

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FILE

FROM:

Christy Fellas, DWH Environmental Compliance Coordinator

NOAA Restoration Center, Southeast Region

DATE:

January 15, 2021

SUBJECT:

Florida TIG Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment #2 Restoration Projects: Five Projects Covered by Existing ESA Consultations with NMFS

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 following projects have existing coverage from previous consultations with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

Restoration Type	Project	Existing ESA Consultation
Sea Turtles	Increased Observers and Outreach to Reduce Incidental Hooking of Sea Turtles in Recreational Fisheries along Florida's Gulf Coast (ST1)	Activities covered under existing biological opinions issued by NMFS for operation of the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network
	Assessing Risk and Conducting Public Outreach to Reduce Vessel Strikes on Sea Turtles along Florida's Gulf Coast (ST3)	Activities covered under existing permit 19496-02 issued by NMFS
Marine Mammals	Florida Gulf Coast Enhanced Marine Mammal Stranding Network (MM1)	Activities covered under existing MMPA/ESA permit 18786-04 issued by NMFS
Provide and Enhance Recreational Opportunities	Pensacola Community Maritime Park Public Fishing Marina (REC1)	Activities covered under ESA consultation as part of US Army Corps of Engineers Permit SAJ-2007-04728
	Lincoln Park Boat Ramp and Dock Improvements (REC5)	Activities covered under ESA consultation as part of US Army Corps of Engineers Permit SAJ-2017-01064

For more detail on the existing compliance documents refer to the Biological Evaluation form for each project listed above. These projects will not require further evaluation under ESA for species or habitats under the jurisdiction of NMFS. If the project is modified in a way that may not be covered by existing analyses, it will be reevaluated as appropriate.