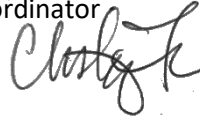




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

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

DATE: June 1, 2022

SUBJECT: Open Ocean TIG RP/EA #2: Phased Compliance for Marine Mammal
Project to Reduce Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans

Based on my review of project materials in October 2019, it was determined that this project would need additional review in the future to determine if additional compliance is needed based on updated locations of passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) equipment. PAM equipment in the Gulf of Mexico was deployed and data retrieved during the August 2020 field work. This equipment supports the restoration project goals to monitor noise, including marine mammal presence. This equipment has been in place since 2020, was not moved in 2021, and is not planned to be moved in 2022.

Based on the equipment staying in the same locations as 2020, no additional NEPA or compliance reviews are necessary at this time. Please refer to the August 10, 2020 for the analysis that is still in place.