




MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

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

DATE: November 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Mississippi TIG Restoration Plan/Environmental Assessment #3
Restoration Projects: Two 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	Maintaining Enhanced Sea Turtle Stranding Network Capacity and Diagnostic Capabilities	Activities covered under existing biological opinions issued by NMFS for operation of the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network
Marine Mammals	Enhancing Marine Mammal Stranding Network Capacity and Diagnostic Capabilities	Activities covered under existing biological opinions issued by NMFS for operation of the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program

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.