



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

1208-B Main Street
Daphne, Alabama 36526

NOV 20 2024

IN REPLY REFER TO:
2025-0015545

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 “Oyster Grow-Out and Restoration Reef Placement – 5 Year Continuation”, in Alabama, 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.).

Based on the information provided in your biological evaluation and the conservations proposed, we concur with your determination that the proposed project “may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect” the eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis*), and West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Shannon Holbrook in this office at (251) 222-9390.

Sincerely,

William J. Pearson
Field Supervisor
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office