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25 April 2016

Alice Lawrence
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Westpark Center, Suite D
105 Westpark Drive
Athens, Georgia 30606

Dear Ms. Lawrence,

The enclosed is a summary of the conservation actions conducted during 2014 and 2015 for the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances for the Robust Redhorse, *Moxostoma robustum*, Ocmulgee River, Georgia (CCAA), as described in Agreement Number 1448-40181-01-K-005. This report summarizes activities annually conducted during 2014 and 2015. Georgia Power Company's (GPC's) four conservation actions of the CCAA were essentially completed in 2011. Technically, however, the CCAA's 3-phase reporting requirement lived past the completed conservation activities through 2015 (consistent with Phase 3 to be conducted during Years 10 through 15). This report summarizes continuing support activities in 2014 and 2015, of which GPC was a participant. Those recent activities support conservation needs to monitor abundance and distribution of introduced robust redhorse which are consistent with GPC's commitment to conservation of robust redhorse.

Supporting CCAA activities in 2014 through 2015

In 2014, a collaborative effort between GDNR, USFWS and GPC conducted visual monitoring of robust redhorse at spawning sites below Juliette Dam on five separate occasions during 6-14 May 2014. Robust redhorse were observed on 5 of the 6 events in aggregations ranging from as few as 4 to as many as 25 fish among those events. Also in 2014, GDNR's Stream Team collected a young of the year age class robust redhorse (69.3 mm TL) in the Ocmulgee River on August 20, 2014 approximately 10.5 miles SE of Hawkinsville, Georgia in Pulaski County.

In 2015, GDNR developed a visual monitoring protocol for robust redhorse and implemented its use at the Juliette spawning site in the Ocmulgee River. Visual monitoring is low-cost and non-invasive that will help determine if recruitment is occurring in populations that are no longer being stocked. Those survey data indicated a very short spawning season lasting about one week and fewer than 15 fish on the spawning site at any one time. Proposed modifications to the protocol in 2016 will provide for incomplete capture probability and allow for an unbiased estimate of the number of adults on the spawning site.

River flow monitoring and scheduled robust redhorse monitoring activities for 2016 are underway at this time. GPC looks forward to again participating in the greater effort to continue to monitor the status of robust redhorse in the Ocmulgee River and elsewhere. Although, GPC may produce periodic documentation in the future that acknowledges continuing robust redhorse conservation effort, we submit that this report fulfills and concludes GPC's CCAA phase 3 annual reporting requirement.

Please contact me at 404-799-2142 if you have further questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony R. Dodd". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Anthony R. Dodd, CFP, CLM
Environmental Specialist
Georgia Power Company