

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Black Lab Pub, Churchill Room • 4100 Montrose Blvd.
Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m.

HGS Environmental & Engineering Dinner Meeting

Cost: \$30 Preregistered members; \$35 non-members/walk-ups

To guarantee a seat, pre-register on the HGS website & pre-pay by credit card.

Pre-registration without payment will not be accepted.

Walk-ups may pay at the door if extra seats are available.

Amanda E. Miller
Tetra Tech, Inc.

How to Get Product to Market Navigating the Endangered Species Act: A Case Study Using the Lesser Prairie-chicken

One of the challenges facing the petroleum industry is the potential for negative interactions with species protected under the federal Endangered Species Act, and how to successfully avoid, minimize or mitigate the potential effects of development activities. Compounding this challenge



is the added pressure of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's deadline of September 2016 by which it must issue final rulings for more than 250 candidate species that are currently under consideration. The resulting issuance of numerous proposed and final rulings has the potential to influence new development, operating assets, and compliance activities across the continental U.S. Using the case study of the lesser prairie-chicken, a newly threatened species found in active areas of development in the southern Great Plains, the presentation will discuss how producers can navigate the process of the Endangered Species Act through agency consultation, field surveys, and appropriate siting measures, resulting in maximized product speed to market. ■

Biographical Sketch

AMANDA MILLER is a biologist and project manager at Tetra Tech, Inc. with 8 years' experience in energy interactions with wildlife and their habitats. Amanda began her career studying wind energy developments, publishing the first post-construction mortality study on wind energy development in Texas, and has transitioned to petroleum development in recent years, focusing on threatened and endangered species and compliance planning, permitting and implementation. As a biologist, Amanda has experience conducting site evaluation for potential energy developments to determine baseline ecology of sites, including land use/land cover, existing vegetation, fish and wildlife habitat, and occurrence of threatened and endangered species. Amanda utilizes her field experience in representing clients' interests in coordination with state and federal agencies, as well as with non-governmental organizations, in determining the most practical and appropriate pathway to regulatory compliance. Amanda holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management and a Master of Science Degree in Wildlife Science from Texas Tech University.

