



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office

263 13th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

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JUL 20 2018

Rachel W. Sweeney
Program Manager, Deepwater Horizon Restoration Program
NOAA Restoration Center
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Ref.: NOAA Restoration Center (DWH NRDA) – Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group
Coastwide Fisheries-Independent Monitoring Program (FIMP) Enhancement –
EXPEDITED TRACK

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter responds to your July 17, 2018, request pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on the subject action.

We reviewed the action agency's consultation request document and related materials. Based on our knowledge, expertise, and the action agency's materials, we concur with the action agency's conclusions that the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect the NMFS ESA-listed species and/or designated critical habitat. This concludes your consultation responsibilities under the ESA for species and/or designated critical habitat under NMFS's purview. Reinitiation of consultation is required and shall be requested by the action agency or by NMFS where discretionary Federal involvement or control over the action has been retained or is authorized by law and: (a) take occurs; (b) new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not previously considered in this consultation; (c) the action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat not previously considered in this consultation; or (d) if a new species is listed or critical habitat designated that may be affected by the action.

We look forward to further cooperation with you on other projects to ensure the conservation of our threatened and endangered marine species and designated critical habitat. If you have any questions on this consultation, please contact Robert Hoffman, Consultation Biologist, at (727) 824-5312 or by email at robert.hoffman@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.
Regional Administrator

File: 1514-22.c

