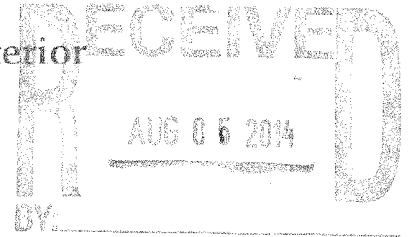




United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
1875 Century Boulevard  
Atlanta, Georgia 30345



In Reply Refer To:  
FWS/R4/DH NRDAR

Memorandum

To: Field Supervisors, Panama City Ecological Services Office, Alabama Ecological Services Office

From: Deepwater Horizon, Department of the Interior Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR), Case Manager *Kern D. Curath*

Subject: Request to Convert Conference Reports to Consultations Regarding Loggerhead Critical Habitat

The DWH Case Management Office recently completed conference reports with your office regarding eight projects (and any components within) proposed for *Deepwater Horizon* Phase III Early Restoration (see Table 1). These conferences each evaluated potential impacts from the proposed projects to the proposed Northwest Atlantic Ocean Loggerhead Sea Turtle Distinct Population Segment critical habitat. Your office concurred that no adverse modification or destruction of loggerhead critical habitat would occur due to the proposed projects should the proposed critical habitat become designated critical habitat.

As you are aware, critical habitat was designated on July 10, 2014. None of the proposed Early Restoration Phase III projects have been implemented at this time. Because all the consultations were completed recently and none of the project descriptions have changed except as noted in Table 1, we have concluded our previous determinations are still valid (Table 1). We request your concurrence (via signature below) thereby confirming the conference reports as informal consultations. All other information and determinations remain the same. If you have questions or concerns regarding this request for consultation, please contact Holly Herod, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at 404-679-7089 or holly\_herod@fws.gov.

Attachment

Concurrence [  ] Non-Concurrence [  ] Comments (Attach if Necessary) [  ]

*Call J. Smith*  
Signature of Reviewing Field Office

*6 Aug 2014*  
Date

*Acting Project Leader*  
Title



Table 1. Proposed Phase III Early Restoration Projects within or near designated critical habitat for the Northwest Atlantic Ocean Loggerhead Sea Turtle Distinct Population Segment. DOI made a “no adverse modification or destruction of critical habitat” determination during conferencing and field office concurrence was received. DOI has concluded that these determinations are still valid.

State	Title	Conference Concurrence Date
AL	Gulf State Park Enhancement Project	May 16, 2014
FL	Enhancement of Franklin County Parks and Boat Ramps (Abercrombie Boat Ramp Project*, Waterfront Park Improvement Project, Indian Creek Park Boat Ramp Project, Eastpoint Fishing Pier Improvement Project, and St. George Island Fishing Pier Improvement Project)	March 24, 2014
FL	Walton County Boardwalks and Dune Crossovers and Deer Lake State Park Development	March 10, 2014
FL	Strategically Provided Boat Access Along Florida’s Gulf Coast - City of Mexico City Beach Marina	March 24, 2014
FL	Gulf County Recreation Project – Highland View Boat Ramp and Port St. Joe Frank Pate Boat Ramp, Florida	May 1, 2014
FL	Perdido Key Dune Restoration and Perdido Key State Park Beach Boardwalk Improvements	April 4, 2014
FL	Gulf County Recreation Project - Windmark Beach Fishing Pier Improvements	May 1, 2014
FL	Beach Enhancement Project at Gulf Island National Seashore **	November 4, 2013

\* The Abercrombie portion of the proposed project has been removed from the early restoration proposal by the project sponsor since the conference. All other aspects of the proposed project remain the same.

\*\* In the informal consultation and conference, we indicated the proposed beach enhancement project was not likely to adversely affect proposed critical habitat. This determination should have been modified to no adverse modification or destruction of proposed or designated critical habitat for any of the critical habitats considered within the consultation.



Herod, Holly &lt;holly\_herod@fws.gov&gt;

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**Re: loggerhead ch letter**

1 message

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**Phillips, Catherine** <catherine\_phillips@fws.gov>  
To: "Herod, Holly" <holly\_herod@fws.gov>

Tue, Aug 12, 2014 at 10:15 AM

Absolutely. Sorry about that.

Catherine T. Phillips, PhD  
Acting Project Leader  
Panama City Field Office  
1601 Balboa Avenue  
Panama City, Florida 32405  
850-769-0552 ext.242  
850-348-6497 (cell)

On Tue, Aug 12, 2014 at 9:10 AM, Herod, Holly <holly\_herod@fws.gov> wrote:

Hi Cathy, thanks for signing the memo regarding our request to Convert conference reports to consultations regarding loggerhead critical habitat. I noticed that you did not check a box for either concurrence or non-concurrence. However, since you signed without comment, I am assuming concurrence.

Do you mind if I check the box for concurrence? Thanks!

Holly Herod

Department of the Interior  
DOI DWH Case Management Team, ESA Coordinator

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