MEMORANDUM FOR:

FILE

FROM:

Christy Fellas, DWH Environmental Compliance Coordinator

NOAA Restoration Center, Southeast Region

DATE:

October 25, 2022

SUBJECT:

Louisiana TIG RP/EA #7.1: MMPA No Further Evaluation Needed for Terrebonne Houma Navigation Canal (HNC) Island Restoration Project

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Summer 2022), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD), the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the project will not require further evaluation for animals protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Representatives from NMFS' Protected Resources Division in the Southeast Regional Office provided technical assistance on these projects and reviewed the biological evaluation (BE) forms. Appropriate measures and best management practices were included in or attached to the BE forms where appropriate and will be implemented to avoid and minimize effects marine mammals, thus authorizations under the MMPA are not required.

If a project is modified in a way that could change these determinations it will be reevaluated as appropriate.