Appendix J

National Historic Preservation Act Consultation

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COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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October 28, 2003

Mr. Charles H. Ellis, III
Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Impact Review
629 East Main Street, Sixth Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219

RE: Eastern Shore of Virginia and Fisherman Island National Wildlife Refuges Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan
Northampton County, Virginia
DHR File No. 1999-1739

Dear Mr. Ellis:

We have received your request for our review and comment regarding the above referenced document. It is our understanding that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) developed the "Eastern Shore of Virginia and Fisherman Island National Wildlife Refuges Internal Review Draft Comprehensive Conservation Plan" in order to evaluate a reasonable range of alternative management strategies for these Refuges. These alternative management strategies include current management (Alternative A); emphasis on forest and shrub-dependent neotropical and temperate migrants (Alternative B); emphasis on grassland, temperate, and neotropical migrants (Alternative C); and maintaining natural ecosystem dynamics, emphasis on maintaining and restoring historic conditions.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge and the Fisherman's Island National Wildlife Refuge have several identified cultural resources located within their boundaries. These cultural resources include architectural and archaeological, both historic and pre-historic, properties. There is at least one historic archaeological site with three associated standing structures at Eastern Shore Refuge that is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, Eastern Shore and Fisherman's Island Refuge have extant remnants of Fort John Custis, a World War II-era coastal defense

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installation, which may be potentially eligible for the National Register and Virginia Landmarks Register. We urge USFWS to take these important cultural resources into consideration when developing its conservation plan. We also remind USFWS of its responsibilities under Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding architectural and archaeological resources listed in or eligible for the National Register. The USFWS should continue to consult with us as necessary pursuant to 36 CFR 800.

If you have any questions please call me at (804) 367-2323, Ext. 114.

Sincerely,

Marc Holma, Architectural Historian
Office of Review and Compliance