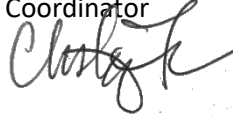




MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

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

DATE: December 9, 2019

SUBJECT: Hancock County Marshes Coastal Preserve Habitat Management –
Wachovia Tract from the MS TIG RP/EA #2:
ESA, EFH and MMPA No Effect Determinations

Based on my review of project materials (Fall 2019) and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD) and Habitat Conservation Division in the Southeast Regional Office, the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the Hancock County Marshes Coastal Preserve Habitat Management – Wachovia Tract will have no effect to species or habitats listed under the Endangered Species Act or designated as Essential Fish Habitat or protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service.

This is due to the nature of project including acquisition of land and upland improvements in an area outside the range of protected species and habitat under NMFS' jurisdiction. This project will not require further evaluation under ESA, EFH or MMPA for species or habitats under the jurisdiction of NOAA. If the project is modified in a way that could change these determinations, it will be reevaluated as appropriate.