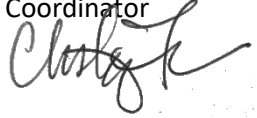




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

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

DATE: December 10, 2019

SUBJECT: LA TIG RP/EA #1.3: No Further EFH Evaluation Need for the Jean Lafitte Shoreline Protection Project.

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Fall 2019), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Habitat Conservation Division in the Southeast Regional Office (see attached), the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the Jean Lafitte Shoreline Protection Project will not require further evaluation under the Magnuson Stevens Act since the project will ultimately enhance designated Essential Fish Habitat. Early coordination with the Implementing Trustee ensured that the project was designed in a way that minimized minor, temporary impacts to EFH therefore consultation is not warranted.

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



Christina Fellas - NOAA Federal <christina.fellas@noaa.gov>

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## Jean Lafitte restoration project

1 message

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**Craig Gothreaux - NOAA Federal** <craig.gothreaux@noaa.gov>

Thu, Dec 5, 2019 at 11:20 AM

To: "Christy Fellas, NOAA" <christina.fellas@noaa.gov>

Christy,

There is no need for EFH consultation for the Jean Lafitte shoreline protection project to restore SAV. Early coordination with USFWS ensured that the project was designed in a way that minimized minor, temporary impacts to EFH and the net result of the project would ultimately enhance EFH and benefit trust resources. Therefore the Habitat Conservation Division does not object to the project as proposed.

Thank you for your coordination,  
Craig

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**Craig Gothreaux**

*Fishery Biologist*

**Southeast Region, Habitat Conservation Division**

**NOAA Fisheries**

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