



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Phil Bryant
Governor

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

William W. Walker, Ph.D., Executive Director

March 9, 2012

Stephanie L. Willis
Senior Attorney
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
Office of General Counsel
263 13th Avenue South, Suite 177
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Re: DMR-120259; Draft Phase 1 Early Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (Phase 1 DERP)

Dear Ms. Willis:

The Department of Marine Resources in cooperation with other state agencies is responsible under the Mississippi Coastal Program (MCP) for managing the coastal resources of Mississippi. Proposed activities in the coastal area are reviewed to insure that the activities are in compliance with the MCP.

The Department has reviewed the proposed restoration projects to coastal habitats in areas of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (see attached list). The listed activities have been reviewed based upon provisions of the Mississippi Coastal Program and Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (as amended). These activities have been determined to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Mississippi Coastal Program.

The above granted consistency certification was based upon the information presented. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Greg Christodoulou with the Bureau of Wetlands Permitting at (228) 523-4109 or greg.christodoulou@dmr.ms.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William W. Walker".

William W. Walker, Ph.D.
Executive Director

WWW/gsc

cc: Harriet M. Deal, U.S. Department of the Interior

Table ES-1. Phase I Early Restoration projects included in the proposed action.

Project Title	Location (Parish/County and State)	Proposed Restoration	Estimated Cost	Resources Benefitted
Lake Hermitage Marsh Creation – NRDA Early Restoration Project	Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana	Approximately 104 acres of marsh creation	\$13,200,000	Brackish Marsh in the Barataria Hydrologic Basin
Louisiana Oyster Cultch Project	St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Lafourche, Jefferson, and Terrebonne Parishes, Louisiana	Approximately 850 acres of cultch placement on public oyster seed grounds; construction of improvements to an existing oyster hatchery	\$14,874,300	Oysters in Coastal Louisiana
Mississippi Oyster Cultch Restoration	Hancock and Harrison Counties, Mississippi	1,430 acres of cultch restoration	\$11,000,000	Oysters in Mississippi Sound
Mississippi Artificial Reef Habitat	Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson Counties, Mississippi	100 acres of nearshore artificial reef	\$2,600,000	Nearshore Habitat in Mississippi Sound
Marsh Island (Portersville Bay) Marsh Creation	Mobile County, Alabama	protecting 24 existing acres of salt marsh; creating 50 acres of salt marsh; 5,000 linear feet of tidal creeks	\$9,400,000	Coastal Salt Marsh in Alabama
Alabama Dune Restoration Cooperative Project	Baldwin County, Alabama	55 acres of primary dune habitat	\$1,145,976	Coastal Dune and Beach Mouse Habitat in Alabama
Florida Boat Ramp Enhancement and Construction	Escambia County, Florida	Four boat ramp facilities	\$4,406,309	Human Use in Escambia County, FL
Florida (Pensacola Beach) Dune Restoration	Escambia County, Florida	20 acres of coastal dune habitat	\$585,898	Coastal Dune Habitat in Escambia County, FL