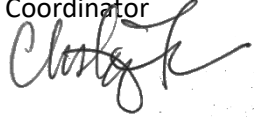




**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

MEMORANDUM FOR: FILE

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

DATE: June 28, 2024

SUBJECT: RW TIG RP1 Reducing Marine Debris Impacts on Birds and Sea Turtles –  
Alabama Component: Activities Covered by Existing NMFS ESA, EFH and  
MMPA Compliance

Based on my review of the project materials (June 2024) describing the Alabama component of the Regionwide (RW) TIG Reducing Marine Debris Impacts on Birds and Sea Turtles project, the NOAA Restoration Center (RC) determined that the project fits within the activities previously analyzed at the time RW TIG completed their first restoration plan. This proposed Alabama activities were reviewed for compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) under National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) jurisdiction.

The NMFS ESA best managements practices agreed to by the RW TIG will be implemented as described in the biological evaluation form. No further review is needed for NMFS ESA, EFH or MMPA. If the project is modified in a way that may not be covered by existing analyses, it will be reevaluated as appropriate.