

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
DATE:	June 17, 2022
SUBJECT:	Louisiana TIG Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #8 Marsh Creation Projects: MMPA No Further Evaluation Needed

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Spring 2022), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD), the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the construction projects in Louisiana TIG RP/EA #8 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. Appropriate measures and best management practices were included in or attached to the BE forms 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.