



**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  
*Christy*

DATE: November 3, 2021

SUBJECT: ESA No Effect Determinations for Restoration Projects in Mississippi TIG  
Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment #3

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Fall 2021), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD) in the Southeast Regional Office, the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the projects listed below will have no effect on species or habitats listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

- Bird Stewardship and Enhanced Monitoring in Mississippi
- Reduction of Marine Mammal Fishery Interactions through Trawl Technique and Component Improvements

This is due to the nature activities included in the proposed projects (gear testing and upland work). These types of activities are not expected to have any effects to protected species or habitats under NMFS' ESA jurisdiction. The marine mammal project activities will not be affecting the location or level of effort in the ongoing shrimp trawl fishery.

If a project is altered in way that could have adverse effects on ESA-listed species and/or habitats, this determination will be reevaluated as appropriate and future consultation could be necessary.