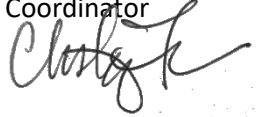




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

FROM: Christy Fellas, DWH Environmental Compliance Coordinator
NOAA Restoration Center, Southeast Region 

DATE: October 2, 2019

SUBJECT: Open Ocean TIG RP/EA #2: Phased Compliance

Based on my review of project materials including the Biological Evaluation forms (Summer 2019), and in coordination with representatives from NOAA's Protected Resource Division (PRD) and Habitat Conservation Division in the Southeast Regional Office, the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the following projects will need additional review once the methodologies and locations are determined. Once the OO TIG has that information we can evaluate potential effects to species or habitats listed under the Endangered Species Act, designated Essential Fish Habitat or animals protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act under the jurisdiction of National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Restoration Type: Marine Mammals

- Reduce and Mitigate Vessel Strike Mortality of Cetaceans
- Reducing Impacts to Cetaceans during Disasters by Improving Response Activities
- Reduce Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans

Restoration Type: Mesophotic and Deep Benthic Communities

- Mapping, Ground-Truthing, and Predictive Habitat Modeling
- Habitat Assessment and Evaluation
- Coral Propagation Technique Development
- Active Management and Protection

This due to the nature of the project requiring an initial planning phase to focus in on potential locations and methodologies that will be used. Once this planning step is complete, the OO TIG will evaluate potential effects that may require additional compliance. These details will be capture in updated BE forms and/or compliance memo documenting outcomes of the review and will identify any consultations, permits or reviews needed.