



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1208-B Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

JAN 14 2025

IN REPLY REFER TO:
2025-0015532

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 “Laguna Cove Little Lagoon Natural Resource Protection Small Scale Amenities”, submitted by Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. 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 includes a small-scale budget increase for construction of parking, boardwalk, kayak launch, ADA-accessible restrooms, and sea turtle friendly lighting for a previously approved project. 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*). Project effects to West Indian manatee, Alabama beach mouse, gulf sturgeon, piping plover, red knot, Eastern indigo snake, green sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle, and Kemp’s Ridley sea turtle were evaluated and concurred with under the 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