

QUESTIONS FOR THE SRC

SETTLEMENT BACKGROUND:

The Settling Parties agreed, 3. (a), that the baseline for reduction in raptor mortality was 1300. This number was established from data published in Smallwood, K. S., and C. Thelander. 2004, page 74:

- (a) The baseline for determining the percentage reduction in raptor mortality at the APWRA is thirteen hundred (1300).

The Wind Power Companies are required to achieve a 50% reduction of this 1300-raptor mortality figure within 3 years of the effective date of the Settlement, the date established as Nov. 1, 2009:

3. Reduction in raptor mortality. The Wind Power Companies shall achieve a 50% reduction in raptor mortality within three (3) years of the effective date of this Agreement.

The Settling Parties have agreed upon a method to determine the percentage reduction in raptor mortality:

The percentage reduction in raptor mortality shall be determined using field monitoring data collected in accordance with the CUPs and scaling factors for searcher efficiency and scavenging as approved by the Scientific Review Committee ("SRC").

Question 1: Has the SRC seen results of any field monitoring for any complete year where mortality for the focal raptor species has been determined for that year?

Question 2: Has the SRC approved any Searcher/Scavenger (S/S) scaling factors to be applied to the data results observed in Question 1 above?

Question 3: Based on responses to Questions 1 & 2 above, wherever applicable, please complete the following information relating to the agreed focal raptor species mortality figures at the Altamont:

Date	Raw Count of Focal Raptors	Raw Count of Focal Raptors by Species	Approved SRC S/S Scaling Factor	Adjusted Count of Focal Raptors	Adjusted Count of Focal Raptor by species
2004		AMKE			AMKE
		BUOW			BUOW
		GOEA			GOEA
		RTHA			RTHA
2005		AMKE			AMKE
		BUOW			BUOW
		GOEA			GOEA
		RTHA			RTHA
2006		AMKE			AMKE
		BUOW			BUOW
		GOEA			GOEA
		RTHA			RTHA
2007		AMKE			AMKE
		BUOW			BUOW
		GOEA			GOEA
		RTHA			RTHA

Question 4: Please identify all information used to calculate the Approved SRC S/S Scaling Factor for each year such a calculation was made and please provide such information if it is not available on the SRC Web site.

Question 5: Assuming the Approved SRC S/S Scaling Factor is equal to or below 2.5 in all years, what is the trend of the Adjusted Count figures relative to 1300?

Question 6: If the Approved SRC S/S Scaling Factor for any year is above 2.5 please identify all information used to calculate the scaling factor and provide such information if it is not already available on the SRC Web site?

Question 7: Does any of the above mortality data include any mortality counts deemed to be caused by parties that were not signatories of the Settlement Agreement?

Question 8: Does the SRC's analysis of seasonal shutdown compare mortality data from one year to the next or does it compare mortality data from operating turbines vs. non-operating turbines within a particular year?

Question 9: It appears that the SRC applied at least 3 filters to the Winter Shutdown data and possibly annual monitoring. How were they weighted in the analysis? Can the data be repeated and verified? Is the information available on the SRC Web site?

Question 10: Document M13, mentioned in the recommendation, states, after discussing effects on red-tailed hawk mortality, that "[t]he data for the other 3 raptor species is too limited to make any inferences." Why did the SRC discount this conclusion? Is documentation of this decision available on the SRC Web site?

Question 11: Is the SRC aware of any fluctuations in bird presence, use, or bird populations at the Altamont or regionally during the monitoring period compared with other periods? Are such fluctuations taken into account, or are factors such as bird use and population considered static for the purpose of evaluating the monitoring data?

The Wind Power Companies reserve the right to ask additional questions once we have received answers to the questions above.