



# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office

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Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

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In Reply Refer To:

21410-2010-F-0244

February 21, 2019

Mark Spier  
Superintendent  
National Park Service  
Padre Island National Seashore  
P.O. Box 181300  
Corpus Christi, TX 78480

Consultation No. 21410-2010-F-0244

Dear Mr. Spier:

This letter constitutes an amendment to the January 19, 2011, Biological Opinion (BO) on the proposed construction of two sea turtle science and recovery division patrol cabins at the south of the end of Park Road 22 on the Padre Island National Seashore (PAIS), Kenedy, County, Texas. PAIS is seeking the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) concurrence that the original Biological Assessment (BA) and BO are sufficient for the elimination of one new cabin and relocation of the existing cabin to a new site behind the dunes.

PAIS is currently proposing to reduce the number of cabins from two to one because narrowing of the beach has made the two new cabin sites untenable at mile 30 and mile 50. With these two sites no longer an option, PAIS is proposing to build a larger, single central cabin approximately 50 meters SW of the existing, deteriorating cabin site located near the 40 mile marker. The new site will be behind the first line of dunes, in an already disturbed site. The proposed new cabin will be 30 feet by 50 feet and can accommodate 20 patrollers. The existing cabin can only accommodate four patrollers.

On March 30, 2015, the BO was amended to include the newly listed red knot and allow additional time to complete the project. The Service concurred with PAIS's determination of "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" for the red knot because any anticipated impacts were insignificant and discountable. The BO's expiration date was January 19, 2016, therefore, the Service also agreed to extend the BO an additional 5 years with an ending date of January 19, 2021. A second amendment was provided on September 15, 2017, to move the 30-mile marker cabin to the south 0.64 miles behind the primary dune line to the Sun Oil Company

Mr. Spier


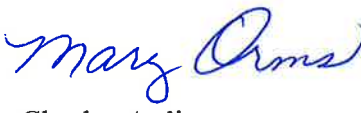
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Oil and gas pad that was once the site for the Leslie Chappell cabin until it was removed by the park in the 1970's.

The Service upon review of the request and provided documentation agrees that the original BA and BO are sufficient; as the modifications of the project do not represent any increase in the level of incidental take. No further action is required from PAIS.

Thank you for your assistance in protecting threatened and endangered species. If you have, any further questions please contact Mary Orms at (361) 225-7325 or by email at [mary\\_orms@fws.gov](mailto:mary_orms@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

  
for   
Charles Ardizzone  
Field Supervisor

cc: Shelley Todd, PAIS, Chief of Science and Resources Management

