



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

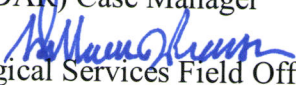
APR 17 2017

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2017-I-0163

Memorandum

To: Deputy *Deepwater Horizon* Department of the Interior Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) Case Manager

From: Field Supervisor, Alabama Ecological Services Field Office 

Subject: Informal Consultation for four Proposed Projects in Mobile and Baldwin Counties: Dauphin Island Eco-Tourism and Environmental Education, Fort Morgan Pier Rehabilitation, Mid Island Parks and Public Beach Improvements, and Gulf State Park Lodge and Associated Public Access Amenities

This memorandum acknowledges our receipt of your memorandum on March 28, 2017. This response is in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) (ESA). We have reviewed your proposed project and concur with your March 28, 2017 determinations for endangered and threatened species, their critical habitat, and at-risk species (should they become listed). We based our concurrence on the justification below. Where more than one justification was applicable, multiple boxes are checked and additional comments are added.

- Species-specific surveys were conducted and there are no endangered, threatened, or at-risk species or designated critical habitat on site. Comments: _____
- Endangered, threatened, and at-risk species are not known from and are not expected to occur within the vicinity of the proposed project. Comments: _____
- Appropriate avoidance and minimization measures have been included within the project description to ensure that any effects to listed species (or at-risk species should they become listed) are insignificant or discountable. Comments: The Standard Manatee Conditions for In-Water Work (USFWS 2011) and The Sea Turtle and Small-tooth Sawfish Construction Conditions (NMFS 2006) will be used to minimize impacts to manatee, gulf sturgeon and sea turtles. BMP's including sea turtle friendly lighting and monitoring before, during, and after any construction will be implemented. Surveys for nesting birds will be conducted prior to any land clearing or construction activities.

Critical habitat is not present on site and does not occur within the vicinity of the proposed project. Comments: _____

Appropriate avoidance and minimization measures have been included within the project description to ensure PCEs and/or critical habitat will not be adversely modified or destroyed. Comments: The consultation and permits are current for the Gulf State Park Lodge and Public Access Amenities project. Take of Alabama beach mouse and effects to critical habitat is authorized under existing permits and consultations.

The proposed project is completely beneficial to the listed or at-risk species and/or critical habitat considered. Comments: _____

Unless the project description changes, or new information reveals that the effects of the proposed action may affect listed species in a manner or to an extent not considered, or a new species or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by the proposed action, no further action pursuant to the ESA is necessary.

If you have questions, please contact Shannon Holbrook at 251-441-5871 or email Shannon_holbrook@fws.gov.