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Comment Received From: Jim Wiegand

Submitted On: 12/5/2023 Docket Number: 23-OPT-01

## Jim Wiegand-Corrected Comments against Fountain Wind #11

Status of California's endangered golden eagle is being hidden with Green Energy, Audubon and Agency collusion.

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

### Golden Eagle status hidden with Green Energy, Audubon and Agency collusion



July 12, 2012

Attention: Division of Policy and Directives Management U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 4401 North Fairfax Drive, MS 2042–PDM Arlington, VA 22203-1610

- Re: Comments of the American Wind Energy Association on Eagle Permits; Revisions to Regulations Governing Take Necessary To Protect Interests in Particular Localities; Docket No. FWS-R9-MB-2011-0094
- A. When Avoidance and Minimization Measures Are Insufficient to Eliminate All Predicted Take, Then Compensatory Mitigation May Be Required.

AWEA believes that, if avoidance and minimization measures are insufficient to eliminate all predicted take, then it is reasonable to require compensatory mitigation. However, where compensatory mitigation is required, the proposed level of mitigation that must be achieved should be based on actual data.

#### AWEA Recommendation:

The Service should not set the level of compensatory mitigation based on the risk of an eagle

take.

In 2012 AWEA asked the USFWS for mitigation and compensation for eagle fatalities to be based upon actual data. What they meant here is the actual eagle mortality data that the USFWS and wind projects control together. Things can't get much more corrupt or fraudulent than what this statement represents. From 1995 to 2012, the USFWS had already secretly shipped over 30,000 eagle carcasses to the Denver Eagle Repository. Most of these dead eagles were found in and around wind farms. Due to collusion and by design, the USFWS keeps no records of their origin. Wind farms are also not required to keep records of their eagle kills. They have voluntary regulations and can hide whatever they want.



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#### AWEA Recommendation:

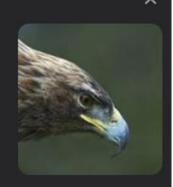
The Service should refine its interpretation of the eagle preservation standard to apply to the national population of eagles, and should therefore issue an eagle take permit if issuance would not reduce the likelihood of survival of the species of golden eagles and bald eagles nationally, rather than individual local or regional populations.

With Interior Department collusion, these 2012 AWEA recommendations were made into law. The wind industry can kill off every golden eagle in California and as long as the Alaska populations are ok, this slaughter is legal. But Alaska's golden eagle numbers are not ok, they are declining. The reason, the several thousand mile mortality footprint of wind turbines is reaching the Alaska population. They are being killed off during migrations. Instead of telling the truth to the public, climate changes are being blamed.

The Interior Department and Wind Industry are currently using this same corrupt "take" strategy with whales on the East Coast.

How are golden eagles affected by climate change?

If food is scarce, the raptor may forego reproduction, saving its energy for a more prosperous year. By 2080, this symbol of wild, open spaces is projected to lose 41 percent of breeding range and 16 percent of non-breeding range, according to Audubon's climate model.





National Audubon Society

https://climate2014.audubon.org > birds > goleag > go...

From: Jill Birchell [mailto:jill birchell@fws.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 4:14 PM

To: Jim wiegand

Subject: FW: Re: FW: dead eagles

#### Hi Jim,

I checked with our repository and learned that they don't keep detailed records of where the eagles they receive come from; they are recorded by state from which received, not by the submitter.

The wind industry's eagle mortuary is located in Colorado



Below is the last honest communication from the USFWS/Interior Department about wind energy and eagle fatalities

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Fish & Wildlife News

November 1997

About 95 percent of orders received at the repository are for whole eagles, with an average of about 1,000 people applying for the 800 to 900 available birds each year. Requests are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis by date of application.

Eagles turned in to the repository typically have died of natural causes or fatal encounters with power lines, windmills, vehicles, or illegal shooters or trappers. The repository does not accept poisoned birds because of the hazard they pose to human health.

The typical dead eagle stays only three to five days at the repository before it is shipped out to the next applicant on the list.

Over 66,000 eagle carcasses have been secretly shipped to the Denver Eagle Repository, their origin is a Top "green" energy secret.

Then there's Audubon, a group that routinely endorses and even conducts fraudulent green energy research. I have other examples of Audubon's research related to green research, none are credible.



The suggestion to create wind-energy/wildlife Guidelines was further promoted at a workshop sponsored by Audubon California and the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) in January 2006. Many participants at the conference encouraged the Energy Commission and CDFW to collaborate, with input from all interested parties, and establish voluntary statewide Guidelines to address siting, operation and mitigation of wind power to reduce its impacts on birds and bats.

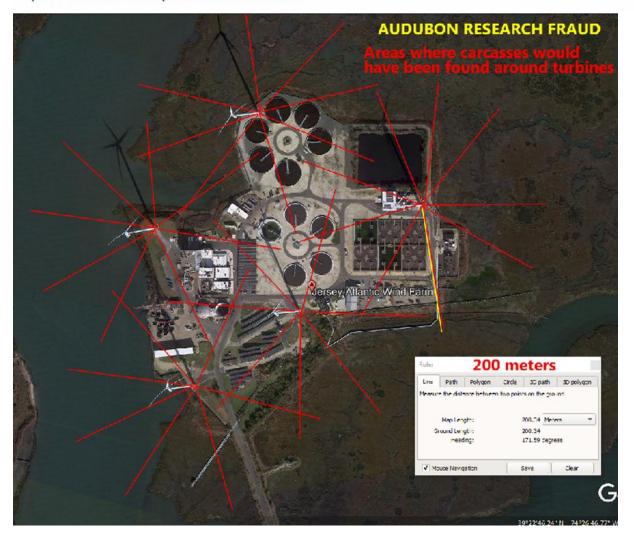




Figure 6. Atlantic City Utilities Authority (ACUA) study site showing actual survey areas (shaded in light blue) used during collision incident surveys. Low lying marsh areas within a turbine's search area were not surveyed because tidal inundation regularly prevented access to these sections. To some extent this was the case at all turbine sites except at turbine #3. If a building fell within the search area, rooftops were surveyed when accessible. Clarifying and mixing ponds, and other water bodies were also surveyed using walkways, gangways and dikes to gain access. Collision incident estimates will be corrected for the proportion of the total area around each turbine that was searched.

Jim Wiegand -Wildlife Biologist