulting and Juliet Browne from the law firm of Verrill Dana will review the permitting and legal issues regarding the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. This webinar was held on October 22, 2014. Recordings will be available. (<http://www.mainewindindustry.com/Webinars>).

### **Announcements**

**[U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reopens comment period on proposal to list the northern long-eared bat as endangered](http://www.kxlo-kbcm.com/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3785:u-s-fish-and-wildlife-service-reopens-comment-period-on-proposal-to-list-the-northern-long-eared-bat-as-endangered)**. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is reopening the public comment period on a proposal to list the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Comments will be accepted through Dec. 18, 2014. The Service is reopening the comment period to alert the public to additional information provided by state conservation agencies within the range of the species. The Service will consider this information, and all information received previously, while determining whether the northern long-eared bat warrants listing under the Endangered Species Act. Reopening of the comment period will allow the public to provide comments on the proposed rule in light of that additional information. A final decision on the proposal is due on April 2, 2015. ([http://www.kxlo-kbcm.com/site/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=3785:u-s-fish-and-wildlife-service-reopens-comment-period-on-proposal-to-list-the-northern-long-eared-bat-as-endangered&catid=9:sports-news-pod&Itemid=116](http://www.kxlo-kbcm.com/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3785:u-s-fish-and-wildlife-service-reopens-comment-period-on-proposal-to-list-the-northern-long-eared-bat-as-endangered&catid=9:sports-news-pod&Itemid=116)).

**[Comment period extended for draft desert plan](http://www.vvdailypress.com/article/20141113/NEWS/141119895)**. In response to public requests, the Renewable Energy Action Team is extending the public comment period for the draft Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for 45 days. (<http://www.vvdailypress.com/article/20141113/NEWS/141119895>).

**[DE-FOA-0001209: NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT NO. DE-FOA-0001181: WIND ENERGY BAT IMPACT MINIMIZATION TECHNOLOGIES AND FIELD TESTING OPPORTUNITIES](#)**. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Wind and Water Power Technologies Office, a Funding Opportunity

Announcement (FOA) entitled “Wind Energy Bat Impact Minimization Technologies and Field Testing Opportunities.” To address and minimize the regulatory and financial risks associated with wind power development in locations with sensitive bat species, the Department of Energy’s Wind and Water Power Technologies Office (WWPTO) seeks through this FOA to fund projects that advance the technical and commercial readiness of bat impact mitigation and minimization technologies including, but not limited to, bat deterrents and operational changes that have a high likelihood of reducing bat mortality at a facility. (<https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/default.aspx#Foald3002686f-4076-4afc-a1c9-44dda5ddf688>).

**[BLM Seeks Comments on Competitive Offering Lands Processes for Solar and Wind Energy Development Regulations](#)**. Please submit comments on or before December 1, 2014 . The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes to amend existing regulations to facilitate responsible solar and wind energy development and to receive fair market value for such development. The proposed rule would promote the use of preferred areas for solar and wind energy development and establish competitive processes, terms, and conditions (including rental and bonding requirements) for solar and wind energy development rights-of-way both inside and outside these preferred areas. (<http://www.renewablesbiz.com/article/14/10/blm-seeks-comments-competitive-offering-lands-processes-solar-and-wind-energy-development-regulations>).

### **Upcoming Conferences**

**[2015 Nebraska Chapter of The Wildlife Society \(NETWS\) Annual Meeting](#)** will be in Ogallala, NE on February 26, 2015. (<http://drupal.wildlife.org/nebraska/>).

**[Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference](#)** will be in Indianapolis, IN on February 8-11, 2015. (<http://www.midwestfw.org/index.html>).

**[AWEA Wind Project Siting Seminar](#)** will be in Austin, TX on March 10-11, 2015. (<http://www.awea.org/events/Event.aspx?EventID=30886&SubSectionID=6678&navItemNumber=656>).

**[Conference on Wind energy and Wildlife Impacts](#)** will be in Berlin, Germany, March 10-12, 2015. (<http://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/>). Presentation titles are now available at: [http://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/menue/oral\\_poster\\_presentations/parameter/en/](http://www.cww2015.tu-berlin.de/menue/oral_poster_presentations/parameter/en/).

**[The Effects of Noise on Aquatic Life](#)**. The fourth International Conference on "The Effects of Noise on Aquatic Life" will take place in Dublin, Ireland, July 10-16, 2016. (<http://www.an2016.org/>).

### **Tools**

**[U.S. Climate Resilience Tool](#)**. The U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit provides scientific tools, information, and expertise to help people manage their climate-related risks and opportunities, and improve their resilience to extreme events. The site is designed to serve interested citizens, communities, businesses, resource managers, planners, and policy leaders at all levels of government. (<http://toolkit.climate.gov/>).

**[Soaring Bird Sensitivity Map: A planning tool for wind energy and other sectors](#)**. The Soaring Bird [Sensitivity Map tool](#) has been designed to provide developers, planning authorities and other interested stakeholders access to information on the distribution of soaring bird species along the Rift Valley / Red Sea flyway. This information can help to inform decisions on the safe siting of new developments, such as wind farms, ensuring that negative impacts on this important migration route are minimised. (<http://migratorysoaringbirds.undp.birdlife.org/en/sensitivity-map>).

**[Energy Department, NREL Release State and Local Energy Data Tool](#)**. DOE and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recently released

[tool](#) that provides state and local decision makers easy access to energy data specific to their location. The resources and data provided can be used to support strategic energy planning processes and deployment of clean energy projects. By entering a city and state or ZIP code into the SLED tool, users can see how their current electricity prices compare to the state and national averages, learn about applicable policies and incentives that could affect clean energy projects in their state, find available renewable energy resources, get details on alternative transportation fuel costs, and more. (<http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/sled/#/>).

**[WINDEXchange](#)** is the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Wind Program's hub of stakeholder engagement and outreach activities. The purpose of WINDEXchange is to help communities weigh the benefits and costs of wind energy, understand the deployment process, and make wind development decisions supported by the best available science and other fact-based information. (<http://energy.gov/eere/wind/windexchange>).

**[National Assessment of Ecosystem Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes](#)**. View and download the primary data that has been developed by the USGS team in a variety of formats using the [LandCarbon Data Tool](#). Visualize data products, view and interact with maps, charts, and statistics that summarize the results of the USGS assessment. ([http://www.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/land\\_carbon/Data.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/land_carbon/Data.asp)). \*\*NOTE: Data on carbon sequestration for the ecoregions in Nebraska are not yet available. Other information is available to view at this time.

**[EISPC EZ Mapping Tool](#)**. The EISPC Energy Zones Mapping Tool is a free online mapping tool to identify potential clean energy resource areas within the Eastern Transmission Interconnection. (<https://eispc tools.anl.gov/>).

**[National Climate Change Viewer](#)**. The new tool gives citizens and resource managers the opportunity to look at climate-driven impacts on watersheds and map projected changes at the local, regional, state and watershed levels. ([http://www.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/clu\\_rd/nccv.asp](http://www.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/clu_rd/nccv.asp)).

**[National Wetlands Database, interactive mapping tool completed](#)**. To coincide with American Wetlands Month, which begins May 1, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is announcing the completion of the most comprehensive and detailed U.S. wetland data set ever produced, capping a 35-year effort by the Service to map the extent of the nation's wetlands. The Wetlands Inventory Mapper (<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>) has digitally mapped and made publically available wetlands in the lower 48 states, Hawaii and dependent territories, as well as 35 % of Alaska. (<http://www.agprofessional.com/news/National-Wetlands-Database-interactive-mapping-tool-completed--257553181.html>).

**[National Wind Coordinating Collaborative \(NWCC\) Webinars on the Latest Wind-Wildlife Research and Tools](#)**. NWCC/AWWI hosts quarterly webinars on the latest research and tools related to the interactions of wind energy, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. The webinars include time for questions after each presentation. To receive the access information for upcoming webinars, please sign up. If you are interested in sharing your work on a webinar, please contact [Ian Evans](#). (<http://nationalwind.org/research/webinars/>).

**[USGS Interactive Windfarm Mapper](#)**. The USGS created this publicly available [national dataset](#) and [interactive mapping application](#) of wind turbines. This dataset is built with publicly available data, as well as searching for and identifying individual wind turbines using satellite imagery. The locations of all wind

turbines, including the publicly available datasets, were visually verified with high-resolution remote imagery to within plus or minus 10 meters. (<http://eerscmap.usgs.gov/windfarm/>).

**[Developing a Research Framework for Increasing Understanding of Interactions between Eagles and Wind Energy](#)**. In this document, we outline a framework for a national, hypothesis-driven research program on eagles and wind energy. The principal goals of this framework are to guide research that improves our ability to predict and estimate take of eagles at wind energy facilities, to develop measures intended to avoid and minimize the take of eagles at operating wind energy facilities, and to compensate for, or offset, remaining eagle take. ([http://awwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/AWWI-Eagle-Research-Framework\\_Final-01-23-14.pdf](http://awwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/AWWI-Eagle-Research-Framework_Final-01-23-14.pdf)).

**[Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines Webinar Series](#)**. The USFWS has offered a number of webinars related to the Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines. Recordings of the webinars, presentations, and transcripts are available at: [http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/wind\\_training/wind\\_training.html](http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/wind_training/wind_training.html).

**The Wildlife Society Renewable Energy Working Group – LinkedIn**. Connect with other resource professionals involved in renewable energy – wildlife work. To join, go to: [http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4433729&trk=my\\_groups-b-grp-v](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=4433729&trk=my_groups-b-grp-v), click Join.

Check out the **Nebraska Wind Energy and Wildlife Project website** at: <http://snr.unl.edu/renewableenergy/wind/> and **Wind Energy and Wildlife news** at: <http://www.scoop.it/t/wind-energy-and-wildlife>.

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