



MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

FROM: Christy Fellas, DWH Environmental Compliance Coordinator  
NOAA Restoration Center, Southeast Region

DATE: March 29, 2017

SUBJECT: Mississippi Trustee Implementation Group 2016-2017 Restoration Plan  
and Environmental Assessment: ESA No Effect Determination

Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7(a)(2), each Federal agency shall ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by such agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species, or destroy/adversely modify designated critical habitat. If a Federal agency determines that a Federal action will have no effect on ESA-listed species or designated critical habitat, then the Federal agency is not required to consult with NMFS for purposes of ESA. This memo is not intended to include a summary of DOI protected species for the determinations provided below.

Based on my review of project materials (Spring 2017) in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD) in the South East Regional Office (SERO), the NOAA Restoration Center determined that all three projects proposed for implementation in the Mississippi TIG Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment will have no effect to listed species under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service because there are no ESA-listed species or designated critical habitat in the action areas or ESA-listed species and designated critical habitat will not be affected by the proposed actions. These projects will not require further ESA evaluation. Should any project be modified in a way that could adversely impact ESA, this determination will be reevaluated as appropriate.

Proposed Projects

- Graveline Bay Land Acquisition and Management
- Grand Bay Land Acquisition and Habitat Management
- Upper Pascagoula River Water Quality Enhancement