

State of Louisiana

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

March 28, 2019

John Tirpak U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office 341 Greeno Road North, Suite A Fairhope, Alabama 36532 *Via e-mail:* john tirpak@fws.gov

RE: C20190005, Coastal Zone Consistency Louisiana Trustee Implementation Group Direct Federal Action Lake Borgne Marsh Creation Project (PO-0180): Increment One, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana FWS/R4/DH NRDAR

Dear Mr. Tirpak:

The Office of Coastal Management (OCM) has received the above referenced federal application for consistency review with the approved Louisiana Coastal Resources Program (LCRP) in accordance with Section 307(c) of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended. This Office finds that the proposal includes project features or alternatives which will be finalized only after additional information is developed. This includes, but is not limited to, plans for degrading the containment dikes, constructing tidal creeks, and removing temporary canal plugs. Therefore, review of this determination has proceeded per NOAA regulations on federal consistency at 15 CFR §930.36(d) for "phased consistency determinations."

After careful review, this office finds that **this phase** of the project, as described in the application, is consistent with the LCRP. Pursuant to federal regulations, consistency determinations must be submitted for each major decision in subsequent phases of the project that are subject to Federal discretion. The federal agency shall ensure that the activity under development continues to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the management program until such plans are finalized.

In order to fully review the later phases of the activities addressed by this consistency determination, a clear description and depictions of that proposed work, its location, and an assessment of potential wetland impacts must be provided. Information necessary for OCM review includes precise locations of proposed construction, dredge and fill areas, access routes, work and staging areas, borrow sources, and rights-of way, with associated dimensions; volumes of material excavated and volume and source of any material used as fill; cross sections

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depicting areas of excavation and fill in wetlands; and estimates of wetland impacts, including those resulting from access to and staging for work site.

As planning for the later phase activities proceeds and detailed information is developed, please provide additional consistency determinations as appropriate to ensure compliance with the LCRP.

If you have any questions concerning this determination, please call Jeff Harris of the Consistency Section at (225) 342-7949 or jeff.harris@la.gov

Sincerely yours,

<u>/S/ Charles Reulet</u> Administrator Interagency Affairs/Field Services Division

CR/SK/jdh

cc: Sydney Dobson, CPRA Dave Butler, LDWF Frank Cole, OCM-FI William McCartney, St. Bernard Parish