



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Phil Bryant
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

June 25, 2019

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director

Laurie Rounds
Open Ocean Team Lead
NOAA Restoration Center
Gulf Breeze Lab
1 Sabine Drive
Gulf Breeze, FL 32561

Re: DMR-190314: DWH Open Ocean TIG Draft Restoration Plan 2 and Environmental Assessment

Dear Ms. Rounds:

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to ensure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has completed its review of the above-referenced proposal under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 and the Coastal Zone Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 and as the lead coastal program agency for the State of Mississippi pursuant to 16 U.S.C. Section 1456(c) and Mississippi Code § 57-15-5, concurs with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's consistency certification for this action.

Attached you will find a copy of comments from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History concerning terrestrial and/or submerged resources.

The above granted consistency certification was based upon the plan presented. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Chris Pickering with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at 228-523-4117 or chris.pickering@dmr.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Willa J. Brantley", written over a horizontal line.

Willa J. Brantley
Director, Bureau of Wetlands Permitting

WJB/csp

140314 LP



HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
P. O. BOX 571
Jackson, MS 39205-0571
Phone 601-576-6940 Fax 601-576-6955
Website: mdah.ms.gov

June 12, 2019

Mississippi Dept of Marine Resources
WETLANDS PERMITTING

JUN 14 2019

RECEIVED

Mr. Chris Pickering
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
1141 Bayview Avenue, Suite 101
Biloxi, Mississippi 39530

RE: DMR-190314; Proposed projects under the Deepwater Horizon Open Ocean TIG by NOAA, MDAH Project Log #05-085-19, potentially impacting Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties

Dear Mr. Pickering:

We have reviewed your May 20, 2019, request for a cultural resources assessment, received on May 21, 2019, for the above referenced project in accordance with our responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR Part 800. After reviewing the information provided, we offer the following comments:

Eighteen proposed restoration projects recommended in response to "Deepwater Horizon" Oil Spill. Ten of these projects were determined to have potential effects in uses or resources of the coastal zone that target the following: Fish and Water Column Restoration (restore injured fish species & increase health of fishery resources; Sea Turtle Restoration (reduce primary threats, restore injured sea turtles across geographic ranges, support existing conservation efforts); Marine Mammal Restoration (restore injured bay, sound, estuary, coastal, shelf, and oceanic marine mammals, mitigate key stressors, address direct human-caused threats like vessel strikes and noise); and Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities Restoration (restore injured communities, manage habitats, improve understanding of communities).

Statement made that above projects do not have adverse effects to:

- Air Quality, noise, surface water quality, and contaminant loading to surface waters from vessels that port or land catch in Mississippi.
- Shorelines, habitats, or substrates or cause any other physical change to the Mississippi's coastline.
- Any aesthetics in coastal environment.
- Existing infrastructure in coastal environment.
- Health and safety at port or vessels operating in/transiting coastal environment.

Concur provided that any coastline or marine activities avoid known/identified/recorded or charted terrestrial and/or submerged resources. With this condition, we have no objection with the proposed undertaking.

Should there be additional work in connection with the project, or any changes in the scope of work, please let us know in order that we may provide you with appropriate comments in compliance with the above referenced regulations.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (601) 576-6940.

Sincerely,

Hal Bell
Review and Compliance Officer

FOR: Katie Blount
State Historic Preservation Officer