

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FILE

FROM:

Christy Fellas, DWH Environmental Compliance Coordinator

NOAA Restoration Center, Southeast Region

DATE:

April 9, 2018

SUBJECT:

Projects Proposed in Alabama Trustee Implementation Group Restoration Plan #2 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 (Fall 2017- Spring 2018) and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD) in the South East Regional Office (SERO), the NOAA Restoration Center determined that the projects listed below proposed for implementation in the Trustee Implementation Group Restoration Plan #2 and Environmental Assessment will have no effect to listed species under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service. This is due to the location (upland or inland) or the nature of activities proposed (planning only). 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

- Magnolia River Land Acquisition (Holmes Tract)
- Weeks Bay Land Acquisition East Gateway Tract
- Weeks Bay Land Acquisition Harrod Tract
- Coffee Island Restoration Phase I
- Restoring the Night Sky
- Toulmin Springs Branch Engineering & Design
- Fowl River Nutrient Reduction
- Weeks Bay Nutrient Reduction
- Coastal Alabama Sea Turtle Conservation Program (share the beach)
- Side-scan Mapping of Mobile Bay Relic Oyster Reefs
- Little Lagoon Living Shorelines