



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: July 14, 2021

SUBJECT: Regionwide TIG Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #1
Restoration Projects: MMPA No Further Evaluation Needed

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Fall 2020), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD), the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the selected projects in Regionwide TIG Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #1, 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. Most of the projects due to the nature of the work or location (upland) were determined to have no effects on marine mammals. Appropriate measures and best management practices were included in or attached to the BE forms for several projects where appropriate (e.g. projects involving dredging or in-water work) and will be implemented to avoid and minimize effects marine mammals, thus authorizations under the MMPA are not required. If any project is modified in a way that could change these determinations it will be reevaluated as appropriate.