



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

JAN 14 2025

IN REPLY REFER TO:
2025-0015503

Mr. Michael Barron
Wildlife Biologist – Compliance Coordinator
USFWS – Gulf Restoration Office
341 N. Greeno Road
Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Dear Mr. Barron:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Alabama TIG funding proposal titled “Bayfront Park Restoration and Improvement Phase IIA-IIIB”, submitted by NOAA Fisheries. Our comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The proposed project will improve park amenities and protect and enhance the surrounding coastal habitat. The project consists of the expansion of existing boardwalk, and observation pavilion and a beach overlook. Based on the information provided in your biological evaluation, we concur with your determination that the proposed project “may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect” eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis* ssp. *jamaicensis*), red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), Alabama red-bellied turtle (*Pseudemys alabamensis*) and alligator snapping turtle (*Macrochelys temminckii*). Project effects to West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) were evaluated and concurred with under a previous consultation for this project.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Shannon Holbrook in this office at (251) 222-9390.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Powell
Deputy Field Supervisor
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office