

**DOCKETED**

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*Comment Received From: Jim Wiegand  
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## **Comments Against Fountain Wind #5**

Comments previously sent to Shasta County Supervisors proving fraudulent impact research and fraudulent disclosures to the public.

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

## **How Shasta County Can Stop Fraudulent Wind Energy Research**

When the public hears the word research, they assume that researchers are seeking out the truth. This is not the case with wind industry developments. With this green industry, preconstruction, post construction research and mitigation have all been an orchestrated fraud. It's very easy to prove and if the Interior Department chose to do so, they could shut this industry down today. But this will never happen because this branch of government has been a gatekeeper in green energy's massive industrial fraud.

This leaves communities stuck to fend for themselves. Communities can file lawsuits that expose this industry's fake research or laws can also be passed that require accurate research and accountability.

Wind energy developments rely on two types of research, preconstruction and post construction research. Both types of research are needed to determine projected impacts to regional species and post construction research is conducted that will supposedly document actual impacts to species. Problem is, it's all been an orchestrated side show, charade or fabrication. If not amended by Shasta County, the studies proposed for Fountain wind will end up being one more contrived fraud on the public.

Since government agencies help this industry hide carcasses and have not or will not enforce legitimate wind energy impact research, I have put together some post construction research guidelines that can stop this cycle of fraud. If Shasta County insists on credible scientific guidelines and does not let developers or puppet government agencies to dictate their own rigged post construction methodologies, some of the true devastation from wind energy projects can be revealed.

Unfortunately, credible research would mean that most projects would be cancelled because this industry hides most of their mortality to species. With true research, the truth of this industry's horrendous impacts to species would then be documented. The public would know of the habitat abandonment in and around wind projects and the magnitude of the carnage taking place from turbines.

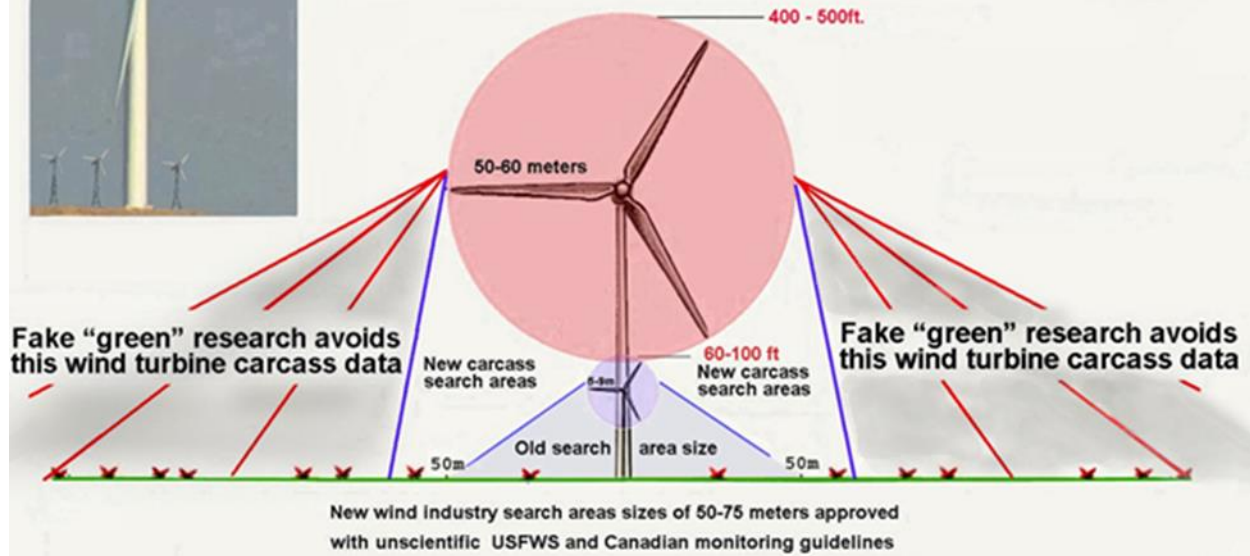
The truth of this industry's impacts will also send offsetting mitigation for these destructive projects, into the stratosphere. With these scientific guidelines, ethical local officials involved in the approval process, can also determine the presence of corruption in any proposed post construction research. I have looked over hundreds of wind industry studies and know most of the tricks used by this industry to hide turbine mortality. If Shasta County planners do not see anything close to what I have outlined for post construction research, then as sure as your next breath, the mortality impact research for the project will fabricated just as it has been for decades.

Image below illustrates one of many green research tricks.

## Unscientific and Deceptive Wind Energy Research



For 25 years the industry used 50 meter search areas around 40-100 kW wind turbines. It was also determined that 85% of the carcasses could be found in a 50 meter area around these small turbines. New methodologies and meaningless regulations have allowed search areas to proportionally shrink by up to 150 times .....



## **Credible science-based study guidelines for the Fountain Wind's post construction mortality studies.**

**1)** The words "Independent researchers" actually means the industry has hired insiders that will go along with the industry's nonscientific industry study protocol. From past research it can be shown that these false experts cannot be trusted or are unqualified for their positions. They must never be hired unless you can watch them with 24 hours a day camera surveillance and treat them as if they were casino employees.

**2)** In order to maintain the scientific integrity of any mortality research, **post operational studies shall never allow wind personnel, USFWS agents, lease holders or anyone else except independent researchers**, to handle, move or touch carcasses. All past wind industry studies have allowed this and this is one of the biggest loopholes in their research. Any violations should carry massive fines and penalties because a carcass being removed could be an endangered species.

**3)** For accuracy and research integrity, no one involved with wind energy studies should be bound by any non-disclosure agreements or gag orders. Gag orders allow lying by omission and this tactic has been used to hide turbine impacts for decades. In other words, these are also people that also can't be trusted. Government agents are bound by Nondisclosure agreements or gag orders as are all wind farm employees. Just knowing this, means that whatever is said to Shasta County planners regarding the Fountain Wind project, will not be accurate.

**4)** All scanning for carcasses will require researchers to use a reasonable and ethical attempt to find carcasses. Besides the less frequent intense formal searches 1 ½ times out from maximum turbine heights, all turbine sites shall be scanned for carcasses twice a day. This task only takes a few minutes and the industry knows it. Scanning for large carcasses or even mid-sized carcasses the size of a cooper's hawk is relatively easy with the aid of binoculars. This scanning shall include all areas out at least several hundred yards from turbine towers.

**5)** During studies, **every carcass or wounded species** found within 1 mile of turbines must be photographed and this information disclosed to the public. In addition, **this disclosure will apply to all special status species for the operational life of the wind project. This will include every carcass picked up by wind project personnel, USFWS agents, state wildlife agents, leaseholders and the numerous cripples picked up by animal rescue personnel.** This way the public will be aware of all the totality of the endangered and special status species being killed by a project's wind turbines.

6) If during studies, wind personnel must visit any turbine sites for work related duties, they must first check with researchers so they are aware of their presence and can keep an eye on their activities.

7) To further assist in the integrity of the post operational research, 24-hour surveillance including remote cameras should be used in key locations around specific turbine towers and roadways. This coverage will not only aid researchers of scavenger removal, it will act as a deterrent against inside rigging. As it has been with this industry, remote camera images including video footage, has been avoided for decades and this footage has a history of disappearing. I can provide examples if needed. So, if any of this coverage disappears or is found to have been tampered with, there should also be very severe consequences.

I have other suggestions for maintaining ethical and scientific field research but I wanted to make sure that Shasta County planners could easily understand that there will nothing close to even these conditions proposed in Post Operational studies for the Fountain Wind project.

Instead of these conditions, post operational research protocol will use words like standardized methods, approved, in accordance with USFWS guidelines, in collaboration with state and federal experts, and so on. But these words are meant to deceive and mean absolutely nothing in the realm of science. Shasta County planners must keep in mind that with wind energy research, science has been missing for over 3 decades.

**Jim Wiegand- Wildlife Biologist**