



Mills, Ashley <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

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## Fwd: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

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Jeff Harris <Jeff.Harris@la.gov>

Mon, Oct 22, 2018 at 3:26 PM

To: "Hemming, Jon" <jon\_hemming@fws.gov>

Cc: Benjamin Frater <benjamin\_frater@fws.gov>, Ashley Buchanan <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

If it helps, I only need shapefiles that cover the Pearl River south of its junction with the Bogue Chitto. Everything north of that point is outside of the Louisiana coastal zone, and the proposed activities there are unlikely to have coastal effects.

--Jeff

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**From:** Jeff Harris

**Sent:** Monday, October 22, 2018 2:13 PM

**To:** 'Hemming, Jon' <jon\_hemming@fws.gov>

**Cc:** Benjamin Frater <benjamin\_frater@fws.gov>; Ashley Buchanan <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

This is perfect. Thanks.

Just waiting on the shapefiles.

--Jeff

**From:** Hemming, Jon [[mailto:jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Monday, October 22, 2018 11:24 AM

**To:** Jeff Harris <Jeff.Harris@LA.GOV>

**Cc:** Benjamin Frater <benjamin\_frater@fws.gov>; Ashley Buchanan <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

Good morning Jeff,

I hope these responses (in bold) will be helpful in your analysis. Please let me know if you need more or something different. I am available this week, call as needed.



Mills, Ashley <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

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## Fwd: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

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Hemming, Jon <jon\_hemming@fws.gov>

Mon, Oct 22, 2018 at 3:34 PM

To: Jeff.Harris@la.gov, Benjamin Frater <benjamin\_frater@fws.gov>, Ashley Buchanan <ashley\_mills@fws.gov>

Jeff,

Please see the GIS shapefiles attached. Let me know if this meets the need.

Thank you.

Jon

Jon M. Hemming, Ph.D.  
Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
341 Greeno Road North, Suite A, Fairhope, AL 36532  
(251) 517-8018  
[jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)

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On Mon, Oct 22, 2018 at 12:14 PM Hemming, Jon <[jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)> wrote:

Thank you for looking at this Gayle. The GIS format specs are at the bottom of the original message and the image of the sampling area is attached.

Jon

Jon M. Hemming, Ph.D.  
Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
341 Greeno Road North, Suite A, Fairhope, AL 36532  
(251) 517-8018  
[jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeff Harris** <[Jeff.Harris@la.gov](mailto:Jeff.Harris@la.gov)>

Date: Thu, Oct 18, 2018 at 3:57 PM

Subject: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

To: [Benjamin\\_Frater@fws.gov](mailto:Benjamin_Frater@fws.gov) <[Benjamin\\_Frater@fws.gov](mailto:Benjamin_Frater@fws.gov)>

Good afternoon, Mr. Frater—

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management (OCM), received the referenced consistency determination on October 16, 2018, and assigned the C Number C20180170. NOAA regulations on

federal consistency allow the State 60 days for review, which would be Friday, December 14. Our earliest decision date is at the expiration of our Public Comment period on Wednesday, November 7.

The Pascagoula River is entirely outside of the Louisiana coastal zone and not subject to this State's consistency review. These comments refer only to activities in or near the Pearl River.

After preliminary review, the following information is needed in order to evaluate the proposed activity:

- Please provide GIS shapefiles of the regions of the Pearl River to be studied. Format requirements are appended at the end of this message.
- Please explain the significance of the blue and yellow indicators on Figure 1. Will the project be conducted in all of the marked channels, or only in those marked by one or the other color?
- Please describe any potential impacts that might occur from the installation, operation and recover of the telemetry equipment.
- Please provide a brief description of the means of access to the study area (e.g., via existing boat ramps, etc.).

Finally, the consistency determination references the *Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds and Sturgeon* (Draft RP/EA). If this document is available, would you please provide a copy?

Please write or call if there are any questions.

Thanks,

--Jeff

Jeff Harris

Consistency Section

Office of Coastal Management

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

(225) 342-7949

In order to ensure that the locations of all projects submitted for Consistency review are correctly entered into our database and Geographic Information System, we require the geographic information for your project to be submitted in the form of GIS shapefiles, in addition to the written and map versions. We require GIS data for all aspects of the proposed projects, including dredging, construction, access routes, staging areas, work zones, disposal sites, and anything else on the ground.

A working shapefile is typically composed of four files, one in each of the filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf and .prj. Additional supporting extension files such as .sbx, .cpg, .idx, and .xml may be associated with the shapefile, and should also be forwarded.

Shapefiles describe points, lines, and polygons which represent proposed project features. The .dbf table will create one row for each shape or "feature"; and the shape(s) may also have attributes in columns that describe the feature(s) such as the project name and type. The .dbf table looks like an Excel spreadsheet. The user must have GIS software or compatible software to view and create shapefiles and attribute data.

The number of shapes *must* match the number of .dbf table rows for the attached shapefile or else the shapefile will not be usable. Please do not include extraneous columns in the .dbf table.

GIS shapefiles must be spatially referenced. The required projection is **NAD\_1983\_StatePlane\_Louisiana\_South\_FIPS\_1702\_Feet.**

A .prj file extension will be generated once the shapefile is projected as above.

Make sure to perform coordinate system changes if the shapefile was created within a different spatial reference than above. DO NOT send shapefiles that have an "unknown projection".

Features depicted by the shapefiles should match the proposed project features on the plats you submit. Shapefile features should be identified within the attribute table as to what project features they represent (e.g., Dredge Area 1). Shapefile titles should indicate the project they are associated with.

The following geometry types should be used for the various project feature types:

- point = features less than 1 acre
- line = linear features less than 100 feet wide
- polygon = features greater than 1 acre

Please e-mail the GIS files to the Consistency analyst at the same time as the consistency determination or application is transmitted. If the e-mail is undeliverable, please contact Jeff Harris at (225) 342-7949 and attempt to send it to Jeff.Harris@la.gov. Please include the name of the Consistency analyst and/or the C Number for the project if known. We will consider the project to be incomplete without this information, and delays in processing may result.

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--

Ben Frater  
Assistant Gulf Restoration Manager  
Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office  
341 N. Greeno Road, Suite A  
Fairhope, AL 36532  
(251) 517-8019  
[Benjamin\\_Frater@fws.gov](mailto:Benjamin_Frater@fws.gov)

Please provide GIS shapefiles of the regions of the Pearl River to be studied. Format requirements are appended at the end of this message. **We are looking into how to get these for you considering our POC is unavailable currently.**

- Please explain the significance of the blue and yellow indicators on Figure 1. Will the project be conducted in all of the marked channels, or only in those marked by one or the other color? **The project will be conducted in the yellow river channel areas, not the blue channel areas because the target is potentially available spawning habitat which is not expected in the lower river.**
- Please describe any potential impacts that might occur from the installation, operation and recover of the telemetry equipment. **The telemetry equipment will be affixed to existing structures such as piers, docks, bridges etc. and installation impacts to the system are not anticipated.**
- Please provide a brief description of the means of access to the study area (e.g., via existing boat ramps, etc.). **Existing boat ramps will be used for ingress and egress of the system.**

Finally, the consistency determination references the *Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds and Sturgeon* (Draft RP/EA). If this document is available, would you please provide a copy? **Draft Restoration Plan on the Administrative Record** <https://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-10%2000%20TIG%20DRAFT%20RPEA1%20For%20Public%20Comment.pdf>

**Web Story on the Gulf Spill website** <https://www.gulfspillrestoration.noaa.gov/2018/10/open-ocean-trustee-implementation-group-seeks-public-comment-its-first-draft-restoration>

Jon

Jon M. Hemming, Ph.D.  
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[jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)

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On Mon, Oct 22, 2018 at 9:33 AM Jeff Harris <[Jeff.Harris@la.gov](mailto:Jeff.Harris@la.gov)> wrote:

Ben—

No hurry on my account. We can even go past the 60-day deadline as long as we're both agreeable.

Don't spend a lot of effort on bullets #2-4. I don't need elaborate explanations, just a sentence or brief paragraph should do.

--Jeff

(225) 342-7949

**From:** Frater, Benjamin [mailto:[benjamin\\_frater@fws.gov](mailto:benjamin_frater@fws.gov)]

**Sent:** Friday, October 19, 2018 4:33 PM

**To:** Jeff Harris <[Jeff.Harris@LA.GOV](mailto:Jeff.Harris@LA.GOV)>; Buchanan, Ashley <[ashley\\_mills@fws.gov](mailto:ashley_mills@fws.gov)>; Jon Hemming <[jon\\_hemming@fws.gov](mailto:jon_hemming@fws.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] C20180170 DWH Restoration project: Characterizing Gulf Sturgeon Habitat

Hi Jeff.

We've got a small team of people who can help provide you with answers to your questions. I've cc'd them here. We'll respond a little at a time if that's ok with you. We also have one vital team member who is in Panama City, and is dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. His contribution may be the GIS layers, though we're looking for other ways to obtain those for you before he is able to return to work.

Thanks,

Ben

On Thu, Oct 18, 2018 at 3:57 PM Jeff Harris <[Jeff.Harris@la.gov](mailto:Jeff.Harris@la.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon, Mr. Frater—

The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, Office of Coastal Management (OCM), received the referenced consistency determination on October 16, 2018, and assigned the C Number C20180170. NOAA regulations on federal consistency allow the State 60 days for review, which would be Friday, December 14. Our earliest decision date is at the expiration of our Public Comment period on Wednesday, November 7.

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Finally, the consistency determination references the *Open Ocean Trustee Implementation Group Draft Restoration Plan 1 and Environmental Assessment: Birds and Sturgeon* (Draft RP/EA). If this document is available, would you please provide a copy?

Please write or call if there are any questions.

Thanks,

--Jeff

Jeff Harris

Consistency Section

Office of Coastal Management

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources

(225) 342-7949

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--

Ben Frater

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