

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Mississippi Ecological Services Field Office 6578 Dogwood View Parkway, Suite A Jackson, Mississippi 39213 Phone: (601)965-4900 Fax: (601)965-4340



March 27, 2020

IN REPLY REFER TO: 2020-I-0584

Ms. Erin Chandler Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf Restoration Office 341 Greeno Road North, Suite A Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Dear Ms. Chandler:

The Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Mississippi Field Office has reviewed the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill natural resource restoration project titled "Wolf River Coastal Preserve Habitat Management-Dupont and Bell's Ferry Tracts". Our comments are in reference to compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The proposed project includes restoration and management actions on the Dupont and Bell's Ferry Tracts, owned by the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources and managed as part of the Wolf River Coastal Preserve.

We concur with your determination that the proposed project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" the black pine snake, dusky gopher frog, eastern black rail, gopher tortoise, Louisiana quillwort, and wood stork. 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 any questions, please contact David Felder in this office, telephone (601) 321-1131.

Sincerely,

Stephen Ricks

Stephen M. Ricks Field Supervisor Mississippi Field Office